

Spokane Buddhist Temple

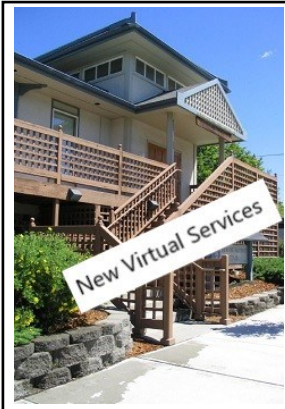
Volume 67, 2021 - Issue 1
This newsletter is published monthly by
the Spokane Buddhist Temple
927 S Perry Street
Spokane, WA 99202
509 534-7954



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

January 2021

*Due to Covid-19,
the Temple building is closed until further notice.*



Services Resume Virtually at Spokane Buddhist Temple

We are now holding virtual services via Zoom. Services are each Sunday through March 14, 2021 at 10:30 am.

The service is also being live-streamed on Facebook. You can view this service live stream anytime afterwards on Facebook or YouTube. After the service, we will turn off the live feed and you may stay and socialize and discuss the Dharma Message.

Please email the temple at SpokaneBuddhisttemple@gmail.com or melissajoshinopel@gmail.com to get the Zoom login by email.

Namo Amida Butsu,
Reverend Melissa Opel
MA Chad Donoho

January Virtual Service Schedule—10:30 am

- 1/3 Virtual Service
- 1/10 Shotsukihoyo Virtual Service
- 1/17 Virtual Service
- 1/24 Virtual Service with Installation of 2021 Board of Directors & followed by All Sangha Meeting
- 1/31 Hoonko Service with guest Rinban Katsuya Kusunoki from the Seattle Betsuin (see page 3)
followed by a Dharma discussion with Rev. Kusunoki

Spokane Buddhist Temple

JANUARY 2021

VOLUME 67 ISSUE 1



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 new 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.



Reverend Melissa Opel and MA Chad Donoho



Amanda Goodwin
Minister's Assistant in training



Rinban Katsuya Kusunoki
our Supervising Minister

Spokane Buddhist Temple Team

--Supervising Minister--
Rev. Katsuya Kusunoki
Seattle Betsuin

---Minister Assistants---
Sensei Melissa Opel
MA Chad Donoho
Sensei Paul Vielle (ret.)
Amanda Goodwin (Aspirant)

---2021 Board of Directors---
Becca Opel
Chad Donoho
Shawn Boltz
Lisa Geiss
KNona Liddell
Tina Rodeen
Patricia Ohashi
Curtis Cooley
Susan Hales

Congratulations to KNona Liddell and Susan Hales for serving your Temple by joining the 2021 Board.

Have questions? Contact
Becca Opel
509-294-1461
alwaysalotus@gmail.com

**The 2021 Board will be installed on January 24th during the Zoom Service at 10:30 am **
** Also See Page 4**

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/



HOONKO SERVICE with Rev. Katsuya Kusunoki Rinban, Northwest Buddhist Temples

Shinran Shonin's Memorial Service
SUNDAY – JANUARY 31st - 10:30 AM SERVICE

**** Virtual Service ** Email for the Zoom Link ****

Hoon-ko commemorates the death of the founder of Shin Buddhism, Shinran Shonin. This holiday is observed in early January from the 9th to the 16th. This holiday is among the most important observed in the Jodo Shinshu tradition. The observance began after Shinran's daughter, Kakushinni carried on administration of Shinran's mausoleum, as did her descendants, who ultimately became the Monshu of Jodo Shinshu. In the word hōonkō; 'hōon' means "return of gratitude" and 'ko' means "to clarify the meaning of" or "gathering".

Rinban Katsu Kusunoki will join us on January 31st, via Zoom, for the Service and Dharma Talk on Hoonko. Reverend Katsuya Kusunoki is the Head Minister of the Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple. Sensei was born in Nagasaki, Japan, the second son of a temple family. Today his older brother Naoya is the 17th generation of their family to serve their family temple. Sensei is a graduate of Miyazaki University where he majored in primary education and his hobby is to watch and play baseball and softball. While a college student he took a break and spent almost two and a half years in a Japanese volunteer program similar to the Peace Corps in America coaching baseball in Zimbabwe before returning to Japan to complete his studies. After graduating he spent three years teaching 3rd and 6th grade classes before deciding to become a minister.



Sensei's advanced training includes the Hongwanji-ha Rituals course for leaders (Gonshiki). He is a Hongwanji-ha certified Special Rituals Minister, a certificate only he and our former minister Rev. Sala Sekiya hold within the Buddhist Churches of America. Sensei's first assignment in America was to the Lodi Buddhist Temple in 2010 and he was transferred to Seattle in April of 2017. Sensei and his wife Ayano have a son, Yuiya, who was born in September 2016. "rev.kusunoki@seattlebetsuin.com"

**** Rev. Kusunoki will join us for a Dharma Discussion after the service ****

Message from the Board President

Be on the look out for an All Sangha Meeting on January 24th, right after the 10:30 am Service. Join in on the discussion and hear the status of the Temple at the end of 2020 and what we plan for 2021.

In Gassho, Becca Opel

DISCOVER PASSAGE MEDITATION
FREE INTRODUCTORY WEBINAR

Saturday - January 23, 2021 9-10 am - (No prerequisites)

You'll participate in a Zoom meeting led by two longtime meditators who are trained Blue Mountain Center of Meditation presenters. More information at bmc.org

An existing local support group is available. Call Mary 509-570-6876

[Introductory Passage Meditation Webinar - Blue Mountain Center of Meditation](#)

We hope you'll find that it's easy and enjoyable to take part. Very little technical expertise is needed! Once you've registered for the Webinar, we'll send you an email with a link to join the live event.

www.bmc.org

*"The root of all violence is in the world of thoughts,
and that is why training the mind is so important."*

- Eknath Easwaran



Celeste Sterrett's term as a Board member expired on 12/31/20 (shown at left with current Board President Becca Opel).

Thank you Celeste Sterrett for all that you do for the Spokane Buddhist Temple and the Buddhist Churches of America. We are grateful for your many years of service to the Temple. Here are just a few of the hats she wears or has worn:

Past SBT Board President & long time Board Member
Chaired multiple Temple fundraisers
Serves on the SBT Religious Education Committee
She regularly checks on the Temple during these Covid closure times and handles maintenance issues

She also volunteers at the national level:

She is the Chair of the BCA Social Welfare Fund

She is the Secretary of the Board of Advisors for the Center for Buddhist Education (CBE)

This is her 2nd term as a Director at Large on the National Board (Buddhist Churches of America)



BCA
Life of Gratitude

**Check out the new Website for the
Buddhist Churches of America:
<https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/>**

Examples of information about Shin Buddhism on the site

Learn

Includes Basics of Buddhism, Buddhism in Your Life,
Buddhism for Kids & FAQs

News & Media

Wheel of Dharma newsletter, Bishop's Messages,
CBE Seminars

Join Us

Watch Services on Line



January Shotsuki-Hoyo

On January 10th, as part of our virtual service, we will have the monthly Shotsuki-Hoyo remembrance service. According to Temple records and other sources, a total of 14 people passed away during the month of January of their respective year:

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Asayo Heyamoto | Michael Higashi |
| James Horiuchi | Sue Ounpikul |
| Peter Low Kelsey | James Kiyaichi Koga |
| Sagata Kuwahara | (Mrs.) Shige Ida |
| Gregory Matazo Soejima | Grover C. Twiner |
| (Mrs.) Sakae Wakayama | Richard Williams |
| Manichi Yamaguchi | Jake Normandin |



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|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Learn | Includes Basics of Buddhism, Buddhism in Your Life, Buddhism for Kids & FAQs |
| News & Media | Wheel of Dharma newsletter, Bishop's Messages, CBE Seminars |
| Join Us | Watch Services on Line |



SEEN BUDDHIST
SERVICE BOOK

Other on-line sources of the Dharma you might want to check out:

Website "Everyday Buddhist" <https://www.everydaybuddhist.org/>

Buddhist Churches of America website <https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/>

SERVICE BOOK TO DOWNLOAD:

Thank you to Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji for scanning the BCA service book (300+ pages) that we use at the Temple. What a wonderful resource for all to practice while we are at home practicing social distancing.

It can be found at:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/18K14SOj0EyQPmaF9NHeC5m1nLBJL6PDA/view?fbclid=IwAR2aD6JKqj-RQqapONoYXe98r5vKpR0xmBr7AKLpZBjpdA1_WDkPvphfPQQ

Message from Bishop Marvin Harada

The Dodgers and The Butterfly



I am not a huge baseball fan, and during the season, I don't watch many games, but I love to watch the postseason playoffs and the World Series every year.

This year was even more exciting because the Los Angeles Dodgers were in the playoffs, and then made it to the World Series. I watched every game and they were all so exciting with great pitching, lots of home runs, and stellar defensive plays, by both teams. And I watched the final game in which the Dodgers won the championship and the World Series on Oct. 27.

We can't help but feel touched to see the winning team run out onto the field and jump for joy like little kids again. It is such a rare opportunity to win a World Series, and those players and coaches no doubt worked so hard to become champions. We also feel for the losing team, as they too worked hard and dreamed of being champions as well.

The Dodgers players were hugging each other, piling on top of each other, just like Little League players would if they won a championship game. I think that is part of what is so moving about seeing such a scene, to see grown adults become little kids again. We can all relate to such a feeling of pure joy.

Buddhism points to the awakened life as like "becoming a child again." It doesn't mean that we should become kids and go through the terrible twos again, or anything like that, but what it is trying to say is that children have a real innocence, a sincere heart and mind, that we must "rediscover" as adults. Buddhism is saying that as we age, we lose that childhood innocence, spontaneity, and joy for simple things.

When we were little kids, just to get an ice cream cone brought real joy to us, didn't it? After we become adults, it takes a four-star restaurant and something like bananas foster or crème brulee to get the same kind of joyous response. An ice cream cone from the local Baskin and Robbins just won't do it for us.

I will never forget some years ago, when my wife was still teaching elementary school, the school had an annual "Read Across America" program in which teachers would bring in people from the community to read to the kids in the classrooms.

(Continued on the next page)

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My wife always insisted that I do this and I would go to her kindergarten class and read a few children's stories. One year, I read a book on "Happiness," and after reading the story, I thought I would dialogue with the kids a little and I asked them, "What makes you happy?" I thought they would say something like, "Having a birthday party," or "Getting a new video game," or something like that.

However, to my great surprise, one little girl said, "It makes me happy when a butterfly lands on my nose!"

I would never say that. Not in a million years. I would say something like, "When I hit a big jackpot in Las Vegas," or "When I hit a good shot on the golf course," or "When someone compliments me on my sermon," or something to that effect. I would never say something like, "When a butterfly lands on my nose." That is the childlike innocence, spontaneity, and pure joy that children exhibit, that Buddhism says we have lost, but should return to.

Namuamidabutsu,
Rev. Marvin Harada, Bishop, Buddhist Churches of America

New Year's Day service with Bishop Harada



View it on YouTube at:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/BuddhistChurchesofAmerica>

GO TO BuddhistChurchesofAmerica.org

For notices of upcoming online events and education from the Buddhist Churches of America. Sign up for their newsletter: BCA Connect and Wheel of Dharma

Register for this Seminar and many others at:
<https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/buddhist-education>

	CBE SEMINARS ONLINE FOR ALL FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - REGISTER FOR ZOOM LINK <i>*Pacific Time - Check local time zone</i>
SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 2021 11 AM - 1 PM*	
<h2>SHIN BUDDHISM & SCIENCE FICTION</h2> <p>Venture into dharma explorations inspired by science fiction films</p>	
SPEAKERS:	
	Rev. Harry Bridge spent various parts of his youth in both Tokyo and the Boston area. He encountered Buddhism while in college, and although he had dreams of becoming a professional musician, he instead found his way into the Buddhist ministry. He has served as resident minister for the Buddhist Church of Oakland since 2009; is the current chair of the BCA Ministers Association; and adjunct faculty at the Institute for Buddhist Studies. He co-hosts Dharmarealm.com with Dr. Scott Mitchell, podcasts "about Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, Buddhism in the modern world, pop-culture, music, sci-fi and how all those things are related"
	Rev. Jon Turner and his family first began attending Orange County Buddhist Church (OCBC) in 1999. Two years later he began his path toward the ministry as a minister's assistant; graduated from Institute of Buddhist Studies (IBS) in 2010 with a master's degree in Buddhist Studies, and received Tokudo ordination. In 2012, he was ordained as a Kyoshi minister. After retiring from a 35 year career as a computer programmer, he became a fully ordained Kalkyoshi minister at OCBC in 2017. He is also an instructor for Everyday Buddhist , a new "online Buddhist experience."
	Rev. Landon Yamaoka is in the M.A. degree program at the Institute of Buddhist Studies and is a minister's assistant at the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple. Before pursuing the ministerial path and receiving Tokudo ordination in 2019, he worked with non-profit organizations as a life skills/rehab counselor for formerly incarcerated youth, a camp counselor for a youth leadership training program in SF Japantown, and case manager/job coach for adults with developmental disabilities. This past June, he presented a CBE online talk, "Seeing Shin in Star Wars," a focus of his M.A. thesis. (v3)
REGISTRATION - Free Click to Register: https://forms.gle/Fo7phrfGK5JL1Ti42	DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED Click to Donate https://bca.kindful.com/campaigns/232361?utf8=3E239C%93&campaigns=232361&amount=
visit: buddhistchurchesofamerica.org email: cbe@bcahq.org tel: 510.809.1460	

<h1>BCA J.A.M.S.</h1> <p>Jodo Shinshu Artists & Musicians Showcase</p> <h2>FREE FAMILY CONCERT</h2>

January 10th
1 pm



SAVE THESE DATES!

2021 CBE VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

JANUARY ~ APRIL

All events listed in Pacific Time.

<p>SATURDAY JANUARY 9 11 am - 1 pm Register online</p>	<p>SHIN BUDDHISM AND SCIENCE FICTION</p> <p>Speakers: Rev. Harry Bridge Buddhist Church of Oakland Rev. Jon Turner Orange County Buddhist Church & Rev. Landon Yamaoka Palo Alto Buddhist Temple</p> <p><i>Venture into dharma explorations inspired by science fiction films.</i></p>
<p>SUNDAY JANUARY 10 1 pm</p>	<p>BCA YOUTH CONCERT! JODO SHINSHU ARTISTS & MUSICIANS SHOWCASE (JAMS)</p> <p><i>Enjoy a variety of performances by BCA youth.</i></p>
<p>SATURDAY JANUARY 30 5 pm - 6:30 pm Register online</p>	<p>RELEVANT AMERICAN BUDDHISTS (RAB)</p> <p>Speaker: Rev. Dr. Ken Tanaka Musashino University</p> <p><i>Who and what were the RAB? Stories from BCA's 1970s program for young adults.</i></p>
<p>SATURDAY FEBRUARY 6 10 am - 11:30 am Register online</p>	<p>EVERY DAY BUDDHISM BOOK TALK "DISCOVERING BUDDHISM IN EVERYDAY LIFE"</p> <p>Speaker/author: Rev. Marvin Harada BCA Bishop</p> <p><i>Listen to the stories behind this collection of heartwarming essays.</i></p>
<p>SATURDAY FEBRUARY 13 11 am - 1 pm Register online</p>	<p>"HONEN AS RELIGIOUS REVOLUTIONARY: THE PERSON WHO DEFINED THE BUDDHISM WE IDENTIFY AS JAPANESE TODAY."</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Mark Blum University of California at Berkeley</p>
<p>SATURDAY MARCH 6 11 am - 1 pm Register online</p>	<p>ZEN & SHIN BUDDHISM - PART 1 "LETTING GO: A ZEN & SHIN APPROACH TO LIBERATION"</p> <p>Rev. Dr. Duncan Ryuken Williams Author, <i>AMERICAN SUTRA</i></p>
<p>SATURDAY MARCH 13 11 am - 1 pm Register online</p>	<p>ZEN & SHIN BUDDHISM - - PART 2 <i>(Please note change of date)</i> "ZEN PRACTICE"</p> <p>Speaker: Rev. Anton Tenkei Coppens Roshi Zen River Temple, Netherlands</p>
<p>SATURDAY APRIL 10 5 pm - 6:30 pm Register online</p>	<p>SOCIALLY ENGAGED BUDDHISM</p> <p>Speakers: Prof. Mitsuya Dake Ryukoku University Rev. Kiyo Kuwahara Berkeley Buddhist Temple</p>
<p>SATURDAY APRIL 17 11 am - 1 pm Register online</p>	<p>3 BISHOPS: "WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF BUDDHISM IN THE WEST?"</p> <p>Rev. Marvin Harada Bishop, Buddhist Churches of America Rev. Eric Matsumoto Bishop, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Rev. Tatsuya Aoki Bishop, Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada</p>

(v8)

VISIT BCA WEBSITE FOR UPDATES: FLYER, FREE REGISTRATION LINKS & TO DONATE (OPTIONAL)
BUDDHISTCHURCHESOFAMERICA.ORG EMAIL: CBE@BCAHQ.ORG TEL: 510.809.1460

2021 Pledge Form



Dear Members and Friends:

When you find yourself taking refuge in the Three Treasures (Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha) and feel like this is a place where you would like to grow, then perhaps you'll consider membership to the Spokane Buddhist Temple.

The concept of Dana (selfless giving) is not only a Buddhist teaching but a manner of how we exist and do business. Dana comes in many forms; not only monetary, but also your time and talents. Membership empowers individuals who rely on the nembutsu to remember their responsibility to help sustain the Dharma in Spokane and surrounding area.

By joining or renewing your membership, you honor the legacy of the families and individuals who founded this Temple in 1945 and will help maintain the foundation for the future. Your membership is critical for keeping the Dharma alive in Spokane for the benefit of current and future generations.

**In Gassho,
Spokane Buddhist Temple Trustees**

Membership pledges are made/renewed on a yearly basis every November and can be paid in numerous ways and increments. Pledges can be paid by check, credit card, or an e-check from your financial institution. You can pay annually, semiannually, quarterly, or monthly.

Individuals who make pledges of \$240 or more are sustaining members of the Temple. Those contributing at lower levels are non-voting associate members of the Temple. Although \$240 is the minimum pledging amount for sustaining membership, additional pledges are greatly appreciated. It costs about \$50,000 annually to run the Temple, including: operating expenses, building upkeep, visiting minister costs, our minister's education, and dues to the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) and the NW District. Membership pledges make up about 25% of our revenue, and we depend on them to be able to keep the Dharma alive in our community.

Printed Name (s) _____ Signature (s) _____

Address _____

Phone numbers _____

Emails _____

Payment method (please check) check e-check cash credit card

Payment frequency (please check) annually semi-annually quarterly monthly

Pledge amount for current year \$ _____

* Please consult your tax advisor for specific questions related to charitable donations.

* If over the age of 70 ½ please consult your financial planner for using your required minimum distribution for charitable donations.

*Members of the Spokane Buddhist Temple are always welcome to request our financial records. Please contact the treasurer if you would like information on the Temple's budget and financial holdings.

**Spokane Buddhist Temple, 927 S. Perry, Spokane, WA 99202
Email: SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com**