



Tacoma Buddhist Temple

(Jodo Shinshu)

タコマ 仏教会 (浄土真宗)

1717 S. Fawcett Ave., Tacoma, WA 98402-1706

TEL: [\(253\) 627-1417](tel:(253)627-1417)

EMAIL: info@tacomabt.org

WEB: www.tacomabt.org

MYOKYO

明鏡

(MYOKYO, the Bright Mirror of Buddha Dharma always illuminates our LIFE)

January 2020



Temple Mission Statement *"To offer those in the Pacific Northwest an enduring community that values inclusiveness and acceptance in seeking enlightenment through Japanese Shin Buddhist teachings."*

New Year's Greeting



Happy New Year, everyone! At the beginning of this New Year, I would like to extend my best regards to you all.

Last year again, following the year before, Japan, as well as many other countries in the world, was struck with multiple natural disasters. I would like to convey my deepest condolences to those who lost their lives through those disasters and express my sympathy to everyone affected. In addition, we must never forget that armed conflicts and terror attacks as well as severe starvation is making it difficult to live, and lives are being lost every day.

Last September I had an opportunity to make an official visit to the temples of the Buddhist Churches of America as Monshu for the first time. This allowed me to complete the first round of visitations to all of the overseas districts which include Canada, Hawaii, South America, and the US mainland.

Although every temple and district has its own history and background, many of the overseas Jodo Shinshu temples were established and have been cherished by the Japanese immigrants and their descendants. Reflecting on how sincerely our predecessors

entrusted themselves to the Buddha Dharma and how importantly they thought of their temples while facing many difficulties such as World War II, I cannot help but feel grateful and even awe for their tremendous efforts as well as many other wondrous circumstances that have allowed the Jodo Shinshu teaching to be handed down to us today.

However, a considerable amount of time has passed since the Japanese emigrated overseas, and the lifestyle of their descendants, as well as the world situation have changed greatly. In accordance with these changes, quite a few people who are not of ethnically Japanese origin have also come to appreciate the teaching clarified by Shinran Shonin, and attend our overseas temples.

What caused this is nothing but the universality of the Jodo Shinshu teaching that transcends time and space. In other words, Amida Buddha's compassion equally reaches and nondiscriminatively embraces everyone in the midst of all sorts of pain and agony.

In this year, let us continue to listen to the Dharma, considering it is directed to each one of us, and keep moving forward to share it with many other people as possible.

January 1, 2020

OHTANI Kojun
Monshu
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

ねんとう じ
年頭の辞

あたら とし あいさつもう あ
新しい年のはじめにあたり、ご挨拶申し上げます。

さくねん にほん せかいかくち おお しぜんさいがい お さいがい な
昨年にも日本をはじめ世界各地で多くの自然災害が起りました。災害によってお亡くなりになられた方に謹んで哀悼の意を表しますとともに、被災された方に心よりお見舞い申し上げます。また、これら以外にも紛争やテロ・飢餓などによって、日々多くの方が犠牲となり、困難な生活を送っておられることも忘れてはいけません。

さて、さくねん がつ もんしゆ はじ ほくべいかいきょうく ほうもん
さて、昨年9月に、門主として初めて北米開教区を訪問させていただきましたが、これによって、カナダ・ハワイ・南米・北米の開教区を門主としてお参りさせていただいたこととなります。各開教区、また各お寺によって、その歴史や現在の状況は異なりますが、多くのお寺が日本から移住された日本人の方とその子孫によって建立され、護持されてきました。第二次世界大戦をはじめとする様々な困難な状況にあっても、み教えを依りどころとして、お寺を大切に護ってこられた先人の方々に思いを致すとき、今日の私たちにまで浄土真宗のみ教えが受け継がれてきたことの尊く、また不思議なご縁をとて有り難く思います。

いっほう にほんじん かた さいしよ かいがい いじゅう そうとう ねんすう にっけいじん かたがた せいかつ おお
一方で日本人の方が最初に海外へ移住されてから相当の年数がたち、日系人の方々の生活も大きく変化し、また、時代状況も大きく変わりました。そのような中で、親鸞聖人が説かれた浄土真宗のみ教えは、日本人や日系人だけではなく、世界中の多くの方に伝わり、各開教区においても、様々な方がお寺へ来られるようになってきました。それは、浄土真宗のみ教えが、時代や場所を越

えた普遍的な教えであるからです。すなわち、様々な悩みや苦しみを抱えるすべての人々を包み込み、
おさめと くださる阿弥陀さまのおはたらきが普遍的であるということです。

ほんねん じぶん こととしてみ教えを聞くとともに、多くの方にみ教えが伝わるよう努めて参りましょ
う。

2019年1月1日

じょうどしんしゅうほんがんに
浄土真宗本願寺派

もんしゅ おおたにこうじゆん
門主 大谷光淳

Sensei's Message



Listening to the Calling Voice of the Buddha Dharma

Rev. Takashi Miyaji

Greetings and Happy New Year! I hope that the members of the Tacoma Buddhist Temple find themselves in comfort and in good spirits as they welcome the new year. When I think about the New Year, I try to think of a resolution—a resolution that I will probably soon forget about that same week! Nevertheless, I hope that the Buddha Dharma will continue to flourish in our community as well as the rest of the country and beyond. I will try to work hard in that endeavor.

As the years pass, and I continue on this journey, I am reminded of being the traveler in the parable of the White Path. This is a very famous story that many of the readers might recognize, but it is one given by the Pure Land Master Shandao, who lived in China in the seventh century. I am unable to go into the finer details of the story here, but I will explain some of the main points. Once, there was a traveler moving west who suddenly finds himself being chased by a group of bandits. As he runs from them, he soon comes to the edge of a river where there is torrential water on the one side and raging flames on the other. The traveler does not know what to do but sees a very narrow white path that leads to the other side of the river. He is not sure whether to cross the river on the thin and, what seems to be, unstable path to the other side. Fearing for his life, he is at a loss. “If I go back, I will die. If I stay here, I will die. If I move forward, I will die.” In the depths of this hopeless situation, the traveler suddenly hears the voice of Shakyamuni Buddha in the back calling on him, prompting him to move forward on the white path. Then, he hears the voice of Amida Buddha on the other side of the river calling on him to come on the white path and to entrust himself on it. The traveler moves forward onto the path. Part way through, the bandits call on him to come back, saying that he will surely die on that narrow path, but the traveler ignores them and finally reaches the other side to safety. This is the story of the White Path.

In this story, the river of fire represents one's anger, the river of water represents one's greed. If one is not careful, he/she can be consumed by blind passions. The bandits represent the person's mind of consciousness. The hopeless situation that the traveler finds himself in at the edge of the river is called “the three deaths 三定死,” in which the traveler cannot find a path to liberation and feels he will always be caught in the world of endless suffering. But finally, in the midst of his hopelessness, he hears the voice of encouragement by Shakyamuni and the summoning voice of Amida Buddha to go on the White Path.

There are minor details that I am glossing over, but the main point I want to share here is the idea of hearing the calling voice of the Buddha Dharma—the voice of Shakyamuni and Amida Buddha. Buddhism will not come to life for an individual, as long as that person thinks that he/she is not the wandering traveler in this story. It is only when one feels caught in this hopeless situation of never having a chance to break free from the world of suffering, does that person come to see the need in listening to the teachings of the Buddha Dharma. Until then, Buddhism will always be a teaching that is written in some book that some Asian folks talked about a few hundred years ago.

Many critics argue that Buddhism is a dying religion and a relic of the past, perpetuating outdated ideas and engaging in religious rituals that are nothing but a glamorous performance. Essentially, the Buddha Dharma is in 2D for these people. It is only when we fully identify with the traveler in this story, when we see that it is *me* who is running from life, avoiding to face the reality of my situation, that the teachings of this profound religion pop out of the pages of the book and slap us in the face. When we truly hear and engage ourselves fully to the teachings and see that the Buddha is talking directly to *me*, that is when the Buddha Dharma becomes 3D.

Listening to the Buddha Dharma seems like it has nothing to do with ethics. However, Shin Buddhist ethics must incorporate the core doctrine of Shinran's thinking in order for it to be an authentic and original set of principles that we can live by. In our earnest attitude to honestly and sincerely pursue Shinran's teachings, we will be able to adequately think about social engagement as Shin Buddhists. When the Buddha Dharma becomes alive within our hearts, it will prompt us to authentically engage in society and its many issues. Gassho.

仏様の呼び声を聞きましょう

新年明けましておめでとうございます。タコマ仏教会の皆さんはお元気で新しい年をお迎えになられたことでしょう。新年を迎えますと、今年の抱負について考えますが、どうせすぐに決意をしたことを忘れてしまい、最初からそのことを考える必要があるかどうかよく疑問を持ちます。冗談はさておき、仏法がこの混沌とした世界に広まるように願いつつ、今年も精一杯頑張っていきたいと思います。

毎年お正月になると、自分が歩んできた人生を振り返り見ますが、なぜかその時によくあの有名な話である「二河白道」という譬喩を思い出します。あの中の旅人と自分を重ねて見てしまうのです。読者の皆様はご承知かも知れませんが、簡単にご紹介したいと思います。このお話は7世紀の善導大師という有名な高僧がお説きになったものであります。それによると、あるとき、一人の旅人が西に向って旅をしていました。すると、後ろから悪者たちがその旅人を追いかけて食い殺そうとします。逃げようとする旅人は、とうとう絶壁のところに追い詰められます。そこには北側に水の波浪 (waves) が逆巻き南側にはメラメラと燃えさかる炎 (flames) があります。もう一歩も先に行けません。かといって引き戻そうとしても悪者たちがどんどん迫ってきます。もう前にも進めませんし、かといって後ろにも進めません。「どうすればいいか？元に戻っても死ぬ。このままここにいても自分は死ぬ。前に進もうとしても死ぬ。もうだめだ。万事休すだ。

」と、旅人が絶望します。その時です。その二つの河の間に細い白い道が突如として出てきます。しかし、旅人はこの細い道を通れるかどうかとても不安を感じ戸惑います。その絶望の中で突然、後ろから釈尊の前に進みなさいというお声が聞こえてきます。そして河の向こうからこちらに来なさいという阿弥陀仏のおすすめの音が聞こえてきます。ついに旅人は決心して一歩前に踏み出します。旅人はその道の確かさに安心します。するとこの白い道を歩いている途中に後ろから悪者たちの危ないから戻ってきなさいとさも心配するような声が聞こえてきます。が、旅人はそれを無視してどんどんと前に進んでいきます。そして無事に河を渡れて助かるのです。これが「二河白道」というお話です。

このお話では、炎の河は私の怒りの煩悩を表し水の河は欲望を象徴するものであります。そして追いかけてきた悪者たちとは私たちのすべての迷いの気持ちを象徴するものであります。旅人が行くも死、帰るも死、止まるも死という絶望に至る時を「三定死」と言いますが、私たち衆生が助かる道を見つけ出すことができない状態であり、常に苦悩の世界にとじ込められてしまうことを意味します。しかし、その絶望の心の底に落ち込む時にはじめて釈尊と阿弥陀仏からの声が聞こえてくることのできるのです。

このお話の内容のポイントは仏様たちからの呼び声を聞くということにあります。つまり、阿弥陀仏とお釈迦様の声を聴聞するということです。自分はあるような旅人ではないと思ひ込む限り、仏教という教えは聞くことができません。この迷いの世界の中でどうしても自分が助からない、苦しみの世界から抜け出すことができないと感じる時にしか仏教と向き合う必要があるということが分からないのです。それまでは、仏教は大昔の誰かが作り出したおとぎ話にしか過ぎないのです。

仏教を批判する人たちは、この教えは現代の社会ともう合わないものであると見、その仏教儀礼はただのショーだけのものだと言うでしょう。要するに、この人たちにとって仏教は2D（2次元）のものにしか過ぎないのです。しかし、自分がこの「二河白道」のお話の中の旅人だと感じた時に、あるいは自分がこの世界の本来の真実から逃げたことが分かった時はじめてこの教えの意味が分かってくるのです。真実の教えに向き合う時に仏様が直接「私」に語り始めるのです。つまり、仏教が私にとって3D（3次元）になるのです。仏法が私たちの心の中に住み着く時に、念仏者独自の生き方が生まれてくるのでありま

がっしょう
合掌。

FUTURE SCHEDULE

(Wed) January 1, 2020	New Years' Service at 10 AM
(Sun) January 5	New Year's Party
(Sun) January 12	HO'ONKO SERVICE – zenzai served after service
(Sun) February 9	Nirvana Day; Pet Memorial Service
(Sun) February 16	Sukiyaki set up after service
(Tu-Sun) February 18-23	BCA National Convention; Hyatt Regency Lake Washington
(Fr-Sun) February 21-23	NWD Buddhist Convention; Hyatt Regency Lake Washington
(Sun) February 23	No Service
(Sun) March 1	Sukiyaki Dinner fundraiser – No Service

President's Message



Happy New Year

I hope everyone had a great Holiday Season and a Happy New Year. This coming year, based on the Chinese Zodiac, is the year of the Rat. In Chinese culture, rats were seen as a sign of wealth and surplus. I hope everyone is able to increase their wealth and have a surplus of good health this year.

Condolences to Linda Teal's Family

My deepest condolence goes out to Linda Teal's family and friends. Linda's memorial service was on December 16. In the past, Linda was a very active member of our Sangha with her support of the Buddhist Women's Association. Even though Linda was not recently active at the Temple, she will be fondly remembered.

Sukiyaki Dinner Fund Raiser

Lynne and Ken Tanino have generously agreed to be our Sukiyaki Dinner Fund Raiser co-chairs. The Sukiyaki Dinner will be on March 1, 2020. Lynne, Ken and Committee Chairs will be asking for your help to put on another successful event. If you do not get contacted in January, please let Lynne or Ken know that you are available to help. Thank you.

2020 BCA National Council Meeting & 73rd Annual Northwest District Convention

As the headline indicates, the 73rd Annual Northwest District Convention will be held together with the 2020 BCA National Council Meeting. This event will be held at the Hyatt Regency Lake Washington, February 18-23, 2020. The 73rd Annual Northwest District Convention will be February 21-23, 2020, please reserve these dates. Convention only registration fee is \$150, rooms are \$109 to \$139 per night.

The goal is to open part of the National Council Meeting to any BCA member. The logistics on how this is going to be done is yet to be communicated. As soon as we have more details, we'll pass on the information. Especially on how to register for the conference.

2020 Membership Pledges

You should receive your 2020 Membership Pledge packet soon, if not already. Included with the Membership Pledge form is a chart that shows Membership Pledges from 2019 and a letter asking, those that are financially

able, to consider increasing their pledge amount. Based on our proposed 2020 financial budget, we may run a deficit if pledge amounts remain constant. To help reduce or eliminate our deficit, please consider increasing your membership pledge. Thank you.

Gassho,
David

Buddhist Women's Association News



As we reflect upon our last few days of 2019, it seems amazing the numerous activities that BWA was involved. All of our food or towel or toiletry or clothing drives were successful. Eleven BWA members attended the Federation BWA Conference in San Francisco! Everyone seemed to enjoy of trip to Sequim! Many of us had the opportunity to enjoy a gathering with the Gomonshu – what an historical event! Looking forward to another busy year!! Our members are the best!

Our **Food and Clothing Drive** was another huge success! **Carrie Mori** delivered 4 large bags of food and 149# of clothing to a non-profit organization in Gig Harbor. Thank you to Carrie and her toban group!!

The **Temple New Year's party** is on January 5, 2020. There will be an installation of the new BWA Cabinet during service. If you cannot attend, please let me know.

The **Northwest Buddhist Convention** will be held February 21-23, 2020. The Seattle Betsuin Committee is going 'green' so all registration is on line. If you are interested to go and need some help to register, please contact Donna Sasaki or myself. We can also get you lined up with the hotel as well. BWA will supplement each BWA member \$50 towards their registration.

Janie Okawa, Seattle BWA president, invites all BWA chapters to sell items at the convention as we did last year. We will be able to sell Friday evening and Saturday. If you could participate by manning the table and/or providing items to sell, please contact Donna or myself. Last year, all profits went to support the World FBWA Convention attendees. I will be asking for suggestions for the profits at the BWA New Year's Party.

Just a reminder that the **BWA New Year's Party** will be January 26th – the last Sunday of the month. Dean Allen's Catering will provide some taste dishes in our Social Hall after service. 2020 toban assignments and the new BWA calendar will be presented plus an overview of our past year will be shown. You will be contacted by your toban chair for your group's attendance.

It is not too early to be thinking of our **annual bus trip**. I am open to all suggestions.

BWA sends our condolences to the family of **Linda Teal**. Linda was a long time active BWA member and a major source of recipes and advice in the kitchen. Linda will be missed by the Temple and her many friends.

Have a wonderful and warm holiday season! Next year is 2020 and in five years (2025) is our 100th Anniversary!

Save these dates:

Jan. 5, 2020	TBT New Year's Party, New BWA Officers' Installation
Jan. 26, 2020	BWA New Year's Party, Social Hall, After service
Feb. 21-23, 2020	NW District Convention, Hyatt Regency, Renton

Gassho,

June Akita

Dharma School News



In November, Brett Johnson organized a pk-12 Dharma School lesson on the environment. Older students helped younger ones with the activity. Rev. Miyaji prepared a special seminar for Dharma School teachers and invited sangha members to join in.

June Akita organized the popular gingerbread house activity in December and older sangha members joined in as well! December 8th was Bodhi Day and Rev Miyaji and Fred Pelger taught Lotus students how to lead the service. Ryan Ling gave a heartfelt dharma message about gratitude. Ezra Winters and George Alexander were the master of ceremonies at the potluck lunch. Teachers presented gifts to their students and the Dharma School gave a gift to their teachers for their volunteer service as well as thank you gift to the Miyaji family. Dharma school families set up the bodhi day potluck lunch and cleaned up afterward. Thank you everyone! I would also like to give a special thank you to Todd and Marcia Nakamura, owners of Star Lake Nursery in Auburn, who gave poinsettias for the Dharma School fundraiser. We appreciate your annual donation!

Mark your calendars...

- Jan 5: New Year's Party and Keiro recognition of members who are 88 and older. Lotus students will introduce honorees and provide a brief background collected from an interview. Students will also perform at the talent show.
- Jan 19th – Mochizuki, or rice pounding activity!
- Feb 21-23rd - NW Buddhist Convention in Seattle. We encourage families and students to carpool!

Finally, the Dharma School extends our condolences to Linda Teal's family, we will truly miss her.

In gassho,
Merilee Tanbara



Buddhist Education Committee News



Some of the highlights the committee has planned for our temple's services and guest speakers last year: omigaki (cleaning/polishing of altar ornaments) in April, in May, Rev. Nobuo Miyaji spoke at our Spring seminar and Gotane service, in June, Sherry Schultz presented at the summer lecture, and in October, Rev. Kory Quon orated at the Fall seminar and Eshinni/Kakushinni Memorial service. The committee also provided history on the story of Obon at the bon festival and led the cemetery cleanup and services in Eatonville and Orting, finally, welcomed the Gomonshu in September. Erik Hammerstrom continues to regularly lead the Book Club at King's Books.

For 2020, we look forward to listening to Rev. Mark Unno at the Spring seminar and Rev. Blayne Higa, Kona Hongwanji will honor us at the Fall seminar and service. The Book Club continues through the year with

Erik. For any questions or concerns, please talk with a committee member...Rev. Miyaji, Rev. Fred, Donna, Erik, Kenzo, Lynrae or Patti.

Toban News



January Toban News

Upcoming Dates:

- January 1 – New Year’s Day Service
- January 5 – Family Service Installation of New Officers, New Members Recognition, Keiro Appreciation & New

Year’s Party

- January 12 – Hoonko Service
- February 9 – Nirvana Day/Pet Memorial

All Toban Chairs: Please email/call your Toban group to invite them to the January 5th Keiro Appreciation & New Year’s party. Bentos/KFC can be ordered online on the Temple website.

Please put out a call for the Keiro Appreciation/New Year’s Party: We are doing desserts potluck style so please bring your favorite sweet to share! RSVPs and questions can go to June Akita, Lynne Tanino or Kaila Yoshitomi.

January & February 2020 Toban Groups: Toban chairs are responsible for calling group members for set-up and clean-up of temple events occurring in their Toban months. The Toban chairs for each group will coordinate with each other to set up the dates for the monthly clean up. Please let Erik Hammerstrom know the clean-up dates to check for conflicts with other activities and to add to the Temple calendar.

January 2020
**Delbert & Cynthia Sasaki
Denise Cline
Jeff & Vivian Hiroo
Erin Berkey
Sandra Schwartz
Craig O’Hanlon
Email or Phone Tree Members
Tad & Joan Kajimura

February 2020
**Lynn Blick
Jim Doyle & Tony Gregg
Renee Moriguchi
Brian & Etsuko Willis
Meesa Pedrozo
Jane Burster
Email or Phone Tree Members
Kats Fujita
Yasuko Morita
Glenn Morita

January Group Responsibilities:

- Monthly clean-up for January and February
- New Year Service & Party: Help set up and serve; order and pick up Kentucky Fried Chicken meals
- Ho-onko Service: Make Ozenzai (with BWA assistance). Set up and clean up.
- Sukiyaki: Make lunch on Sunday prior to Sukiyaki

February Group Responsibilities:

- Monthly clean-up for January and February
- New Year Service & Party: Help serve and clean-up.
- Coffee hour to coincide with Nirvana Day/Pet Memorial Service)

- Sukiyaki: Make lunch Sunday, Feb. 23 prior to Sukiyaki (February toban to coordinate)

~Kaila

TOBAN LIST:

January 2020
**Delbert & Cynthia Sasaki
Denise Cline
Jeff & Vivian Hiroo
Erin Berkey
Sandra Schwartz
Craig O'Hanlon
<u>Email or Phone Tree Members</u>
Tad & Joan Kajimura

February 2020
**Lynn Blick
Jim Doyle & Tony Gregg
Renee Moriguchi
Brian & Etsuko Willis
Meesa Pedrozo
Jane Burster
<u>Email or Phone Tree Members</u>
Kats Fujita
Yasuko Morita
Glenn Morita

March 2020
**Brett Johnson & Megumi Azekawa
Merilee Tanbara
Cheryl Kanda
Joshua & Yoshino Kretchmar
June & Jerry Akita
<u>Email or Phone Tree Members</u>
Miyo Kanda
Tets & Martha Tamaki
Erin Shen (call June)

April 2020
**Ellen Shigeno
Chikako Inoue

May 2020
**Kenzo Yoshitomi
Kaila Yoshitomi
Shinobu & Kazuko Inoue
Karen Yoshitomi
Alvin & Donna Sasaki
Shizuka Faria
<u>Email or Phone Tree Members</u>
Allan & Rose Kishi
Don Arima & Susan Bogni
Asako Arima

June 2020
**Anita Nakayama
Kenji Stoll
Henry Stoll & Wendy Hamai
John & Emiko Kurata
Riu Pittman
Victoria Evert
Michiko Saito
<u>Email or Phone Tree Members</u>
Leroy & Penny Kawaguchi
Sam Uchiyama

July 2020
**Masahiro Sugano
Kevin & Mayumi Ikeda
Elsie Taniguchi
Diane Taniguchi
Akemi Ikeda
Kosho & Michiko Yukawa
Erik Hammerstrom
Aimee Hamilton
<u>Email or Phone Tree Members</u>
Ed & Kimiko Fujinaga
Violet Mizukami

September 2020
**Debby Abe
Mike Shiogi
David & Kathy Yotsuuye
Bobby & Junko Yotsuuye
Bob Gach
Kenji Shipp
<u>Email or Phone Tree Members</u>
Ted Masumoto
Chizuko Yotsuuye
Tada & Yoshie Yotsuuye

October 2020
**Les Hitsman & Fred Pelger
Rick Tanabe
John & Crystal Inge
Sandra Swartz
Dylan Montgomery & Helen Schweitz
Allan Oshima
<u>Email or Phone Tree Members</u>
Jim Akagi
Nancy Butterfield
Charlotte Omoto

November 2020
**Alex Theisen
Todd & Marcia Nakamura
Patti Wong
Danny Otsuka
Carrie Mori
Vicki Yoshioka
<u>Email or Phone Tree Members</u>
Tom Osaka
Kim & Cindy Nakamura

December 2020

Richard & Tracy Ling
Kjirsten Winters
June & Barry Weled
<u>Email or Phone Tree Members</u>
Frank Shigio (call Jeanette Hirano)
Peter Lee

Emeritus - Do not call
Frank and Midori Komoto
Miyoko Sato
Irene Nagai
Ich and Jeanne Nakayama
Ed and Yoshi Mayeda

August 2020
**Brandon Villarreal
David Campbell
Thelma Abe
Gail Ichinaga
Darlene Matsumoto
Kazue Maesaki & Helen Motokane
<u>Email or Phone Tree Members</u>
Larry & Kiyomi Fujita
Hana Yoshida

**Ken & Lynne Tanino
Merlaine Cook
Tom & Lynrae Hubbell
Jill Case
Claire Silver
Gavin Morgan
Sam Shimizu
<u>Email or Phone Tree Members</u>
Pauline Yamashita
Fujiko Yoshikawa

From Your Facility Committee



Well, folks our days of duct taping extension cords to the floor and ceiling of the social hall kitchen will be relegated to the dust bin of history. Bobby and David Yotsuuye installed conduit, wires and outlets to supply two islands with power. Also, the two masterful electricians ran a line for the heating lamps in the center island and provided a dedicated output for the refrigerator. Those who might want to test the system by sticking fingers in the new outlets will just have to wait. The new wires will be connected to the power box after the requirements for the updated fire extinguisher system are known. Once the juice is flowing through the system you be able to say, "Stick a fork in it. It's done." Also, the power cord for the exterior light has been rerouted and covered.

Tom Hubbell conveyed some good news about the temple bathrooms. Tacoma Buddhist Temple has officially entered into an agreement for a janitorial service. Just in case Santa decided on a nature's call the first service started on Tuesday December 24th. Hereafter, cleaning will occur on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month between 7 am and 9 am.

All that dirt and debris must not have too much going on in the brain department. Despite Jeff Hiroo and Fred Pelger's rude treatment they keep on returning for more abuse. Tom Hubbell continues to hunt down and relocate those pesky pieces of litter along in our section of Fawcett Avenue. Mike Shiogi, David Yotsuuye, Robert Yotsuuye, Gary Ichinaga, Tom Hubbell, Tony Gregg, Rick Tanabe, and Del Sasaki all have facility projects under their belts. Kurt Osaka and Osaka Gardens keep our temple grounds green and beautiful.
~Dave

Oral Histories about the Temple --NOW ONLINE--

In the spring of 2019, Dr. Erik Hammerstrom's class from PLU interviewed temple members Crystal Inge, Miyoko Kanda, and Donna Sasaki for an oral history project. Recordings and transcripts of these interviews are now available online, through partnership with UW-T, as part of the Tacoma Community History Project.

The class would like to thank the temple and their interviewees for their support.

Interviews can be accessed at: <https://bit.ly/2XpHGne>

The Tacoma Community History Project also has two other interviews about the temple: interviews from the early 1990s with Rev. Yukawa and Yaeko Nakano.

Yearly Memorial Services



General Memorial Service Years for 2019

1st Year - 2018	17th Year - 2003
3rd Year - 2017	25th Year - 1995
7th Year - 2013	33rd Year - 1987
13th Year - 2007	50th Year - 1970

January 2020

7 th Year	Higashi, Kimiye	Shakuni Shin-Koh 信香	January 22, 2014
13 th Year	Nakamura, Kazuo	Shaku Wa-Gyo	January 9, 2008

February 2020

7 th Year	Morita, Kikuko Dorothy	Shakuni Ki-Shin 紀信	February 23, 2014
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March 2020

1 Year	Fujioka, Tadashi		March 9, 2019
1 Year	Miki, Hisato		March 15, 2019
7 th Year	Jensen, Mitsuko Oku	Shakuni Bi-Sho 美照	March 21, 2014
17 th Year	Nakashima, George Masaru	Shaku Shin-Yu	March 27, 2004
17 th Year	Murakami, Shigeru	Shaku Han-Po	March 31, 2004
33 rd Year	Yamasaki, Kumazo	Shaku Ei-Sho	March 7, 1988
33 rd Year	Fukuyama, Asao	Shaku Myo-Cho	March 7, 1988
33 rd Year	Konishi, Akiye	Shakuni Ji-Ko	March 31, 1988
50 th Year	Kosai, Waki	Shakuni Sei-Myo	March 2, 1971

Greeters Schedule

Greeters:

Note: Please have new visitors sign in their name and give them the following booklets:

- Temple Information Booklet
- Messages from the Buddha (mini booklet with pale pink cover)
- 1/2 page list of Temple activities & "Want More Info." (1/2 sheet form)

Lastly, please do a headcount and enter it in the attendance sheet in the visitor folder.

If you are not available on the day you are assigned, please find your replacement.

January	5	Ken Tanino & Coco Inoue
	12	David Yotsuuye & Bobby Yotsuuye
	19	Denise Cline & David Campbell
	26	Wendy Hamai & Henry Stoll
February	2	Del Sasaki & Rick Tanabe
	9	Kevin & Mayumi Ikeda
	16	Tracy & Richard Ling
	23	NWD Convention -No Service
March	1	No Service - Sukiyaki Fundraiser

Monthly Book Club
Buddhism Today!
February 13 (Th) at 7pm at Kings Books
 Featured Book:
*McMindfulness: How Mindfulness Became
 the New Capitalist Spirituality*
 Ronald Purser

~ WELCOME NEW MEMBERS ~



I interviewed Fujiko Yoshikawa and discovered what a charming woman she is. Fujiko-san was born in Tokyo and remembers the difficulties in growing up in postwar Japan.

Fujiko-san met Fred Yoshikawa, an airman from Hawaii, who was stationed in Japan. After a few married years in Japan, Fred was reassigned to McChord Air Force Base and she, Fred and her 2 sons have lived in the Tacoma area ever since.

Fred retired from the Air Force and the 2 of them went into business owning 3 service stations until Fred's death in 1985. Fujiko-san continued to build the new balloon business that was the brainchild of Fred. She continues to work for her wholesale balloon company with her son who has taken over the business. Some of you may remember seeing her Balloon Specialists van cruising Tacoma.

Fujiko Yoshikawa

Fujiko-san started coming to Temple so her sons could learn kendo but began attending Temple services shortly after her husband's passing. She credits Yukawa Sensei with teaching her Buddhism and the Dharma.

Fujiko-san has returned to the temple after taking a hiatus and wants everyone to know that she is eager to learn more about the Dharma and will work hard to help in any way. She enjoys learning and has much to share about philosophy and life learned from experiences.

Please introduce yourselves to Fujiko-san. You can't miss her with pink streaks in her hair. ~June Weled

Helen Schweitz



Tell us where you were born and raised.

I was born near Chicago. I grew up in Fukuoka, Japan and lived there from age 3 to 14 years old.

Why have you chosen to join the Tacoma Buddhist Temple?

To be part of a community and to learn more about Buddhism.

Do you have any skills or interests that can add to the Temple and the Sangha?

My creativity!

What is the one thing you want the Temple to know about you?

I'm trying to improve my conversational Japanese and I love to write.



Craig O'Hanlon

Tell us where you were born and raised:

I was born on the East Coast and landed in the Puget Sound in 1974. Tacoma has been my home since 1978. I grew up in Browns Point, attending Browns Point Elementary, Meeker Junior High, and graduating from Stadium in 1987. After graduating from UW (Go Huskies!) in 1991, I raised my family in Tacoma. My grown children now also reside here.

Why have you chosen to join the Tacoma Buddhist Temple?

I found the middle path several years ago when I first took up yoga and have considered myself Buddhist since expanding my practice to become a certified yoga teacher and Ayurvedic Yoga Specialist. I knew eventually I would seek out a community to practice with; I just didn't know when. I live and work downtown and have walked or driven past the Tacoma Buddhist Temple almost every day since 2013. 2019 just felt like the right time to finally come inside.

Do you have any skills or interests that can add to the Temple and the Sangha?

I am looking forward to joining the facility and grounds committee. As a former landscaper, I especially enjoyed shade garden installations as well as pruning pines and Japanese maple varieties. I work in commercial construction remodeling, and if needed, can lend input with facility improvement projects.

What is the one thing you want the Temple to know about you?

In my spare time from commercial construction management, I own and operate a gym called Tacoma Strength. It is located close to the Temple. There, I specialize in coaching clients with mindfulness-based nutrition programs, CrossFit classes, and also Masters fitness classes for 45 to 75 year old participants.



Dylan Montgomery

Please tell us where you were born and raised.

I was born and raised in California.

Why have you chosen to join the Tacoma Buddhist Temple?

I have been a practicing Buddhist for a while and was looking for a Jodo Shinshu community to be a part of.

Do you have any skills or interests that can add to the Temple and the Sangha?

I have been a professional cook for 10 years and love studying Buddhism and learning languages.

What is the one thing you want the Temple to know about you?

Studying Buddhism is very important to me and I enjoy cooking, if you ever need help with anything food related let me know!

Sukiyaki Fundraiser, March 1, 2020

The temple's first fundraiser for the year, our annual Sukiyaki Dinner, will be held on March 1, 2020 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. The menu will feature our individually made to order sukiyaki dinners, teriyaki chicken and miso soup. For dessert we will offer mochi ice cream and mochi cupcakes.

Tickets are priced at \$14 and will be provided to temple members for purchase or to sell to family and friends.

Committee Chairs are currently being identified. They will be contacting temple members to volunteer at this year's event. We especially have a need for younger people to help with setup, teardown and to work as runners or servers during the event. We will have a planning meeting for committee chairs on **Sunday, January 12th, after service.**

Thank you to the Committee Chairs and all the Volunteers who help to make this a successful event. If you have not been contacted and are available to help, please email or call Ken or Lynne Tanino, taninos@msn.com, 425 271-8368. Friends and non-members are also welcomed to help.

Please mark your calendars with these very important dates and times:

Construction	Sunday, Feb. 16th after service	A light lunch will be served
Food Preparation	Saturday, Feb. 29th, 8:00 am	A light lunch will be served
Vegetable Washing	Saturday, Feb. 29th, 7:00 am	
Sukiyaki Dinner	Sunday, March 1st, 11:00 – 3:00 pm	
	Check with your committee chairperson for 'your' starting time	
Tear Down	Tuesday, March 3rd, 7:00 pm	

Thank you for your many efforts to make this a successful fundraising event.
Ken & Lynne Tanino

BCA National Board Meeting Dec. 7th Highlights

New BCA Bishop. It was announced that at the elections, held on 12/5 (where we were represented by incoming NWDC President, Ken Garner), that **Rev. Marvin Harada** was elected as our next Bishop.

BCA Archives. Deemed the most important collection of the Japanese experience in the USA, is now housed at UCLA, where it will be preserved and digitized at no charge to the BCA. Prior storage cost \$29,000 a year.

Bloomquist Estate. The BCA has received a \$1.4M settlement in the estate of Richard Bloomquist. The proceeds from the three-year court case settles the estate will used as follows: \$1M will be used to create the Buddhist Education Endowment Fund and \$250,000 will be used for urgent Buddhist education needs.

JSC Loan. The loan used in the construction financing for the Berkeley Jodo Shinshu Center facility (which houses the BCA and Institute of Buddhist Studies) has been renegotiated, avoiding an upcoming 2024 balloon payment.

Institute of Buddhist Studies. Long dependent on the BCA for funding, the IBS is reducing their allocation assistance request by 4%. Once they are accredited, they will be able to get grants from other entities that only service accredited schools. The final accreditation interview will be mid-February. IBS is hopeful they will receive the accreditation by March 2020. Currently at IBS there are 10 ministerial aspirants and 11 seeking a Certificate in Shin Buddhist Studies. Rich Endo has resigned from IBS, after playing a leading role since its inception.

Minister long-term care. Currently there are 19 BCA ministers not covered for long-term disability insurance. A Human Resource consultant will work with BCA to assess the human resource needs of the BCA. Ministers need to contact Gayle Noguchi for information.

Member dues. Based on an anticipated decline in BCA membership from 12,500 to 12,000, dues are expected to increase 3% to an annual \$148 per member. This amount will be finalized at the February National Council Meeting.

Social Welfare Committee Funds. The application form is on the BCA website and it really is a minimal task to get funding for charities. This year there were no grant applications received by the committee. Applications are due April 1 and October 1 of each year. The committee did approve \$5,000 to be sent to Direct Relief for victims of Hurricane Dorian in the Bahamas.

~John Inge

Seasons Greetings and Happy Holidays!

*Thank-you for your support,
Happy New Year
From your friends at the TBT-YBA*



Happy Holidays and Happy
New Years!
From the Miyaji Family.



*Happy New
Year!
From the TBT
Young
Buddhist Association.*



Wishing Everyone A
Happy 2020!
Jeff and Vivian Hiroo



Happy New Years!
From Tom, Lynrae and Hudson

あけましておめで
どう



bobby, junko, jet and enzo

The yotsuuyes

太鼓

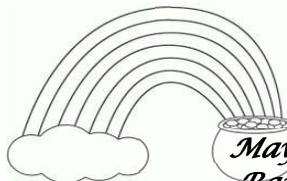
Happy
Holidays and
have a Great
New Year!



From Tacoma Buddhist Temple Fuji Taiko



*Happy Holidays
Ken, Lynne and Sean Tanino*



*May all your days be
Rainbows! Happy
Holidays! SPARKWONG*



Happy Holidays
IKEDA Family



Kevin, Mayumi, Akemi and Taishi



*We hope everyone has 20/20
vision for this upcoming year!
Happy Holidays, The Inges*



Shinnen akemashite omedeto gozaimasu.
Best wishes during the holiday season & for
a wonderful New Years! The Yoshitomis



David and
Kathy Yotsuuye
Happy Holidays



Wishing everyone all the best in 2020!

Happy Holidays 2020
Shinobu and Kazuko Inoue



Wishing the Sangha a
Happy New Year
Merilee, George and Mia

Omedetou



From Ted and Martha Tamaki

*Enjoy the Holidays!
Diane Taniguchi*



Thank you and happy holidays to all
at Tacoma Buddhist Temple!

The Cook Family



*Happy Holidays and a
Happy New
From: The Sasaki's
Del, Cynthia, Bryon,
Esther, Josephine & Geoff*



Happy Holidays and
あけましておめでとう

Best wishes from,
Tada & Yoshi Yotsuuye



*Holiday greetings
For 2020
Jerry and June Akita*



*Seasons greetings and best
Wishes for a happy and peaceful
New Year! The Lings*



*Wishing you a happy and Healthy
New Year.
Barry and June Weled*



Happy, Healthy
Holidays From Elsie
(Yotsuuye) Taniguchi and Harry
Taniguchi Jr.



*Happy New Year
Rev. and Mrs. Kosho and
Michiko Yukawa*



*Have a Happy
and
Healthy New Year! Alvin
and Donna Sasaki*

*Seasons Greetings
From your friends at
The Tacoma Buddhist Temple*



Wishes for a happy
2020
Jane Burster

Live Aloha!
Mitsue Hanabusa



Happy Holidays
Yasuko Morita



73rd Annual
Northwest Buddhist Convention

February 21-23, 2020

Hosted by Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple

Hyatt Regency at Seattle's Southport
1053 Lake Washington Blvd N
Renton, Washington 98056

Theme: "Dana for World Peace"

Special Speaker: Thurs, February 20, 1:00-5:00pm, the IBS/CBE symposium features "Prayers for the World" with Rev/Dr's Takashi Miyaji, Mutsumi Wondra and David Matsumoto. These speakers are free and open to the public.

TO REGISTER AND INFORMATION FOR THE 73RD ANNUAL NORTHWEST DISTRICT BUDDHIST
CONVENTION, FOLLOW THIS LINK.

<https://seattlebetsuin.com/convention/>

Tacoma Temple contact person for any questions: Crystal Inge, at crystal.inge@gmail.com or
206.786.2707.

*January 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		31 New Year Eve Service 7:00 PM	1 New Year's Ser. 10:00 AM	2	3	4
5 Sangha Service 10 AM New Year's Party	6	7	8	9 King's Books 7:00 PM	10	11
12 HOONKO 10 AM Sukiyaki Mtg after service	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Sangha Service 10 AM	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 Sangha Service 10 AM BWA NY Party	27	28	29	30	31	

*February 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	
						1	
2 Sangha Service 10 AM	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9 Sangha Service 10 AM Nirvana Day; Pet Memorial	10	11	12	13 King's Books 7:00 PM	14	15	
16 Sangha Service 10 AM Sukiyaki SET UP after service	17	18	19	20	21	22	
		BCA NATIONAL CONVENTION 18-23, Hyatt Regency Lake Washington					
					NWD CONVENTION ---		
23 No Service NWD CONVENTION	24	25	26	27	28	29 Veg. Wash 7 AM Food Prep 8 AM	

*March 1 Sukiyaki Fundraiser