

# Spokane Buddhist Temple

Volume 67, 2021 - Issue 12  
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)

December 2021



## December On-Line & IN-PERSON Service Schedule 10:30 am

- 12/5 Sun **BODHI DAY Service** - See Page 4
- 12/12 Sun Shotsukihoyo Service
- 12/19 Sun Sangha Service
- 12/26 Sun Sangha Service
- 12/31 Fri **JOYA-E New Year's Service** - See Page 3  
Two Services: 5:30 pm OR 6:30 pm  
**\*\*\*\*JOYA-E IS BY RESERVATION ONLY**
- 12/31 Fri 5-7:30 pm Mochi-Fest  
Pre-Order your Mochi for Pickup - see Page 3

12/14 & 12/28 at 10 am - Come Make PB&J Sandwiches for Jewels Helping Hands & donate essentials - See Page 4

**\*\*\*\* IN-PERSON SERVICES RETURN Dec 5th\*\*\*\***  
On December 5th, we will welcome you back to the Temple. You can continue to join us on-line at 10:30 am on Sundays with Zoom or live on Facebook. Email [SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com](mailto:SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com) to get on the Zoom list. Most services will also be live on Facebook, and later uploaded to YouTube. *Masks required* for over 12 yo.



### Order Your Traditional Mochi

For New Years  
4 Pieces/Package \$5

**Other baked goods including Butter Mochi will be available**

>>>> Order by Sunday December 19th <<<<

Pick up on Friday, December 31st - 5-7:30 pm

Reservations Required for Traditional Mochi only  
Email: [SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com](mailto:SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com)

Fundraising for our Minister's Education  
See Page 3 for details






# Spokane Buddhist Temple

DECEMBER 2021 VOLUME 67 ISSUE 12



**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.

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- ◆ **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.



Left to right:  
MAA Amanda Goodwin,  
MA Chad Donoho,  
Reverend Melissa Opel,  
MA Eric Kerkove

Rinban Katsuya Kusunoki  
our Supervising Minister



## Spokane Buddhist Temple Team

--Supervising Minister--

Rev. Katsuya Kusunoki  
Seattle Betsuin

---Minister Assistants---

Reverend Melissa Opel  
MA Chad Donoho  
MA Eric Kerkove  
Sensei Paul Vielle (ret.)  
Amanda Goodwin (Aspirant)

---2021 Board of Directors---

Becca Opel, President  
Chad Donoho, Vice President  
Shawn Boltz, Secretary  
Lisa Geiss, Treasurer  
KNona Liddell  
Tina Rodeen  
Patricia Ohashi  
Curtis Cooley  
Susan Hales

Have questions? Contact  
Becca Opel  
509-294-1461



## 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/)



## Pre-Order Your Traditional Mochi For New Year's Day 4 Pieces/Order - \$5

Plus other Baked Goods (including Butter Mochi) - \$5

**\*\*\*Pre-Order Traditional Mochi by Sunday December 19th\*\*\*  
Pick up on Friday, December 31st - 5-7:30 pm**

**Reservations Are Required only for the Traditional Mochi - Limited # Being Made  
Email: [SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com](mailto:SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com) to pre-order  
Fundraising for our Minister's Education**

This is a **Japanese** New Year's Tradition. Around the start of the New Year, many **Japanese** households will take part in the annual tradition of **mochitsuki**, the pounding of rice to make mochi. Mochi, also called a rice cake, is pounded sweet rice that can be eaten in a sweet or savory dish.

Some ideas of what to do with your mochi. Crumble or cube this mochi and add it to:

- Miso soup. A typical recipe is 4 cups water or broth, 3 tablespoons miso paste, 8 ounces tofu cubed, sliced green onions for garnish, and (optional) 2 teaspoons dashi granules (dried seaweed & bonito). Boil the broth, add the miso and tofu and cook for 2-3 minutes; add the green onions as garnish.
- Ozoni Soup (a thick soup usually eaten on New Year's Day). Nearly every prefecture in Japan has a different version of Ozoni or Zoni Soup. It could contain tofu, have a miso base, and also contain a variety of meats and vegetables.
- Hot Udon noodle soup (made with thick wheat flour noodles).
- Or you could toast the mochi and top it with a sweet or savory topping, or add it to any other dish.



### JOYA-E NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE "Bell of the Last Night"

**FRIDAY – DECEMBER 31st - 5:30 pm OR 6:30 pm  
A Family-Friendly Service ~ Only by Reservation (see below)  
Vaccination Required for over 12 yo ~ Masks Required for all**

Ring out 2021! Ring in 2022! with the "Bell of the Last Night Service," a cultural, spiritual Buddhist observance called Joya-E. There will be a short service, followed by everyone participating in the ringing of the "calling bell" a portion of 108 times at the end of the service. This symbolically rings out the 108 delusions of people and rings in our aspiration to overcome ignorance, greed and anger in the coming year. It's a way to reflect on the events of 2019 and "move away from our selfish and ego-centered ways."

The temple's Kansho bell was dedicated in 1965. The Kansho, or summoning bell, calls people to the temple and marks the beginning of each service.

Limited seating - To Reserve your seat click [here](https://form.jotform.com/213327897227161) (<https://form.jotform.com/213327897227161>)

## COME JOIN US

MAKING PB & J SANDWICHES



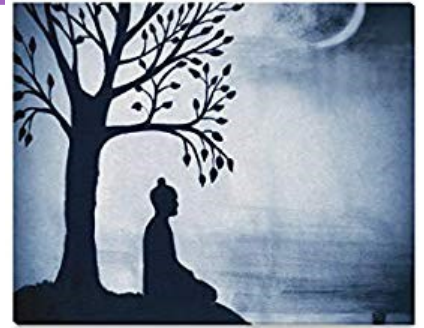
for JEWELS HELPING HANDS  
10 AM IN THE TEMPLE DOWNSTAIRS  
Tuesday, December 14 and December 28

ALSO - Collecting warm clothing to deliver to JHH.

Coats  hats  boots,  sweaters,  
etc... Used gently worn clean clothing is OK.  
New socks, underwear also needed... Thank you.

Please bring them to the temple on the PB&J days  
or on Sunday after service. For questions, contact  
Celeste at 509-599-8378

**BODHI DAY  
SERVICE  
SUNDAY  
DEC 5th  
10:30 AM**



**\* IN PERSON SERVICES RETURN \*  
Masks required for everyone over 12  
years old**

Bodhi Day is the day Buddhists celebrate the Buddha's Enlightenment. According to tradition, Buddha (Siddhartha) had forsaken years of extreme ascetic practices and he resolved to sit under a Pipul tree and simply meditate until he found the root of all suffering, and how to liberate one's self from it.

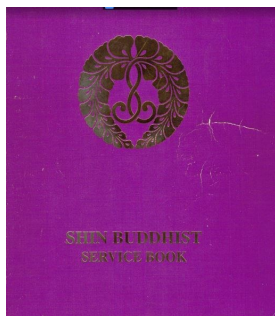
### Dues and Donations

We appreciate any donations to offset our expenses that keep the doors open at the Spokane Buddhist Temple. 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.

Thank you to those who have paid their dues and/or given donations  
from 10-24-21 to 11-28-21:

Judith Broverman and Marji Mitchell  
Paul and Karen Vielle  
Sydnee Snowden & Aiko Minata  
Steven Verhoef  
Melissa and Becca Opel  
Mary Naber  
Narong & Ura Norasakkunkit

Celeste Sterrett  
Izumi Pierce  
Eric Kerkove  
Staci Carr  
Bob & Tricia Ohashi  
Lisa Geiss



**SERVICE BOOK TO DOWNLOAD (new link):**

**<http://spokanebuddhisttemple.org/recommended-reading/shin-buddhist-service-book/>**

**During service, we will tell you the page we are on.**

## December Shotsuki-Hoyo



On December 12th, as part of our service, we will have the monthly Shotsuki-Hoyo remembrance service. According to Temple records and other sources, a total of 17 people passed away during the month of December of their respective year:

Janis Birkel	Skylar Cullitan
Yukiko Evans	Yoshitaka Inouye
George Lapoint	Otokichi Matsuo
Clarence Nelson	Rachael Phillips
Madelyn Isabella Sapp	Patricia Rose Simonet
James Stewart	(Mrs.) Mary Tsugie Terao
Rev. William Shigeo Terao (Founder of SBT)	(Mrs.) Yuki Tsuji
(Mrs.) Michiko Tsuchida	(Mrs.) Yoshiko Uchida
(Mrs.) Kayo Tsuji	

Hello everyone,

It's that time of year again, I am hosting the second annual BCA (JAMS) Jodo Shinshu Artists & Musicians Showcase. This is a really fun event that gives our BCA youth a chance to share their talent. Please forward this email to all of your members, youth groups, dharma school students, and any other BCA youth.

We are looking for people to share their talent with us. Singers, dancers, poets, instrument players, jugglers, magicians... and any other type of performance art. Please have them complete the attached registration form to submit their video (about 3-5 minutes). I will put all of the videos together and create a show that will be streamed online on January 9, 2022.

We want to showcase all of the amazing talent in our BCA Sangha. Please spread the word and encourage your youth to share their talents with us. Please share this email with any BCA youth groups you know of. There is not a strict age limit on performers... so feel free to use your judgement.

Thank you very much! And please send me any questions anytime, and feel free to share my contact information with anyone that is interested.

See you at the show!  
Gassho,  
Koichi Mizushima

\*\*\* SUBMIT YOUR VIDEO  
BY 12/15/21 \*\*\*

# BCA J.A.M.S.

Jodo Shinshu Artists & Musicians Showcase

-2ND ANNUAL  
BCA VIRTUAL CONCERT EVENT!

- Singers, Musicians, Comedians, Magicians, Etc...
- Submit your 3-5 min. video at the link below (due Dec 15th)
- It's all for **FUN**. So share your talent and help spread some joy!
- Questions? email "Koichi" [bkmizushima@bcahq.org](mailto:bkmizushima@bcahq.org)

**EVENT DATE: JAN.09  
1:00PM PST 2022**

VIDEO SUBMISSION: <https://tinyurl.com/34fmyrkx>



## The Dharma Must Make You Feel Something

I happened to be watching an instructional music video on YouTube, and the instructor said, “The reason why we make music is because we want people to feel something.” I thought this was a wonderful statement and that the same could be said about Buddhism.

Music can make us tap our feet, sway our bodies, jump for joy, or move us to tears. It can make us reflective, it can take us back to our childhood, it can resonate with us, seemingly to the very marrow of our bones. I still get choked up when I conduct a cemetery service in which there is a military honor guard and they play “Taps.” Such a simple melody, but it is so sad and so moving.

If we apply what this music instructor said, then I think we could make the same statement about the Dharma. The reason why we want to share the Dharma is because we want people to feel something.

When I give a sermon or Dharma talk, I hope that the Sangha is feeling something. I hope that they find the message either interesting, moving, thought-provoking, inspiring, enjoyable, or gratifying in some manner.

That is the challenge for a minister, to try to give a message in which people feel something. If I put everyone to sleep, then I have not done my job. But, I guess you could say that too is feeling something, to feel sleepy.

To me, the Dharma must resonate within us, like when we listen to our favorite music. It must hit our hearts as well as our minds.

When I studied in Japan, I had the great fortune of listening to Professor Takamaro Shigaraki for three years. His lectures were tremendous. I took one of his classes, an Outline of Jodo Shinshu, all three years that I was at Ryukoku University. I don’t think that I fell asleep in class, not even once. Sometimes his lectures would challenge you, make you think deep about yourself, in a way that I had never considered before. Other times, his lectures would be so inspiring that I would feel like dancing and singing on my bike ride home from school. And there were times that his lecture moved me, and everyone in the class, to tears.

I recall once Sensei was talking about the great matter of life and death, and how he had to experience that first hand. When his mother died of tuberculosis as a young boy, his family had to prepare for her funeral and cremation.

In those days before World War II, the cremation was not done by the funeral home or mortuary like it is done now. Sensei said that he had to gather the firewood for the cremation. How sad that must have been, to go into the forest to gather firewood for your own mother’s cremation. He said that sometimes it is hard, not to die, but to live.

Continued on the next page

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If Shin Buddhism is to make an impact in this country, its message must resonate with people. People have to feel something from the Dharma, from how we share and present the Dharma. That is our challenge. That is our task.

Of course, I am not saying that Buddhism is only emotion or feelings either. Our Dharma messages should be more than entertainment, more than like going to a concert or a sporting event. When the Dharma hits our heart, then it transforms us, opens our hearts and minds to truth and to ourselves.

Just like music is something universal, and all people of all cultures love music, so too, the Shin Buddhist teachings have a universal message that can resonate with all people. As we listen to the Dharma and the Nembutsu, may the Dharma make us feel something profound in our lives.

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

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## BODHI DAY SERVICE

Registration open now! <https://tinyurl.com/eykt9rbd>



Rev. Kaz Nakata,  
M.A., M.B.A

***Bodhi Day Online Live Seminar***  
***Lumbini - A Journey to Explore the Roots of Dana***  
***Rev. Kazuaki Nakata (Central District)***

***Date: Dec 8, 2021***

***Time: 6:30pm-8:30pm***

You may register by scanning the QR code with your phone camera or by following the attached registration link.

For more information on events, services, donations and more go to [www.seattlebetsuin.com](http://www.seattlebetsuin.com)





FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ~ REGISTER FOR ZOOM LINK

## CBE Seminars Online For All (SOFA) Series

Explore topics in Jodo Shinshu doctrine, practice, and culture

# MAKING THE DHARMA CONNECTION: Buddhism & Children's Books

A Workshop for Parents/Guardians, Grandparents, Teachers & Ministers

**SATURDAY,  
JANUARY 8, 2022  
11 AM - 1 PM (PST)**

GUEST SPEAKER:

**KIYO MASUDA**

EDUCATION RESOURCE SPECIALIST

Who doesn't love a good story? Experience the world of children's literature where they become the venue for understanding life through the wisdom and compassion of the Buddhist teachings. This seminar will explore how the dharma connection is relevant, meaningful, and applicable through children's books.

Topics will include:

- Introducing "The Essential Teachings" as a resource, lens, and reading compass
- Hear book talks that address problems encountered in everyday life and the dharma solution
- Explore ways to engage readers of all ages
- Share your favorite book titles

\* Resource packet included \*



**Kiyo Masuda** is a retired educator. Since her retirement, she has been working on this project, "Making the Dharma Connection through Children's Literature."

With the support and assistance of the Palo Alto Dharma School teachers, the "Essential Teachings" and children's literature resources were developed. Kiyo strongly believes that the dharma must be taught from an early age, while children are still toddlers, in order for them to naturally develop a Jodo Shinshu understanding of life. This is particularly important in today's troubled world.

V8-03

[Register online](#)

<https://forms.gle/xFtJePg7baoWm68u8>

[Donations](#) are gratefully accepted.

CONTACT: [cbe@bcahq.org](mailto:cbe@bcahq.org) (510) 809-1460

Visit: <https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/buddhist-education>



## CBE Seminars Online For All (SOFA) Series

Register at [www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/buddhist-education](http://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/buddhist-education)

Or, [click here](#). [Donations](#) are welcome and gratefully accepted

View [CBE Fall SOFA calendar and registration links](#)

Contact CBE at [cbe@bcahq.org](mailto:cbe@bcahq.org) or (510) 809-1460

v8-24c

Explore topics in Jodo Shinshu doctrine, practice, and culture

## CBE Seminars Online For All (SOFA) Series

Explore topics in Jodo Shinshu doctrine, practice, and culture

# REFLECTIONS *on the life and work of* REV. GYOMAY KUBOSE

**SATURDAY,  
JANUARY 22, 2022  
11 AM - 1 PM (PST)**

GUEST SPEAKER:

**REV. MARVIN HARADA**

BISHOP, BUDDHIST CHURCHES OF AMERICA



Prior to appointment as the bishop of BCA in April, 2020, Rev. Harada served as resident minister of the Orange County Buddhist Church for over three decades. He is the author of [DISCOVERING BUDDHISM IN EVERYDAY LIFE](#). Rev. Harada studied with Rev. Kubose as he embarked on his ministerial path, deeply inspired by his example.

*I have always dreamed of establishing an American Buddhism - different from Indian, Chinese, or Japanese Buddhism - a uniquely American Buddhism that could be easily understood and practiced by Americans and that would contribute to American life and culture...*

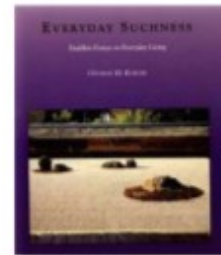
- [Rev. Gyomay M. Kubose](#)



**Rev. Gyomay Kubose**

(June 21, 1905–March 29, 2000)

Author of [EVERYDAY SUCHNESS: BUDDHIST ESSAYS ON EVERYDAY LIVING](#) (1967) and other works.



Born in the U.S., Rev. Kubose spent his early years in Japan. He attended University of California at Berkeley, earned a degree in Philosophy in 1935, then went to Japan to study under his teacher, Rev. Haya Akegarasu at his Dai-Nippon Bunkyo-kenkyu-in... He returned to the US in 1941 just prior to World War II and spent two years in the Heart Mountain Relocation Camp in Wyoming...In 1944, he founded the Buddhist Temple of Chicago..."

Photos and excerpted from [Bright Dawn](#)

V11-11

[Register online](#)

<https://forms.gle/CjoU2aA6gRZAXp198>

[Donations](#) are gratefully accepted.

CONTACT: [cbe@bcahq.org](mailto:cbe@bcahq.org) (510) 809-1460

Visit: <https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/buddhist-education>

## 2022 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**

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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**