



## 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)

April 2018

### Temple Mission Statement

*"To offer those in the Pacific Northwest an enduring community that values inclusiveness and acceptance in seeking enlightenment."*

### Sensei's Message

#### Sands of the Ganges

Rev. Takashi Miyaji



A few years ago, I had the chance to go on a Buddhist pilgrimage to India and Nepal. There, I was able to go to such places as Buddhaghayā, where the Buddha is said to have attained enlightenment, Sarnath, the place where the Buddha gave his first Dharma talk, and to Rājagṛiha, where the Buddha taught about the *Larger sutra* and *Contemplation sutra*, the two texts that are most important to our tradition of Buddhism.

One of the places that I will never forget is the Ganges river. The Ganges river is considered a sacred and holy place to many religious traditions such as Hinduism and Buddhism. Many Buddhist sutras talk about the Ganges river. At the bank of the river there are many people who are meditating, chanting, playing music, and there are even outdoor crematoriums. Although I did not see this personally, there are funerals that take place where the dead body is ritualistically sent off. The water of the river is considered to be holy so it is not uncommon to see people bathe in the water. The day I went to the river, I saw one person bathing, another person brushing his teeth, and further down there were people washing their clothes. Needless to say, the water is very polluted and dirty. But there is nothing like the experience of being there with all of the sights, sounds, and smells. I went on a small boat onto the water.

What I will never forget about the Ganges river is the morning sun. The rising sun is extremely glorious and there is nothing like it. Everything shines brightly and the sun looks a lot larger than usual. The river shines brightly and the sparkles of the waves are so beautiful. It is no wonder why so many sutras talk about the brilliance of the Ganges.

Recalling the experience of the river, I remember reading about one story that the Buddha taught. Once the Buddha asked his disciple, "Which one has more sand, the amount in the palm of my hand or the amount on the earth?" The disciple replied, "The amount of sand on the earth is greater." Śākyamuni replied, "That's

correct. The amount of living beings in this world is as great as the number of grains of sand on this earth. But those who have been given the opportunity to live as human beings is as rare as the number of grains of sand in my hand.”

Now the Buddha scooped a small portion of the sand that was on his palm onto the top of a nail of one of his fingers and then asked the following, “Between the amount of sand in the palm of one hand and the amount of sand on top of the nail of my finger, which is greater”? The disciple replied, “Of course there is much more sand in the palm of the hand than on the nail. There is only a small portion of sand on the nail.”

Śākyamuni nodded his head deeply. “That’s correct. Even though we have been given the opportunity to live as human beings, the amount of people who encounter the Buddha Dharma are as rare as the number of grains of sand on the top of this finger. That is why we must greatly respect this rare opportunity in which we have been able to encounter the Buddha Dharma.”

To be able to encounter the Buddha Dharma is a rare and wondrous event that is truly “difficult to be” or *arigatai*. Just like the small amount of grains of sand on top of the nail, we have been given the rare opportunity as sentient beings, to be able to hear and receive the Buddha Dharma that is the nembutsu teaching. Śākyamuni expounds the teaching of Amida Buddha’s Primal Vow and we are now able to hear and receive it. Let us be immersed in the light of Amida, like the grains of sand on the bank of the Ganges river in the morning sun. Namo Amida Butsu.

## ガンジス川の砂すな

何年なんねんか前まえに仏跡参拝ぶつせきさんぱいで、インドとネパールに行くチャンスがありました。その時とき、ブダガヤしゃくそん（釈尊が悟りさとを開かれたひらと言われている場所）ばしよ、サルナート（釈尊が初めて法話をされた場所「初転法輪」）しよてんぼうりん）、霊鷲山りょうじゆせん（釈尊が『仏説無量寿経』と『仏説観無量寿経』を説かれた浄土教に最ももつと大事なだいじお経きよう）などの地域ちいきに行くことができました。とても貴重な旅行きちよう りょこうだと感じさせていただきました。

しかし、それ以外いがいに一生いっしやう忘れられない場所わすれがありました。それはガンジス川がわです。ガンジス川というところはヒンズー教きやうや仏教ぶつきやうなどの宗教しゆきやうが最ももつと大事なだいじ聖地あつかせいちだと言われています。川かわぞいに行くと、瞑想めいそう、お経きようの読誦どくじゆや、伝統的な音楽でんとうてきを弾いている人たちの様子などが見えます。まるで違う世界せかいに入り込んだ感じがします。さらに、火葬場かそうじやうも近くにあり、亡くなられた人のお骨こつを川かわに流すことや、私わたしは見えていませんが話はなしによると、葬儀そうぎの後に死体あともそのまま川かわに流す儀式ぎしきもあるそうです。また、川かわに神聖しんせいな水みずが流れていると信じられているため、たくさんの人たちは川かわで体からだを洗あらうことがあります。私わたしが見たのは、一人ひとりが体からだを洗あらっていて、その隣となりの人は歯はを磨みがいていて、そしてその人の近くちかに洗濯せんたくをしている人ひともいました。水みずは実際にきたないのじっさいは言うまでもないです。その同じ場所おなじばしよから私わたしたちは小さな船ちいふねに乗り、川かわの上うへで朝日あさひが登のぼるのを待ちました。

忘れられないのがガンジス川の朝日あさひです。風景ふうけいの美うつくしさは何なんとも言えませんが、言葉ことばで説明せつめいできません。写真しゃしんでもうまく取れませんが、朝日あさひがでると全すべてのものが輝かがやき、太陽たいやうも普通ふつうの形かたちより大きく見え、

また暖かいまろやかな照らしかたでした。「なるほど、それで色々なお経を読むとガンジス川の話が出るんだな」と感じました。

これに関連する釈尊の教えを思い出します。ある時、釈尊が弟子に対して質問をされました。「この手のひらの砂の数と大地の砂の数は、どちらが多いでしょう」と聞きます。弟子がこう答えました。「大地の砂の数の方が多いです」と。

釈尊はうなずいて答えました。「その通りです。この世の中に生きているものは大地の砂の数くらいたくさんいるけれど、人間として命を恵まれるものは、手のひらの砂の数ほどわずかなものなのですよ」と、おっしゃいました。

そして、今度は手のひらの砂を指の爪ですくい、重ねて質問されました。「手のひらの数と、指の爪の上の砂の数は、どちらが多いでしょう」。弟子は答えました。「もちろん手のひらの砂の数の方が多いです。指の爪の上の砂の数は、ほんのわずかです」

すると、釈尊が深くうなずきました。「その通りです。同じ人間としていのちを恵まれながら、仏の教えに出あえるものは、ほんの爪の上の砂の数くらいしかないのです。だからこそ、人間としていのちを恵まれ、仏法に出あえたことを大切にしなければなりません」と言われました。

したがって、仏法と出あえる人は稀にしかないのであり、本当に「有ることが難しい」、つまり「有難い」ことであります。指の爪の上の砂の数のように、私たちは仏法と出あえたのであり、つまりお念仏の教えと出あえたのです。釈尊は、阿弥陀如来のご本願を説きあられし、私たちはそれを聴聞することができるのであります。そして、ガンジス川における小さな砂が朝日のぬくもりに照らされているように、私たちはともに阿弥陀如来の光に抱かれているのです。

がっしょう  
合掌

#### Future Schedule

(Sat) March 31 at 10:00	<b>Omigaki</b>
(Sat) April 7 at 11:30	<b>Rev. Ogui Farewell Luncheon, White River Temple</b>
(Sun) April 8 at 14:00	<b>Hanamatsuri and Pot Luck Dinner</b>
(Sun) April 15 at 11:30	<b>Coffee Hour</b>
(Sat) May 19 at 15:00	<b>Spring Seminar – Rev. Candice Shibata</b>
(Sun) May 20 at 10:00	<b>Gotan e – Rev. Shibata, guest speaker</b>
(Sun) May 27 at 10:00	<b>Memorial Service and Cemetery Visitation in afternoon</b>



## President's Message

Spring has sprung! We just completed another successful Sukiyaki dinner fundraiser thanks to the work of our co-chairs Tracy Ling and Bobby Yotsuuye and many temple members and friends in the community. We look forward to other signs that Spring is really here....like the beautiful hanamido (flower shrine) that some BWA ladies and other members will be putting together for Hanamatsuri service on April 8.

The **BCA** (Buddhist Churches of American) **Ministers' Association and National Council meeting** in Sacramento, California followed very quickly on the heels of the NW District Convention in Spokane. Your temple representatives were Rev. Miyaji, John Inge and myself. Here's run down of some of the issues and highlights from that meeting:

**BCA dues assessment:** A budget that included an increase of \$5/member (rounded off) was approved. This is an increase that we are assessed to \$139 per member; in addition to the \$25 per member increase from last year. Combined with the \$7 assessment from the Northwest District Council (decreased \$1 from last year) – the **total assessment per member for both BCA and NW District Council will be \$145.78**. Therefore, only about \$104 of the minimum \$250 pledge for membership at our temple remains in our annual operating budget used to finance our minister, programs and operations.

Speaking of pledges .....In a letter I sent with the 2018 Pledge form that went to all members, I asked those of us who could, to please consider increasing pledges. This was to help lessen a negative impact on our annual operating budget from the increases in BCA per/member dues assessment, and potential revenue loss from re-tooling fundraisers and downsizing one event. Initial 2018 pledge figures indicate that some members did increase their pledge. Despite the loss of twelve members at the end of 2017, the total amount pledged for 2018 was less but close to the 2017 level. **Thank you very much!** What I'm sorry to say, is that I was mistaken in asking for an increase in order to help cover possible revenue loss from downsizing an event. I learned that I had misunderstood the Events Sub Committee's intent is focus on re-tooling events and maintain current or increased revenue. Not to downsize an event which might result in some revenue loss. If you increased your pledge in order to help downsize an event, I apologize for this misunderstanding. But please know that your increased pledge helps mitigate the impact on our budget from the increased per member assessments over the past two years.

**BCA restructuring of assets – sale of BCA San Francisco headquarters:** Some of you may have received an appeal from the San Francisco Buddhist Church to vote NO on a proposal to sell the BCA headquarters building in San Francisco. Proceeds from the sale would have been used to help pay off the loan for the Jodo Shinshu Center as well as invest in needed maintenance there that has

been deferred. This was a difficult issue with very pragmatic reasons to follow through with the sale and very strong testimony that spoke to the history and symbol of the headquarters and the negative impact on San Francisco Buddhist Church. This proposal was voted down, and a decision was made to form a committee that would evaluate all BCA property assets for restructuring to maximize financial benefit. Next year's National Council meeting should be a very interesting one again!

The BCA is basically a much larger reflection of what most temples (like us) are struggling with on a local level: the need to develop other revenue sources other than membership fees; declining membership; staying relevant.

**Jodo Shinshu Buddhism and community engagement:** There was a special symposium on *Religiosity and Social Consciousness in BCA*. It was personally inspiring for me to hear two speakers in particular, (Rick Stambul, BCA Pres. and Dr. David Matsumoto, IBS Provost and VP) talk about American Shin Buddhism and increased engagement with social welfare and social justice issues in the wider community.....*socially aware Buddhism*. One of them said *"The nembutsu calls us to a life filled with wisdom and compassion which can inform and fulfill our engagement in society and the world"*. They spoke to *interconnectedness* as a basis for social consciousness; and our core values of inclusiveness, compassion, tolerance as impetus towards more social activism. Temples reaching out more into the wider community were featured in another session; with examples of active Buddhist education programming in the community; organizing LGBTQ forum and participating in Pride parades; operating food programs and providing homeless shelter. These activities not only increase member's social consciousness but also the visibility and consciousness of Shin Buddhism in the wider community.

W. Hamai

## Meet & Greet

Join us at a special after service  
coffee hour to welcome

**Mrs. Miyaji (Kaori san) and  
Andrew**

After service in the social hall

**Sunday, May 6**



## Buddhist Women's Association News



Isn't it exciting to have Ichiro back? Looking forward to watching the Mariners once again. Just saying....

Our Towel Drive was once again very successful. We collected over 6 large bags of clean, used towels which were delivered to the Humane Society of Tacoma and Pierce County. Thank you, **Erin Berkey**, for delivering the final batch of towels for us!!

BWA is in the process of purchasing new drapes for the living room parsonage but will wait until Kaori arrives to see what her choice of style and color. Once again, thank you **Patti and Lynne** for hemming the liner!

Sukiyaki was a very successful event thanks to the many hours and organization of **Tracy Ling and Bobby Yotsuuye**. Many BWA ladies helped cut vegetables, assisting where asked and always willing to return the next day to start again. Thank you for your dedication and support for all of these Temple events!

The January/February/March Toban enjoyed hosting the Temple Coffee Hour March 11<sup>th</sup>. **Martha Tamaki, Thelma Abe, Tracy Ling, Carrie Mori and I** had a fun time putting this gathering together and watching all of the snacks devoured with conversation and camaraderie. Thank you to **Kazuko Inoue, Yasuko Morita, Patti Wong, and Jane Burster** for sharing their snacks as well to the fifty or more guests. It was standing room only a few times - it was especially nice to see **Asako Arima** join us with **Don and Susan!**

Twenty three ladies and men helped make 15 boxes of daifuku mochi for our Lady Kujo, Lady Ohtani and BWA Memorial service. The plates were then shared with Dharma School teachers and students as well as the sangha after service. Thank you to **Kazuko, Emiko and Thelma** for passing out the well received treat, to **Victoria Evert** for chairing the service and to **Carrie Mori** for giving the Dharma Exchange Message.

A few highlights of our first BWA general meeting:

- Welcome **Crystal Inge** as our newest BWA member
- 6 large bags of towels were given to the Tacoma Humane Society
- New drapes and rods will be purchased for the parsonage living room
- April 8 - Hanamido decorating will begin at 9:00 AM; BWA ladies will set up potluck; BWA ladies will furnish a dessert table with donations going towards the parsonage drapes
- April 29 - Sumi e class with **Lois Yoshida**
- May 19 - *Plant and Musubi Sale with Les* - proceeds going to the "Enmanji Fire Relief Fund" helping 6 temple families who lost their homes in the October fire
- June 2,3 - Bento Fundraiser
- Month of June - Peanut butter and jelly drive
- May 12 - NWD BWA meeting in Yakima
- Date TBD - Annual Bus Trip to Bainbridge Island Museum and Memorial plus other sights



A few seats are still available for Lois Yoshida's sum e class. Please let me know if you are interested.

**Future BWA Events:**

April 8 Hanamido decoration; Hanamatsuri set up with dessert table  
April 29 Sumi e Class with Lois Yoshida  
May 12 NWD BWA meeting - Yakima  
May 19 Plant and Musubi Sale

In gassho,  
June Akita



**Buddhist Education Committee News**

Even as a young kid, I always wondered why the start of the New Year didn't coincide with the first day of spring. With all of the new birth taking place out in our chicken coop, the 're' birth of crocus and daffodils in our yard and the beginning of days made for short sleeved shirts and shorts.....why was this not also the time for a new year to be born?

I still, to this day, feel the same; why does the New Year not begin at the same time that everything else is feeling new. As Buddhists we are taught to appreciate the moment at hand, to observe and have an awareness of self; in a way, to see everything as new again.

The Buddhist Education Committee is always working and doing our best to keep the way we do things at the Temple fresh and new. Buddhism is thousands of years old but in order to thrive in today's society it needs to continually be presented with a modern-day freshness that that feels fresh and pertinent to the moment.

In May, our speaker for our Spring Seminar and our guest Gotan-e minister will be Reverend Candice Shibata of the Florin Church in Sacramento, California. Shibata Sensei is a 14<sup>th</sup> generation Buddhist minister. Her first Temple assignment was to the Berkeley Temple in 2015. I personally know Reverend Candice very well. We traveled to Japan together in 2012 to receive our Tokudo ordination. I have heard her speak; she is fresh and new but has fourteen generations of Buddhist knowledge and wisdom to share. I hope you will all come to enjoy and support her.

With Love and Gassho,  
Fred Pelger  
NamoAmidaButsu

## Toban News



**Hanamatsuri:** All monthly toban chairs - Please contact your toban group members and coordinate main dish and sides/salads for the Hanamatsuri potluck on April 8, 2018. The potluck will be immediately following the Hanamatsuri service.

### **April 2018 and May 2018 Toban Groups:**

Toban heads are responsible to call group members for set up and clean up for certain Temple events held during the two month period. The chairs for each two month period will coordinate with each other to set up the actual dates of the monthly clean-up for those able in their group. Please let Merlaine Cook know the clean-up dates to check for other activity conflicts and add to Temple calendar.

#### **April Toban Group:**

Jane Burster (Chair)  
Renee Moriguchi  
Jim Doyle and Tony Gregg  
Jae Bates

Phone tree members:

Kats Fujita  
Yasuko Morita  
Glenn Morita

#### **May Toban Group:**

Tom and Lynrae Hubbell (chairs)  
Ken and Lynne Tanino  
Jill Case  
Matthew and Merlaine Cook  
Tanya Henriques

Phone tree members:

Toyoko Nakagawara  
Hiroshi Nakagawara  
Pauline Yamashita

#### **April Group Responsibilities:**

- Monthly clean-up for April (with March toban group)
- Hanamatsuri: Help with set up and clean up with BWA. Set up tables and chairs. Cook rice.

#### **May Group Responsibilities:**

- Monthly clean-up for May and June
- Gotan-E Service & Ochigo: DS children involved. Help if requested
- Parents' Day Luncheon: help YBA as needed.
- Honor high school graduates: help Dharma School and BWA if requested

~Mayumi

## From Your Facility Committee



Some folks on the facilities crew, with the exception of this writer, have proven themselves to be expert jugglers. Tony Gregg and Tom Hubbell have been juggling range and gas line installations, in addition to, getting the cabinets refinished. Now when yours truly starts talking about juggling the cats run away-even when I utilize plastic knives. A few years ago, my amateur attempt to juggle knives resulted a cat version of Haute Couture. Although I thought the incident was no more than a happy accident that yielded unique "kitty wardrobes" my lowbrow felines were

more interested in not cashing in a couple of their nine lives for high fashion. Tony Gregg met the contractor, who completed the cabinet refinishing project. Tony sent some before and after images and the results are absolutely stunning. When you get a chance please thank Tony for coordinating with and meeting the contractor. Of course, the gremlins are never thankful for our good fortune. One of them, Johnny Schmuckosmelly, passed out a leaflet alerting his associates to the project. They were to show up and throw some sand in the gears of the contractor's efforts. Problem is he misspelled refinishing as "finishing." In gremlin parlance "finishing the cabinets" means to demolish. Instead of bringing tools to muck up the contractors they arrived with popcorn or beer. Of course, they could have spilt some of the beer on the floor causing the human craftspeople to slip and break their tushie-bones. But the gremlins thought it more fun to get inebriated rather than waste the brew on their rai-son d'ê-tre. With gremlins and beer-mottainai. Unfortunately, not all of the gremlin teams have the DNA of the Three Stooges. The range installation has hit snag due issues with connecting the in-floor vent to the range. Facilities is still waiting for an estimate for the hood installation.

Leaks are another reason why Facilities will always be productively employed. The northeast corner roof above the Reverend Pratt Room sprung a leak and had to be repaired. Additionally, a drain pipe for a sink in the social hall kitchen rotted and had to be replaced just in the nick of time. Sukiyaki was just around the corner.

Jeff Hiroo and Fred Pelger save the tobans a lot of work with their weekly visits to clean up the temple. Mike Shiogi, David Yotsuuye, Tom Hubbell, Tony Gregg, Rick Tanabe, and Del Sasaki continue to contribute to the Facilities mission. Additionally, Gary Ichinaga, Bob Yoshioka, and Tad Kajimura provide important work for the Facilities team. Also, Kurt Osaka and Osaka Gardens continue to do a beautiful job in grounds upkeep.

~Dave

### **Sukiyaki Fundraiser, March 4, 2018**

Our annual Sukiyaki Dinner was held on March 4th from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. Our menu included our tasty sukiyaki dinners, chicken dinners and sides, mochi ice cream, mochi cupcakes and Rev. Kojo's miso soup.

The fundraiser was a great success as evidenced by a constant stream of patrons from well before 11:00 AM until after 2:00 PM. We made 884 sukiyaki dinners, an all-time high. We'd like to give a special thank you to all of the dedicated Committee Chairs and volunteers. It takes an amazing amount of energy to move the Sukiyaki fundraiser from construction, vegetable washing, food preparation to the Sukiyaki Dinner and, finally, the cleaning, dismantling and storing away of everything until next year.

The next Tacoma Buddhist Temple fundraiser will be Obon on August 4<sup>th</sup>.

In Gratitude,  
Tracy and Bobby

Thank You for your Support!!

## Yearly Memorial Services

### General Memorial Service Years for 2018

1st Year - 2017	17th Year - 2002
3rd Year - 2016	25th Year - 1994
7th Year - 2012	33rd Year - 1986
13th Year - 2006	50th Year - 1969



### April 2018:

17th Year	Uchiyama, Miyo	Shakuni Mi-Toku	April 28, 2002
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### May 2018:

3rd Year	Yoshida, Sachiko	Shakuni Jo-Ko	May 14, 2016
13th Year	Mizumoto, Michiko	Shakuni Mi-Chi	May 20, 2006
17th Year	Shiotani, Tamiji Tom	Shaku Myo-Ken	May 12, 2002
	Hayashi, Chiyo Jo	Shakuni Myo-Ji	May 18, 2002
	Taniguchi, Harry Haruyuki	Shaku Ko-Shin	May 25, 2002
25th Year	Taniguchi, Chiyomi	Shakuni Bi-Toku	May 10, 1994
50th Year	Sonoda, Taka	Shakuni Ho-Tei	May 10, 1969

### June 2018:

3rd Year	Kosai, Wesley	Shaku Ken-Kyo	June 4, 2016
17th Year	Heard, Eliyas	Shaku Myo-Ren Doji	June 25, 2002
33rd Year	Marumoto, Yasu	Shaku Myo-Raku	June 20, 1986

## 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)

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

<b>April</b>	<b>1</b>	Yasuko Morita & Erin Shimizu
	<b>8</b>	Michael Shiogi & Henry Stoll
	<b>15</b>	Ken Tanino & Coco Inoue
	<b>22</b>	David Yotsuuye & Bobby Yotsuuye
	<b>29</b>	Jane Burster & David Campbell
<b>May</b>	<b>6</b>	Denise Cline & Merlaine Cook
	<b>13</b>	Wendy Hamai & John Inge
	<b>20</b>	Del Sasaki & Rick Tanabe
	<b>27</b>	Kevin & Mayumi Ikeda

Monthly Book Club

*Buddhism Today!*

April 12 (Th) at 7pm at Kings Books

Featured Book:

*A Tale for the Time Being*

By Ruth Ozeki

Save the Date

May 19, 2018

3 - 5 pm

SPRING SEMINAR

*Rev. Candice Shibata*

"We are taking inventory of who has what keys to the temple. If you have temple keys and haven't been contacted, please call or email Lynrae Hubbell, (253) 232-2328 or [lynrae@harbornet.com](mailto:lynrae@harbornet.com).

Thank you!

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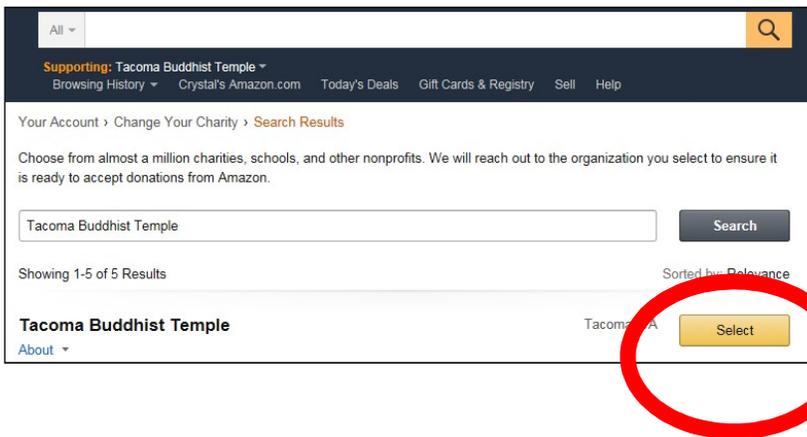
Type in [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)



## Step 2: Sign in and type in Tacoma Buddhist Temple.



## Step 3: Select Tacoma Buddhist Temple. Once selected, you will receive an email confirmation and you can begin shopping.



## Step 4: Start Shopping! Once you've selected your Tacoma Buddhist Temple everything else functions the same. Shop for your favorite products or the perfect gift. Most products are eligible on Amazon Smile—if not, you'll be notified. You can checkout normally as well. No extra cost is passed onto you—Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to our Temple.

Thank you!

# ***Welcome***



## ***Kretchmar family***

### ***Where did you grow up?***

Yoshino was born and raised in Chiyoda, a small farming town in Gunma Prefecture, Japan. She and her family ran the local restaurant and lived above it. She spent some time Miami, FL before returning to Japan when Yuto was born.

Josh was born in Milwaukee, WI and spent much of his twenties in Israel and France. He spent 20 years in Texas and 1 1/2 years in Vietnam. He was in his 40s when he moved to Miami to attend medical school and met Yoshino.

### ***Why did you choose to be members of the Temple?***

We believe in the Four Noble Truths and the Eight-fold Path and like the Tacoma Buddhist Temple, are steeped in both Japanese and Buddhist cultures albeit in very different ways. For Yoshino, these are “in her blood and breath” while Joshua has spent much of his adult life in both monastic and community Buddhist and Zen practices

### ***Do you have any special skills or interests that could add to the Sangha?***

Whatever the Temple’s needs in terms of Japanese food, culture, and language, Yoshino stands ready and eager to assist. Whatever it is, when you want it rebuilt/repaired, Joshua will be happy to assist. He is also a Family and Emergency Medicine physician should the temple need a physician for events.

### ***What do you want the Temple to know about you?***

We are grateful to find a sangha where our very mixed culture family can “just be”. We have two lovely sons: Yuto, 10, and Alain, 7, who are eager to make friends in our new home. We live in University Place and have a beautiful garden where kids can play. Please call if you have children who would like to play. 817-789-2639 or for Nihongo: 954-479-1550

## ***Lynne Blick***



### ***Where did you grow up?***

I was born in Tacoma. The second child of two immigrants. My father was born and raised in Norway. My mother was born and raised in Canada. I grew up in a warm, loving home. I was taught to respect others’ ideas and feelings. I was raised Lutheran.

### ***Why did you choose to become a member of the Temple?***

When I became a teenager, I began to question the lessons taught by my church. I found my questions were not appreciated. I couldn't believe I was a sinner, when all I had done was grow up. I became spiritual but not religious. The Temple answers my questions and does not condemn. The Dharma helps me become the person I want to be.

### ***Do you have any special skills or interests that could add to the Sangha?***

I love to meet people and hear their stories. I love to help.

### ***What else do you want the Temple to know about you?***

I am so happy to be a part of this Sangha. You have given me the opportunity to grow as a person.



**Father-Son Minister tag team:** Rev. Nobuo Miyaji was formerly recognized and honored for his retirement after 40+ years as a BCA minister. This was followed shortly by recognition of his son, our own, Rev. Takashi Miyaji as a new BCA minister. This was wonderful to see. Talk about passing on the torch. . .



### Sukiyaki Fundraiser



## \*April 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 830am BEC 10am Family Service DS & Dharma Exchange	2	3	4	5	6	7 Rev. Ogui Fare- well Luncheon at 11:30
8 2 pm Hanamatsuri Service Potluck Dinner & BWA Dessert Bake Sale to follow	9	10	11	12 7pm Book Club @ Kings Books	13	14
15 815am Board m 10am Family Service DS & Dharma Exchange	16 MYOKYO DEADLINE	17	18	19	20	21
22 10am Family Service DS & Dharma Exchange	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 10am Family Service DS & Dharma Exchange  1130 am Sumi e class	30					

## \*May 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
10am Family Service DS & Dharma Exchange	7	8	9	10 7pm Book Club @ Kings Books	11	12
13 815 am BEC 10am Family Service DS & Dharma Exch.	14	15	16	17	18	19 Spring Seminar 3-5 PM Rev. Shibata
20 815am Board 10am Gotan-E Rev. Shibata DS & Dharma Exchange	21 MYOKYO DEADLINE	22	23	24	25	26
27 Memorial Day Service No DS/DE Cemetery Visitation	28	29	30	31		