

Spokane Buddhist Temple

Volume 67, 2021 - Issue 9
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

September 2021



September Service Schedule - 10:30 am

- 9/5 Shotsukihoyo Service
- 9/12 Ohigan Service (see Page 3)
- 9/19 **No Service at Temple**
- **See below & Pages 6 - 8
- 9/26 Sangha Service

Email SpokaneBuddhistTemple@gmail.com to get on the chat & Zoom list. Most services will also be live on Facebook, and later uploaded to YouTube.



September 19, 2021

Closing Service
10am
via YouTube

Closing Service for 74th NW District Convention.
Dharma message by Rev. Yuki Sugahara

No Service at the Spokane Buddhist Temple on 9/19

Instead
Watch the 74th NW District Buddhist Convention Closing Service at 10 am
Free on YouTube

Registration is required at

<https://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/general-7>

See Pages 6 - 9 for other virtual talks and panels from the Convention

All are free to watch

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.



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)

---2021 Board of Directors---

Becca Opel, President
Chad Donoho, Vice President
Shawn Boltz, Secretary
Lisa Geiss, Treasurer
KNona Liddell
Tina Rodeen
Patricia Ohashi
Curtis Cooley
Susan Hales

Have questions? Contact
Becca Opel
509-294-1461



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/



Ohigan (Fall Equinox) Service 9/12 - 10:30 am

Ohigan services are held during the Spring and Fall equinoxes, when the days and nights are of equal length, and it is neither too hot nor too cold. It is a time when we are encouraged to strive even more energetically along the Buddhist path and strive to become enlightened.

It is one of the few religious holidays which has no direct link to Shakyamuni Buddha' rather it is distinctly a Japanese holiday. The word "Ohigan" comes from the Sanskrit word "Paramita", which means the "Other Shore." It is an abbreviation of "To-higan" with "To" meaning "to arrive." Therefore, to-higan means to arrive at the Other Shore. The Other Shore is Enlightenment or Nirvana. In contrast to the Other Shore is this shore or "shigan" in Japanese. Shigan denotes samasara or this world of birth-and-death crossing over the sea of worldly passions arising from illusion.

Thus, Ohigan is a time for us to express our gratitude to Amida Buddha for giving us the Six Paramitas and awakening us to the boundless Compassion and Wisdom.

“The day of Ohigan, What a Fine Time to Plant Seeds of Enlightenment“

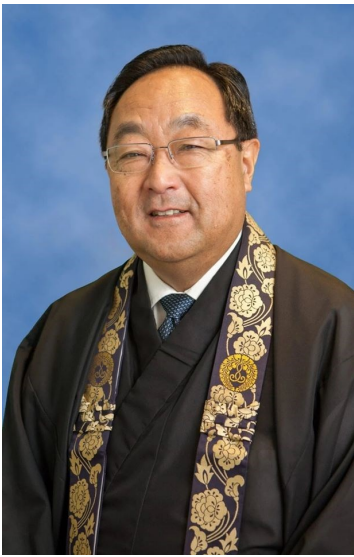
Dues and Donations

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 7-19-21 to 8-22-21:

Celeste Sterrett
Richard Terao
Joan Schilling
Melissa and Becca Opel
Patt and Sandy
Stacey Carr
Rachel Landman and Patrick Solverson
Patricia and Fujiko McAndle
Izumi Pierce

Mari Haworth
Kyle Brown
Judith Broverman and Marji Mitchell
Mary Naber
Loren and Carolyn Nishimura
Steven Verhoef
Chad Donoho
Karen & Paul Vielle
Karen Dunmore



Ignorance, Third of Three Poisons in Buddhism

I would like to continue my discussion of the three poisons by discussing the third of the poisons, ignorance.

The Chinese characters for how ignorance is described is quite interesting. In Japanese, the Buddhist term for ignorance is “mumyo,” and it consists of two Chinese characters. The first character, “mu 無” means “there is no,” or, “it doesn’t exist, and the second character, “myo 明” means “clear, bright, radiant.” So, when you put those two characters together 無明, it means, “there is no clarity, no radiance, no brightness.” It is a very descriptive way of explaining ignorance. When you are in ignorance, there is no light, no radiance, only darkness.

How do we feel when we are in the dark? Have you ever had the power go out in your house and you are in pitch black trying to find your way around? You stumble over the sofa, or bump into the table, or trip over the shoes you left on the floor, all because you couldn’t see them in the dark.

Buddhism is saying to us that our life, as an un-awakened, un-enlightened being, is to live as if we are stumbling around in the dark. We don’t know which way to turn. We run into all kinds of things. A life of ignorance is to have all kinds of things become obstacles in our life, like floundering around in the dark. We don’t know which way to turn, which way to go. We go left, we go right, but every direction is dark. We cause ourselves and others all kinds of pain because we can’t see where we are going. That is ignorance.

Ignorance is also not referring to education, like failing on a test or having a low IQ. You could be brilliantly smart, and still ignorant in a Buddhist sense. In the same manner, you could have very little education and you could have true wisdom, the opposite of ignorance.

Ignorance means to not see clearly, to not see reality, because we lack light, we lack wisdom. What we can see of the world is filtered through our self-centered viewpoint, like looking at the world through sunglasses.

Because we lack wisdom and cannot see things clearly, it leads to anger, or greed, which in turn creates more ignorance, more greed, more anger, and we are caught in a vicious cycle of self-created suffering.

Buddhist art depicts this quite strikingly. It shows three animals each biting each other’s tail. The three animals are a rooster, a pig, and a snake. The pig represents ignorance, the rooster represents greed, and the snake represents anger. This image shows how each poison perpetuates each other.

I find the best example of these three poisons being present all at once is the example of gambling in Las Vegas. Have you ever had the experience of playing a slot machine for a long time, trying to hit the big jackpot, but it just never hits. Finally, you give up and walk away, but as you walk away, you look back at that machine you were playing. Up walks a little old lady and on the first pull, “Cha-ching!” She hits the big jackpot.

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You think to yourself, “That lady hit my jackpot!” Now you are greedy, angry, and stupid all at the same time. I often tell people that at least a couple of times a year, I have to go to Las Vegas to really experience Buddhism. It is the best place to experience the three poisons. To show how even more ignorant we are, on the drive home after a losing trip to Las Vegas, I am already thinking about the next time that I can go back again.

Greed, anger, and ignorance, like drinking poison, can destroy our good life. How do we deal with these powerful emotions? Are we destined to be victims of them forever?

I think that we could say that “seeing is everything.” We have to see them within ourselves. We have to see how we become victims of them. Now, having seen them, we move towards transcending them. They never totally go away, because that is our nature as human beings, but by seeing them deeply, in light of the Dharma, we transcend them.

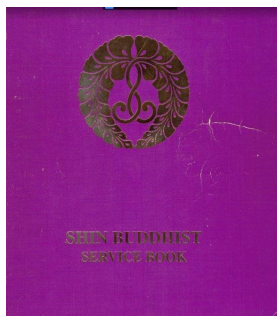
Namuamidabutsu,
Rev. Marvin Harada, Bishop
Buddhist Churches of America



September Shotsuki-Hoyo

On September 5th, as part of our service, we will have the monthly Shotsuki-Hoyo remembrance service. According to Temple records and other sources, a total of 10 people passed away during the month of September of their respective year:

Dat Nguyen	George Nomura
Harry Uchida	Harry Yamauchi
Hazel Sanders	
Kenji Sugiyama	
(Mrs.) Mary Sueko 'Sue' Shimizu	
Kengo Yorioka	
Anton Brecek	
Joanne Heyamoto	



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.

74th Northwest Annual District Convention

This is a great opportunity to hear the Dharma from Reverends from all over the country. Usually, the Northwest Conventions are sponsored by the various northwest temples and is in person, but because of Covid-19 it is virtual again this year.

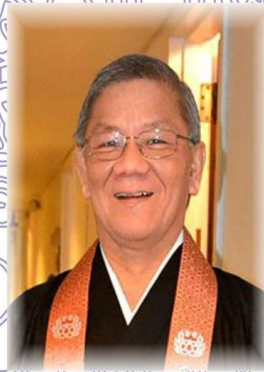
Here is the link for the scheduled speakers at the 74th Annual Northwest District Convention from Sept 12th-19th. It is virtual this year, with 2 services, 7 speakers and a panel discussion, all through Zoom and YouTube.

Registration (free) is required.

<https://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/general-7>

74th Annual Northwest District (Virtual) Convention

The
Appreciation
Realization
Transformation
Of Buddhist Living



Keynote Speaker

Reverend Peter Hata

Higashi Honganji Los Angeles Betsuin
Founding Member Of The
Legendary Jazz Fusion Group
Hiroshima

**No
Registration
Fee!**

SEPTEMBER 12 - 19, 2021

Featured Presenters:

Kim Stafford (State of Oregon Poet Laureate, emeritus)
Nobuko Miyamoto (Songwriter, Dance & Theater Artist, Cultural Activist)
Brian Koichi Mizushima (BCA Youth Coordinator)
Rev. Ko'e Umezu (Asst. Minister WLABT, Illustrator/Storyboard Artist)
Rev. Yuki Sugahara (Resident Minister OBT, Musician)

Registration and Other Details to Follow

www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/nw-district-convention2021
contact us: convention@oregonbuddhisttemple.com

Northwest District Convention Preliminary Schedule



September 12, 2021

Opening Service
10:00 am via YouTube

Opening Service for
74th Annual NW District Convention,
including Keynote Talk.



September 12, 2021

Keynote Talk :
Rev. Peter Hata
11:00 am via YouTube

"Discovering the Student Within"
Keynote Talk by Rev. Peter Hata.
Higashi Honganji LA Betsuin,
Founding member of Hiroshima



September 13, 2021

Featured Talk :
Kim Stafford
via YouTube

"Tapping On The Bell Of Silence"
State of Oregon Poet Laureate,
emeritus



September 14, 2021

Featured Talk :
Rev. Ko'e Umezu
via YouTube

"The Art of Shinjin"
Asst. Minister WLBT,
Illustrator, Storyboard artist



September 15, 2021

Featured Talk :
Koichi Mizushima
via YouTube

"Seeing Is Believing"
BCA Youth Coordinator



September 16, 2021

Featured Talk :
Nobuko Miyamoto
via YouTube

Singer-songwriter, Dancer, author,
Cultural Activist

Continued next page



September 16, 2021

Featured Japanese Talk :
Rev. Yuki Sugahara
via YouTube

「仏教とART」

Minister at Oregon Buddhist Temple

菅原祐軌師 日本語法話



September 18, 2021

Live Panel Discussion
10am
via Zoom

Rev. Peter Hata, Kim Stafford, Rev.
Ko'e Umezu, Koichi Mizushima,
Nobuko Miyamoto

Moderator: Angie Hughes



September 18, 2021

Hospitality Room
7pm
via Zoom

Meet and chat with
other convention
participants in
relaxed fun environment!



September 18, 2021

Jr.YBA with Bishop Harada
1pm
via Zoom

Bishop Marvin Harada
with Youth (13 -18)

moderator: Koichi Mizushima



September 19, 2021

Closing Service
10am
via YouTube

Closing Service for 74th NW District
Convention.
Dharma message by Rev. Yuki
Sugahara

"SHINJIN"

A Special 2-Part Seminar by Guest Speaker:

REV. DR. DAVID RYOE MATSUMOTO

President, Institute of Buddhist Studies (IBS)
George & Sakaye Aratani Professor of Contemporary Shin Buddhist Studies

Two Saturdays: September 18 & 25, 2021

***11 AM - 1 PM (PST)** *Check your local time

"*Shinjin* is central to the Shin Buddhist teaching and life. It is at the core of the Shin Buddhist path of enlightenment – the "true essence of the Pure Land Way." Yet, why does it seem that *shinjin* is rarely spoken of and rarely brought up for discussion, even in Shin circles? Is it too complex? Too mysterious? Too untouchable?

In these two lectures, we will look closely at Shinran Shōnin's writings as we consider the nature, arising, and implications of *shinjin* in his thought, and the challenges posed by it. We will find that *shinjin* evokes a broad range of religious meaning, from a simple faith in Amida Buddha's Vow to an ever-deepening experience of awakening within the unfolding of wisdom as compassion in our lives.

Finally, I will suggest that *shinjin* signifies this: The Buddha's Vow-mind becomes fulfilled when we are exposed and emptied, even as we find ourselves embraced and enabled to live with a deep sense of interconnectedness and gratitude for all existences."

— Rev. Dr. David Matsumoto



Rev. Dr. David Ryo Matsumoto is the President of IBS, George and Sakaye Aratani Professor of Contemporary Shin Buddhist Studies, and former resident minister at the Berkeley Buddhist Temple. He earned a Ph.D. degree in Shin Buddhist Studies at Ryūkoku University, M.A. degrees from Ryūkoku University and the Institute of Buddhist Studies, and a J.D. degree from the University of Minnesota. Publications include the translations and commentaries, *Bearer of the Light: the life and thought of Rennyo* by Jitsuen Kakehashi, *The Shin Buddhist View of Birth-and-Death: the path transcending life and death* by Jitsuen Kakehashi, and *Heart of the Shin Buddhist Path: a life of awakening* by Takamaro Shigaraki, as well as numerous translations, commentaries and articles in scholarly and religious journals.



CBE Seminars Online For All (SOFA) Series

Register at 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 or (510) 809-1460

v8-24c







Explore topics in Jodo Shinshu doctrine, practice, and culture

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ~ REGISTER FOR ZOOM LINK



2021 CBE Seminars Online For All FALL: SEPTEMBER ~ NOVEMBER SATURDAYS, 11 AM - 1 PM (PACIFIC TIME)

Explore topics in Jodo Shinshu Buddhist doctrine, practice & culture

<p>SEPTEMBER 18 & SEPTEMBER 25 REGISTER ONLINE https://forms.gle/ zQVGSZExumMYCvw7</p>	<p>SHINJIN - Part 1 & Part 2 Rev. Dr. David Matsumoto President, Institute of Buddhist Studies</p> 
<p>OCTOBER 16 REGISTER ONLINE https://forms.gle/ RiKhVsVgawJcPnpH8</p>	<p>JODO SHINSHU MODERNITY Dr. Galen Amstutz Adjunct Faculty, Institute of Buddhist Studies</p> 
<p>OCTOBER 23 REGISTER ONLINE https://forms.gle/ vyMunamGzBtmackz</p>	<p>日本語セミナー 本願のころ ワンドラ 睦 オレンジ郡仏教会 開教使</p> <p>Japanese Seminar: Hongan no Kokoro Rev. Dr. Mutsumi Wondra</p> 
<p>OCTOBER 30 REGISTER ONLINE https:// forms.gle/WPxiLrBudinuQOghz6</p>	<p>CBE Every Day Buddhism Committee presents THE THREE POISONS Rev. Marvin Harada Bishop, Buddhist Churches of America (BCA)</p> 
<p>NOVEMBER 13 REGISTER ONLINE https:// forms.gle/8XXeak8cTaVNOhs8A</p>	<p>日本語セミナー 浄土真宗をととえると? 桑原 浄信 パークレー仏教会 開教使 * マリン仏教会 開教使</p> <p>Japanese Seminar: Jodo Shinshu wo tatoeru to? Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara</p> 
<p>NOVEMBER 20 REGISTER ONLINE https://forms.gle/ REAsxyfArTAYZrAng</p>	<p>KOICHI'S KITCHEN Koichi Mizushima Guest Chef/ CBE Youth Program Coordinator</p> 

QUESTIONS? EMAIL: CBE@BCAHQ.ORG PHONE: (510) 809-1460

DONATIONS ARE WELCOME! PLEASE NOTE "CBE/SEMINAR DATE" IN DEDICATION BOX

REGISTER AT WWW.BUDDHISTCHURCHESOFAMERICA.ORG/BUDDHIST-EDUCATION
OR, [DOWNLOAD THIS FLYER IN PDF FORMAT TO ACTIVATE REG LINKS](#)

V.03.21

2021 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**