



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)

August 2021

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

A joint message from Rev. Koyama and President Crystal:

When Will the Temple Reopen?

Warm greetings to everyone! We hope you are all enjoying your summer and are staying cool during the really warm days! We wanted to address the question that is probably on everyone's minds, "when do we get to come back to temple in-person?"

We know many are feeling the strong desire to return to the temple, to be able to sit together in the Hondo, to share in the dharma, and to enjoy each other's company. We miss seeing everyone's smiling faces and to catch up on family stories and to have fun events that support the community and the temple.

At the time of this newsletter, the current influx of the delta variant of COVID-19, still makes us unsure as to what capacity we can reopen. Like many of you we are monitoring the situation as best as possible to ensure that when we do return to the temple, that we do so in a manner that is safe for all of us.

We appreciate your continued support to the temple during these difficult times of separation, but we hope that by the September Myokyo, we will have more knowledge and better statistics to aid our decision-making.

Please know, that we are just as eager as all of you to reconnect in-person and to walk through the lovely doors of our temple again! Until we are able to see you all again, please feel free to reach out to us if you have any concerns or questions about reopening. We promise to keep everyone as up to date as possible about our reopening progress in the month to come!

We thank you for your patience and understanding!


In Gassho,

Rev. Tadao Koyama
Resident Minister
revtadaok@gmail.com

Crystal Inge
Temple President
Crystal.inge@gmail.com

President's Message



Our final summer month is here so I hope you can enjoy it with family and good food! Speaking of food, I would like to thank the Drive-Thru Obon Fundraiser Committee for all of their hard work in planning and preparing the event. We are grateful to everyone who purchased a bento, our memorial candles and those who donated in memory of a loved one. 

Thank you to the Obon planning committee: Rev. Koyama, David Yotsuuye, Lynne Tanino, June Akita, Bobby Yotsuuye, Karen Yoshitomi, Les Hitsman, Kevin Ikeda, Michael Shiogi and Emma Inge. And, special thank you to the Memorial Candle Committee – Wendy Hamai, Donna Sasaki and Lynrae Hubbell for coordinating the candle donations and incorporating a wonderful digital presentation in the Hatsubon service video with Rev. Koyama. To keep food prep safe, we had to keep to a small group of volunteers – so thank you to those that helped and to those who offered.



Obon and our Bon Odori festival is such a special time, and we hope to hold it in-person next year. Please check out the Drive-Thru Obon video highlights and the Hatsubon service on our YouTube account! It's different from last year and you won't want to miss it!

Also, on July 25th, we held our first live Sunday service outside in the temple garden. Thank you to Rev. Koyama, Rev. Yukawa, Rev. Pelger, Rev. Yasaki, Lynrae Hubbell and Erik Hammerstrom, the BEC, chair Kate Inge and all of the check-in and safety volunteers. The service was recorded for those who couldn't attend, so please check it out on our YouTube account!

Thank you all!

Gassho, Crystal

Young Buddhist Association News



As YBA Advisors, Junko and I would like to wish you all an enjoyable final month of Summer! The new school year will begin after Labor Day in September, and we expect the YBA to keep active in temple and extracurricular events.

Thank-you, for making the YBA T-Shirt sale fundraiser a tremendous success! We made over 60 t-shirts and sold all but a few. If you are interested in finding out what is left, please email Jet Yotsuuye (yotsuuye@gmail.com) to inquire about the few remaining T-Shirts.

Less expenses, half of all proceeds will be donated to Temple and the other half will go towards funding future YBA activities such as the Halloween Candy Dash for Dharma School children.

Looking forward to seeing you all when Temple opens back up for Sunday service and wish all of you a happy end of summer.

Gassho,

Bobby & Junko
YBA Advisors

Buddhist Education Committee News



It has been over a year since the covid pandemic began and recently I pondered how it affected me. In the beginning there was a strong focus on cleaning and sanitizing everything. It made wearing a mask mandatory when I am out of the house and, who would have known a face mask would become a fashion statement. There was less traffic on the roads when I went for my daily walk, and I could clearly hear nature. There were long lines at the grocery stores and all non-essential businesses were closed including the temple. I adapted to earlier shopping hours, cooking more, and exploring youtube Buddhism videos as well as other entertaining clips. But more important was staying connected with family and friends during this challenging time and being reassured that they were okay.

At first, I thought this pandemic would be 'over in a few' and we would be resuming the activities we normally did. However, as it continued on my Sunday mornings gradually evolved into more personal time to work in the garden, surf the net or work on a craft project since the temple remained closed and my travel plans were put on hold. Thus, I began to explore a little deeper into the Buddhist services, lectures, and music that were accessible online. There is a vast selection to choose from as many temples locally and abroad, began posting their services and events.

Living through this pandemic period has strengthen my gratitude to those around me, and those who work to provide for my being and safety, like the farmers, police, grocery, and healthcare workers. Then there is the idea of impermanence, whether it is an illness, losing one's job, the change in air quality from the wildfires or covid mandates related with the pandemic. Life is constantly changing and to be able to adapt and be flexible to the changes lessens one's stress and suffering. Reflection in meditation and repeating the nembutsu has helped me get through this difficult period. How about you?

Lastly, the BEC continues to support Rev. Koyama with temple services and Buddhist education in preparation for the reopening of the temple. If you have any suggestions or ideas, please contact a BEC member. They are Rev. Koyama, Rev. Cyndi, Erik Hammerstrom, Lynrae Hubble, Fred Pelger, Donna Sasaki, Kenzo Yoshitomi and me.

Gassho,
Patti

Toban News



Toban Committee Updates:
(Crystal Inge, Donna Sasaki, Barry Weled & Kaila Yoshitomi)



We hope everyone is having a great summer with family and friends, as things begin to re-open in Washington State! In conjunction with the Tacoma Buddhist Temple re-opening committee, the Toban Committee will begin preparing for our return to the Temple.

Since it has been a while, and we have had a couple new members join our Sangha, we thought it would be the perfect time to talk about what the Tobans are for and how they may change going forward. The Tobans at the Tacoma Buddhist Temple are work groups (12, each assigned to a month of the year, which rotates annually) of members who work together to share the responsibilities of maintaining the Temple as well as prepare for special events. This includes the monthly temple cleanups, monthly coffee hours (tbd when these will resume in-person) and special events like helping prepare snacks for volunteers at Obon, Sukiyaki, Bazaar and more.

When we return to full-time in-person services and events at the Temple, please keep an eye on your email inboxes and Myokyo articles about how we will start using the Toban groups again and when the monthly cleanups will start.

Please feel free to reach out to any of us on the Toban Committee if you have any questions.

In gassho,
Kaila

Facility Committee Update



Well folks, we are in the midst of the dog days of summer when the hounds and the gremlins lie on the front porch sawing logs, in a state of torpor. With that window of opportunity, Tom Hubbell, with tippy toes and stealth, installed a new peephole in the social hall kitchen door. But, as the facilities crew's ops tempo starts to pick up, those gremlins will no doubt wake up and get down to business.

We are beyond the tipping point regarding the new stove. Tom Hubbell ordered the new appliance, which is scheduled for delivery on this Friday, July 23. A work party will meet the stove and move it temporarily into the garage. Our current stove will go out with a splash right after the drive-through Obon bento fundraiser. After that last hurrah, our ancient 20th-century wonder will be retired and replaced with a 21st-century technical marvel. We should all be grateful for all the great memories we accumulated with that stove over the decades during fundraisers and social events. I'm sure the gremlins are rubbing their grubby hands in anticipation, but it's they who will do all the flubbing. While those troublemakers can barely play checkers, Tom Hubbell excels at the planning equivalent of multi-dimensional chess.

All that trash and litter gather no moss as Tom Hubbell and Lynrae blitz along Fawcett Avenue removing those public eyesores. David Yotsuuye, Robert Yotsuuye, Gary Ichinaga, Tom Hubbell, Tony Gregg, Rick Tanabe, Del Sasaki, and Mike Shiogi keep the facilities program well-oiled and responsive. Kurt Osaka and Osaka Gardens are keeping our temple lawn in inspection order.

~Dave

Yearly Memorial Service

General Memorial Service Years for 2021

1 st Year - 2020	17 th Year - 2005
3 rd Year - 2019	25 th Year - 1997
7 th Year - 2015	33 rd Year - 1989
13 th Year - 2009	50 th Year - 1972



August

13 th Year	Shikino Betty Thirkill	August 16 th , 2009
17 th Year	Dick Tadashi Osaka	August 21 st , 2005
25 th Year	Miyoko Narimatsu	August 6 th , 1997
33 rd Year	Tadayasu Abo	August 8 th , 1989

September

1 st Year	Frank Komoto	September 22, 2020
3 rd Year	Yoshinobu Henry Kakiuchi	September 3, 2019
13 th Year	Bill Masatoshi Sugiyama	September 3, 2009
17 th Year	Violet Hiroko Tanabe	September 17, 2005
25 th Year	Edwin Michael Arima	September 8, 1997

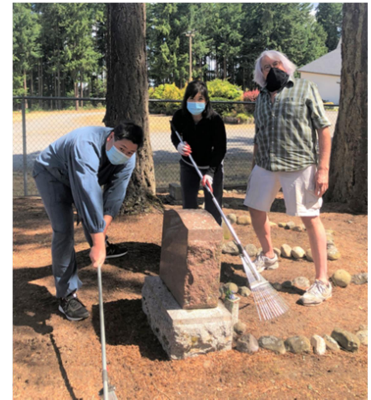
October

3 rd Year	Robert Nakayama	October 23, 2019
17 th Year	Michiko Osaka	October 29, 2005
25 th Year	Omitsu Taketa	October 8, 1997
25 th Year	Shigeko Kubota	October 12, 1997
25 th Year	Urano Kato	October 25, 1997
25 th Year	Michiko Shelton	October 26, 1997
33 rd Year	Mitsu Fujimoto	October 18, 1989
50 th Year	Kura Itami	October 3, 1972

Greeters Schedule

*The greeters list will resume when the temple reopens.

Eatonville Cemetery cleanup



White River Buddhist Temple Obon Dessert Fundraiser

In lieu of the traditional in-person Bon Odori, White River Buddhist Temple is going virtual this year! But that doesn't mean you can't enjoy some of your favorite flavors of the season! Purchase a one of their world famous pies, nostalgic manju, or velvety soft mochi - all while supporting the Temple!

Special pick-up will take place at our temple Saturday, August 14th at 11 am - 12 pm.

Prefer to order via mail? Order form available at

www.wrbt.org/bonodori2021.

Thank you for supporting White River Buddhist Temple!

SAVE THE DATE! The convention is around the corner.

The registration link:

<https://www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/nw-district-convention2021>

74th Annual Northwest District (Virtual) Convention

The
A
R
T
Transformation
Of Buddhist Living

**No
Registration
Fee!**



Keynote Speaker

Reverend Peter Hata

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

SEPTEMBER 12 - 19, 2021

Featured Presenters:

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

Registration and Other Details to Follow

www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/nw-district-convention2021

contact us: convention@oregonbuddhisttemple.com

Book Club

@ KING's Books

August 12 at 7 pm

***The Hidden Lamp: Stories from 25 Centuries of
Awakened Women***

Caplow and Moon

****In-person event****

*August 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 <i>YouTube Shotsuki Service</i> YouTube Service	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 YouTube Service No Dharma School	9	10	11 Study Class via Zoom	12 <i>Bookclub, 7 PM</i> King's Books In-person	13	14 <i>White River Obon</i> Dessert Delivery 11am - 12pm
15 YouTube Service <i>Temple Board Meeting</i>	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 YouTube Service No Dharma School	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 YouTube Service No Dharma School	30	31				

*September 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4 Youtube Shotsuki Service
5 YouTube Service No Dharma School	6 <i>Labor Day</i>	7	8 <i>Study Class</i> Via Zoom	9 <i>Bookclub</i> King's Books 7pm In-person	10	11
12 NW Convetion <i>begins via Zoom</i>	13 <i>NW Convention</i> <i>Zoom</i>	14 <i>NW Convention</i> <i>Zoom</i>	15 <i>NW Convention</i> <i>Zoom</i>	16 <i>NW Convention</i> <i>Zoom</i>	17 <i>NW Convention</i> <i>Zoom</i>	18 <i>NW Convention</i> <i>Zoom</i>
19 NW Convention Concludes Temple Board Meeting	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 YouTube Service Dharma School TBD	27	28	29	30		