

Spokane Buddhist Temple

Volume 69, 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
email: spokanebuddhisttemple@gmail.com
www.Facebook.com/SpokaneBuddhistTemple

January 2023

January Service Schedule - 10:30 am

- 1/1 Sangha Service
- 1/8 Shotsukihoyo Service & 2023 Board Installation, followed by Social Time
- 1/15 **Ho-onko Service** followed by a Dharma Discussion (see below)
Plus welcoming our new members since 1/1/20
- 1/22 Sangha Service followed by Dharma Discussion on "Engaged Buddhism"
- 1/29 Sangha Service with **Rev. Kusunoki & Rev. Harada, Bishop** (see Page 3)
Followed by a Dharma Discussion with Rev. Kusunoki
Plus Amanda Goodwin's installation as a Minister Assistant

Other Events in January - See Pg 4

Wed 1/11 - 6 pm Buddha & Beer with Reverend Opel @ Place TBD
 Wed 1/18 - 6 pm Book Study Group with Reverend Opel @ Temple
 Every Tuesday at 10 am - Come Make PB&J Sandwiches for the unhoused. The basement door opens at 9:30 am.

HOONKO SERVICE

Shinran Shonin's Memorial Service

SUNDAY – JANUARY 15th - 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".

We are asking for your **2023 Pledge Form (Dues & Donations) by 1/15/23**
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.

Spokane Buddhist Temple

JANUARY 2023

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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)

---2023 Board of Directors---

Chad Donoho
Joe Bracco
Tina Rodeen
Susan Hales
KNona Liddell
Ryan Campanella
Amanda Goodwin
Sadina Henderson
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/



SANGHA SERVICE
SUNDAY JAN 29TH - 10:30 AM
With guest Reverend Katsuya Kusunoki
from the Seattle Betsuin
Plus

Special Guest by video
Reverend Marvin Harada
Bishop of the Buddhist Churches of America



Reverend Harada, Bishop, will be installing Amanda Goodwin as a Minister Assistant for the Buddhist Churches of America, during service.

Congratulations Amanda Goodwin!!



Thank you for your dedication to the Spokane Buddhist Temple and for the many hours of correspondence courses you have taken.

We will have a Board Installation on January 8th during service.

Thank you outgoing Board Members:

Shawn Boltz & Becca Opel

Welcome New & Returning Board Members:

Tina Rodeen (returning), Sadina Henderson & Celeste Sterrett (returning)

Introductory Passage Meditation Workshop

At the Spokane Buddhist Temple
927 South Perry Street, Spokane 99202

Introductory workshop introducing Sri Easwaran's form of Passage Meditation, specifically designed for the Western "monkey mind."

4-week session - Tuesdays 6 - 7:30 pm
January 17th thru February 7th 2023

Format: Video instruction and discussion followed by 1/2 hour of meditation.

More information: Sri Easwaran's book *Passage Meditation* is available at local bookstores and through the internet at Bmcm.org. NO FEE but a donation to the Temple is suggested.

"The principle of meditation is simple: you are what you think. By meditating on words that embody your highest ideals, you drive them deep into your consciousness." **Sri Eknath Easwaran**

For more information/registration call: Mary at (509) 570-6876
 Space for this workshop donated by the Spokane Buddhist Temple.

BUDDHA & BEER



Join Reverend Melissa Opel on **Wed. Jan 11th at 6 pm**
Place TBD - We'll announce it at service & by email

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

BOOK STUDY & GROUP



Join Reverend Melissa Opel on **Wed. Jan 18th 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.

January Shotsuki-Hoyo

On January 8th, 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 Kiyachi Koga
(Mrs.) Shige Ida
Grover C. Twiner
Richard Williams
Jake Normandin

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. Our expenses in 2022 were in excess of \$70,000 due to major building repairs.

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

These are the people and associations that paid dues or donated in 2022:

Baker, C.E.	Nishimura, Loren & Carolyn
Beeman, Heather	Norasakkurkit, Narong & Una
Birdsell, Kristina	Norasakkurkit, Vinai & Harumi
Boltz, Shawn	Ohashi, Bob & Patricia
Bracco, Joe	Okamoto, Thomas Hiroshi
Broverman, Judy And Marji	Opel, Melissa And Becca
Brown, Kyle	Parker, Liat
Brown, Trente	Pester, Tyler
Campanella, Ryan	Phillips, Jeremy
Carr, Stacey	Phillips, Kirk & Patricia
Donoho, Chad	Pierce, Izumi
Ellis, Marie	Regardless of . . .
Embroidery Group	Rodeen, Tina
Endersbe, Ken & Jackie	Saint Louis, Virginia
Geiss, Lisa	Sayles, Jim
Goodwin, Amanda	Spokane Chapter JAACL
Hales, Susan	Sterrett, Celeste
Hanson, Tyler	Summerfield, Amy
Haworth, Mari	Tamura Family
Henderson, Sadina	Tanaka, Pat
HiFumi Society	Terao, Dennis & Lenni
Holcomb, Julia	Terao, Kiku
Houseman, Catrina	Terao, Richard
Inaba, Eric	Tiesse, Paul & Requindin, Maruo
Inaba, Fred & Lianne	Tremblay, Kevin
Kerkove, Eric	Tuesday Meditation Group
Konko, Christine	Verhoef, Steven
Landman, Rachel & Solverson, Patrick	Vielle, Paul & Karen
Liddell, Knona	Wednesday Meditation Group
Madeen, Michelle	Yamamoto, Jimmy & Yoshimi
Manystars, Alani	Yugawa, Jun
Naber, Mary	



New Years Message: The Benefits of Following the Shin Buddhist Path By Rev. Marvin Harada, Bishop of the BCA

First, may I extend a warm Happy New Year's greetings to all of you. As all of our temples and churches reopen to in-person services and activities, I hope that this year will be one in which we reconnect with each other as a Sangha, as fellow Nembutsu travelers on the path. As the pandemic has subsided, in many cases, we are seeing friends and family that we haven't seen for three years. What a joy it is to see each other in person again.

The theme for our BCA this new year of 2023 will be, "The Benefits of Following the Shin Buddhist Path." Whether we have been a lifelong Buddhist, or if we are relatively new to Shin Buddhism, there are tremendous benefits to our everyday life that we often don't talk about enough. We need to share the "why" of Shin Buddhism as well as the "what" of Shin Buddhism.

I would like to discuss this topic in a series of articles this year for the Wheel of Dharma. This month, I would like to discuss the benefit of living "from inside out," instead of "from outside in."

Normally, we live our life from "outside in," meaning that we live our lives pursuing material things external to us, to find what we think will be our "inner happiness." We think a new car, a bigger home, a higher salary or position, or the perfect spouse, will lead to our inner happiness.

However, even if we are to achieve some of those things, we find that we are not any happier internally. In fact, we might find ourselves even more miserable than when we didn't have such things. We buy a home, but now we have to maintain it and do the home repairs.

The Shin Buddhist way of life is from the inside out, meaning that one lives fulfilling your deepest aspiration and your sincere wish of life. Every day is meaningful, fulfilling, gratifying, living a life from within. For example, a schoolteacher that lives from outside in lives for the paycheck, for the retirement pension after 30 years of teaching. The teacher that lives from inside out works to fulfill their deepest wish, to teach children, to nurture children, to connect with children.

The Shin Buddhist way of life is a life of self-introspection and self-reflection. From one's self-introspection, one sees the world around them. It is living from "inside out."

Shinran Shonin lived a life of deep self-introspection. In his writings, he says that his heart and mind is like "snakes and scorpions," full of cunning and malice. Such self-introspection leads to his life of humbleness and humility. There is tremendous strength and power in the life of a humble person. Like the willow tree that is able to bend in a strong wind, as opposed to a tall and stiff oak tree, a truly humble person is able to live a dynamic, even powerful life. They influence and affect others by their quiet humility. That is one of the many benefits of the Shin Buddhist life, of following the Shin Buddhist path.

“CAN YOU TRY NOT TO BE EVIL?”

Ho'onko Seminar and Discussion with Rev. Henry Adams!

Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Speaker Series

Explore Buddhist concepts and topics with our excellent teachers from the around the country! Sign up for the series today to reserve your spot



Rev. Henry Adams
San Mateo Buddhist Temple
Saturday, January 14th
2:00pm-4:00pm

Can You Try Not to Be Evil? The Buddha's Compassion in the Three Pure Land Sutras



You can register for this series or learn more by
visiting: seattlebetsuin.org/seminars

[Zoom and In-Person registration available at the link below!](#)

[Register for the event](#)

Registration Link: <https://seattlebetsuin.com/seminars/>



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