

# Spokane Buddhist Temple

**Volume 68, 2021 - Issue 1**  
 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)

**January 2022**



## January On-Line & IN-PERSON Services 10:30 am

- 1/2 Sun Sangha Service
- 1/9 Sun Shotsukihoyo Service  
 \*\*Intro To Buddhism\*\* Noon (in person only)
- 1/16 Sun **Hoonko Service** followed by a Dharma Discussion
- 1/23 Sun Sangha Service followed by a Dharma Discussion
- 1/30 Sun Sangha Service followed by  
 \*Volunteer Training \*

**\*\*\*\* IN-PERSON SERVICES RETURN \*\*\*\***

We welcome you back to in-person attendance at 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. *Vaccinations for those over 12 and Masks required for all at the Temple.*

## Introduction to Buddhism

Intro to Buddhism Lecture  
 Sunday 1/9/22 Noon after Service  
 In person only

A brief introduction to Buddhism followed by a question and answer time.



## HOONKO SERVICE Shinran Shonin's Memorial Service SUNDAY – JANUARY 16th - 10:30 AM SERVICE

Hoon-ko commemorates the death of the founder of Shin Buddhism, Shinran Shonin. This holiday is observed in early January from the 9th to the 16th. This holiday is among the most important observed in the Jodo Shinshu tradition. The observance began after Shinran's daughter, Kakushinni carried on administration of Shinran's mausoleum, as did her descendants, who ultimately became the Monshu of Jodo Shinshu. In the word hōonkō; 'hōon' means "return of gratitude" and 'ko' means "to clarify the meaning of" or "gathering".

# Spokane Buddhist Temple

JANUARY 2022

VOLUME 68 ISSUE 1



**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)

---2022 Board of Directors---

*Board News! We are having a bit of a special service on Sunday Jan 16th at 10:30 am. We will be welcoming the new board members and thanking those who are coming off of the board. Please join us to get the updates!*



## 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/)



## SUPPLIES \*\*\* NEEDED

Donate:

Toilet Paper

50 gal garbage bags

Copy Paper

Drop off these supplies on Sundays

## January 30th - Volunteer Training

After Service

Do you want to volunteer to help with services at the Temple?

Flowers, Greeter, Kansho, and MC

### 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 11-29-21 to 12-30-21:

Patricia and Robert Ohashi  
Loren and Caroline Nishimura  
Stacey Carr  
Paul and Karen Vielle  
Ryan Campanella  
Celeste Sterrett  
Knona Liddell  
Judith Broverman and Marji Mitchell  
Mary Naber  
Brian Tennant  
Shawn Boltz

Rachel Landman and Patrick Solverson  
Steven Verhoef  
Izumi Pierce  
Kathleen Dellwo  
Frederick and Lianne Inaba  
Catherine Marshall  
Melissa and Becca Opel  
Paul Tiesse and Marvo Reguindin  
James Sayles  
Robert Corcoran



SHIN BUDDHIST  
SERVICE BOOK

### 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.

## New Year's Greeting



Happy New Year, everyone! At the beginning of this New Year, I would like to extend my best regards to you all.

Throughout the last year, the world suffered from the pandemic of COVID-19, which brought tremendous hardship to many people, and we still are not able to see when normalcy would return to our world. On this occasion, I would like to offer my deepest condolences to those who fell victim to the disease and express my sympathies to those who are currently undergoing treatment.

Meanwhile in the US, the media has widely reported systematic discrimination against African Americans, social unrest and division among the general public brought on by the presidential election. It concerns me that many people have been left isolated in the midst of hardship.

‘Dependent origination’ is a universal truth that Buddha Sakyamuni presented. This fundamental Buddhist principle expresses that every thing, matter, and phenomenon arises from various causes and conditions. None of us lives by ourselves. We are living while being interconnected and mutually supported by one another. Considering the reality of a divided society, it is important that everyone deeply reflects on the principle of Dependent Origination that represents the true state of the world.

Even though having been introduced to the truth by Buddha Sakyamuni, ordinary people like us are still not able to accept it as it is. Therefore, to guide us to cope with the suffering caused by our own ignorance, Shinran Shonin clarifies Amida Buddha’s compassion that always embraces us all. When the world is facing this unimaginable crisis, it is crucial that each of us experiences Amida Buddha’s great compassion ourselves, and live each day to the utmost, having that joy and sensation in our hearts as the basis of our life.

I have been told that in this difficult time and situation, many of your sangha have been adopting new measures for sharing the Jodo Shinshu teaching that had not been previously considered. I find such efforts truly reassuring. It is my hope that your temples will continue serving as your spiritual home, and therefore, I sincerely ask for your understanding and cooperation to allow them to be so. With my heartfelt appreciation for each one of you, I would like to conclude my new year’s greeting.

January 1, 2021  
OHTANI Kojun  
Monshu  
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha



## The Six Realms of Existence

I remember years ago, I think when I was in high school, I was asked by a school friend, who knew I was Buddhist, whether we have heaven or hell like in Christianity.

I honestly didn't know the answer. I asked our minister, and he calmly answered, "We don't have just heaven and hell, we have six realms of existence." I thought, "Huh? Six realms?" In time, I came to learn about this in more detail, and over the years, I have found it to be a most meaningful and relevant teaching of Buddhism.

First of all, Buddhism looks at the world from two perspectives, the perspective of ignorance or delusion, which is called "samsara," and the second, the perspective of truth or enlightenment, called "nirvana." The six realms of existence explain the first perspective, which is samsara, the world of delusion that we live in.

The six realms, are as follows. There is the realm of heaven, human, animal, fighting demon, hungry ghost, and hell. Prior to Shakyamuni Buddha, people in India believed in these realms literally.

For example, if you didn't live a good life as a human being, in your next life you could fall to a lower realm, like an animal or fighting demon realm. Shakyamuni Buddha, in his insight and wisdom, reinterpreted this view of the world. Shakyamuni Buddha did not see these realms as geographical places of existence. Instead, he saw them as psychological states of being. When looked at in that manner, the teaching of the six realms really comes alive, and we begin to see the world around us, and within us, as nothing but the six realms.

Taken metaphorically, the heavenly realm represents temporary euphoria, like going on a cruise or a vacation to Hawaii. For two weeks, you are in heaven, but then your vacation ends and you fall back to reality, work, and traffic, again.

The human realm is actually the hardest to understand, because it challenges us to ask the question: What does it really mean to be a human being?

The animal realm is the realm of instinct, or ignorance. When you are hungry, you eat. When you are sleepy, you sleep. In English, when someone is rude or vulgar, we even have the expression, "That guy's an animal!"

The fighting demon realm is the realm of anger. We fight with people at work. We fight with family members. We fight with traffic. Look at the world around us? Wars, conflicts, and strife abound. They are all actions of fighting demons, not human beings.

The hungry ghost realm is the realm of greed, never being satisfied. We see this realm in our present day reflected in the world of drug addiction. A person on drugs is never satisfied, and is always looking for their next fix. We can fall into this realm easily as well, wanting a newer car, a bigger house, or a higher salary, never being satisfied with what we have.

Continued on the next page

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The final realm, the realm of hell, is the world of intense suffering. Who hasn't fallen into this realm at some point of your life? You lose a dear loved one, or your spouse leaves you for someone else. Maybe you lose your job, or face a serious illness. Personal conflicts in human relationships can be hellish realms as well.

Buddhism is trying to awaken us, first to the fact that we are living in these six realms constantly in our life. We could touch two or three realms even in one hour. That is why we need the teachings. That is why we need the Dharma, to show us the way we are living our lives, going around and around this vicious cycle, like a squirrel running on a revolving wheel, but never getting anywhere.

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

### *January Shotsuki-Hoyo*



On January 9th, as part of our service, we will have the monthly Shotsuki-Hoyo remembrance service. According to Temple records and other sources, a total of 14 people passed away during the month of January of their respective year:

Asayo Heyamoto  
James Horiuchi  
Peter Low Kelsey  
Sagata Kuwahara  
Gregory Matazo Soejima  
(Mrs.) Sakae Wakayama  
Manichi Yamaguchi

Michael Higashi  
Sue Ounpikul  
James Kiyaichi Koga  
(Mrs.) Shige Ida  
Grover C. Twiner  
Richard Williams  
Jake Normandin

## **BCA J.A.M.S.**

Jodo Shinshu Artists & Musicians Showcase

### **-2ND ANNUAL BCA VIRTUAL TALENT SHOW**

-Please support our talented  
Sangha members

-Questions? email "Koichi"  
bkmizushima@bcahq.org

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

REGISTER HERE FOR THE LINK:

<https://forms.gle/28GMBRR3Do9Hgo3V9>



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 \*



**Kiyoko 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. Kiyoko 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/xF1JePg7baoWm68u8>

[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

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Explore topics in Jodo Shinshu doctrine, practice, and culture

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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...*

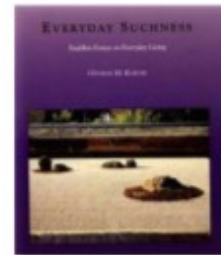
- [Rev. Gyomay M. Kubose](#)



**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.

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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