



# Tacoma Buddhist Temple

(Jodo Shinshu)

タコマ 仏教会 (浄土真宗)

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## MYOKYO

明鏡

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

February 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."*

### Sensei's Message

## Expression of Gratitude for the Buddha's Benevolence Rev. Takashi Miyaji



Tacoma Buddhist Temple is located next door to the University of Washington, Tacoma campus. At our weekly Sunday services, it is normal to see people who have never stepped foot inside a Buddhist temple, or college students who have come to our services for one reason or another. I can only imagine how hard and intimidating it must be for a newcomer to step inside and sit in on one of our services. As soon as you walk through the doors, the smell of the incense is foreign. The altar uses a lot of gold coloring. The robes that the minister wears are very different. The bowing. The gassho and nembutsu that is said frequently. I know they must often think to themselves, "What is that phrase they keep saying...Namo...something? Is that some kind of magical phrase like a mantra? Are they praying for something? Are they saying it for good luck? What is that phrase and why do they keep saying it"?

If you open up one of our liturgical books, the phrase Namo Amida Butsu is translated as "I take refuge in Amida Buddha." While that is not incorrect, it is also not the full explanation of what Namo Amida Butsu is. Namo Amida Butsu can be broken into two parts. The phrase, "I take refuge in Amida Buddha," is the latter half of the process. The first half should be translated to, "Take refuge in me, Amida Buddha!" where we are being called upon from the world of truth. Then, when we settle our minds and hear this calling voice, we awaken to the world of truth and then call back in response, "I hear you! Namo Amida Butsu. Thank you for showing me a world that I would have otherwise never have known."

This process can be explained in the following example. Suppose there is a father and his child and the two are enjoying a day out at the beach. The child wants to go for a swim, but the father is busy at the moment and tells his son to go out to swim on his own. If there was to be a problem, the boy should call out to his dad

who won't be far away. The boy confidently goes out to the ocean and swims and enjoys the water. He does not want to come back to shore because it is so much fun. But the boy grows tired. Instead of going back to shore, he insists on staying out in the ocean. Before long, the boy is exhausted and decides to head back but now, the ocean tides are working against him and pulls him out further and further. The boy tries harder and harder, but he can't manage to get back to shore. Eventually, he becomes scared and does not know what to do. He wants to call out his dad's name but is panicked and cannot call on him. Little did the boy know, that the father was watching the situation taking place. The father can tell that his son was struggling and calls out to his boy before he can say anything. The father says, "I'm here son! I'm coming for you! Don't worry, I'll be right there!" and races to jump into the ocean to rescue his boy. He catches his son before drowning and the boy responds and says in deep gratitude, "Thank you dad. Thank you!"

In much the same way, Amida Buddha knows of the situation that all sentient beings are in. Before we even cry out for help, the Buddha is telling us, "Rely on me! The Buddha is here for you!" but it is hard for us to hear this unless we really find ourselves drowning, needing the help of someone else. Let us not forget that the nembutsu is first, the world of truth speaking to us, to which when we hear this calling voice, we respond back with the words, "Namo Amida Butsu." The nembutsu is an expression of gratitude; but we must remember that gratitude is not just a simple thank you. It is our deepest gratitude for encountering the world of absolute truth—the world of Amida Buddha's Great Compassion.

When we think about this in terms of Shin Buddhist ethics, our spiritual foundation is Amida Buddha's Great Compassion. Saying the nembutsu is not a simple recognition of other people and their hard work. From a religious standpoint, it must go much further than that. In addition, saying the nembutsu is not a mantra. We do not say it for any kind of petitionary prayer; we are not asking for any kind of forgiveness; we don't say it to accrue brownie points that makes us feel better about ourselves; finally, we do not use it to wash away any negative karma we might have created.

Instead, when we encounter the Buddha's message, we are shown a world that is beyond our egocentric bubble. When the Buddha's teaching shows us the *limitation* of the egocentric self, we see the *unlimited* world of the Buddha's compassion that embraces all beings. When we awaken to this world of Great Compassion, then can we participate in the spread of this compassion. This is the foundation of Shin Buddhist ethics. It begins with us remembering that the nembutsu is the words of truth always reaching out to us.

## お念仏は仏恩報謝に向かう

タコマ仏教会は、ワシントン大学・タコマキャンパスのそばにあります。毎週の日曜礼拝の時に、ご門徒の方だけでなく、近所の人たちや、大学生が訪ねてくることが多くなりました。私はこれを見ていつも思うのですが、このお寺に足を運んでいただいただでも大変な勇気がいると思います。さらに本堂に入ると、お香の匂いからお内陣の金箔、そして衣を付けている僧侶の姿などその人たちにとって、大変不思議な感じがするだろうなということです。そして皆が合掌して言う「南無阿弥陀仏」も何だろうかと思っているでしょうね。さて、今日はその「南無阿弥陀仏」について述べてみましょう。

聖典を開いてみますと、南無阿弥陀仏は「阿弥陀仏におまかせします！ I take refuge in Amida Buddha」と書かれています。これは間違いではないのですが、十分な答えになっていないのです。実は

南無阿彌陀仏は二通りに解釈することができ、上述の英訳はその二つ目の解釈に当たります。そしてその第一の解釈とは「阿彌陀仏にまかせよ！ Take refuge in me, Amida Buddha!」と訳すことができるでしょう。つまり、真実の世界からの呼び声であります。そして私たちはその呼び声を聞いて、受け止め、「南無阿彌陀仏」として呼応するのがお念仏の正しい受け止め方であります。「真実の世界と出あわせていただき、有難うございます、南無阿彌陀仏」と言うのが本来の解釈であり、私の方から「おまかせします」と言うだけでなく、仏様からの呼び声に対しての感謝の気持ちであります。

これを説明するために次の例話をあげることができます。ある日、親子が海に遊びに行きました。子供はすぐに海で泳ぎたいのです。一方、お父さんはビーチに残ることになり、何か問題がおこった時にお父さんをおよんでくれと言ったそうです。そして、子供は泳ぎに出ていきます。海が楽しくてたまりません。その子は泳いで泳いで、なかなか帰ってきません。やがてぐったりと疲れてしまったので、そろそろ帰ろうと思いますが、その時には岸に戻るのが大変難しくなっていました。その子は頑張っても頑張っても遠くへ行ってしまう。「どうしよう！ どうしよう！」とパニック状態になった時に、お父さんをおよぼうとしました。しかし、声を出す力が抜けてしまっただけで怖い！と思いました。

一方そんなことが起こるかもしれないと心配していたお父さんは、ずっとその子のことを見ていました。そして子供が「お父さん、たすけて！」と言おうとする前に、お父さんはもう既に子供の方へ「今行くぞ！ 大丈夫だよ、心配するな！」と大きな声で呼びかけていたのです。そして海の中へ飛び込んでその子を助けます。子供は救われてお父さんに「お父さん、ありがとう。ありがとう！」と泣きながら言いました。

この話のように、仏様は私たち衆生の今の状態をよく知っておられます。そして、私たちが助けて！という前から既に、私たちが方へはたらきかけておっただけです。「私にまかせなさい、大丈夫だよ！」と仏様はおっしゃってくださっているのですが、実際に自分がヤバイと思わない限り、この呼び声が耳に入ってくるのが非常に難しいのです。お念仏は、まずこの真実の世界からの私たちへのお呼びかけなのです。そしてそれを聞いて、私たちは「南無阿彌陀仏」と答えるのです。お念仏はたしかに感謝の気持ちをあらわすものですが、その感謝の対象が何かを把握しなければなりません。それは真実の世界、つまり阿彌陀如来様の大慈悲なのです。

## FUTURE SCHEDULE

(Sun) February 9	Nirvana Day; Pet Memorial Service (bring a pet photo)
(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
(Sun) March 15	Spring Ohigan and BWA Memorial Service

### President's Message



#### Dharma School Superintendent

At the January 19, 2020 TBT Board of Directors meeting June Akita was appointed as new Dharma School Superintendent. The Board of Directors extend their thanks to Merilee Tanbara for her past service as Dharma School Superintendent.

#### Sukiyaki Lunch Fund Raiser

Thank you, Lynne and Ken Tanino, for your leadership organizing our Sukiyaki Lunch fund raiser that will be held on March 1, 2020. Also, thank you to everyone that has agreed to help with one of the committees. All of your help contributes to making this a great event.

#### 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Northwest District Convention

I hope you are planning to attend the 73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Northwest District Convention February 21-23, 2020. If you are not able to attend this year's convention, please try to attend future conventions. It is a great opportunity to meet Ministers and Sangha members from other NW Temples. The future conventions will be moving to a September date. The date change is being done to try to have better weather during the convention. Tacoma is being asked to staff and provide drinks and food for a hospitality room on February 20. More information will be passed on at services.

Since the NW Convention ends on February 23, 2020, there will not be a service at our Temple on February 23. Everyone is welcome to attend the Sunday service at the NW Convention. I encourage those that can travel to Renton on February 23 do so and attend the service.

#### 2020 Membership Pledges

At our January Board of Director's meeting, Tracy Ling, our Membership Pledge Administrator, reported that around 80% of the returned 2020 Membership Pledges had increased pledges. Thank you for everyone's Pledge. I extend a special thank you to everyone that was financially able to make an increase. With everyone's generosity, our Temple will continue to be financially viable.

Gassho,  
David

## Buddhist Women's Association News



To begin a new year let alone a new decade is exciting – I wonder what changes could happen with BWA? Within this decade, BWA will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary; the Temple will celebrate its 110<sup>th</sup> anniversary; Dharma School will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary; and many members will celebrate milestone anniversaries of their own. This will be quite a decade for sure!

Our **73<sup>rd</sup> NW District Convention** will be held February 21-23, 2020 at the Hyatt Regency in Tukwila. BWA chapters are invited to participate in the Market Place once more. Last year, we were so successful thanks to the many BWA and non-BWA members who made things to sell – hoping this year will be just as great!! There is a special Meet and Greet, Make and Take gathering also planned for Saturday afternoon. Everyone is welcome to join the fun! BWA will partially sponsor each BWA member attending so hope you consider attending! It's always such a great event to meet up with your old friends and eat great food...

**BEC and BWA** will once again join forces to collect pet food, supplies and towels in honor of our "Pet Memorial" service **February 9th!** We will be collecting items *all month* and items collected will be given to the Humane Society Tacoma & Pierce County and Sunny Sky's Animal Rescue. Please see **Lynrae Hubbell's** article for specific items and foods requested. *Thank you, Lynrae!*

We will be making **daifuku mochi on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>** for the **BWA Memorial/Lady Takeko Kujo & Lady Yoshiko Ohtani/Ohigan service**. We will begin at 8:00 AM and be done before noon. We share this daifuku with the sangha each year after Sunday service.

Our first **General Meeting will be Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>** after service in the Rev. Pratt room. *Please mark your calendars.* The NEW 2020 January-February-March Toban will provide a light lunch.

Finally, I have stepped down as your BWA President. I am so thankful for all the support and encouragement given to me these past two and half years. It's also been a wonderful ride to have made new friends at BWA conferences and meetings. So many of you have made this position much easier to manage with your guidance and understanding-thank you. I'm still around, but just as a member. This change will be a great change, especially under the leadership of **Denise Cline**. I was told many, many years ago, 'change is good' – difficult but good. I believe we'll have a wonderful year!! New BWA officers will be installed on January 26.

### The 'new' 2020-2021 BWA Cabinet:

President	<b>Denise Cline</b>	Religious Chair	Carrie Mori
Vice President	Donna Sasaki	Social Chair	Kazuko Inoue
Secretary	Riu Pittman	Historian	June Weled
Treasurer	<b>Patti Wong</b>	Advisors	Kaori Miyaji
Auditor	Shizuka Faria		<b>June Akita</b>

**Save these dates:**

Feb. 21-23, 2020 73<sup>rd</sup> NW Buddhist Convention at the Hyatt Regency  
Mar. 8th BWA General Meeting after service  
Mar. 14 Daifuku mochi making – 8:00 AM  
Mar. 15 BWA Memorial/Lady Takeko Kujo & Lady Yoshiko Ohtani/Ohigan service

Gassho,  
June Akita

**Dharma School News**



Greetings to the Dharma School,

For the Myokyo article this month, I (Rev. Miyaji) would like to share a few things with the Dharma School. First, every month, I have been trying to shape my Dharma messages for the Dharma school students around a theme for the month. For this year, the schedule will be as follows:

Jan-March: Morality  
April-May: Shakyamuni Buddha  
June-July: Music and Poetry  
August-September: Buddhism and Women  
October-November: Important Figures in the Shin Tradition  
December: Chanting

If any of you would like to participate or assist in any of the Dharma messages, that would be more than welcome. This may involve anything from providing your musical talents, to performing a poetic piece, to providing some research about somebody. If this might help with a school project or homework assignment, you can use this opportunity to complete two tasks for the effort of one! Of course, I will be there with you to assist in its completion.

On a separate matter, it has recently come to my attention that the Dharma School as a whole, used to have a field trip or fun activity where they would go outside of the temple. I am shocked and a little hurt that I was never invited to this fun excursion (just kidding). If you have any thoughts on what you would like to do, please let me know and maybe we can plan something towards the end of this year. It would be fun to be able to hang out together!

Finally, every year the Buddhist Churches of America, the umbrella organization that our temple is a part of, holds events that target the Jr. YBA age group. These events are not under a consistent theme, but they do give plenty of time for people to sign up and of course, they welcome everyone from all the districts in the BCA. I highly encourage you to go to these events, as you will build friendships and bonds with people who live in other parts of the country. Who knows, you might be going to college with some of these people in the near future. At any rate, it is always good to meet with people who come from a similar Buddhist background and share the same values as you. It is a good opportunity to step outside of your comfort zone to try new things. Financial assistance to get to these events can be found and the temple is enthusiastic about your possible participation. When the next event happens, I will be sure to notify the Dharma School and Jr. YBA as soon as possible. Thank you.

Gassho,  
Rev. Miyaji

Regarding Dharma School Superintendent

At the January 19, 2020 TBT Board of Directors meeting June Akita was appointed as the new Dharma School Superintendent. The Board of Directors extends its thanks to Merilee Tanbara for her past service as the Dharma School Superintendent.

Gassho.

### Buddhist Education Committee News



*"I do not understand the human race  
Has so little love for creatures with a different face.  
Treating animals like people is no madness or disgrace.  
I do not understand the human race" – Quote from 1967 movie, "Dr. Dolittle"*

Why, do you ask, does a BEC article have a quote on animals? Because, for the month of February, the BWA (Buddhist Women's Association) and BEC (Buddhist Education Committee) will be collecting pet food, supplies & towels in honor of our "Pet Memorial" service on February 9. Items collected will be given to the Humane Society of Tacoma/Pierce County and Sunny Sky's Animal Rescue.

#### **Below are the items you can donate:**

Food for Humane Society's Pet Food Pantry: these are their preferred food brands:

Cesar	Kirkland	Sheba
Diamond Maintenance	KMR Milk Replacer	Tiki
Diamond Naturals	Natures Balance	Timothy Hay (unopened)
Fancy Feast	Ox Box Exotic Food	
Friskies	Royal Canin	<u>Treats</u> – Any brand, hard or soft

Donated food must have at least 2 months before the expiration date marked. They cannot accept open bags of food.

#### Approved donated supplies:

Baby Wipes	Tidy Cat Non-Clumping Litter
Belly Bands	Towels
E-Collars	Training Pads
Heat Disks	Hueter Toledo Toys or other hard toys
Martingale Style Collars	JW Hol-ee Toys or other rubber toys
Kuranda Dog Beds	Kong toys
Nursing Bottles	Nylabone chew toys
Plastic Shopping Bags	Small Animal Wood Chew Toys (unopened)
Small Animal Bedding (no woodchips)	Tennis Balls

They can only accept new toys that are made for animal use.

If you are like me and hate shopping, you can also donate cash or check (payable to Tacoma Buddhist Temple and put in memo line, "Pet Memorial".)

In Gratitude,  
Lynrae



**February 2020 Toban News**



**Upcoming Dates:**

- February 9
- February 21

– Nirvana Day/Pet Memorial  
 - 23 – Convention – no service at TBT, Sunday service at Hyatt Regency Lake Washington, all

are

welcome

- February 29 – Sukiyaki prep – ALL MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO HELP
- March 1 – Sukiyaki 11am – 3pm – ALL MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO HELP
  - March 3 – Sukiyaki cleanup – 7pm
  - March 15 - Ohigan Service

**March & April 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.

The toban committee is putting together a group to re-evaluate the toban process, orientation and cleanup tasks organization. Please let Mrs. Tanino or Kaila know if you have any ideas for things we can implement to make the toban more efficient and beneficial to all temple members!

<b>March 2020</b>	<b>April 2020</b>
<b>**Brett Johnson &amp; Megumi Azekawa</b>	<b>**Kjirsten Winters</b>
<b>Merilee Tanbara</b>	<b>Chikako Inoue</b>
<b>Cheryl Kanda</b>	<b>Richard &amp; Tracy Ling</b>
<b>Joshua &amp; Yoshino Kretchmar</b>	<b>June &amp; Barry Weled</b>
<b>June &amp; Jerry Akita</b>	Email or Phone Tree Members
Email or Phone Tree Members	Ellen Shigeno
Miyo Kanda	Frank Shigio (call Jeanette Hirano)
Tets & Martha Tamaki	Peter Lee
Erin Shen (call June)	
Sam Shimizu	

**March Group Responsibilities:**

- Monthly clean-up for March and April
- Wash windows and dust railings around windows
- Sukiyaki: Provide snacks for Saturday & help set it up/cleanup - the day before Sukiyaki (February 29)
- Hanamatsuri: Help with set up and clean up with BWA. Set up tables and chairs. (April 5)
- Coffee hour (March 22)

**April Group Responsibilities:**

- Monthly clean-up for March and April
- Sukiyaki: Provide snacks for Sunday & help set it up/cleanup - morning of Sukiyaki (March 1)
- Hanamatsuri: Help with set up and clean up with BWA. Set up tables and chairs. (April 5)
- Dust and vacuum pews in Hondo
- Coffee hour (April 19)

~Kaila

## From Your Facility Committee



It's the Year of the Rat and the gremlins have been up to their old tricks once again. They conspired a time travel trip to 1929 for throwing wrenches in different phases of the temple's construction. A loose screw here or a pulled nail there would do the trick they surmised. A rat was captured and trained to run backwards on a wheel. After that the directionally confused rodent was placed in the engine compartment of a DeLorean. With all the dastardly prerequisites in place the gremlins set the time machine chronometer to 1929 and set off. Well, no one should ever credit their calibration skills since they ended up on November 7<sup>th</sup> 1940. As they were wondering around the area the gremlins encountered some of their fleet footed kin doing the Jitterbug on the Tacoma Narrows Bridge. After they joined in the festivities the world's third longest suspension bridge become Galloping Gertie and the rest is history. After the gremlins went in the drink the inebriated troublemakers staggered back to their machine and after several tries ended up back in 2020. So, if you see a puddle on the floor and can't find a leak, we can blame you know who.

With a new decade will come new locks on the gates. David Yotsuuye will order nine new locks-seven for the existing gates and two spares for just in case.

Jeff Hiroo and Fred Pelger's continue to volunteer their time to spruce up the temple each week. Litter doesn't sit for long in our section of Fawcett Avenue due to Tom Hubbell's persistent efforts. David Yotsuuye, Robert Yotsuuye, Gary Ichinaga, Tom Hubbell, Tony Gregg, Rick Tanabe, and Del Sasaki work tirelessly to keep our temple in great shape. Kurt Osaka and Osaka Gardens exert tremendous efforts maintain the oasis of beauty around our temple.

~Dave

## Yearly Memorial Services

### General Memorial Service Years for 2019

1st Year - 2018  
 17th Year - 2003  
 3rd Year - 2017  
 7th Year - 2013  
 13th Year - 2007

Monthly Book Club  
**Feb 13 (Th) at 7pm at Kings Books**  
 Featured Book:  
***McMindfulness***  
**Ron Purser**

25th Year - 1995  
 33rd Year - 1987  
 50th Year - 1970



### February 2020

7 <sup>th</sup> 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 <sup>th</sup> Year	Jensen, Mitsuko Oku	Shakuni Bi-Sho 美照	March 21, 2014
17 <sup>th</sup> Year	Nakashima, George Masaru	Shaku Shin-Yu	March 27, 2004
17 <sup>th</sup> Year	Murakami, Shigeru	Shaku Han-Po	March 31, 2004

33 <sup>rd</sup> Year	Yamasaki, Kumazo	Shaku Ei-Sho	March 7, 1988
33 <sup>rd</sup> Year	Fukuyama, Asao	Shaku Myo-Cho	March 7, 1988
33 <sup>rd</sup> Year	Konishi, Akiye	Shakuni Ji-Ko	March 31, 1988
50 <sup>th</sup> Year	Kosai, Waki	Shakuni Sei-Myo	March 2, 1971

## April 2020

1 Year	Yoshioka, Robert	Shaku Myō-Kaku	明覚	April 17, 2019
13 <sup>th</sup> Year	Ikeda, Takeshi	Shaku Sho-Do		April 10, 2008
13 <sup>th</sup> Year	Fujioka, Irene Ichiko	Shakuni Bi-Sen		April 26, 2008
17 <sup>th</sup> Year	Nakao, George Eichi	Shaku Ei-Ho		April 29, 2004
33 <sup>rd</sup> Year	Osaki, Tatsuo	Shaku Ryu-Sho		April 11, 1988
50 <sup>th</sup> Year	Komoto, Nobuji	Shaku Jun-Sei		April 17, 1971

***Library News***

New novels in the library  
(On the top shelf under the Miscellaneous Section)

<i><b>Survival of the Fittest</b></i>	Vera Gevers
<i><b>A Time to Choose</b></i>	Edward Blight
<i><b>Gasa Gasa Girl goes to Camp</b></i>	Lily Harvey
<i><b>The Accidental Buddhist</b></i>	Dinty Moore
<i><b>To Live Within</b></i>	Lizelle Raymond
<i><b>The Sun My Heart</b></i>	Thich Nhat Hanh

## 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.**

<b>February</b>	<b>2</b>	Del Sasaki & Rick Tanabe
	<b>9</b>	Kevin & Mayumi Ikeda
	<b>16</b>	Tracy & Richard Ling
	<b>23</b>	<b>NWD Convention - No Service</b>
<b>March</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Sukiyaki Fundraiser - No Service</b>
	<b>8</b>	Alex Theisen & Jeff Hiroo
	<b>15</b>	Jim Doyle & Tony Gregg
	<b>22</b>	Lynrae Hubbell & Tom Hubbell
	<b>29</b>	Yasuko Morita & June Weled

## Onaijin flowers

Hello Dharma Friends,  
I can't believe we're already a month into the New Year, where does the time go?

It has been my great honor and pleasure to do the flower arrangements on the Onaijin for the last 8 years or more, after Frank Mizukami asked me to take over for him. I have enjoyed every minute of it. During those 8+ years, others have done the arrangements in my absence like Rev. Kakihara, Patti Wong, Rev. Miyaji, Kaori Miyaji, June Weled, and Crystal Inge. Many may not know, but even some of the students have participated in flower arranging, Rio and Kalea Shimizu did the flower arrangement for the Bodhi Day service of 2018 and Enzo Yotsuuye did the arrangement for the Bodhi Day service of 2019.

I will continue to do the Onaijin flowers and would like to extend the invitation to any other Temple members. If you would like to do the arrangement on any Sunday just let Sensei or me know, and we will coordinate that. If we have enough participants I will come up with a schedule.

In Gassho, Les Hitsman



### *73<sup>rd</sup> Annual Northwest Buddhist Convention* *February 21-23, 2020*

Hosted by Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple

Hyatt Regency at Seattle's Southport

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](mailto:crystal.inge@gmail.com) or 206.786.2707.**

# Welcome New Members!!



**Etsuko & Brian Willis**

## **Where were you born and raised?**

Etsuko: Born and raised in Hirara city, Miyako-Jima, Okinawa, Japan.  
Brian: Born and raised in the township of Boston (near Buffalo), in New York.

## **Why have you chosen to join Tacoma Buddhist Temple?**

We joined TBT with a desire to feel at home in the Japanese American community.

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

From our long experience of life in Japan, we wish to share with the group our experiences in Japanese culture and language.

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

We enjoy international cuisine with friends and family. We have three children, all with families of their own, have given us seven grandchildren.

Monthly Book Club

March 12 (Th) at 7pm at Kings Books

Featured Book:

***Ethics for a New Millennium***

**HH Dalai Lama**

A shout out to thank Blake for the donation of two bags of Starbucks coffee for the temple. It is much appreciated.



Coffee Hour

Sunday

March 22

April 19

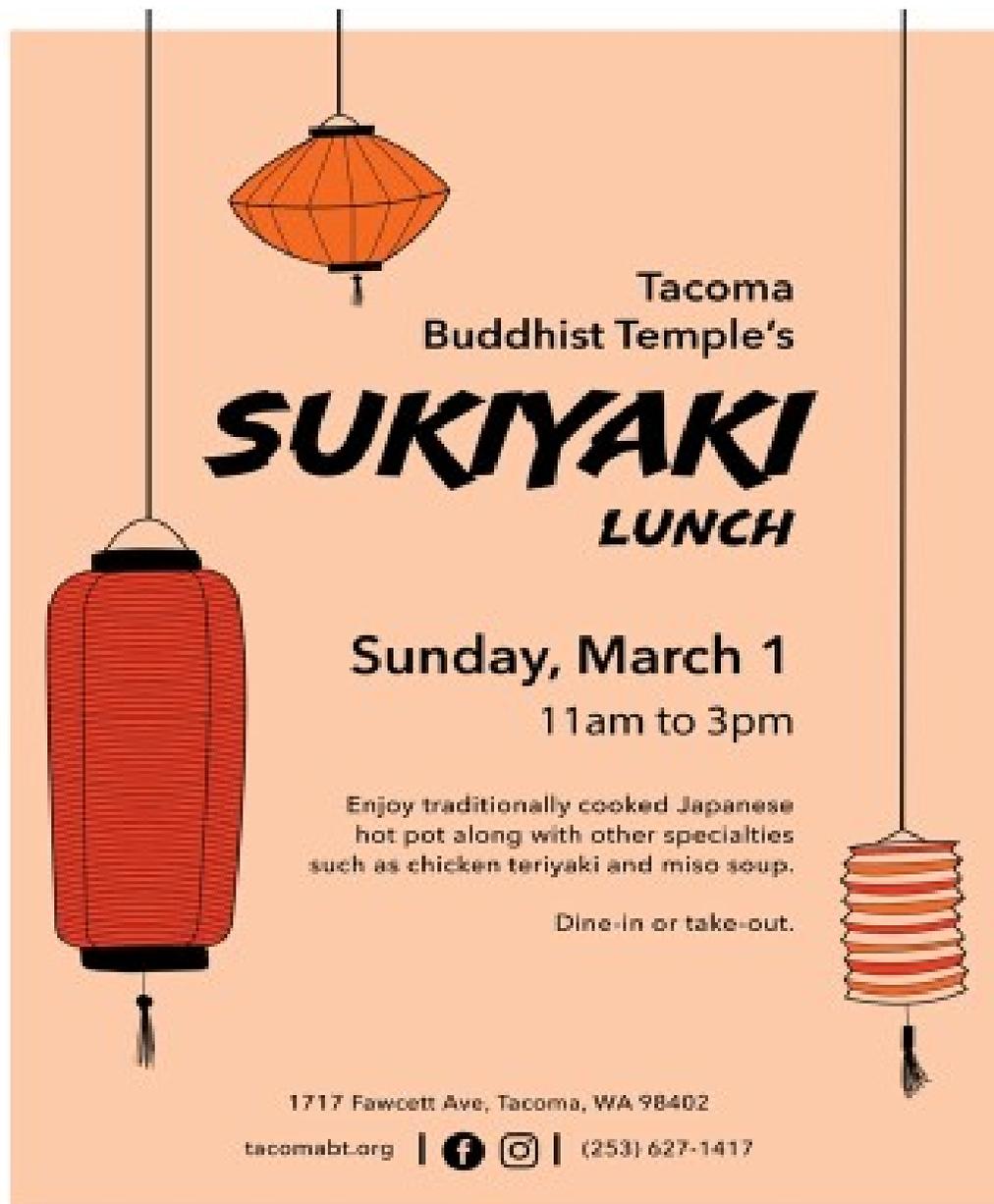
\*Everyone can meet and mingle\*



cream

Mochi Ice





The Temple's first fundraiser for the year, the annual Suki-yaki Lunch is just a few week away.

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

Construction	Sunday, February 16 <sup>th</sup> after service	
Vegetable Washing	Saturday, February 29 <sup>th</sup> , 7:00 am	Snacks – March Toban
Food Preparation	Saturday, February 29 <sup>th</sup> , 8:00 am	Lunch will be served
Suki-yaki Dinner	Sunday, March 1 <sup>st</sup> , 11:00 – 3:00 pm	Snacks – April Toban
	Check Volunteer Spreadsheet to find 'your' starting time	
Tear Down/Cleanup	Tuesday, March 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 7:00 pm	Light Snacks

Posters like the one pictured above, but in color, are available in the foyer if you could help advertise this special event in your neighborhood or work place. Help spread the word and follow Tacoma Buddhist Temple on Facebook  and share our Suki-yaki events page.

Thank you to Committee Chairs and all Volunteers to help make this a successful event.  
Suki-yaki Chairs - Lynne and Ken Tanino ([Taninos@msn.com](mailto:Taninos@msn.com)).

## \*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 - bring a pet photo	10	11	12	13 King's Books 7:00 PM	14	15
16 Sangha Service 10 AM Sukiyaki Set up 11:30 AM	17 Myokyo deadlin	18	19	20	21	22
		BCA NATIONAL CONVENTION 18-23, Hyatt Regency Lake Washington				
					NWD BUDDHIST CONVENTION 21-23	
23 No Service NWD CONVENTION	24	25	26	27	28	29 Veg. wash 7 AM Food Prep 8 AM

## \*March 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Sukiyaki Lunch 11-3 No Service	2	3 Sukiyaki clean up 7PM	4	5	6	7
8 Sangha Service 10 AM BWA meeting 11:30 AM	9	10	11	12 King's Books 7:00 PM	13	14 Daifuku making 8AM
15 Sangha Service 10 AM Sp. Ohigan & BWA Memorial	16 Myokyo deadline	17	18	19	20	21
22 Sangha Service 10 AM Coffee Hour	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Sangha Service 10 AM Inter-temple Activity	30	31				