

"RAMEN FEST"

Spokane Buddhist Temple
Sunday * April 28th * 11am - 2pm
***** Take Out Only *****



927 S. Perry Street, Spokane

FEATURING TRADITIONAL JAPANESE
RECIPE RAMEN - \$15 - *Chicken or Tofu*
Mochi Desserts & Inari Sushi - \$8

37th Annual Spring Food Festival
***** Cash Preferred *** Cards Accepted *****

Temple Open House 11 am—2 pm

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED
FOR RAMENFEST 4/24-4/28
See the sign up sheet at the Temple

Spokane Buddhist Temple

Volume 70 - Issue 4

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

April 2024

April Service Schedule - 10:30 am

4/7	10:30 am	Shotsukihoyo Sangha Service
4/14	10:30 am	Hanamatsuri Service with Rev. Melissa Opel ***Potluck Lunch after Service***
4/21	10:30 am	Sangha Service
	10:30 am	Dharma School for Ages 4-11
4/28	NO SERVICE - RAMENFEST is 11—2 pm	
4/13	2:00 PM	Eric Inaba Celebration of Life - See Pg 5
4/18	5:00-7:00 PM	2nd Harvest Volunteer - See Pg 6

Hanamatsuri

Flower Festival Sangha Service
Sunday — April 14th —10:30 am - See Pg 4
With Special Guest Reverend Melissa Opel
From the Buddhist Church of San Francisco
Come decorate the Hanamida with flowers at 9 am
*****Potluck Lunch after Service*****



Donate with your Sangha by April 18th

Donate non-perishable food items until April 18th
 Specifically, food banks often need items like:

- Canned soup.
- Canned fruit.
- Canned vegetables.
- Canned stew.
- Canned fish.
- Canned beans.
- Pasta (most prefer whole grain)
- Rice (most prefer brown rice)



INTRO TO BUDDHISM & SHIN BUDDHISM 5/5 & 5/12

Are you new to the Temple? Have questions about Buddhism?
 Join MA Kerkove for two Buddhism intro classes after service.
 There will be time for questions.

Spokane Buddhist Temple

APRIL 2024

VOLUME 70 ISSUE 4



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/

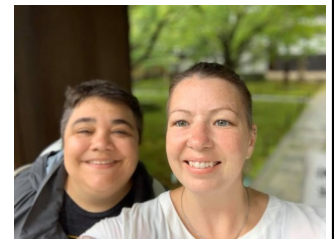


Hanamatsuri – Flower Festival Sangha Service
Sunday — April 14th —10:30 am
With Special Guest Reverend Melissa Opel
From the Buddhist Church of San Francisco
*****Potluck Lunch After the Service*****

>>> Come Decorate the Hanamida with Flowers at 9 am <<<
Potluck Lunch After the Service

Hanamatsuri, literally flower festival, is celebrated in April, commemorating the birth of Siddhartha Gautama, who became enlightened and is known as Buddha.

According to our tradition, the historical Buddha, Sakyamuni, was born in Nepal on April 8, 566 B.C. He was born the son of King Suddohana and Queen Maya. There are many flowery descriptions of the scene at his birth, including celestial birds singing beautiful songs, beautiful flowers, and a sweet gentle rain bathing the baby Buddha. It is not necessarily the beauty of the flowers, the sounds of the celestial birds, nor the sweet gentle rain that fell, but the vibrant fact that on this day was born the greatest of sentient beings who became the Enlightened One, the Buddha.



Come welcome Rev. and Becca Opel back to Spokane. Rev. Melissa Opel was born and raised in Western Washington State and moved to Eastern Washington to attend college on a partial music scholarship. While in the Spokane area, Rev. Opel earned a BA in Interdisciplinary Studies, focusing on English and Music and later completed an MFA in Creative Writing. After a number of life events that included coming out as part of the LGBTQ community, Rev. Opel left the faith of her upbringing and after a time away from all spiritual practices, began looking into Buddhism. Eventually she made her way to the Spokane Buddhist Temple and never left. In 2019 Rev. Opel received her Tokudo Ordination and then in 2022 her Kyoshi Certification. Rev Opel is set to graduate from the Institute of Buddhist Studies in the Spring of 2024 upon completing her thesis. She and her wife Becca have been together for 19

years and enjoy spending time with close friends, their three dogs (Bodhi, Chewbacca and Ollie), watching sports and attending a good trivia night at a local brewery.

MARK YOUR 2024 CALENDARS

for these upcoming Events & Buddhist Holidays at SBT

- 4/13 Eric Inaba's Celebration of Life (2 pm) at the Temple
- 4/14 Hanamatsuri Service with Reverend Melissa Opel
- 4/27 RamenFest Prep
- 4/28 RamenFest Fundraiser
- 7/28 Obon Festival
- 8/11 Hatsubon Cemetery Service
- 9/13-15 Northwest District Buddhist Convention in Auburn, WA

SBT Calendar link is: <https://spokanebuddhisttemple.org/calendar/>

April Shotsuki-Hoyo



On April 7th, as part of our service, we will have the monthly Shotsuki-Hoyo remembrance service. According to Temple records and other sources, a total of 18 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.

Robert Cole Pierce	Craig Bruebaker
Koji Hayashi	Takeshi Kan
Akira Katayama	Isako Mary Kimura
Kazuo "Kaz" Kuwada	Yasumasa Moriya
John Naber	Chiyono Nakanishi
Minoru Terao	Mary Barna Twiner
Bradley Whitehouse	Chiyono Yamaguchi
Fumi Uyeji	Tomiko Yamamoto
Kenneth Clark	Joyce Mitsuko Terao (Founder of SBT)

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 and Dues received through 3/24/24:

Kris Birdsell
Wednesday Meditation Group
Stacey Carr
Karen & Paul Vielle
Chad Donoho

Tuesday Meditation Group
Izumi Pierce
Loren & Caroline Nishimura
Kevin Tremblay

Thank you to the Nuido Group for their donation.



Please join the Inaba Family for
Eric Masaaki Inaba's Celebration of Life

April 13th - 2 pm

Spokane Buddhist Temple

Followed by a reception downstairs

Eric passed away on November 1, 2023

He was a long-time, active member of the Temple.

From his obituary: He loved making friends and seeing old ones. Helping to prepare ramen and teriyaki chicken for the Spokane Buddhist Temple's fundraisers were two of his favorite activities. Dancing to Michael Jackson music made him happy. Last year he even won a Halloween costume contest dressed as "MJ." One of his long-time friends wrote, "Eric was a bright light in a dull world."



Volunteer with your Sangha @ 2ndHarvest Food Bank

When:

Thursday, April 18th 2024
5:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Where:

Spokane: We are located at 1234 E. Front Avenue Spokane, WA 99202

Frequently Asked Questions

Are you able to accommodate the special needs of a handicapped or disabled person as a volunteer?

We do everything possible to allow volunteers with special needs to volunteer with us.

Can children volunteer?

Anyone 14 and older may volunteer. Volunteers under 14 must be accompanied by a parent or adult chaperone and must stay with their parent/chaperone in the assigned work area(s).

Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate children under 9-years-old.

For some volunteer opportunities, a minimum age requirement may apply. Please see the details in the event descriptions on our events calendar for more information.

If you have additional questions, please contact our Volunteer Center.

Spokane: Savannah Olsen, volunteer@2-harvest.org or (509) 252-6283

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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