

Spokane Buddhist Temple

Volume 68, 2021 - Issue 8
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

August 2022



August Service Schedule - 10:30 am

- 8/7 **Hatsubon Service at Greenwood Cemetery (See Page 3)**
No service at Temple
- 8/14 Shotsukihoyo Service followed by a Dharma Discussion
- 8/21 Sangha Service followed by Social Time
- 8/29 Sangha Service followed by a Dharma Discussion

Email SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com to get on the chat list. Most services will be live on Facebook.

8/20 @ 2 pm Godzilla Movie with Eric (1954 version) **See Page 3**
8/26 & 8/27 Rummage Sale - **See below**



Theatrical release poster

**Saturday
August 20th
2 pm
1954 Version of
Godzilla
(See pg. 3)**

START DONATING TO THE TEMPLE RUMMAGE SALE



**FRIDAY, AUG 26TH 9AM – 3PM
SATURDAY, AUG 27TH 9AM – NOON**

Please donate your gently used, clean items.
Bring them on Sunday or arrange for a drop-off time
Or – if you would like - **rent a table (to sell items yourself)** - set up is outside – cost is \$20/table.

If you would like to help with pricing, set up and sale,
or have questions please contact the Celeste at 509-
599-8378 or dcsterrett@yahoo.com.

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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)

---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

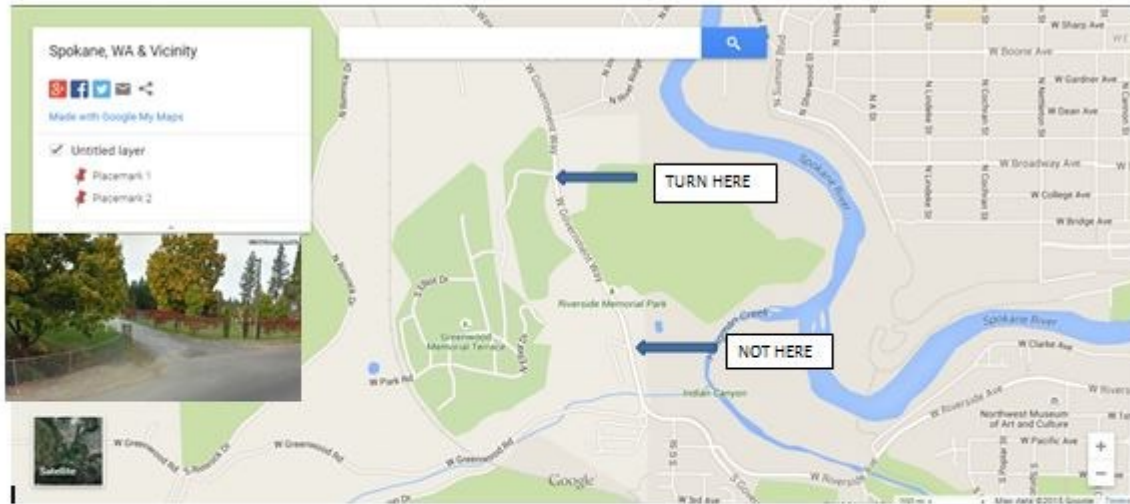
Have questions: Email Chad at
bronzetiger23@yahoo.com



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/



From Spokane, Drive west on 2nd Avenue to the Sunset Highway
 Turn right on Government Way (north)
 Turn left at the SECOND entrance to the cemetery (1.36 miles north of the Sunset Highway)
 If you drive by the Life Church on your right, you have gone too far.
 We will have someone standing at the south entrance (do not turn here) and at the north entrance (turn here).

SUNDAY AUGUST 7th HATSUBON CEMETERY SERVICE *(Note: No service at the Temple)*

Held at the Lower Terrace @ Greenwood Memorial Terrace Cemetery
 211 N Government Way, Spokane
10:30 AM Service

***Please bring a lawn chair. We will have a canopy.
 Note there are no public restrooms at the cemetery.***

Shin Buddhist Temples hold an annual *Hatsubon* service in July or August to remember those who have passed away in the past year.



Theatrical release poster

Join Ministers Assistant Eric Kerkove
 For a showing of the 1954 Movie GODZILLA

2 pm - Runs 96 minutes

Spokane Buddhist Temple
 In Japanese with subtitles

Godzilla (Japanese: ゴジラ, Hepburn: Gojira)[b] is a 1954 Japanese kaiju film directed by Ishirō Honda, with special effects by Eiji Tsuburaya. It is the first film in the Godzilla franchise. The film stars Akira Takarada, Momoko Kōchi, Akihiko Hirata, and Takashi Shimura, with Haruo Nakajima and Katsumi Tezuka as Godzilla. In the film, Japan's authorities deal with the sudden appearance of a giant monster, whose attacks trigger fears of nuclear holocaust during post-war Japan.

August Shotsuki-Hoyo

On August 14th, 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 August of their respective year:



David Brady, Sr.
Yuriko Ito
Tomoyoshi "Tom" Kirihara
Yuriko Kirihara
Asao Oki
Tsuneo Otsuki
Joseph Phillip Workman
Robert Hideaki Yamagiwa
Carolyn Sakai

Tokujiro Ikeda
Bobby Gene Jordan
Yoneichi Kirihara
John Francis Munighan
Takashi Osumi
Bob Wheeler
(Mrs.) Fusayo Wakayama
Leo Yukio Kiyohiro



Janet Haruko Tamura's Memorial Service
Saturday - August 20th - 11 am
Hennessey Funeral Home
2203 N. Division St., Spokane



Janet was a member of the Spokane Buddhist Temple from 1947 until her passing in 2021. She taught many of us how to make futomaki and inari sushi and helped at the many fundraisers for the Temple.

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 or do a BillPay transaction through your bank.

We received dues and/or donations from 6/20/22 to 7/24/22 from:

Loren and Caroline Nishimura
Stacey Carr
Mary Naber
Eric Inaba
Kris Birdsell
Izumi Pierce
Lynnea Kaylor
Lisa Geiss

Trente Brown
Paul and Karen Vielle
Melissa & Becca Opel
Tuesday Meditation Group
Wednesday Meditation Group
Jackie & Ken Endersbe
C E Banker

Celeste Sterrett in memory of Craig Gauthier. The Terao Family in honor of Mrs. Joyce Terao, founder of our Temple.

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



Roe v. Wade: A Personal Experience with Abortion

I would like to reflect on the recent U.S. Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe v. Wade from the standpoint of a personal experience many years ago.

When my wife Gail and I lived in Japan while I was studying for the ministry 40 years ago, she became pregnant. We were excited to expect our first born, and to have the child born in Japan.

A couple of months or so into the pregnancy, one night, Gail felt really sick. The next day, we went to see our doctor, and he examined her. The doctor said that he feared that Gail had a miscarriage. He could not detect any heartbeat from the fetus. He told us that he would have to perform a medical abortion, because if the fetus was not alive, it would be very dangerous for Gail, unless the fetus was removed. We both agreed that the doctor should perform the procedure.

Gail was lying in bed at the hospital, waiting to have the procedure done. It was sad to lose our first born. She began to cry and I just embraced and held her. It was the closest that I think we ever felt in our 42 years of marriage, even more than our wedding day. We didn't say a word, but just embraced.

The doctor performed the procedure and we returned home to our apartment. A couple of months before, I had received Tokudo, the first level of ordination in becoming a minister. When we got home, I suggested that we hold a little memorial service, just for the two of us. It was the first memorial service that I would conduct as a minister.

After the sutra chanting, I turned to Gail to give a Dharma message. I said that although our child only lived a couple of months, maybe our child came into this world to show us, to teach us, how precious life is. It was my first sermon as a minister.

About a year after that, our son Riki was born, and two years after that, our daughter Keiko was born. To have two children after losing the first made us appreciate all the more the great blessing and gift it was to have both of them.

If we were living in America, we probably would have been confronted with that same choice and decision — to either have the abortion and terminate the pregnancy, or cause great risk to Gail's life.

If that had occurred now, I don't know what we would have done. Clearly, we might have had to break the law to somehow have the abortion, or Gail's life would have been in danger. If we were to stand on the ground of obeying the law and not having the abortion, I might have lost Gail and then Riki and Keiko would have never been born. I know that we would have chosen to do the same thing, even with Roe v. Wade being overturned.

The issue of abortion, of course, should not be taken lightly. I would hope that any young woman or couple faced with the choice of having a child or having an abortion would not take the matter lightly, as if having a child would be an "inconvenience."

But every person's karma is unique and it is not for me to say how a person should live their life. We all have to face moral and ethical choices in our life. Buddhism is unique in that it does not categorically say what we should or shouldn't do, in black and white terms. The strength of Buddhism lies in the gray area in between. The teachings give us the foundation to make some of life's most difficult decisions, and then to live with that decision.

Continued from page 5

As a minister, I think I should be in the position of counseling a young woman who is faced with such a difficult decision, whether to have their child or not. I should be able to talk with and counsel both the person who has decided to have the abortion, and the person who has decided to have the child, without judging them either way.

If I were to talk to such an individual or individuals, my heart would go out to them, both for what they are going through and the changing situation with the reversal of Roe v. Wade.

Morality and ethics change with time. Laws and politics change with time as well. Amidst this often chaotic world that we live in, we must find the true and real, the timeless, the truth of the Buddha-Dharma that transcends morality and ethics, that transcends secular law and governments, that is the foundation for our life and spiritually guides us in the choices in life that we must sometimes make.

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

Obon was a huge success & a lot of fun!
You helped raise funds for the Temple. Thank you to the many volunteers, the chefs, and the dancers.



CBE/IBS/JSIO

SUMMER PACIFIC SEMINAR
**REFLECTIONS ON
THE PURELAND**

AUGUST 5-6, 2022

IN PERSON & VIRTUAL

Jodo Shinshu Center, 2140 Durant Ave, Berkeley 94704



DR. AARON PROFFITT

Dr. Proffitt received his PhD in Buddhist Studies from the University of Michigan, and works as an Assistant Professor of Japanese Studies at the University at Albany-SUNY. Dr. Proffitt has published in English and Japanese on East Asian Buddhism, Pure Land Buddhism, Esoteric Buddhism, and the Lotus Sutra.



DR. MELISSA CURLEY

Dr. Curley is associate professor in the Department of the Comparative Studies at Ohio State University and the author of *Pure Land, Real World: Modern Buddhism, Japanese Leftists, and the Utopian Imagination*. Her current research focuses on the body in twentieth-century Japanese Buddhism.

Moderated by Reverend Dr. Takashi Miyaji

Institute of Buddhist Studies/Southern Alameda County Buddhist Temple

REGISTRATION & INFO: <https://tinyurl.com/PacificSeminar>

BCA: Center For Buddhist Education Presents

WOMEN

in Jodo Shinshu



REVEREND DR. MUTSUMI WONDRA

AUG 20, 2022 @ 11am (PT)



MORE INFO & REGISTRATION:

<https://tinyurl.com/CBEWomen>

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

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