

SPOKANE BUDDHIST TEMPLE NEWSLETTER

Everyone is welcome to attend all activities and services.

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The Spokane Buddhist Temple

927 S. Perry Street

Spokane, WA 99202

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS JUNE 2003

June 1	Sunday	10:30 AM	Sangha Service followed by Buddhism 101 Leader (MC): Ed Parker ❖ Konsho: Leslie Green Chanter: Jefferson Workman ❖ Greeter: Ann Heineman Flowers: Leslie Green ❖ Buddhism 101 Leader: Ed Parker Snack: Lorie Taylor
June 5	Thursday	7:00 PM	Jodo Shinshu Study Class
June 8	Sunday	10:30 AM	Sangha Service followed by Buddhism 101 Leader (MC): Kelly Clothier ❖ Konsho: Leslie Green Chanter: Jefferson Workman ❖ Greeter: Hyacenth Dezenabia Flowers: Christine Marr ❖ Buddhism 101 Leader: Christine Marr Snack: Leslie Green
June 12	Thursday	7:00 PM	Jodo Shinshu Study Class
June 15	Sunday	10:30 AM	Sangha Service followed by Buddhism 101 Leader (MC): Jefferson Workman ❖ Konsho: Paul Vielle Chanter: Christine Marr ❖ Greeter: Paul Vielle Flowers: Ann Heineman ❖ Buddhism 101 Leader: Ed Parker Snack: Janet Tamura
June 19	Thursday	7:00 PM	Jodo Shinshu Study Class
June 21	Saturday	9:30–11:30 AM	Toban Clean the Temple Day
June 22	Sunday	10:30 AM	Sangha Service followed by Buddhism 101 Leader (MC): Paul Vielle ❖ Konsho: Karen Vielle Chanter: Jefferson Workman ❖ Greeter: Karen Vielle Flowers: Janet Tamura ❖ Buddhism 101 Leader: Kristina Rood Snack: Leslie Green
June 26	Thursday	7:00 PM	Jodo Shinshu Study Class
June 29	Sunday	2:00 PM 3:00 PM	Introduction to Buddhism Rev. Fuji from the Seattle Betsuin, Pot Luck will follow Service Leader (MC): Leslie Green ❖ Konsho: Karen Vielle Greeter: Paul Vielle ❖ Reverend Hospitality: Paul Vielle Offering: Christine Marr ❖ Flowers: Christine Marr

From the Seattle Betsuin Newsletter:



ASK NAMO

Hello. My name is "Namo". This column will appear monthly as part of the Seattle Betsuin Newsletter.

Here's your opportunity to ask any question you have about Jodo-Shinshu Buddhism or about the Seattle Betsuin but were afraid to ask. There are no "dumb questions" so please ask what's on your mind. Please submit your questions to: Namoamidabutsu@lycos.com. You don't have to use your name if you don't want to. This column is sponsored by your Betsuin Religious Department.

DEAR NAMO:

What is the proper way to Oshoko (burn incense)? I've been self conscious recently after watching many people oshoko in very different ways. Is there a "proper approved" way to oshoko?

SIGNED: BURNING QUESTION

DEAR BURNING QUESTION:

Thanks for your hot question. In answering your question, there is a proper approved method of oshoko. First, one approaches the Naijin (Shrine), 2) bow one step before the Oshoko-table. 3) Take one step forward, using your right thumb and forefinger, pick up one pinch of incense and immediately release over the brazier. Do not "itadaku" or put it to your forehead or pick up incense multiple times. Once is the practice. 4) Gassho and bow, 5) Take one step back and bow lightly before leaving. The awkwardness will go away once you practice it a few times. Thanks for your question. **SIGNED: NAMO**

DEAR NAMO:

What is a Buddhist name or HOMYO? Should every Buddhist have one? How and when is the name issued? **SIGNED, NEW MEMBER**

DEAR NEW MEMBER:

You have some really great questions. The word HO-MYO is made up of two Chinese characters. The first character (HO) is the character used for the "Dharma," (one who has awoken to the truth) and the second character (MYO) means, "name." So quite literally, HOMYO means "Dharma Name."

When a person receives a HOMYO this indicates that he/she has determined to live their lives according to the truth (Dharma) that will lead him/her and all sentient beings to a life lived in full awareness, or Enlightenment. In addition, receiving a HOMYO indicates that the person wishes to live life as a student of the Buddha, living in accordance with the truth a Buddha teaches, and sharing this with others in harmony. These are the reasons why the person receiving a HOMYO at a Kikyoshiki (Conferring ceremony) is asked to pledge themselves to the three treasures of Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha. **SIGNED, NAMO**

DEAR NAMO:

What is that wooden box at the right rear of the Hondo by the last set of pews? I've seen people put garbage into it. Is it some kind of a recycling box? **RECYCLING FAN**

DEAR RECYCLING FAN:

We pass by it so often that we don't even notice it anymore. It is not a garbage can. It is called the "osaisen bako" or offertory box. The purpose is to allow those who wish to exercise their "dana" by inserting coins or bills into the box through the narrow angled slot. Traditionally, these boxes are placed near the front of the Hondo, but Seattle is unique. By having it in the back, it allows more privacy for those wishing to contribute whatever they want. Since you are a recycling fan, you might say the offertory made is "recycled" into more religious programming. Please "educate" those who think it is a garbage can! **SIGNED, NAMO**

Temple News

May brought us spring weather and Rev. Castro from the Seattle Betsuin. He gave a well-attended talk on "Buddhism and Other Power". The talk lasted for 2 hours, and included many questions from the audience. This gave us an opportunity to hear insights into the heart of the Jodo Shinshu teachings. It was an enjoyable evening, and we enjoyed the service the next day as well.

Leslie Green and I attended the Northwest District Council meeting in Yakima on May 10. We heard plans for the next convention in Ontario, Idaho. Be sure to mark your calendar for next February. We hope to get many attendees next year, especially as we will be hosting it in 2006. Plan to attend and see many old friends, or go for the first time and see how many new people you will meet.

We had a chance to talk with Rev. Fuji, and we look forward to welcoming him back at the June Service. He was the resident minister when my family joined, and he is happy to be back in the northwest once again.

One topic discussed at this meeting was a Lay Leadership Seminar being held this November at Hompa Honwanji in Kyoto, Japan. We were offered a slot for one of our Board Officers; Leslie Green is putting her name in for consideration. This is a great opportunity for one of our members and our Temple! We are working hard to continue without a minister, it is a challenge to keep it all running as well as it has in the past. This seminar will provide the chance for our temple to have a representative at the mother temple, to learn about its activities and operations, and to share thoughts with ministers in Japan. Lets put our temple support in this opportunity. If Leslie is able to go, we may look into a fundraiser dedicated to help offset some of the expenses. The selections will be announced on June 15th, more details to follow in next month's newsletter.

Looking forward to June, don't forget upcoming events. July 19 will be the Perry Street Faire and our open house. August will be our retreat with Kenji Akahoshi and "If Life Is A Nightmare-Wake Up To A Dream", an Introduction to Buddhism. I had hoped to have the cost and other information ready, but I will have it soon at the temple. Don't forget to check our website too!
www.SpokaneBuddhistTemple.org

Gassho,
Christine Marr
Spokane Buddhist Temple President