

OSHOGATSU

A Two-Day Japanese New Year's Celebration & Sale

Dec 31st & Jan 1st

Spokane Buddhist Temple - 927 S Perry, Spokane

Proceeds support our Minister's Education & the Temple

Saturday Dec 31st - 5:30-7:30 pm

5:30-7:30 pm **Sales** of traditional mochi, dessert mochi & Japanese items and antiques, such as Vintage Japanese dolls, prints & dishes. Pre-orders required for the traditional mochi.
7 pm **Joya-E Buddhist Service** - Ring out 2022! Ring in 2023!

Sunday Jan 1st - 10 am—2 pm

10 am **New Year's Day Buddhist Service**
10 am-12pm **Sales** of dessert mochi, ozoni soup with mochi, Taiyaki fish-shaped pancakes with sweet filling & Japanese items and antiques.

Japanese New Year (*Oshogatsu* お正月) is one of the most important holidays in Japan, celebrated with time off of work, family reunions & traditional rituals. In Japan, New Years Day is celebrated on Jan. 1st, which is different than in China, which celebrate the New Year based on the Chinese lunisolar calendar. It is said that one must eat mochi on New Years or face a year of bad luck.

Sweet Taiyaki fish-shaped pancakes



Butter Mochi



Traditional Mochi



Ozoni Soup



Japanese hand-made dolls, Japanese scrolls, prints, dishes and more for Sale!



Japanese Prints for Sale!





Rev. Opel ringing the Kansho

JOYA-E NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE
“Bell of the Last Night”
SATURDAY – DECEMBER 31st - 7:00 pm
A Family-Friendly Service
Everyone gets to ring the Kansho bell

Ring out 2022! Ring in 2023! 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. 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 2022 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.



Pre-Order Your Traditional Mochi
For New Year's Day - 4 Pieces/Order - \$6



Other Baked Goods (incl. butter mochi) and Japanese items will be for sale

*****Pre-Order Traditional Mochi by Sunday December 18th**
Limited # being made***

Email: SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com to Pre-order
Pick up on Saturday, December 31st - 5-7:30 pm
This is a Fundraising Event 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.

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.

Spokane Buddhist Temple

Volume 68, 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
email: spokanebuddhisttemple@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/SpokaneBuddhistTemple

December 2022



December Service Schedule - 10:30 am

- 12/4 Sangha Service followed by a Dharma Discussion
- 12/11 Bodhi Day Service with Rev. Katsuya Kusunoki (See Pg. 5)
Followed by Q&A with Rev. Kusunoki
- 12/18 Shotsukihoyo Service followed by a Dharma Discussion
- 12/25 Short Sangha Service & Holiday Potluck (See Pg. 5)

12/31 & 1/1/23 Oshogatsu New Year's Festival with Joya-E & MochiFest
(see Previous pages)

Other Events in December - See Pg 6

- Wed 12/14 - 6 pm Buddha & Beer with Reverend Opel @ Wonder Building
- Wed 12/21 - 6 pm Book Study Group with Reverend Opel @ Temple
- Every Monday at 1 pm—Come Make PB&J Sandwiches for the unhoused.

Oshogatsu

A Two-Day Japanese New Year's Celebration & Sale 12/31/22 & 1/1/23

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We are asking for your **2023 Pledge Form (Dues & Donations)**
See the Letter on Pg 8 & Pledge Form on Pg 9

The dues and donations you contribute throughout the year keep the lights on, support our minister's education, and allow us to continue to spread the Dharma. We could not do it without your generosity.

Board Member Election Forms from dues-paying members
are due back at the Temple by December 18th.

Spokane Buddhist Temple

DECEMBER 2022 VOLUME 68 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.

- ◆ **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:
MA Chad Donoho,
MA Eric Kerkove,
Rinban Katsuya Kusunoki,
Reverend Melissa Opel,
MAA Amanda Goodwin

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)

---2022 Board of Directors---

Chad Donoho, President
Joe Bracco, Vice President
Shawn Boltz, Secretary
Tina Rodeen, Treasurer
Becca Opel
Susan Hales
KNona Liddell
Ryan Campanella
Amanda Goodwin

Mari Haworth, Bookkeeper

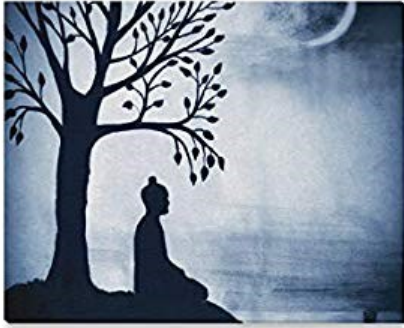
Have questions: Email Chad at
bronzetiger23@yahoo.com



Chanting At Home

Follow these links to access recordings of the following:

- Juseige https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/home/001_juseige_chanting/
- 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/

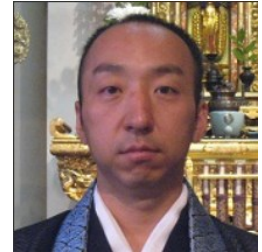


BODHI DAY SERVICE
SUNDAY DEC 11th - 10:30 AM
With guest Reverend Katsuya Kusunoki
from the Seattle Betsuin (Temple)

Our Supervising Minister & Rinban of the NW Shin Buddhist Temples

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.

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.



Holiday Potluck
Sunday 12/25 after service
approx. 11:15 am

You are invited to bring food to share in the Temple basement after a short service at 10:30am.

Come join your Sangha for a holiday feast. You are welcome to bring a friend and/or family members. Please make a card with your potluck offering's ingredients for those who have allergies. Food can be stored in the frig during the service.

BUDDHA & BEER



Join Reverend Melissa Opel on **Wed. Dec. 14th at 6 pm**
At the Wonder Building
835 N Post, Spokane

Come have a casual discussion about Buddhism. All are Welcome!!

There are restaurants in the building.

BOOK STUDY & GROUP



Join Reverend Melissa Opel on **Wed. Dec 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.
If you have the book, bring it to this open discussion.

December Shotsuki-Hoyo

On December 18th, 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	



Dues and Donations

We appreciate your donations and dues that 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 received dues and/or donations from 10/31/22 to 11/25/22 from:

Loren and Caroline Nishimura
Stacey Carr
Mary Naber
Tuesday Meditation Group
Kris Birdsell
Izumi Pierce
Wednesday Meditation Group
Kyle Brown
Richard Terao
Amanda Goodwin

Sadina Henderson
Paul and Karen Vielle
Melissa & Becca Opel
Eric Inaba
Tyler Hanson
Jackie & Ken Endersbe
Chad Donoho
Kevin Tremblay
Lisa Geis
Ryan Campenella

Paul & Karen Vielle in memory of Leslie Green and Reverend Terao.

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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Kevin Tremblay
Sadina Henderson
Ken & Jackie Endersbe



Dear Dharma Friends,

Many Temple activities have resumed as COVID restrictions have eased, and we are planning some exciting new events for 2023. The first of these will honor the new members who have joined the Temple since the start of the pandemic. If you are among those new members, you'll be receiving further details soon. If you have been thinking about joining but have not yet done so, we encourage you to talk with Rev. Opel or a minister's assistant.

In person services have resumed Sundays at 10.30 a.m., and often there is a dharma discussion immediately following the service. All services are also available on Facebook, and we're getting 50-100 viewers each week. And Buddha and Beer has resumed the second Wednesday of the month at one of the local breweries. The third Wednesday, we're having a Buddhist book study at the Temple. The 2022 MochiFest will be held as usual in late December to support minister's assistants' education. The SBT Social Welfare Committee is working to develop partnerships with community groups to support those who are housing or food insecure in Spokane.

As you may be aware, the Spokane Buddhist Temple was built in 1992 following a catastrophic fire that destroyed the building that had housed the Temple until that time. Since October 2020, we have made a series of urgent repairs to our now 30-year old building: replacing both furnaces in the Temple, reroofing both the Temple and Terao Hall next door, and replacing the sewer line. All in all, these totaled over \$76,000.

While the Temple's financial position has now stabilized, the Board has reluctantly concluded that we need to raise our membership dues to \$300/year to ensure that we can continue to meet our monthly expenses (chiefly utilities, grounds maintenance, and insurance) without making further withdrawals from our investment account. Notably, the last dues increase was 15 years ago.

As always, we would be very grateful for any donations in excess of the standard pledge amount. We enclose a 2023 pledge form for your convenience.

Please let us know if you have any questions or suggestions. We look forward to seeing you soon.

In Gassho,

Spokane Buddhist Temple Trustees



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