

Adapted from Oneness, the Kapaa Hongwanji Mission newsletter

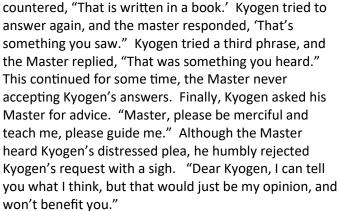
There was a Chinese monk Kyogen (Xiangyan in Chinese), who lived during the Tang Dynasty. He was known to be a very smart person. His master, Isan (Guishan in Chinese), recognized Kyogen's exceptional potential and sought to help him reach enlightenment. One day, Master Isan told Kyogen, "You are intelligent and erudite; you hear one, you understand ten, you hear ten, you understand one hundred. But I am not interested in the amount of knowledge you have gained from studies, or the breadth of information you have learned from scriptures and books." After a slight pause, Master Isan added, "I would like to hear your words from before you were born. Before you knew East and West."

Kyogen tried to understand his master's question and answered carefully. Master Isan immediately

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NEW YORK BUDDHIST CHURCH

"Teaching by Not Teaching"



Kyogen lost all confidence. He fell into despair because he couldn't answer his master's question and knew that his Master would not help him. Soon after this incident, with a broken heart, Kyogen decided to leave his Master, and take refuge in a cottage deep in the mountains to think more deeply.

In the mountains, Kyogen's life was simpler. He chanted and meditated cleaned his house and garden, ate and slept. One day, while he was sweeping the garden with a broom, a pebble hit a bamboo and made a sound.

The moment he heard the sound, Kyogen understood. He reached enlightenment.

He put his palms together in gassho, bowed to the direction of Master Isan's residence. 'Master,' he began with great reverence and gratitude, 'if you had never spoken to me back then, I would not have become enlightened today.'

This story tells us that we should not tell others how to solve certain situations or problems. By giving a specific advice to others, we spoil undermine their potential to solve a problem in their own way by themselves. This is one of the difficulties of teaching. Gratitude naturally arises in our hearts when we truly understand and



June 2019



Reverend Earl Ikeda

accept the teachings, and this gratitude is magnified when we realize how difficult it is to guide people like us, who are poisoned by ignorance, greed, and anger. We are receivers, but we never know what the cause of our turning point will be, so let us turn our hearts sincerely to the teachings of the Buddha and the great Masters.

Namu Amida Butsu

Obon, Obon It's Festival <u>Day!</u>

Just a reminder that NYBC will be observing Obon, Ullambana, with Obon-odori, O-Bon dancing, in Bryant Park on July 14 from 12:30-5:00 p.m.

OBON DANCE JULY 14

Every July, the New York Buddhist Church holds Obon Odori. For a number of years, it has been held in Bryant Park at 42nd Street and 6th Avenue, adjacent to the Main Public Library. But did you know that NYBC is required to obtain a permit at a cost of \$4500 (this year's permit price), and we are not allowed to have food or other concessions in order to defray our expenses. Unlike most of our sister temples in other parts of the country, this event is not a major fundraising opportunity, but represents a significant cost to the temple. In addition, we need to consider providing security and medical services for this type of public event. The only vehicle we have to help meet the expenses of this beloved annual celebration are the donations we receive for the OBon booklet that Ruth and Brian Funai and Keiko Ohtaka put together every year. Please help support NYBC's Obon Odori by placing a message or advertisement in the 2019 Obon Booklet. See p. 8 of this issue of Kokoro for a form. We are grateful for your support of this special annual event.

Dance Practice Sessions Begin for Obon Odori

Brush up on your Obon dancing movements. Practice sessions will be held on June 27, July 2, 9, 11 from 6:30-8:00 pm at NYBC.

Tachibana Dance Group Invites You to Its Annual Recital Sunday, June 16

The Tachibana Dance Group, our affiliate organization and practitioners of Japanese traditional and folk dance, will hold their annual recital on Sunday, June 19. It starts at 2 p.m., but if you don't get there early, it may be standing room only. After you've seen one recital, you'll understand why the event draws a crowd. There is no admission charge, but you will be welcome to make donations during intermission.



Sunday, June 30: NYBC to March Again in New York City Gay Pride March

This year marks the 50th Anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising and we are marching for the fifth time in the NYC Pride Parade on June 30. Please Join us!

Each year, it has been a truly inspiring and memorable event. This is march is about inclusion of everyone and a celebration of the great diversity that enriches our world. Buddhism is a practice of non-dualism and we recognize all being as equals. Everybody is invited to join in without exception.

General information on the parade is at 2019-worldpridestonewall50.nycpride.org.

The parade involves thousands of participants, and we will meet at 26th Street and 5th Avenue at 3 pm, which is the stepoff time that has been assigned to the NYBC. The parade will proceed to the Village in a U shaped route and will end at 23rd Street and 7th Avenue. Please call the NYBC for further information.

「教えないで教える事」

中国の香厳というお坊さんが唐朝の時代に住んでいました。とても賢い人という事で知られていました。このお坊さんの先生である為山は 香厳にある才能がわかり、悟りが得られるよう手助けをする事にしました。

ある日この先生が香厳に「お前は 物分かりがよく、知識が豊富で、十を知れば百を知り、百を知れば千を知っている。でも 私は勉強して得た知識にも、本から学んだ広い情報にも 興味がない。知りたいのは お前が生まれる前からの お前の言葉を聞きたいのだ。お前が東と西の違いを知っている前からの事だ。香厳は 先生の質問を理解しようとし、必死に答えました。香厳が答えると先生は「そんな事は本に書いてある」と言ってすぐ 反発しました。その後、また答えると 先生は「それはお前が見た事だ」と言い,三度目に答えると、「それはお前が聞いた事だ」という返事が返って来ました。このようなやりとりが幾つか続いた後でも、先生は香厳の答えを受け入れてくれませんでした。それでついに 香厳は「先生、慈悲の気持ちで、教えてください。どうか 私を導いてください。」とアドバイスを求めました。どうしていいか分からないでいる香厳ですが、先生はその願いを聞いたにもかかわらず、溜息をついて、受け入れようとはしませんでした。「お前に 私が考えている事を伝える事は できる。でも それはただ私の意見であって、お前には何の得にもならない。」と言われ、香厳はすっかり自信をなくしてしまいました。先生の質問にどうしても答えられず、先生が助けてくれない事がわかって来て、香厳は絶望的になりました。このような事があって、香厳は先生の所から離れる決心をしました。そしてもっと 考えを深めるために、奥深い山にある小屋に篭りました。

香厳の生活は 簡単で、お経をあげ、瞑想し、自分の家と庭を掃除し、食べ、寝るだけでした。ある日、箒で庭を掃いていた時、石が竹にあたり、音をたてました。この音を聞いたその瞬間、香厳は 真実に気づき、悟りを得ました。両手を合わせ、合掌をして、先生で

ある為山の家に向かって お辞儀をしました。尊敬の念と感謝の気持ちで、「先生、前に先生が 話してくださって いなかったら、今日 悟りを得る事はなかったと思います。」と言いました。

この話は 何か問題があった時、その問題を抱えている人に どのように解決するかなど 言うべきではない事を伝えています。つまり 他の人に 問題の答えを言ったり、アドバイスをしたりすると、本人が自分自身で考え 自分なりに問題を解決する力が身につかなくなります。これは 教える事の難しさの一つです。感謝の気持ちとは 教えを真に理解し、素直に受け入れた時に 自然と出て来るものです。感謝の念は 私達のように無知、欲、怒りに毒されている人を導くのがいかに難しいかという事が分かった時に 何倍にもなって教えてくれます。私達

私達は 受け入れる身ですが、何が原因で転換点になるか わかりません。それで 真摯に 釈迦と偉大な高僧の教 えに 心を向けてください。

合掌 翻訳:小玉 修子

Translated by Nobuko Kodama

お盆、お盆、お祭りの日です。

例年通り、ニューヨーク仏教会は 7月に盆踊りを開催します。7月14日に ブライアンパークでありますので、 詳しい事は ニュースレターをご覧ください。

Shotsuki Hoyo Memorial Services Schedule for 2019

Shotsuki hoyo is a traditional monthly service to remember your loved ones who died during that month, particularly in the intervals listed below. The Memorial Service provides a way to express your gratitude and recognize their continuing influence in your life. To arrange a shotsuki hoyo memorial service, please talk to Rev. Earl Ikeda or one of our minister's assistants.

2018... 1st Year 2016... 3rd Year 2013 ... 7th Year 2007... 13th Year

2003... 17th Year 1995 ... 25th Year 1987 ... 33rd Year 1970 ... 50th Year

The names of the persons we will be remembering this month and next are listed below.

June 2019 Shotsuki Hoyo Service June 2

Allen, Deborah 2014
Arai, Tim 2007
Cohen, Pearl 1996
Dugan, Jim 1991
Eguchi, Kimiko 1996
Himata, Takashi 1995
Ichikawa, Yoko 1990
Kaneko, Hiroshi 2012
Kikuchi, Toyoko C. 2012
Kim, Sahron M. 2015
Kishi, June 2011
Leonard, Michael 2003
Masu, Hatsu 1978
Matsushita, Richard Ken 2014
Mitani, Kayoko 1953

Morinaga, Soko 1995 Nakamura, Ichihei 1935 Nishikawa, Richard Kazumi Nishimura, Sakae 1999 1993 Okada, Alice 2010 Okada, Taka 1977 Shimamoto, Gennosuke 1965 Shimamoto, Masayo 1998 Shimamoto, Oiwa 1946 Shirakigawa, Taeko 1966 Stults, Lt. Marcus A. 1864 Takaishi, Mitsuko 1983

Tomita, Kiyo 1972

Tomita, Shinako 1990

Tomita, Tomizo 1941

Washio, Akira 1998

July 2019 Shotsuki Hoyo Service July 7

Arai, Juhei 1953

Hahn, Walter 2017
Hasegawa, Hikoji 2008
Hasegawa, Sono 1999
Hashimoto, Mineko 2014
Hashimoto, Roy 2015
Horishige, Fuji 1935
Horita, Tome 1978
Inaba, Masaharu 2011
Ishida, Yoshie 1979
Ishii, Manken-Toku 1988
Kato, Kimiko 2014
Kuchiba, Ayako 1986
Matsushita, Mae 2009
Matsushita, Michael Minh

2005 Mine, Isekichi 1972 Mitsui, Suma 1951 Mitsuuchi, Koichi 1993 Mozlin, Ellen 1991 Nishimura, Sakae Lotus 1999 Okuyama, Yasuo 1994 Otsuki, Joe Shigeo 1987 Sasaki, Toshi, NA Seki, Kazuo 2004 Seki, Hoken 2015 Seki, Reverend Hozen 1991 Sugai, George Yoshio 1982 Takeda, Hana, NA Tashiro, Kayoko 1962 Wakuya, Nancy Kimiyo 1998 Yampolsky, Philip 1996 Yasuda, Emi 1963 Yasuda, Noo Kemi 1955

April Board Highlights By Cheryl Ikemiya

Minister's Report: Rev. Earl Ikeda thanked those attending the Cleveland EDC meeting.

In particular, he reported on several topics that were discussed including Seabrook's ability to obtain public grant money for Obon as a cultural activity; streaming minister's messages and exchanging mutually beneficial ideas and initiatives between the temples.

He asked the Board to help make nyubutsu shiki more celebratory and meaningful. Letters are going out to the larger community to invite them to Nyubutsushiki including to the JAA, Japanese Consulate and other Buddhist groups. As a Dharma centered temple, he encouraged the Board to think about what direction the NYBC should take and the importance of doing things as a larger group and inviting and welcoming the general public. Ruth mentioned publicizing NYBC through the JAA. His request to consider a weekly Ikebana class given by a member to be held in the temple on

a pilot basis was approved by the Board. Building committee will coordinate times and requested donation.

New Business

The Japanese American National Museum has asked whether the NYBC would like to host a WW2 travelling exhibit comprised of items from the Alan Eaton collection. This exhibit may be done with another organization. The Board agreed to look into the possibility of hosting this exhibit. Isabelle will coordinate with a representative of the JANM to obtain further information. (It was subsequently determined that NYBC did not have adequate space to host the exhibit.)

The bus to Seabrook Obon will cost \$1500 this year. It is a larger bus and a suggestion was made to publicize the bus and event more heavily this year.

Cont. on p. 5

Sangha News By Ruth Fundi

NYBC members were delighted to see Mrs. Akiko Okada, who was observing her 101st birthday, join them on April 21, looking very hale and hearty! Following the service, a cake was presented with the joyous singing of "Happy Birthday" and many expressions of well-wishes.

The family celebrated her birthday over the weekend with Elsie (daughter), Bo and Phillip Tep coming from California, joining Alan, Merle and Nancy. May Mrs. Okada continue to enjoy good health, as we are looking forward to seeing her again next year!

Family celebration of Mrs. Okada's 101st Birthday!

Left to right: Alan, Merle, Nancy, Elsie, Bo, Phillip. Mrs. Okada, center.

Photo taken by Bo Tep



Board Highlights, Cont. from p. 4

Old business

<u>Onaijin:</u> Mr. Maeda has requested an additional payment of around [\$9,000] to cover unanticipated expenses and work that was required in restoring the onaijin. The Board agreed to make the additional payment. The board expressed its appreciation and gratitude to Karl Palma, Rev. Ikeda and Cheryl Ikemiya for all the work they did in connection with this major project. The Board approved an orei to Karl and to Rev. Earl.

Isabelle reported on the EDC meeting in Cleveland and the upcoming EBL meeting in Twin Cities. Isabelle will represent the ED at BCA meeting in [August] to elect the new bishop who will succeed Bishop Umezu. She mentioned security concerns at temples raised by BCA President Rich Stamboul at the EDC meeting (See April issue of Wheel of Dharma).

Funeral Guidelines— Gail and Reverend Ikeda will make final revisions to the Funeral Guidelines. The Board thanked Isabelle for the substantial work and effort that went into drafting these guidelines.

Gail discussed the Midwest Buddhist Temple membership model that has been published in MBT's newsletter and asked the membership committee to consider adopting a similar approach.

Mac Evans noted the NYBC pride parade step off time is 3:00.

Nancy confirmed that a D&O Liability Insurance rider will be added to NYBC's insurance coverage.

Richard Gross and David Brady will organize Sangha Day. Mike McDermott will emcee.

Soh Daiko News By Julianna Hessel

It's been a rainy spring in New York, but we managed to put on some great shows regardless! This April we closed our sakura matsuri season with performances at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden and at Flushing Meadows Corona in the Soh Daiko community, and we know we are Park. The cherry blossoms were in full bloom at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, and we welcomed returning fans and newcomers to the festival with loud, powerful drumming. Soh Daiko members enjoyed the warm weather and picturesque blossoms alongside huge crowds and a lively audience; we love returning to this fun-filled event year after year!

At Flushing Meadows Corona Park, the Japanese American Association of New York (JAANY) celebrated their 15th annual sakura matsuri festival and we were excited to perform at this event once more. This year was extra special because we were honored by JAANY with a tree planting in ing, our audience was enthusiastic and eager to celecelebration of Soh Daiko's 40th anniversary. Founding Soh Daiko members Alan Okada, Merle Okada, Jenny Wada, and Sandy Ikeda joined us for this touching ceremony, at which a Somei-Yoshino cherry tree was planted in the park with a plaque congratulating us on the forty years of drumming that we've had the privilege to enjoy. We thank JAANY for this beautiful honor and look forward to many

more years of friendship and support. Like the gift of cherry trees from Japan to Washington, D.C., this tree, which is of the same variety, signifies the bond we share stronger together.

On May 12th we returned to Central Park for the annual Japan Day festival and run. We opened the day by performing our shishimai, lion dance, for the runners and two of our performing members who participated in the 4-mile Japan Run through the park. The forecast that morning was for rain, and unfortunately it did not let up in time for our performance at the Naumberg Bandshell. Armed with large plastic bags to protect our drums, we took the stage and wowed the crowd despite the rain. Even while standing outside on a chilly, rainy mornbrate Japanese culture, which is one of the many reasons we love participating in this event!

Coming up on Sunday, May 19th we will be celebrating Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month with a performance on Mott Street in Chinatown! It is the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans' 40th annual festival, making this the nation's longest running festival celebrating Asian



diversity and community. Also on Sunday, May 19th, we're looking forward to joining the NYBC community for Gotan-e.

With about one month to go, Soh Daiko members are full-steamahead in preparing for our 40th Anniversary Concert. Get tickets while you still can by talking to a Soh Daiko member or visiting 40th.sohdaiko.org

We hope to see you there!

DHARMA GATHERING & STUDY CLASS

With Rev. Earl Ikeda, Resident Minister



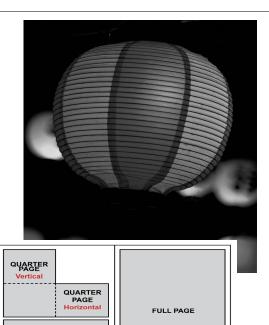
FIRST SATURDAYS of each month from 10:00 am to 11:30 am First Class on June 1

In these classes we will read from the teachings of Buddha and discuss how they inform our everyday lives. We will also practice our chanting and discuss the purpose and origins of the sutras we chant. Classes are held in the hondo, our main worship hall.

The classes will be led by Rev. Earl Ikeda, Resident Minister of the New York Buddhist Church. You do not have to be a member of NYBC to participate and all are welcomed to attend. Books will be provided. A donation of \$5 for members, \$10 for nonmembers per class is appreciated to defray costs.

Buy Space in the 2019 Obon Booklet for Advertisements and Personal Messages

2019 年 盆踊りのプログラムに掲載するメッセージや広告を募集しています。 スペースに限りがありますので、ご希望の方は至急お知らせください。



HALF PAGE

The New York Buddhist Church Presents the 68th Annual Obon Dance Festival Sunday, July 14, 2019 12:30–5:00 PM at Bryant Park (42nd St. and Sixth Ave.)

ADVERTISEMENT PRICES

Full page (5 ½" x 8 ½")	\$100.00
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IMPORTANT!	

All requests must be received no later than June 23, 2019.

Please fill out this form and send with your ad or message to:	Message:
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Telephone:	
Email:	
Full page Half page Qtr pg Booster line (Circle one)	Make checks payable to NY Buddhist Church
Amount Enclosed:	DEADLINE JUNE 23, 2019

New York Buddhist Church June-July 2019

June

June 1, Sat. 10-11:30am: Dharma Gathering and Study Class 12:30-2 Ukulele Class and Strumming Circle

2:30-4:30pm: American Buddhist Study Center Program (Film)

June 2, Sun. Shotsuki Hoyo, Speaker: Rev. Earl Ikeda 1:00 pm, Sangha Day: potluck lunch and talent show

Taiko classes: 5 year olds (12:30-1:15), Children (1:152:15pm); adults (2:15-3:15pm)

June 5, Wed. 7-8:30pm: Chanting and Meditation

June 6, Thu. 7-8:30pm: Howakai (Jap. Study Group)

June 8, Sat. 12:30-2pm: Ukulele Class and Strumming Circle

June 9, Sun. 10:30am: Japanese Service; Speaker: Rev. Earl Ikeda; 11:30am: English Service: Speaker: Rev. Earl Ikeda 12:30 RED meeting; 1:00 ABA meeting

June 12, Wed. 7-8:30pm: Chanting and Meditation

June 15, Sat. 12:30-2 Ukulele Class and Strumming June.

June 16, Sun. Father's Day 10:30am: Japanese Service; Speaker: Rev. Earl Ikeda; 11:30am: English Service: Speaker: Rev. Earl Ikeda; Taiko classes: 6 year olds (12:30-1:15), Children (1:152:15pm); adults (2:15-3:15pm)

2pm: Tachibana Dance Recital

June 19, Wed. 7-8:30pm: Chanting and Meditation

June 20, Thurs. 6:30-8:30 pm, Buddhist Basics

June 20 Thurs. to June 22 Sat. Eastern District Ministers meeting (held at NYBC)

June 22, Sat. 12:30-2pm: Ukulele Class and Strumming

June 22, Sat. 2:00 pm, SOH DAIKO 40th Anniversary Concert at Miller Theatre, Columbia University

(for tickets and more information, go to: 40th.sohdaiko.org) **June 23, Sun.** 10:30am: Japanese Service, 11:30am: English

Service, Speaker for both serv: Rev. Yoshimichi Ouchi
(Toronto) 1:00 pm: Board of Trustees meeting

Taiko classes: 5 year olds (12:30-1:15), Children (1:152:15pm); adults (2:15-3:15pm)

June 26, Wed. 7-8:30pm: Chanting and Meditation

June 27, Thurs. O Bon dance practice 6:30-8:00 pm

June 30, Sun. 11:30am: English Service, Speaker: MA Gary Shobo Jaskula:

Taiko classes: 6 year olds (12:30-1:15), Children (1:152:15pm); adults (2:15-3:15pm)

NYC Pride Parade 50th Anniversary, come march with NYBC supporters; meet up is 3 pm at 26th Street and 5th Avnue

July

July 2, Tue. 6:30-8pm: O Bon Dance Practice

July 3, Wed. 7-8:30pm: Chanting and Meditation

July 6, Sat. 12:30-2pm: Ukulele Class and Strumming Circle

10-11:30am: Dharma Gathering and Study Class

2:30-4:30 American Buddhist Study Center Program

July 7, Sun. 11:30am: Shotsuki Hoyo, Hatsubon Service

Obon Service and Rev. Hozen Seki Memorial Service

1pm: Religious Education Dept. meeting

1:30pm: Adult Buddhist Association meeting

July 9, Tues. 6:30-8:00 pm O bon Dance Practice

July 10, Wed. 7-8:30pm: Chanting and Meditation

July 11. Thurs. O Bon dance practice 6:30-8:00 pm

July 13 Sat. 12:30-2pm: Ukulele Class and Strumming Circle

July 14, Sun. OBon Odori (Bon Dance) Bryant Park 12:30 pm

Adult Taiko classes : (1-2 pm)

July 17, Wed. 7-8:30pm: Chanting and Meditation

July 20, Sat. Seabrook OBon Odori, gather for bus at 12:30

12:30-2pm: Ukulele Class and Strumming Circle

July 21, Sun. 10:30am: Japanese Service

11:30am: English Service

1:30pm: Board of Trustees meeting

July 24, Wed. 7-8:30pm: Chanting and Meditation

July 27, Sat. 12:30-2pm: Ukulele Class and Strumming Circle

July 28, Sun. 10:30am: Japanese Service Speaker: Rev. Ikeda

11:30am: English Service Speaker Rev. Ikeda

Adult Taiko classes : (1-2 pm)

SERVICE HELPERS FOR JUNE

June 2 Chairperson Keiko Ohtaka, Greeter Hiroki Hasegawa, Music Yoriko Armstrong

June 9 Chairperson Gail Inaba, Greeter Yuko Tonohira, Music ukulele

June 16 Chairperson Richard Gross, Greeter David Brady, Music Ukulele group

June 23 Chairperson Tony Armstrong, Greeter : Mike McDermottt Music: Ukulele group

June 30 Chairperson Tony Ditomasso, Greeter, Dwain Reeves, Music Yoriko Armstrong

KOKORO

www.NewYorkBuddhist Church.org

212-678-0305

Resident Minister: Rev. Earl Ikeda

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Nancy Okada at 212-678-0305.

Contributors: Rev. Earl Ikeda, Ruth Funai, Brian Funai, Karl Palma, Nancy Okada, Isabelle Bernard, Cheryl Ikemiya, , Julianna Hessel, Tony Di Tomasso, Richard Gross, Tony Armstrong, David Okada and the Buddhist Women's Association mailing team.

Articles and especially photographs are welcome and will be published subject to suitability of content and availability of space.

Send contributions to Kokoro Editors: Gail Inaba, ginaba@optonline.net

Ongoing Activities

Children's and Adult's Taiko Drumming: Sundays, usually every other week, usually every other week, 12:30-1:15, 1:15-2:15pm, 2:15-3:15 pm NYBC Dojo. Email Teddy Yoshikami at tyoshikami@verizon.net for more information.

Kokushi Budo Institute Martial Arts Class: Weekday evenings and Saturday mornings, NYBC Dojo. More information: www.kokushibudo.com.

Soh Daiko Drumming: Thursdays, 7-9 pm and Saturdays, 2-6pm, NYBC Dojo. Practices are not open to the general public without prior permission. More information: www.sohdaiko.org.

Tachibana Dance Group: Saturdays, 11:30 am NYBC Annex, 2nd floor. More information: talk to Nancy Okada, and visit www.chrbru.net/page-albu-recital.

Howakai: Japanese Study Group, usually first Thursday of the month, 7-8:30 pm

Chanting and Meditation: usually Wednesday evenings, 7-8:30 nm

Ukulele Class and Strumming circle: usually every other Saturday afternoon 12:30-2 pm

Dharma Study Group: usually first Saturday morning of the month, 10-11:30 am

Jinpukai (Okinawan Dance) usually every Monday 7-9 pm



kokoro

June 2019



New York Buddhist Church

New York Buddhist Church 331 Riverside Drive New York, NY 10025

www.newyorkbuddhistchurch.org

