

Spokane Buddhist Temple

Volume 70 - Issue 2

This newsletter is published monthly by the Spokane Buddhist Temple
 927 S Perry Street
 Spokane, WA 99202
 509 534-7954



Everyone is welcome to attend all activities and services. Visit us online at:
www.spokanebuddhisttemple.org
 email: spokanebuddhisttemple@gmail.com
www.Facebook.com/SpokaneBuddhistTemple

February 2024

<u>February Service Schedule - 10:30 am</u>		
2/4	10:30 am	Sangha Service
2/11	10:30 am	Shotsukihoyo Sangha Service
2/18	10:30 am	Nirvana Day Service
2/25	10:30 am	Sangha Service
	10:30 am	Dharma School for Ages 4-11

See Page 3 for info about the Seattle Betsuin arson fire and how to donate.



NIRVANA DAY SERVICE
Feb 18th - 10:30 am

Nirvana Day commemorates the death of the historical Buddha and his entry into final or complete Nirvana.

Nirvana Day is a time for contemplation of the Buddha’s teachings. The Buddha died at the age of 80 in the company of his monks. The Buddha knew his life was at an end, and he assured his monks that he had withheld no spiritual teaching from them. He urged them to maintain the teachings so that they would continue to help people through the ages to come. Finally he said, “All conditioned things are subject to decay. Strive for your liberation with diligence.” Those were his last words.

2024 BCA
NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING
Hosted by: Northern California District

Feb 17 - Townhall Sessions (Zoom)
 Feb 23 & 24 - NCM Meeting (Live)
 Feb 24 - IBS Symposium (Live/BCA Youtube)
 Feb 25 - Eitaikyo Service (Live/BCA Youtube)

EMBRACING THE DHARMA WITH
HOPE AND JOY

Buddhist Churches of American
National Council Meeting
 With virtual public **Workshops,**
Symposium and Service

Feb 17th, 24th & 25th
 *** See the full newsletter
 for details ***

Spokane Buddhist Temple

FEBRUARY 2024

VOLUME 70 ISSUE 2



Sangha Services— Our Sangha Service (Sangha is the Sanskrit word for Buddhist community) is a traditional Jodo Shinshu service with chanting led by a Doshi. Services are at 10:30 am on Sundays at the Temple. We meet after service for refreshments and sometimes a dharma discussion.

- ◆ **GET THIS NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL**
Email: SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com
- ◆ Check out our website at **www.SpokaneBuddhistTemple.org**
- ◆ **For the latest Temple Information visit our Facebook page:** www.facebook.com/SpokaneBuddhistTemple
- ◆ Visit the **Buddhist Churches of America** Website: www.BuddhistChurchesofAmerica.org
There is a wealth of information, podcasts, and information about Shin Buddhism on this site.



Rinban Katsuya Kusunoki
our Supervising Minister

Spokane Buddhist Temple
Minister Assistants Team:
Chad Donoho
Eric Kerkove
Amanda Goodwin



Spokane Buddhist Temple Team

--Supervising Minister--

Rev. Katsuya Kusunoki
Seattle Betsuin

---Minister Assistants---

Amanda Goodwin
Chad Donoho
Eric Kerkove

Reverend Paul Vielle (ret.)

--Your 2024 Board of Directors---

Joe Bracco, President
Sadina Henderson, Vice President
KNona Liddell, Treasurer
Ryan Campanella, Secretary
Tina Rodeen
Susan Hales
Celeste Sterrett
Izumi (Jacqui) Pierce
Ally Rice

Mari Haworth, Bookkeeper
Chad Donoho, Religious
Education Committee
Representative



Chanting At Home

Follow these links to access recordings of the following:

- Juseige https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/home/001_juseige_chanting/
- Sanbutsuge https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/home/002_sanbutsuge_chanting/
- Junirai https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/home/003_junirai_chanting/
- Ondokusan https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/home/004_ondokusan_gatha/



Your 2024 Board of Directors

Left to right:
Joe Bracco, President
Izumi (Jacqui) Pierce
Ally Rice
Susan Hales
Celeste Sterrett
Sadina Henderson, Vice President
Ryan Campanella, Secretary
KNona Liddell, Treasurer
Tina Rodeen (not pictured)

Thank you for your dedication to
the Spokane Buddhist Temple



Fire At The Seattle Betsuin

At 10:00 pm on December 31, 2023, an intruder broke into the temple and sought refuge in the basement. Shortly after, the individual committed arson, resulting in considerable fire and water damage to the basement area. The smoke and water damage extended throughout the entire temple, prompting its closure to all.

Contributions can also be made via check – please make checks payable to “SEATTLE BUDDHIST CHURCH” and include “Arson Restoration Fund” in the memo line.

Your kindness and concern are deeply appreciated, and we invite you to share in the successes fueled by your generosity. Thank you for contributing to a collective effort that transcends bricks and mortar.

Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple – 1427 S. Main Street, Seattle, WA 98144

Seattle Betsuin Arson Restoration Fund link:
<https://donate.stripe.com/7sIcNfdwRdi59TW8wy>

Seattle Times article:
<https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/law-justice/arson-closes-seattle-buddhist-temple-destroys-century-old-archives/>

February Shotsuki-Hoyo



On February 11th, as part of our service, we will have the monthly Shotsuki-Hoyo remembrance service. According to Temple records and other sources, a total of 15 people passed away during the month of January of their respective year:

If you wish to have someone added to the Shotsukihoyo list, see one of our Minister Assistants.

Alpha Mae Clark
Shirley Bennett
Mary Ikebe
Nobuichi Nitta
Ito Tanaka
Masao "Mas" Wada
Chiyeko Yamauchi
Jim Bennett

John Goodsen
Hazuo Horita
Tsutae Muraoka
Edward Parker
Evelynn Beler Vielle
Midori Yamasaki
Wilson Burdett

Dues and Donations

We are grateful for your donations and dues, which offset our expenses. You are helping us keep the doors open at the Spokane Buddhist Temple and continue to spread the Dharma. To donate, either click on the Donation button on the website, or email a check to us. If you want 100% of your donation to go to the Temple, please send a check or do a BillPay transaction through your bank.

Donations received in January 2023:

Kris Birdsell	Jennifer Mathews
Wednesday Meditation Group	Tuesday Meditation Group
Chris Nerison	Becca & Melissa Opel (2023 dues)
Spokane Chapter Japanese American Citizens League	Gay Taira (In memory of Eric Inaba)

SBT Member who pledged their membership for 2024:

Kris Birdsell	Julie Holcomb
Shawn Boltz	Eric Kerkove
Joseph Bracco	KNona Liddell
Stacey Carr and Alejandra Calzadillas	Michelle McCartney
Ryan Campanella	Loren and Caroline Nishimura
Lena Cooley	Patricia Ohashi
Chad Donoho	Martena Peterson
Marie Ellis	Jeremy Phillips
Ken & Jackie Endersbe	Jacqui (Izumi) Pierce
Catherine & Jacob Espinoza	Tina Rodeen
Lisa Geiss	Virginia Saint Louis
Amanda Goodwin	Celeste Sterrett
Susan Hales	Kiku Terao
Tyler Hanson	Kevin Tremblay
Mari Haworth	Paul and Karen Vielle
Sadina Henderson	Jinny Worley
Janet Holmberg & Kosuke Imamura	Jun Yugawa



New Members: Jan Rice & Ally Rice



2024 BCA

NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

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EMBRACING THE DHARMA WITH HOPE AND JOY

See the Next Page
for Details

The BCA National Council Meeting Presents the IBS Symposium

THE MAKING OF AMERICAN

Buddhism

DR. SCOTT
MITCHELL



IN CONVERSATION
WITH REV. TAKASHI
MIYAJI



Buddhist Church of Sacramento

FEBRUARY | 24th | 2024

Dr. Scott Mitchell will discuss his new book, *The Making of American Buddhism* at 3pm following the National Council Meeting Kaikan. He will be in conversation with Rev. Takashi Miyaji. Visit bcancm.org to register



BCA National Council Meeting

Board President Joe Bracco and Minister Assistant Amanda Goodwin are going to the Buddhist Churches of America National Conference to represent the Spokane Buddhist Temple.

Go to this site for information for the virtual
Public Workshops and Symposium:
<https://bcancm.org>

Saturday, February 17 Workshops on Zoom - Zoom link will be sent out later:

8:30 AM - 9:15 AM President's Meeting
9:30 AM - 11:00 AM Town Hall Session
11:15 AM - 12:00 Noon BCA Task Force Presentation
Lunch Break
1:00 PM - 1:50 PM Propagation and Membership
2:00 PM - 2:50 PM Ministerial Affairs
3:00 PM - 3:50 PM Social Welfare
4:00 PM - 4:50 PM Endowment Foundation

Saturday, February 24 Buddhist Church of Sacramento

3:00 PM IBS Symposium on YouTube* (see previous page)

Sunday, February 25 Buddhist Church of Sacramento

10:00 AM Eitaikyo Service on YouTube*

* For the Feb 24th & 25th symposium and service, go to the BCA's YouTube channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/c/BuddhistChurchesofAmerica>

New Year's Greeting

Happy New Year, everyone! At the beginning of this New Year, I would like to extend my best regards to you all.

Over the last year, innumerable people worldwide have been affected by natural disasters, such as earthquakes, floods, and forest fires. I was particularly shocked by the wild fires that devastated the island of Maui in the state of Hawaii. This disaster completely destroyed the temple hall of Lahaina Hongwanji Mission and one temple member was reported to have lost his life. I would like to offer my deepest condolences to all who have perished in those calamities. I would also like to express my sympathies to those who are still coping with the dire situations. It is my sincere hope that all who have been affected will soon be able to return to a normal daily life.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine that began in February 2022 is still continuing. Not only that, conflict between Israel and Palestine has once again flared up from October 2023, embroiling nations concerned with victimizing a large number of people many of whom are civilians. Looking at the appalling state of the world, the following words of Sakyamuni Buddha come to mind. "Everyone fears violence and is scared of death. In consideration of all life, do not kill and do not make others kill."

Every one of us who has received life as a human being, no matter the reason, must be ensured equally of human rights, and no one's life should be threatened. In reality, however, conflicts and terrorist attacks have occurred everywhere in the world and for many people, their right to live and exist has been threatened. As Buddhists who aspire for peace, we must keep Sakyamuni Buddha's words seriously in our hearts and pursue our endeavor of contributing toward world peace and security.

During the last year, we observed the Joint Celebration of the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth and the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching at Hongwanji, Kyoto for a total of 30 days, divided into 5 sessions during the period from March 29 to May 21. On this occasion, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to those who came to Japan to attend, as well as those who supported it in various ways. This celebratory event could be realized only because our predecessors have cherished the Jodo Shinshu teaching as their spiritual foundation for many years no matter when or where they were, and carefully transmitted it to us today.

Let us, too, continue listening to the teaching as the center of our life while cherishing each day.

January 1, 2024



OHTANI Kojun
Monshu
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

SPOKANE BUDDHIST TEMPLE 2024 MEMBERSHIP

We are profoundly grateful for your interest in the Spokane Buddhist Temple. By joining or renewing your membership, you honor the legacy of those who founded this Temple in 1945 and help provide a broad and deep base of support to sustain the sangha far into the future. Your membership pledge is an acknowledgment of your commitment to bringing the Dharma to the Spokane area so that everyone interested can hear the teachings of the Buddha and learn about the rich heritage of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism.

Your pledge is a concrete example of dana, or selfless giving. Dana is usually listed first among the Buddhist paramitas, or virtues to be cultivated. At the Spokane Buddhist Temple (SBT), this takes the form of pledges and monetary contributions, gifts in kind, and volunteer efforts to maintain the Temple and sustain the sangha.

Membership Levels and Benefits

Sustaining Members pledge \$300 per year or more.

Young Members are under 30 and pledge \$50 per year.

Both sustaining and young members are eligible to serve as Trustees and can vote in all Temple elections. They are members of our parent organization, the Buddhist Churches of America, and receive the Buddhist Churches of America's (BCA) monthly publication The Wheel of Dharma.

When To Pledge and How To Pay

Renewals are due in November. This facilitates our planning and budgeting for the upcoming year. New members who join earlier in the year can pledge a prorated amount of \$25 per month; please consult the SBT treasurer or bookkeeper.

Pledge payments can be made in the following ways:

check

credit card

e-check from your financial institution

cash

You can choose the number of separate payments you make:

annual (1 payment)

semi-annual (2 payments)

quarterly (4 payments)

monthly (12 payments)

Where Your Money Goes

Membership pledges and other cash donations from sangha members make up close to a third of SBT's annual revenue. Although as a religious nonprofit we do not pay property tax on the Temple, our expenses include utilities, insurance, building and grounds maintenance, security, travel and honoraria for visiting ministers, subsidies for ministers' education, and dues to the BCA and NW District. SBT spends a total of about \$60,000 each year to bring the Dharma to Spokane.

Tax Info

If you itemize your Federal income tax, you may be able to deduct your contributions to the Temple. If you take a Required Minimum Distribution from your retirement accounts, you may be able to designate those funds to go to SBT. Please consult a tax professional for details applicable to your situation.

What We Do With Your Information

We provide your name and mailing address to the Buddhist Churches of America. We do not share any information about sangha members with any other individuals or organizations.

SPOKANE BUDDHIST TEMPLE 2024 PLEDGE FORM

Amount pledged for Spokane Buddhist Temple membership for 2024: _____

Additional donation to support Temple activities in 2024: _____

Method of payment (check one): check _____; e-check _____; credit card _____; cash _____

Frequency of payment (check one): annually _____; semi-annually _____; quarterly _____; monthly _____

Please return your completed pledge form to the SBT office, and consult the SBT Treasurer for further details, if needed. Members will receive a summary of all pledges and contributions they made in 2024 in January 2025.

Name(s) (PRINTED):

Signatures(s):

Phone(s):

Email address(es):

Mailing address:



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