

Spokane Buddhist Temple

Volume 70 - Issue 9

This newsletter is published monthly by the Spokane Buddhist Temple
 927 S Perry Street
 Spokane, WA 99202
 509 534-7954

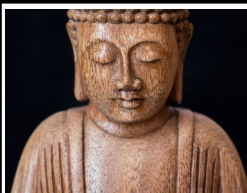


Everyone is welcome to attend all activities and services. Visit us online at:
www.spokanebuddhisttemple.org
 email: spokanebuddhisttemple@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/SpokaneBuddhistTemple

September 2024

September Service Schedule - 10:30 am

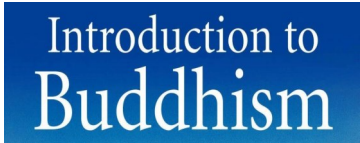
9/1	10:30 am	Sangha Service & Meditation (see below)
9/8	10:30 am	Shotsukihoyo Sangha Service & Intro To Buddhism Class
9/15	10:30 am	Sangha Service & Intro To Buddhism Class
9/22	10:30 am	Sangha Service
9/28	3:00 pm	Saturday - Workshop with Reverend Cynthia Yasaki
9/29	10:30 am	Sangha Service with Reverend Cynthia Yasaki



***** Monthly Meditation Starting *****
 Sunday 9/1/24 9:30 - 10 am Spokane Buddhist Temple

Join us for basic mindfulness meditation with Karen Vielle on the first Sunday of every month, prior to service. Karen is a yoga instructor and certified mindfulness coach as well as a long-time temple member. Sessions will include guidance and instruction. No prior experience with mediation is necessary.

Intro To Buddhism & Shin Buddhism Workshops
 9/8 & 9/15 - 11:30 am After Service



Are you new to the Temple?
 Have questions about Buddhism?
 Join MA Kerkove for this two-part Buddhism class.
 9/8 General Buddhism - 9/15 Shin Buddhism.
 There will be time for questions.



Workshop with Rev. Cynthia Yasaki on the Shoshinge Chant & Wasans
 Saturday 9/28 - 3:00–4:30 pm - Spokane Buddhist Temple
 No cost - donations accepted - Everyone Is Invited

The Shoshinge or song of True Shinjin (Awakening) is most widely chanted among Jodo Shinshu (Shin) Buddhists. This centerpiece of Shin liturgy was written by Shinran Shonin, our founder, which expresses his profound appreciation of the Buddha's compassion. It captures the essence of Shin's Teaching. The Wasans joyfully express the state of being embraced by Amida Buddha's Primal Vow (Shinjin).

Shinran Shonin encouraged all to entrust themselves in Amida Buddha's Primal Vow. This is a special chant that only ordained reverends are able to perform, so it is a special chance to hear it with Reverend Yasaki; it takes close to 30 minutes and contains the Teachings and the lineage of our 7 Masters.

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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.



Spokane Buddhist Temple
Minister Assistants Team:
Amanda Goodwin
Chad Donoho
Rev. Yasaki
Eric Kerkove
Jinny Worley (Aspirant)



Reverend Cynthia Yasaki
our Supervising Minister

Spokane Buddhist Temple Team

--Supervising Minister--
Rev. Cynthia Yasaki
White River Buddhist Temple

---Minister Assistants---
Amanda Goodwin
Chad Donoho
Eric Kerkove
Jinny Worley (Assistant Aspirant)

Reverend Paul Vielle (ret.)

--Your 2024 Board of Directors---

Joe Bracco, President
KNona Liddell, Treasurer
Ryan Campanella, Secretary
Tina Rodeen
Susan Hales
Celeste Sterrett
Izumi (Jacqui) Pierce
Ally Rice

Mari Haworth, Bookkeeper
Chad Donoho, Religious
Education Committee
Representative



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/

Thank you Izumi Pierce and the Bon Odori dancers for leading us at Obon. Here are some scenes from Obon 2024. See all of the photos on our Facebook page that were taken by Matthew Stephens; thank you Matthew for these excellent photos. Also we enjoyed Spokane Taiko's performance.

Matthew Stephens
PHOTOGRAPHY



Izumi, our Bon Odori Instructor



Spokane Taiko





September Shotsuki-Hoyo

On Sept. 8th, as part of our service, we will have the monthly Shotsuki-Hoyo remembrance service. According to Temple records the following people passed during this month:

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

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.

Donations and Dues received 7/21/24 - 8/29/24

- Kris Birdsell
- Wednesday Meditation Group
- Martena Peterson
- Izumi Pierce
- Karen & Paul Vielle
- Stacey Carr
- Jun Yugawa donation for Obon
- Kim Pearson & Family donation to Bon Odori Dancers
- Fred & Lianne Inaba in memory of Eric Inaba
- Doug & Linda Heyamoto in memory of Peggy Heyamoto

- Jennifer Mathews
- Tuesday Meditation Group

Welcome New Members:

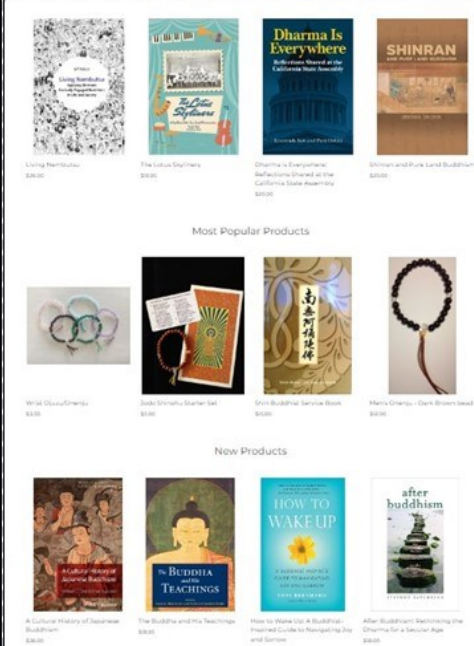
- Karen & J.W. Webb
- Mark Christy

Thank you to all the people who brought food to share on Obon and to the donations received for that food.

Visit the new domain
BCABOOKSTORE.ORG
 for Shin Buddhist books and goods!



Did you know that the Buddhist Churches of America has a bookstore? Besides books, they have incense, jewelry, onenjus, fans and other Bon Odori items, monito shikishos, charcoal and candles for your home obutsudan, and More. Check it out!





Growing our Sanghas By Reverend Marvin Harada, Bishop

Presently, our BCA is faced with the challenge of growing our Sanghas and our membership.

I might have mentioned before that over the past 10 years, our BCA has lost 28% of our membership. Future decline threatens the existence of many of our churches and temples that are holding on to a small number of members and struggle to meet their budgets and to keep their doors open.

How do we face that challenge for the future? Is religion, as a whole, on the decline? Many Christian churches also face a serious decline of membership. Other Buddhist schools are not growing rapidly either, but they are much larger in numbers than we are.

This year, our BCA celebrates its 125th year. From nothing, our churches and temples were built well over 100 years ago. Members were struggling themselves to earn a living, especially amidst harsh prejudice and discrimination against Japanese. The sacrifices and dedication of our pioneering members and ministers are incalculable. Without their efforts, we would not be celebrating our 125th anniversary of our BCA.

I think that our pioneering members and ministers saw and felt a tremendous value in the teachings, in the Nembutsu. That is what motivated them to sacrifice so much to establish our churches, temples and Sanghas. The same can be said of the Buddhist masters and teachers who propagated Buddhism from India to China and on to other countries.

Monks traversed mountains, deserts and oceans to bring the sutras and Buddhist texts to foreign lands, to share the Dharma. After arriving in their new land, they had to learn the language of that land, then translate and share the teachings in a way that the people of that country could understand, practice and follow.

Other monks and seekers left their homelands to learn the Dharma or to seek enlightenment in a foreign land. The great Zen Master Dogen could not find enlightenment in Japan and traveled to China by boat, at the risk of his life, to find a true teacher and master in China. After encountering a teacher, Dogen returned to Japan and established the Eiheiiji monastery that exists to this day.

I think we are at a crossroads of our ministry here in the United States. When I say “ministry,” I don’t mean just ministers. It takes all of us to propagate the Dharma effectively. It takes ministers and members to work together to maintain and provide the facilities from which the Dharma can be shared. We are now learning new ways to share the Dharma virtually, through YouTube videos, podcasts and other forms of transmission, but the core experience is still the in-person encounter of the Dharma through living Buddhists.

We ministers have to give Dharma talks and conduct study classes in a manner that resonates with people, both our own members and newcomers. Our Sanghas have to be warm and inviting, so that visitors will return a second and third time, and maybe even stay with our Sanghas.

Our boards and temple officers must lead our Sanghas effectively, working together, being open to change and trying new and innovative ways to adapt for the future.

Continued on the next page

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And, first and foremost, we must all be listeners of the Dharma, as this is the core of our Shin Buddhist tradition. As we listen sincerely, others will also come to listen. As we come to appreciate the Dharma, others will come to appreciate the Dharma with us. As we come to live a life of gratitude, others will come to want to live a life of gratitude as well.

Recently, I saw an old friend whom I met in Japan decades ago. He shared a wonderful metaphor. He said that we have to be like charcoal. Once a piece of charcoal is lit, it begins to radiate heat and warmth to others around it. That is what sharing the Dharma is like, to be like a piece of charcoal. But first we have to be “lit” by the light of the Dharma ourselves.

That to me is how we will and must grow in the future. I hope that we can all work together in that regard.



**Celebrating
WOMEN OF THE BCA
Seminar**
all are welcome!

PATHS IN JODO SHINSHU
Women have long played an important supportive and largely “behind the scenes” role in the expansion of the Dharma and at BCA. Today we have many opportunities to grow in leadership, engage in our Sanghas, and share the Dharma.

SEPT. 28, 2024, SAT
9:30AM-5:00PM
optional activity Friday & Saturday evenings

Keynote Speakers



REV. CANDICE SHIBATA & REV. MELISSA OPEL

Come be inspired to forge your own path!
Jodo Shinshu Center
2140 Durant Ave. Berkeley 94704 - and parts online -
Register by Sept. 15, 2024 @ <https://forms.gle/8m7BysEcYpZS2fwM9>
\$50 Registration & Meals, Register for online Free*
Some rooms available to stay overnight @ the JSC



*Supported by the Hemera Foundation and the Buddhist Churches of America's commitment to Women in Buddhism



PRESENTED BY
BERKELEY BUDDHIST TEMPLE'S BLEND COMMITTEE
MOUNTAIN VIEW BUDDHIST TEMPLE'S ENGAGED SANGHA COMMITTEE
BUDDHIST CHURCH OF OAKLAND'S DHARMA SCHOOL

**MEETING
THE MOMENT**

Understanding our shared karma with Palestinians
through historical and Buddhist perspectives

Saturday, September 14th | 10am-12:30pm PT
Buddhist Church of Oakland
825 Jackson St, Oakland, CA 94607 | Virtual option available



Professor
**Ussama
Makdisi**

RSVP: @ tinyurl.com/meeting-the-moment-2

*Please RSVP to help us estimate food and childcare for in-person attendees. Virtual attendees must register to receive the live stream link.

Accessible Education for Youth (ages middle-school & up)
& Childcare provided



2nd Annual Fall Seminar series: **BUDDHISM & CULTURE**



REV. CJ DUNFORD (hey/them/hers)

Colonization and Dominant Cultures: Problems of how Buddhist teachings and practitioners have been influenced by "Western" cultures and religions

September 29, 2024



CATHERINE SHAW (she/her/ers)

Buddhism, the First Multicultural: Buddhism has gone over the centuries into many very disparate cultures. What has changed and what has stayed the same, and how does this matter to us?

November 17, 2024



REV. KIYONOBU KUWAHARA (he/him)

Buddhism and Language: The influence of Buddhist teachings on Japanese language

October 27, 2024

Buddhism and Culture wrap-up, review and conversation on topics with all presenters
December 15, 2024

Hosted by the
BUDDHIST TEMPLE OF MARIN

60-minute hybrid sessions
1pm after Sunday Service

380 Miller Ave. Mill Valley, CA
Suggested donation: \$10



Scan for more info
or register

TechnoBuddha Conference RE:CONNECTION

Jodo Shinshu Center Oct 12, 2024
Berkeley, CA

The Technobuddha conference is back!

This year will be all about reconnecting with one another as well as inspiring the next generation of TechnoBuddha leaders.

For ages 21+

Register now!



<https://www.facebook.com/technobuddha.conference/>



Introduction to Basic Buddhism for the West and Beyond

Description: This course is designed to provide the basics of Buddhism for those seeking a religious/spiritual foundation through the Dharma.

Dates: 12 sessions on the first Saturday of the month
September 7, 2024 - June 7, 2025

Time: 5:00 - 6:30 pm (Pacific Time)

For Detailed Information: Please see [click here](#)

The Topics:

- September 7: Three Kinds of Jewels
- October 5: Buddhism in the U.S. and Canada
- November 2: Life of the Buddha
- December 2: How Buddhism Spread Through Asia
- January 6: Brief History of Buddhism in the U.S. and Canada
- February 3: Four Noble Truths: The Big Framework
- March 3: Karma and the Eightfold Noble Path: How to Act
- April 7: Four Marks of Life: How to See Life to Reduce Suffering
- May 3: Popular Passages, Metaphors, and Stories
- June 7: Issues and Problems in Daily Life
- July 7: Questions on Buddhism, Honor on Teaching, Epilogue, and Appendix

Instructor and Moderator: Kenneth K. Tanaka, Professor Emeritus, Musashino University, Tokyo, former Assoc. Prof. and Asst. Dean, the Institute of Buddhist Studies, Berkeley

Register for the course: Please apply [here](#)

Donation: Suggested amount \$10 - \$200. (In Japan, ¥1,000)

Textbook: Tanaka, Kenneth. *Jewels: An Introduction to American Buddhism for Youth, Scouts and the Young of Heart*. BDK America, 2023. Can be downloaded free of charge. Please [click here](#)

Contact email: bb@buddhisttempleofmarin.org



2024 FDSTL Webinar

Jeff Wilson

Living Nembutsu
Applying Shinran's
Radically Engaged Buddhism
in Life and Society

Saturday, October 26, 2024
10 am US/Pacific

Registration Form:
<https://forms.gle/gHW6eenfyTXRhuqs5>



Gratitude is Timeless

Eastern Buddhist League Conference OCTOBER 18-20

At the Beautiful Ekoji Buddhist Temple
In Person and On Line

A GREAT LINE UP OF PRESENTERS INCLUDING

Kagyu Speaker - Dr. Scott Mitchell

President, Institute of Buddhist Studies

Gratitude Workshop - Rev. Dr. Kazji Akabeko

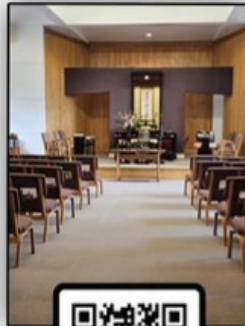
Retired Pastor, Buddhist Temple of San Diego

Dharma Messages From Rev. Rin Myagawa, Rev. Patricia Nakai and Others

✿ *Build Your Own Home Buddhist* ✿

Come share the Dharma and make
new Sangha friends in a fun and casual setting.
Registration is open now!

More Information Here



SPOKANE BUDDHIST TEMPLE 2024 MEMBERSHIP

We are profoundly grateful for your interest in the Spokane Buddhist Temple. By joining or renewing your membership, you honor the legacy of those who founded this Temple in 1945 and help provide a broad and deep base of support to sustain the sangha far into the future. Your membership pledge is an acknowledgment of your commitment to bringing the Dharma to the Spokane area so that everyone interested can hear the teachings of the Buddha and learn about the rich heritage of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism.

Your pledge is a concrete example of dana, or selfless giving. Dana is usually listed first among the Buddhist paramitas, or virtues to be cultivated. At the Spokane Buddhist Temple (SBT), this takes the form of pledges and monetary contributions, gifts in kind, and volunteer efforts to maintain the Temple and sustain the sangha.

Membership Levels and Benefits

Sustaining Members pledge \$300 per year or more.

Young Members are under 30 and pledge \$50 per year.

Both sustaining and young members are eligible to serve as Trustees and can vote in all Temple elections. They are members of our parent organization, the Buddhist Churches of America, and receive the Buddhist Churches of America's (BCA) monthly publication The Wheel of Dharma.

When To Pledge and How To Pay

Renewals are due in November. This facilitates our planning and budgeting for the upcoming year. New members who join earlier in the year can pledge a prorated amount of \$25 per month; please consult the SBT treasurer or bookkeeper.

Pledge payments can be made in the following ways:

check

credit card

e-check from your financial institution

cash

You can choose the number of separate payments you make:

annual (1 payment)

semi-annual (2 payments)

quarterly (4 payments)

monthly (12 payments)

Where Your Money Goes

Membership pledges and other cash donations from sangha members make up close to a third of SBT's annual revenue. Although as a religious nonprofit we do not pay property tax on the Temple, our expenses include utilities, insurance, building and grounds maintenance, security, travel and honoraria for visiting ministers, subsidies for ministers' education, and dues to the BCA and NW District. SBT spends a total of about \$60,000 each year to bring the Dharma to Spokane.

Tax Info

If you itemize your Federal income tax, you may be able to deduct your contributions to the Temple. If you take a Required Minimum Distribution from your retirement accounts, you may be able to designate those funds to go to SBT. Please consult a tax professional for details applicable to your situation.

What We Do With Your Information

We provide your name and mailing address to the Buddhist Churches of America. We do not share any information about sangha members with any other individuals or organizations.

SPOKANE BUDDHIST TEMPLE 2024 PLEDGE FORM

Amount pledged for Spokane Buddhist Temple membership for 2024: _____

Additional donation to support Temple activities in 2024: _____

Method of payment (check one): check _____; e-check _____; credit card _____; cash _____

Frequency of payment (check one): annually _____; semi-annually _____; quarterly _____; monthly _____

Please return your completed pledge form to the SBT office, and consult the SBT Treasurer for further details, if needed. Members will receive a summary of all pledges and contributions they made in 2024 in January 2025.

Name(s) (PRINTED):

Signatures(s):

Phone(s):

Email address(es):

Mailing address:



Spokane Buddhist Temple
927 S Perry Street Spokane, WA 99202
509-534-7954
www.SpokaneBuddhistTemple.org
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