

Spokane Buddhist Temple

Volume 66, 2020 - Issue 11
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

November 2020

*Due to Covid-19,
the Temple building is closed until further notice.*

Services Resume Virtually at Spokane Buddhist Temple

When the Temple closed due to Covid-19 in March, it seemed like the pandemic might fizzle out during the summer months, so we made due with group discussions online and with directing the Sangha to the Seattle Betsuin for virtual services. With Winter on its way and Covid cases surging, the Religious Education Committee and Board met together to re-evaluate the situation.

We have decided to move forward with holding virtual services via Zoom. Services will begin on Nov. 1st at 10:30 am. After service, there will be 2 breakout rooms - one for socializing with one another and a second for discussing the Dharma Talk. We will record services and post them online, if you're unable to make it during the live portion. Please email the temple at SpokaneBuddhisttemple@gmail.com or melissajoshinopel@gmail.com to be added to the notification list for these services, to get the Zoom login. If you want to participate, but do not know how to use Zoom, please let us know and we will try and help you get it figured out.

Spokane Buddhist
Temple Services
resume online
November 1, 2020

Namo Amida Butsu,
Reverend Melissa Opel
MA Chad Donoho

See Page 3 for info about our new Dharma Buddies program

Spokane Buddhist Temple

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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 new 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.



Reverend Melissa Opel and MA Chad Donoho



Amanda Goodwin
Minister's Assistant in training



Rinban Katsuya Kusunoki
our Supervising Minister

Spokane Buddhist Temple Team

--Supervising Minister--
Rev. Katsuya Kusunoki
Seattle Betsuin

---Minister Assistants---
Sensei Melissa Opel
MA Chad Donoho
Sensei Paul Vielle (ret.)
Amanda Goodwin (Aspirant)



---2020 Board of Directors---
President Becca Opel
Vice President Chad Donoho
Secretary Shawn Boltz
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KNona Liddell
Tina Rodeen
Patricia Ohashi
Curtis Cooley
Celeste Sterrett

Have questions? Contact
Becca Opel
509-294-1461
alwaysalotus@gmail.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/

Want a Dharma Buddy?

I still haven't come up with a better name for this, but in addition to virtual services, we want to make sure people are finding ways to connect with each other. As we continue to adjust to this time, being able to have our two outdoor services, we heard many people talk about feeling isolated or missing being around Sangha members and sharing our lives with one another. The idea is to setup people into groups of 4 that would meet either weekly or bi-weekly and discuss an aspect of Buddhism (don't worry, we'll help you with the topics) and to have a set of people you are sharing the Dharma together with and hopefully growing in friendship. Once we find out if there's an interest in this idea, I will iron out the details further.

If you're interested please email the temple at SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com or melissajoshinopel@gmail.com. Please make sure to let us know if it will be you only or if you are signing up as a couple.

Thank you,
Rev. Melissa Opel

DHARMA BUDDIES

Note From Board President:

Opportunities to give back

The leadership at the temple has started to discuss how we can give to our community and the neighborhood in which we live. We'd like to start a Community Outreach Committee. If this is something you'd be interested in volunteering in please email the temple at spokanebuddhisttemple@gmail.com and we will set up a meeting with those interested.

Thanks everyone!
Becca

Many of the Temples are live streaming their services. Watch local services or explore the dharma being shared at temples and churches throughout the United States. You are able to join a service, chant and sing along, and listen to dharma messages from your home. We recommend you stream one of these services on Sunday. May of them are available after Sunday, as well.

The links to all of the services is on the Buddhist Churches of America site at: <https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org> (click on the logo at the bottom of the page)

For example, you can see and hear these service at the Seattle Betsuin or the Tacoma Buddhist Temple at 10 am on Sunday and they are saved for later viewing:

Seattle Betsuin	youtube.com/seattlebuddhisttemple
Tacoma Buddhist Temple	youtube.com/channel/UCSjeUsyIkbG_e74q-CM1Sig
Oregon Buddhist Temple	youtube.com/user/OregonBuddhistTemple





Rinban Kusunoki's Message from the Oct. 26th Seattle Betsuin Newsletter

Learning from Buddhist Stories

<Learning from Buddhist Stories No. 7>

Buddhist stories are good reading materials for children as well as adults to learn important Buddhist principles and values such as compassion, wisdom, kindness, view, joy, and happiness. I express my appreciation to Rev. Satoko Fujii who allowed me to translate her original articles and use her “Kirie” art (art made of cut paper pieces).

An extremely poor woman was living alone in a town. In order to live, she went through town every day begging for alms. One day, people living in the town were excited to learn that Shakyamauni Buddha was coming to visit soon. They prepared many offerings for him. The woman also wanted to offer something for Shakyamuni Buddha, but she was too poor to prepare anything. But through her begging, she was able to scrape enough money to buy a very small lantern. She lit the very plain lantern and offered it, from the bottom of her heart as a welcome to Shakyamuni Buddha.

Other townspeople offered very large and fancy lanterns which made the poor woman feel inadequate that her gift was so plain and small. The town was lit up in a warm glow as the light from the hundreds of lanterns lit up the sky to welcome the Buddha. As the night progressed, some lanterns ran out of lamp oil and others were blown out by strong winds. Surprisingly only the small lantern offered by the woman stayed lit until next morning. A disciple of Shakyamuni Buddha wondered and asked Shakyamuni Buddha why only the small tiny lantern stayed lit. Shakyamuni said, “Value (or virtue) of Dana is not based on its quantity. Dana is a practice of selfless giving and receiving without any calculation. When giving, what is most important is to nurture the spirit of Dana in one’s heart and mind.”

The holiday season is coming upon us soon. What is in your heart when you give a gift to someone? We may give something that is rare or a valuable. We may give a gift just to satisfy our ego and make us feel like we are a good person because we are giving. Let us take this opportunity to reflect what is in our hearts when we give a gift. Do we give with a sincere heart and mind? Also when we receive a gift, how do we receive it? Do we receive it with a sincere and grateful heart and mind? It is a good opportunity to practice Dana and think how we send and receive a gift.

The Seattle Betsuin has ongoing book studies, weekly meditation sessions and Dharma exchanges. To be notified of their programs and weekly services, email newsletter@seattlebetsuin.com to be included.



BUDDHA DHARMA 24-7

EverydayBuddhist.org has over one hundred hours of Shin Buddhist education and Dharma content which is available 24/7. Our response to this crisis is to provide:

- More free content for everyone**
- Frequent blog posts**
- Livestream "How To" courses and Q&A offerings**

Online Dharma support is more important than ever during these stressful times. Come check us out.



EVERYDAY BUDDHIST

www.everydaybuddhist.org

GO TO

BuddhistChurchesofAmerica.org

For notices of upcoming online events and education from the Buddhist Churches of America.

BCA J.A.M.S.

Jodo Shinshu Artists & Musicians Showcase

-Calling All Musicians, Singers, Magicians, Dancers, Poets...

-Perform in the 1st annual BCA Youth Concert.

A fun and exciting virtual event for everyone to enjoy!!!

-Submit your 3-5 min. audition video at the link below (due Nov 1st)

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

EVENT DATE:

**JAN 10
2021**

1:00PM PST

DONATIONS APPRECIATED

Audition: <https://forms.gle/UjsjBkAZChbXrKYT8>



CBE Seminars Online For All (SOFA)
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - REGISTER FOR ZOOM LINK

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2020

11 am - 1 pm (PDT) Check local time zone

SHIN BUDDHISM & THE SUPERNATURAL

Speaker:

REV. JERRY HIRANO

Director, BCA Center for Buddhist Education
Resident Minister, Salt Lake City Buddhist Temple



Rev. Hirano was born in Salt Lake City, Utah in the year of the fire rooster. He attended the Salt Lake Buddhist Temple as a child where he is now the resident minister. He earned an M.A. in Buddhist Studies from the Institute of Buddhist Studies and completed his ministerial training at Chuo Bukkyo Gakuin in Kyoto, Japan. After receiving Kyoshi ordination from Nishi Hongwanji in Kyoto, he returned to the U.S. as a BCA minister. His first ministerial assignment was at the San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin (6 years) before he returned to the SLCBT as its resident minister. Currently he is also the minister at the Ogden, Honeyville, and Idaho-Oregon Buddhist Temples. For the past four years, he has served as a co-director, and now director of the BCA CBE.

Journey to the supernatural from a Shin Buddhist perspective.

- Do Shin Buddhists believe in the supernatural? Ghosts? Spirits?
- How do we discuss this topic if we don't believe in the 'soul'?
- What dharma teachings are we referring to, if any?
- Are there Shin Buddhist ghost stories? Do you have one of your own?

In the spirit of the Halloween season, questions like these will be explored.

*Join us if you dare...
Come in costume (optional)!*

REGISTRATION - Free

[Click to Register:](#)

<https://forms.gle/AWKXLYpFaxj4V9xi7>

Zoom link sent after registration

DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED

[Click to Donate](#)

<https://bca.kindful.com/campaigns/232361?utf8=%E2%9C%93&campaigns=232361&amount=>

visit: buddhistchurchesofamerica.org

email: cbe@bcahq.org tel: 510.809.1460

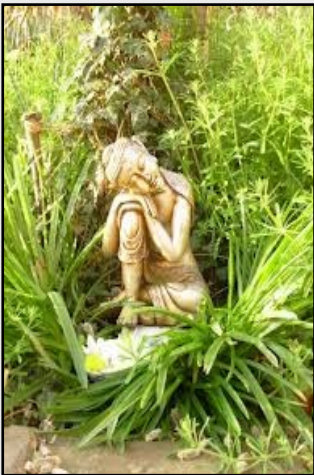
We are appreciative of the Sangha members who have donated or paid their dues since we closed in March.

DONORS AND DUES PAYING MEMBERS SINCE AUGUST



Mary Ahmad	Michelle Madeen
Judy Broverman & Marji Mitchell	Alani Manystars
Tammy Bell-Maring	Jessica McPhail
Shawn Boltz	Mary Naber
Kyle Brown	Caroline & Loren Nishimura
Ryan Camparella	Ura & Narong Norasakurkit
Stacey Carr	Bob & Tricia Ohashi
Janene Chesselet	Becca & Melissa Opel
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Lisa Geiss	Joan Schilling
Amanda Goodwin	Dannells Shaw
Mari Haworth	Roseann Sims
Janet Holmberg & Kosuke Imamura	Celeste Sterrett
Eric Inaba	Brian Tennant
Frederick & Liana Inaba	Richard Terao
Alexander Justice	Angela Valenti
Jennifer Kane	Steven Verhoef
Eric Kerkove	Karen & Paul Vielle
Mary Knodell	Jefferson Workman
Knona Liddell	Jun Yugawa

November Shotsuki-Hoyo



We will not have the monthly Shotsuki-Hoyo remembrance service at the Temple, but you can remember these people at your home services. According to Temple records and other sources, a total of 16 people passed away during the month of November of their respective year:

(Mrs.) Ine Furumasu	Leslie Green
Hideo Ekinaka	Chiyoko Kiyabu
George Kubota	(Mrs.) Haruyo Oba
Dick Shimizu	(Mrs.) Reiko Shimizu
Roy Soejima	James "Jim" Tamura
Max B. Taylor	
Rev. Eiyu Terao (Founder of SBT)	
Harold Tokunage	Hidejiro Yamagiwa
Michio Yamagiwa	Caitlin Anne Packer

Help Needed While We Are Closed

We are grateful for the volunteers who have been maintaining the Temple and for the dues and donations that you have been sending since we closed. Although we are closed, the monthly bills are still owed.

DUES: Dues are \$240 annually, or \$20/month per adult. Keeping up with your dues keeps the doors open.

DONATIONS: Since we stopped having services on Sundays, donations have been down. Please consider sending a donation, which will help keep our temple thriving and available for you and for future generations. Financial contributions are gratefully accepted by mail or you can make a secure donation using a credit card on our website (using PayPal).

*** *HELP KEEP THE DOORS OPEN* ***



Are you spending your quarantine time de-cluttering your home and getting rid of attachments?

The temple has scheduled a **RUMMAGE SALE** sometime when Covid restrictions are lifted, so if you find items you'd like to donate, we will be happy to store them for you once the quarantine is over.



SEEN BUDDHIST
SERVICE BOOK

Other on-line sources of the Dharma you might want to check out:

Website "Everyday Buddhist" <https://www.everydaybuddhist.org/>

Buddhist Churches of America website <https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/>

SERVICE BOOK TO DOWNLOAD:

Thank you to Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji for scanning the BCA service book (300+ pages) that we use at the Temple. What a wonderful resource for all to practice while we are at home practicing social distancing. It can be found at:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/18K14SOj0EyQPmaF9NHeC5m1nLBJL6PDA/view?fbclid=IwAR2aD6JKqj-RQqapONoYXe98r5vKpR0xmBr7AKLpZBjpdA1_WDkPvphfPQQ

See our Facebook page for a direct link to the book as a pdf.