

OSHOGATSU

A Japanese New Year's Eve Celebration

Sunday - Dec 31st - 4pm-7pm

Spokane Buddhist Temple - 927 S Perry, Spokane

Sunday - Dec 31st - 4-7 pm

4:00-6:15 pm **Sales** of Traditional Mochi, Dessert Mochi, and Inari Sushi

Japanese items and antiques, such as Vintage Japanese dolls, prints & dishes.

******Note: Reservations required for the traditional mochi**

6:30 pm

Joya-E Buddhist Service - Ring out 2023! Ring in 2024!

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

Email to reserve traditional mochi: SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com

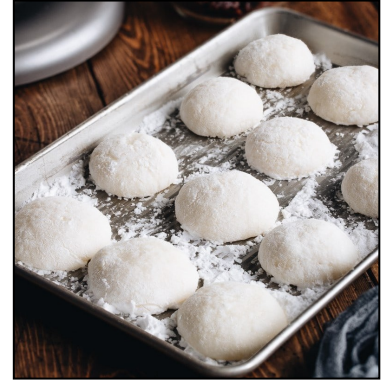
Inari Sushi



Dessert Mochi



Traditional Mochi



Japanese hand-made dolls and more for Sale!





JOYA-E NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE

“Bell of the Last Night”

SUNDAY – DECEMBER 31st - 6:30 pm

A Family-Friendly Service Ring out 2023! Ring in 2024!

Everyone who comes gets to ring the Kansho bell

Ring out 2023! Ring in 2024! with the “Bell of the Last Night Service,” a cultural, spiritual Buddhist observance. 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 is a way to reflect on the events of 2023 and move away from our selfish and ego-centered ways.

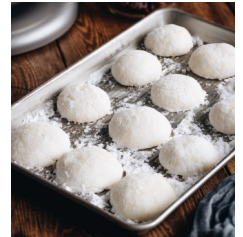


PRE-ORDER the Traditional Mochi

For New Year's Day - 4 Pieces \$8

Dessert Mochi 6 pcs \$8 Inari Sushi 4 pcs \$8

Plus Japanese items for sale



*****Pre-Order Traditional Mochi by Sunday December 24th - Limited # being made*****

Pick up on Sunday, December 31st - 4 - 6:15 pm

Email: SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com to pre-order

This Fundraising is 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:

- Crumble or cube this mochi and add it to Miso soup, Ozoni Soup or Hot Udon noodle soup
- Or you could toast the mochi and top it with a sweet or savory topping, or add it to any other dish.



Volunteers Needed for Oshogatsu
A Fundraiser for our Minister's Education

Saturday 12/30 - 11 am - 2 pm

Sunday 12/31 - 3:45 - 6:15 pm

Sign Up on Sunday or email SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com

Spokane Buddhist Temple

Volume 69 - 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 2023

December Service Schedule - 10:30 am

- 12/3 Sangha Service
- 12/10 Bodhi Day Service with Rev. Anne Spencer & Shotsukihoyo
Followed by a workshop with Rev. Spencer
- 12/17 Sangha Service followed by Dharma Study
- 12/24 Sangha Service, Dharma School & Cookie Potluck
- 12/31 4:00 - 7:00 pm Oshogatsu New Year's Celebration & Sales
6:30 pm Joya-E Service
Note: No 10:30 am Service

Other Events in December

- Every Tuesday at 10 am—Come Make PB&J Sandwiches for the unhoused
Donations of peanut butter and/or jelly are welcomed
- 12/17 After Service - Dharma Study with MA Eric Kerkove

Rev. Anne Spencer's Workshop

12/10 After the 10:30 am Service

"Funerals & Death Rituals as Sources of Healing After Loss"

In this interactive workshop, we will explore Buddhist perspectives on death and the rituals that surround it. We will review evidence showing mental health benefits of death rituals, while also acknowledging the reasons why many people feel awkward or uncomfortable with funerals and memorial services. Each participant will have a chance to reflect on what funerals mean to them (the good and the bad experiences) and what they would like a service for themselves or a loved one to involve.



We are having a Sangha COOKIE POTLUCK
After Service on 12/24
Bring Your favorites to share

We are asking for your 2024 Pledge Form

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. Pick up a pledge form at the Temple or see print it from on our website. **Board Member Election Ballots** from dues-paying members are due back at the Temple by December 15th.

Spokane Buddhist Temple

DECEMBER 2023 VOLUME 69 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.



Spokane Buddhist Temple
Minister Assistants Team:
Chad Donoho
Eric Kerkove
Amanda Goodwin

Rinban Katsuya Kusunoki
our Supervising Minister



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

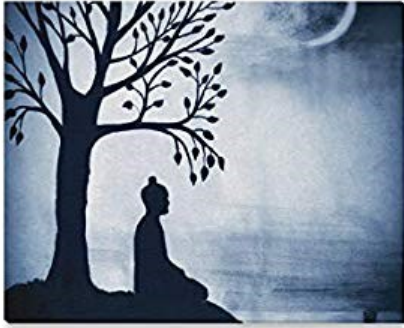
Have questions: Email Chad at
bronzetiger23@yahoo.com



Chanting At Home

Follow these links to access recordings of the following:

- Juseige https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/home/001_juseige_chanting/
- 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 10th - 10:30 AM
With guest Reverend Anne Rensho Spencer
Assistant Minister with Kyoshi
from the Idaho-Oregon Buddhist Temple

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.

Rev. Anne began attending Idaho-Oregon Buddhist Temple in the fall of 2002. At that point in her life she was working in the medical field and helping families make difficult medical decisions and cope with grief and loss. She found that the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist teachings, along with her relationship with the community of people at IOBT, helped her find meaning in her work and a new perspective to help face life's challenges. Her desire to learn more about Buddhism led her to volunteer at the temple as well as pursue academic study in Buddhism.



In 2010 she received Tokudo ordination at Nishi Hongwanji in Kyoto, Japan. In 2012 she graduated with her M.A. in Buddhist studies from the Institute of Buddhist studies and the Graduate Theological Union. In 2018 she received her Kyoshi certification from Nishi Hongwanji in Kyoto, Japan. And in 2021 she received the status of assistant minister from Nishi Hongwanji. In addition to working at IOBT, she continues her work in the medical field as a lecturer at Boise State University College of Health Sciences and as a genetic counselor in a small private practice.

"Buddhism, at its core, teaches that all life, all beings, are interconnected. Every living being--humans, animals, plants, and even yeast--shares common ancestors who lived thousands to billions of years ago. Seeing things from this perspective, that we are all cousins, can help us live a life of compassion and gratitude for those around us." -- Rev. Anne

Rev. Anne Spencer's Workshop
After the 10:30 am Service

"Funerals & Death Rituals as Sources of Healing After Loss"

In this interactive workshop, we will explore Buddhist perspectives on death and the rituals that surround it. We will review evidence showing mental health benefits of death rituals, while also acknowledging the reasons why many people feel awkward or uncomfortable with funerals and memorial services. Each participant will have a chance to reflect on what funerals mean to them (the good and the bad experiences) and what they would like a service for themselves or a loved one to involve.



Cookie Potluck
Sunday 12/24 after service

Bring your favorites to share.
Please make a card with ingredients for those who have allergies.

BUDDHIST STUDY GROUP

Join MA Eric Kerkove on **Sunday Dec. 17th after Service**
Delve deeper into the Dharma



Thank you to those who have sent a donation to the Temple
in memory of Eric Inaba

We are setting up an
“Eric Inaba Shin Buddhist Education Fund”
with these donations, which will be used for education costs
for our Ministers and the Sangha

December Shotsuki-Hoyo

On December 10th, 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 in November from:

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

Izumi Pierce

Stacey Carr

Chris Nerison

Mari Haworth

Loren & Carolyn Nishimura

Jim Sayles

Karl Boehmke

Kris Birdsell

Lisa Geiss

Mary Naber

Paul & Karen Vielle

Kevin Tremblay

Andrea Henson

Melissa & Becky Opel

Lena Cooley

Celeste Sterrett

Amanda Goodwin

Jinny Worley

Patrick Christensen

Donations In Memory of Eric Inaba:

Mary Schweitzer

Olivia & Bob Waterman

Leslie & GT Wong

Lisa Geiss

Lauren Hashikumi

Steve & Reiko Tsuchida

The Cesar & Nelly Zamora Family

Albert & Ellen Eng

David & Darla Port

Robert & Lynne Ishikawa

Kathleen Emtman

Annette Pettenger

Daren A Yamada

Report from the Social Welfare Committee



Thrive International Thanks Spokane Buddhist Temple

With over 300 people in attendance at the Thrive International Gala event on November 11, Spokane Buddhist Temple was recognized and thanked for our support for Thrive International and Spokane's refugees.

Our beautiful, Japanese-themed basket of treasures was auctioned to support the work of Thrive International and the hundreds of refugees it serves. Mary Naber, Mari Haworth, Jan Rice and many others in our Sangha donated items from their personal Japanese collections to include in the auction basket. Our Temple also contributed a traditional Japanese doll and Martena Peterson assembled all for a stunning, professional presentation.

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:



Spokane Buddhist Temple
927 S Perry Street Spokane, WA 99202
509-534-7954
www.SpokaneBuddhistTemple.org
SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com