

# Spokane Buddhist Temple

**Volume 69, 2021 - Issue 6**  
 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](http://www.spokanebuddhisttemple.org)  
 email: [spokanebuddhisttemple@gmail.com](mailto:spokanebuddhisttemple@gmail.com)  
[www.facebook.com/SpokaneBuddhistTemple](https://www.facebook.com/SpokaneBuddhistTemple)

June 2023

## June Service Schedule

|      |          |   |
|------|----------|---|
| 6/04 | 10:30 am | Sangha Service followed by Social Time  |
| 6/11 | 10:30 am | <b>Pet Eitaikyo (Memorial) Service &amp; Monthly Shotsukihoyo Service</b> followed by Social Time |
| 6/18 | 9:30 am  | <b>Shoshinge Service lead by Rinban Kusunoki</b>  |
| 6/18 | 10:30 am | Sangha Service with <b>Rinban Kusunoki</b><br>Followed by Dharma Discussion with Rev. Kusunoki    |
| 6/25 | 10:30 am | Sangha Service followed by Dharma Discussion  |
|      | 10:30 am | <b>Dharma School</b> for Ages 4-11  |

## Other Events in June

Wed 6/14 Buddha & Beer—We are continuing our social get together at Lumberbeard Brewing at 6 pm. See page 4

Wed 6/21 Buddhist Study Group will return, hosted by MA Eric Kerkove at 6 pm in the Temple basement. No previous reading required. See Page 4

Every Tuesday at 10 am - Come Make Sandwiches for the unhoused. The basement door opens at 9:30 am.

**DHARMA SCHOOL**  
**June 25th - 10:30 during service**  
**Ages 4 to 11**  
 (Project subject to change)  
 Email: [SpoBuddhistTempleDharmaSchool@gmail.com](mailto:SpoBuddhistTempleDharmaSchool@gmail.com)



**PET EITAIKYO  
 (MEMORIAL) SERVICE**  
**June 11th - 10:30 am**

To participate in the Pet Memorial Service, email a photo of your pet with the name of the pet, year of death and your name to [SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com](mailto:SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com).



Deadline to  
 send photos  
 is 6/4/23

(See Page 4)

# Spokane Buddhist Temple

JUNE 2023

VOLUME 69 ISSUE 6



**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.)

---2023 Board of Directors---

Chad Donoho, President  
Joe Bracco, Vice President  
Sadina Henderson, Secretary  
Tina Rodeen, Treasurer  
Susan Hales  
KNona Liddell  
Ryan Campanella  
Amanda Goodwin  
Celeste Sterrett

Mari Haworth, Bookkeeper

Have questions: Email Chad at  
bronzetiger23@yahoo.com



## Chanting At Home

Follow these links to access recordings of the following:

- Juseige [https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/home/001\\_juseige\\_chanting/](https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/home/001_juseige_chanting/)  
 Sanbutsuge [https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/home/002\\_sanbutsuge\\_chanting/](https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/home/002_sanbutsuge_chanting/)  
 Junirai [https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/home/003\\_junirai\\_chanting/](https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/home/003_junirai_chanting/)  
 Ondokusan [https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/home/004\\_ondokusan\\_gatha/](https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/home/004_ondokusan_gatha/)



On Sunday 5/21, we said goodbye to Reverend Melissa Opel and Becca Opel.

Reverend Opel has been assigned to the San Francisco Buddhist Temple. Rev. Melissa, Becca and their three dogs have moved to the Bay Area.

We are grateful for their many years of dedication to the Spokane Buddhist Temple, serving as religious leaders and Board Members, and volunteering for many fundraisers and other activities and we will miss you two. We wish you well in their new adventure.



The following is an excerpt from Minister Assistant Chad Donoho's Dharma Talk on 5/28/23, the Sunday after Reverend Opel gave her last Dharma Talk at the Spokane Buddhist Temple, before moving to San Francisco:

“Our tradition describes the world as a changeful web of causes and results. Everything is simultaneously interdependent and co-arising. All things change and pass away into new things.

Recently our Temple had quite the significant change. Reverend Melissa Opel has accomplished the goal she has been working towards for years. That is to totally dedicate herself to being a Jodo Shinshu Minister. Unfortunately, in order to achieve this, she had to take a position in San Francisco, leaving all of us to try to figure out what we're going to do now. For me, I can't think about how things are now, without thinking about how they began. Melissa and I started on this path together. It was a bit of a tumultuous time for the Temple. We had gone from having 5 minister assistants to, in a span of a few months, having only 1 and he had 1 foot out the door. So Melissa and I stepped up and fortunately Sensei Vielle came out of retirement to try to train us. It was a crazy time full of conflicting emotions: Excitement at this whole new world that was opening up to us and fear as we tried to figure out how to make this work.

Over the years it has been a continuous learning process and the only constant has been change.”

We are sad that Reverend Melissa and Becca Opel have left Spokane, but also excited for them on their new assignment. The three remaining volunteer Minister Assistants: Chad Donoho, Amanda Goodwin and Eric Kerkove will continue to lead the Spokane Buddhist Temple's religious activities and provide services each Sunday. Our supervising minister, Rinban Kusunoki, from Seattle will come to Spokane several times this year to assist our team. Ask them if you have questions.



## **BUDDHA & BEER**

**Wed. June 14th at 6 pm**

Lumberbeard Brewing, 25 E 3rd, Spokane

Come have a casual discussion about Buddhism. All are Welcome!!  
The gathering is a social get together for everyone and is not an Minister Assistant led discussion. This is an all-ages place.  
You can either bring outside food or order from Zeek's Pizza.



## **BOOK STUDY & GROUP**



Join Minister Assistant Eric Kerkove on **Wed. June 21st at 6 pm**  
Downstairs at the Temple - New or Not New To Buddhism? - All Are Welcome  
We will be reading from either: Crossing Over To Jodo Shinshu: Discovering the Buddhist Path OR  
Everyday Suchness: Buddhist Essays on Everyday Living by Gyomay M Kubose  
These both have short essays that we will read together, so there is no preparation required.



### **PET EITAIKYO (MEMORIAL) SERVICE**

**June 11th - 10:30 am**



To participate in the Pet Memorial Service, email a photo of your pet with their name, year of death and your name to the Temple. **Deadline to send photos is 6/4/23**

The Pet Memorial is a chance to honor all that our pets have contributed to our lives. The Buddha taught that all sentient beings have Buddha nature and may become a Buddha in a future life. We will read their names and show a digital slide show of your pets during service. You do not have to be a member to participate. This includes any pets, not just dogs & cats.

Send: A Photo, Pet's Name, Year of Death, & Your Name to [SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com](mailto:SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com)

### **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. We are grateful to those anonymous people who leave cash donations in the koro each week.

#### **Dues & Donations received in May 2023**

Kris Birdsell  
Wednesday Meditation Group  
Melissa & Becca Opel  
Stacy Carr  
Paul & Karen Vielle  
Loren & Carolyn Nishimura

Mary Naber  
Tuesday Meditation Group  
Kevin Tremblay  
Eric Inaba  
Richard Terao  
Trish Ohashi

Tyler Hanson  
Izumi Pierce  
Chris Nerison  
Lena & Curtis Cooley

We are also grateful for the cash donations left on Sunday and bookstore purchases.



## June Shotsuki-Hoyo

On June 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 people passed away during the month of June of their respective year:

Gay Todd  
Yoshio Hamamoto  
Shozo "Sho" Higashi  
Peter Key  
Yoshiro Mori  
Archie Okawa  
(Mrs.) Riku Takeshita  
Lachen Joy Verdery  
Robert "Bob" Gilles  
Kara Naber

Eugene Bergman  
Jack Hattori  
(Mrs.) Toshie Kanagae  
Nobuichi Kiyabu  
Tsumayo Nakai  
Kozo Soejima  
(Mrs.) Oto Uyeji  
(Mrs.) Tsuneye Wada  
Jean Taeko Soejima  
Kam Uyeji

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

BCA Center for Buddhist Education presents

### YOGA, BUDDHISM, AND A HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

Friday, June 9 - Sunday, June 11, 2023  
Jodo Shinshu Center  
2140 Durant Ave., Berkeley

**Bob Matsueda**  
Yoga Therapist (Govt. of India)  
& Advanced Yoga Teacher



Featuring:



**Rev. Bob Oshita & Rev. Patti Oshita**  
BCA Ministers (Retired)  
Co-authors, *Dharma Is Everywhere*  
Yoga Teacher Candidates



**Rev. Hitomi Kuwahara**  
Author, *Nantonaku Wakaru Yoga*  
Advanced Yoga Teacher



**Rick Kawamura**  
Founder of Palo Alto  
Buddhist Temple Yoga



**Alan Hirahara, Chef**  
Healthy Vegetarian Meals

Workshop discussions:

Yoga and Buddhism - A Deep Connection  
Yoga Organizing and Marketing -  
Growing the Sangha at Temples  
Yoga Lifestyle



Workshop space is limited.

Please register early:

<https://forms.gle/nve9PE7ReK6Ya42N9>

[cbe@bcahq.org](mailto:cbe@bcahq.org)

# BYR 6

BCA Summer Youth Retreat



High School Age Youth



## JUN 25 - JUL 1, 2023

REG & MORE INFO HERE:  
<https://tinyurl.com/BYR2023>

SEE THE BCA'S EVENT PAGE for info and links to the many workshops & learning opportunities: <https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/buddhist-education>



## 2023 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 annual pledges of \$300 or more are sustaining members of the Temple. Those contributing at lower levels are non-voting associate members of the Temple. Although \$300 is the minimum pledging amount for sustaining membership, additional pledges are greatly appreciated. It costs about \$60,000 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 25-30% 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check that you understand that your Membership includes membership in the BCA and you will receive the BCA monthly newsletter "Wheel of Dharma" in the mail.

\* 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](mailto:SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com)