



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)

November 2022



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



Approaching Another Year's End! Enjoy the Moment!

Rev. Tadao Koyama

I can't believe that it is already November and that we are two months away from ending this year! Can you all believe it? It still stuns me that time seems to pass so quickly. We also notice that there is a brand new road right in front of the temple that looks beautiful! I would like to thank the members of Active Construction, Inc. for their hard work and dedication to replace the road and various other projects that needed to be completed on our street. The sidewalk and road already look much nicer!

This got me to thinking about the concept of impermanence again. Already we are seeing the leaves change color and the days becoming shorter and colder! We had some hot days, but ultimately we are starting to see our surroundings change with the season. As human beings who are not enlightened, we sometimes want to cling to seasons and circumstances that are most favorable to us. We want the sunny days without the smoke. We want the sun without the heat. We don't like the rain or want more rain.

When we transition to the various seasons I sometimes feel we become a bit grumpier too. I wonder if this is because change is forced onto us without our say so. We become upset that we cannot control the weather. While many of us may be cheering the coming of the rain to help douse the fires and clear the smoke, the next week we might think to ourselves, "okay, I am tired of the rain, I want the sun back."

When the weather becomes cold, we rarely want to go outside. It is sure fun to play in the snow and experience the winter full on for a day, but by the end we become tired and cold and want to go back inside to the protection of the heat. It is very interesting how much the weather or the season seems to play a role in how we feel or how we even think. We are often affected by external forces that could change our mood for the better or the worse.... Or are we?

The Buddha or any Buddhist master would probably tell us that it is not the external force like the winter season or the changing to winter that truly affects us, but merely our inability to accept the change. We as ordinary or unenlightened beings still sometimes cannot accept the fact that the weather and seasons change whether we want it to or not. It is a change that goes beyond our control and that is what truly scares and angers us.

Yet because of this way of thinking, Amida Buddha continues to work to provide each and every one of us with the wisdom and compassion we can take inspiration to. Amida accepts our shortcomings and still continues to show us the true meaning of the Dharma every second of our lives. This isn't to say that we should continue complaining and ranting about the weather, but to state that sometimes, we just can't help it. We may intellectually know the reality that the seasons change, but deep down there is a little voice inside of us that complains and wishes it were still warm or still cool.

Our comfort is a difficult feeling for us to let go. All the more reason then that Amida works tirelessly for our liberation.

President's Message



On behalf of the of our temple, I extend my deepest condolences to the family of Hana Yoshida who passed away on October 10th. Mrs. Yoshida was 103 and our most senior Keiro temple member. An interesting fact – she and her husband Nobu were the first couple married in our temple when many returned after WWII. I'm sure her wedding dress was beautiful as I remember Mrs. Yoshida to always be well dressed and put together. She will be greatly missed.



In October, we were fortunate to hold our traditional Fall Seminar in person with guest speaker Rev. Kiyohara, resident minister of Makawao Hongwanji Buddhist Temple in Maui. We had a good-sized group who enjoyed his presentation and the chicken karaage dinner prepared by Rev. Koyama with the support of the YBA. It's wonderful to see so many people back at the temple for activities and our Sunday services. The past two years have been challenging but have also proven that the connection to the Dharma and between our Sangha runs deep and unique to our temple. There are new and familiar faces (adults and children) which makes coming back in person even richer. We continue to follow health protocols to respect everyone and hope that if you haven't been to the temple lately and are physically able – you'll connect soon. Hybrid Sunday services are ongoing so you can enjoy them from the comfort of your home. Please contact me if you'd like the Zoom link or look for the link in our email announcements.

Thank you to co-chair Tracy Ling, committee chairs and volunteers in making the Drive-Thru Bento Bazaar a successful event. If you couldn't order by the Oct 26th deadline, please consider donating by sending an old-fashioned check or donate online at www.tacomabt.org. Our drive-thru fundraisers allow for safe prep and delivery, but we hope to get back to in-person events next year.

As we head into December (can't believe it!), please save December 4th for Bodhi Day service led by the Lotus class and our General Meeting where we'll be voting on our budget, new board members and other initiatives. In lieu of a potluck, we are looking to hold a buffet luncheon so stay tuned for more details.

While the street in front of our temple is in disarray, there is still parking in the alley and on the side streets. If you have any questions or concerns on anything, don't hesitate to reach out to me: crystal.inge@gmail.com
Thank you and see you soon!

Gassho,
Crystal

Buddhist Women's Association News



Hello BWA members!



It was wonderful to see so many BWA members in attendance October 8th and 9th for the Fall Seminar and the Eshinni and Kakushinni Memorial Service, both featuring Rev. Kerry Kiyohara from Makawao Hongwanji in Hawaii.

Here are a few upcoming BWA activities for your calendars:

Supporting our Temple

Daifuku Mochi: On Tuesday, November 1st at 10am, BWA members will make approximately 600 mochi to support the Temple Bazaar. If you are able to come help, please remember to wear a headscarf, hat or other hair covering. Masks will be provided and will need to be worn for the entirety of the activity.

Supporting our Community

Food & Clothing Drive: October 9th – December 11th we have placed bins in the foyer of the temple to collect clothes and non-perishable food items to be donated in December. Thank you in advance for your donations and for helping us support others in our community.

Having fun TOGETHER

BWA New Year's Luncheon: Our annual luncheon has been scheduled for January 29th, 2023, following service. We will enjoy a catered luncheon with all our favorite activities.

I'm enjoying every minute I get to see each of you at temple and at various activities. It was an extraordinarily long time to be apart and I'm overjoyed to be back with you all.

In Gassho,
Denise Cline, Tacoma BWA President

Dharma School News



Everyone is getting excited for the Halloween Party on October 30th! The YBA students will be serving a pizza lunch for our students and sangha and have some fun and exciting games set for all the DS students afterwards. This is always such a fun and 'creative' time of year. We will have regular Dharma School Service first and then we will 'quietly' exit to the Social Hall for the P-A-R-T-Y! Remember to keep your masks on until you eat or drink, and have fun!

Hearing **little Jasper** 'talking' in the hondo is such a comforting sound – a sign that there is future growth for our temple. Our lotus class is also hitting the kansho and taking care of chairing the Dharma School Service with NO hesitation!! Thank you ALL for being part of our temple!

All of our students honored and presented our Grandparents with a small bouquet of flowers and a **"Happy Grandparents' Day"** greeting on September 25th in the hondo. This was our way of saying thank you for all the guidance and love you have shared with your grandchildren AND us!! (See pictures)

Brett Johnson had a special workshop with our Lotus and Maitreya class students October 16th. He presented materials about the soil and water and looks forward to our spring outside gathering in a nearby park. Thank you, Brett, for sharing your expertise!!!

On October 9th, Dharma School sponsored a 'hot dog, chili dog or chili over rice with an over easy egg' lunch with **MANY** BWA members helping prepare and serve the food. BWA normally invites our guest minister to

lunch for the Eshinni Kakushinni Service, and this year, we decided to collaborate together with this luncheon so Reverend, Kiyohara could mingle with the sangha. Being that most of our DS parents are also teachers, we appreciated the BWA ladies' help in the kitchen. Thank you, **President Denise**, for working with us – it was fun and 'different'. I'm sure **Rev. Kiyohara** enjoyed himself and blended into the crowd easily. We also met mom **Christine and daughter Reiko Quinn** from Puyallup – hope to see you again, soon!!

Sunday Service Program: 10:00 Dharma School and All sangha arrive, oshoko
 Kansho
Class representatives go up for oshoko
Lotus student presents Osaisen to minister
 Message from Sensei, chanting, gatha
 Announcements
 10:40 Dharma School students dismissed to class
 11:30 Students dismissed to parents/guardians

Calendar:	October	30	NO DS	Halloween Party!!!
	November	6	NO DS	Take out Bazaar
		13	DS	Lotus set up for Bodhi Day; Lu-Ma regular
		20	DS	Lotus practice for Bodhi Day; Lu-Ma regular
		27	NO DS	Thanksgiving break

Please be safe and take care of each other – and take a few moments for yourself as well.

Gassho, June

Young Buddhist Association News



Hello everyone, hope you have been enjoying these sunny autumn days and are looking forward to Halloween!



The YBA had the opportunity to help out at this year's Fall Seminar featuring Rev. Kerry Kiyohara. We thank all who were able to attend and give special thanks to the YBA members who helped serve and prepare food with Rev. Koyama.

The YBA also attended the chili-hotdog social after service and we extend our gratitude to the DS for hosting and BWA for helping such a wonderful event for everyone.

In upcoming events, this year's Halloween Candy Dash will be held Sunday 30th after service in the social hall. Food and games will be provided, and all are welcome, children and adults!! Please come in costume to celebrate. Thank you all and look forward to seeing you there.

In Gassho
 Odessa

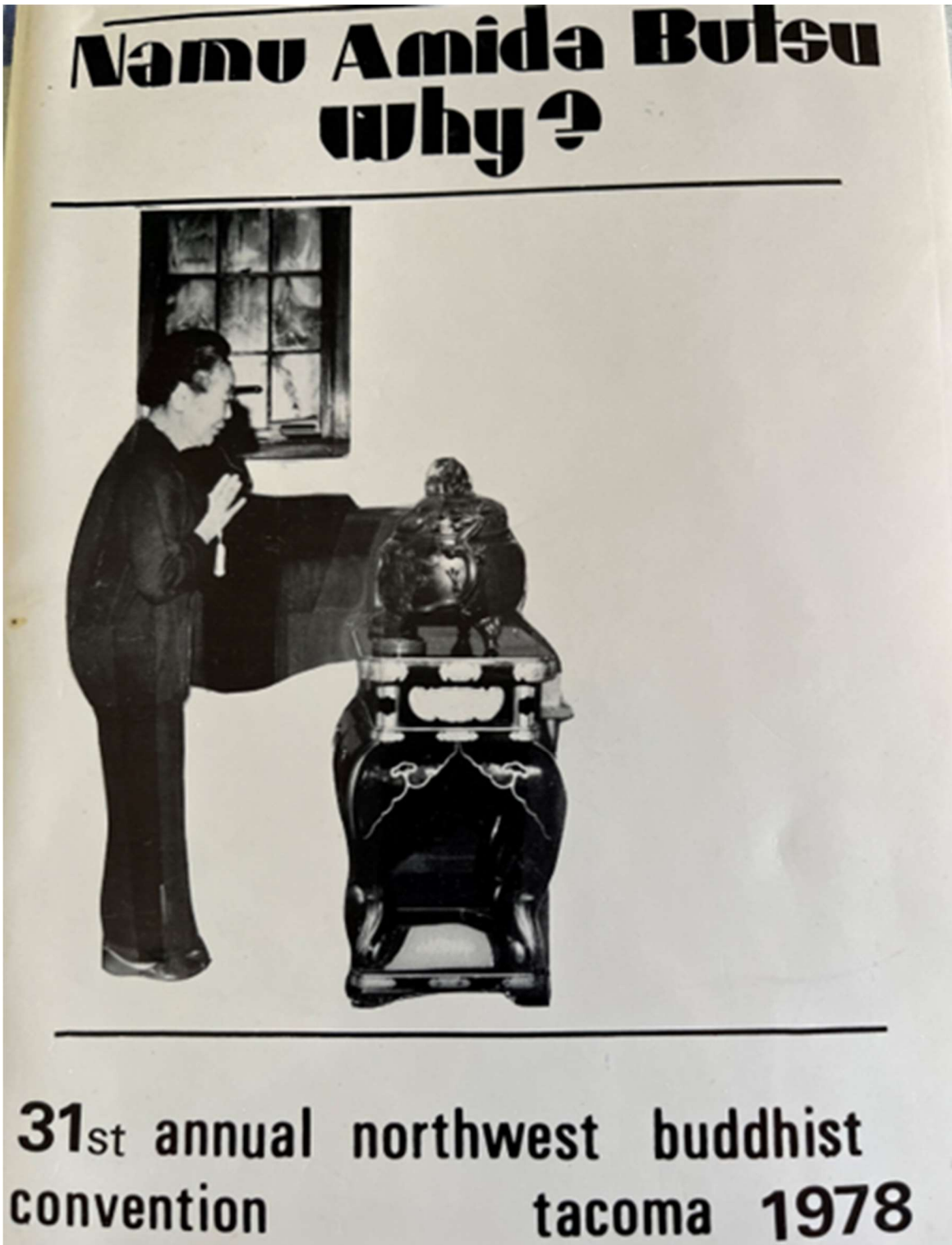
Buddhist Education Committee News



Looking back these past few months, I have been thinking of what to write for this BEC article. Since I've done updates on the new BCA Music Committee, this time I'll turn to a different avenue, something that occurred during the TYABA sponsored seminar



this past June. At the June seminar, we were in zoom breakout rooms and were asked different questions, one of which was ..."what symbolizes Buddhism to you?" I will admit, I am not a great thinker "on my feet" and this question made my mind whirl a bit, as it so often does!



I was surprised that this picture came to mind. It was a convention booklet cover in 1978 with Mrs. Omitsu Taketa doing oshoko at the temple.

This picture summed it all for me, seeing the dedicated mindset and pure gratitude of this Issei (1st generation) woman in gassho. This generation of immigrants felt something was missing in their lives. Not only struggling

to re-establish or reinvent themselves in a new and foreign country, but also wanting to fulfill their spiritual life as well by bringing over Buddhist ministers from Japan. I still vividly remember the gatherings we would have in our small farm community, having our local minister hold a short service in our homes, giving a Dharma message and then having a delicious potluck after. It really brought Buddhism to me on such a personal level in my younger years.

For those who attended the NW district convention in Ontario, OR, you may have heard the message given by Bishop Harada on Sunday. In his PowerPoint talk, he related a story of his high school experience on a track relay team and the ultimate message of encouraging us to “pass the baton” to future Jodo Shinshu followers. Had the Issei generation not felt the great need to establish Buddhist Sanghas or temples, where would we be? And now, with many visitors and newer members not part of that lineage of generations, we would never have had the opportunity to meet. So, I thank those prior generations for having the foresight to build and establish thriving Sanghas and temples.

We have celebrated our temple Centennial in 2015. Now in 2024 we will celebrate the Buddhist Churches of America’s 125th anniversary. Lots to celebrate and lots of responsibility for each of us to do our part to “pass the baton” so that all who enter our temple will encounter Jodo Shinshu Buddhism and feel that same gratitude, being surrounded by Amida’s Wisdom and Compassion, just like Mrs. Taketa in the convention photo. Let’s all share in the Dharma together!

Gassho,
Donna Sasaki

Note: For this convention, a very young Rev. Bob Oshita was the guest speaker. Crystal Inge and Rick Tanabe’s father, Yosh Tanabe was temple president. Activities included bowling, basketball and volleyball tournaments, a YBA dance and an ABA social, both with “live” music!

Also, Mrs. Taketa, mother of Rose Kishi, grandmother of Karen Yoshitomi, and great-grandmother of Kaila and Kenzo Yoshitomi passed her “baton” via her manju recipe through the generations in her family so that we can enjoy this delicious treat today!

Facility Committee Update



We know that Buddhist doctrine teaches about impermanence and there are examples abound. All around Tacoma Buddhist Temple, buildings have been demolished and new ones have risen in their place. In contrast, our beautiful facility still stands and will be an enduring feature of our changing neighborhood for decades to come. However, members of your Facilities team know all the impermanent features of our temple. So, when things break, yours truly responds with duct tape, baling wire, and YouTube to fill the vast knowledge gaps. All the others on your crack team of fixer uppers blitz in with all the tools and expertise to get it done. Work on the parsonage deck continues with preparation for the Trex installation.

Litter just doesn’t stand a chance with Lynrae Hubbell on the prowl. Fawcett Avenue and S Court D Street show evidence of her persistence and attention to detail. David Yotsuuye, Robert Yotsuuye, Gary Ichinaga, Tom Hubbell, Tony Gregg, Rick Tanabe, Del Sasaki, and Mike Shiogi spare no effort in keeping our temple in prime condition. Kurt Osaka and Osaka Gardens are eager to maintain our grounds but will have to wait until all the construction tasks have been completed. Instead, David Yotsuuye, Jeff Hiroo, Mike Shiogi, Del Sasaki, and Rick Tanabe are attacking those pesky tall weeds and grass.

~Dave

Toban



Toban is on a regular IN PERSON plan as of now. Two-month group will work as a team to choose a date/month for cleaning up the temple.

Professional cleaners are cleaning toilets twice a month

November Chair Todd & Marcia Nakamura

Kim & Cindy Nakamura
Alex Theisen
Vicki Yoshioka

December Chair Tom & Lynrae Hubbell

Gavin Morgan
Claire Silver
Merlaine Cook
Kara O'Toole & KT Hendrie

Toban Volunteers: We are asking each toban team to do **regular cleaning**. You have the option **not** to participate in cleaning for health concerns (please let your chair know).

Safety protocols: Must be **vaccinated** with two shots and boosters. Negative testing will NOT be accepted nor will a medical deferment.

Must be **masked** at all times while at the Temple (TBT provides masks)

Wearing TWO Level 3 masks (blue) or ONE KN95 mask

Stay 6 feet apart from others

Sign In (Check in sheets in Main kitchen. Leave sheet in VP box in office)

Cleaning Duties: Bathrooms: Professionally cleaned twice a month

Social Hall: Fuji Taiko will sweep and clean floor

Kitchen: Wipe down all counters
Sweep kitchen floor (Mop if needed)
Empty garbage/recycling as needed
Replenish bathroom supplies as needed

Main Floor: Dust pews
Quick sweep wooden floor
Sweep side kitchen
Wipe down counters
Replenish bathroom supplies as needed
Vacuum all carpets including stairwells

Rev. Pratt Room: Vacuum carpet
Wipe down tables
Wipe down and sweep kitchen area
Sweep and mop landing area
Vacuum and dust library
Empty garbage/recycling as needed

Upstairs Classrooms: Vacuum carpet in classrooms and balcony
Wipe down tables
Empty garbage/recycling as needed

***Social Hall Cooler:** April, August, December Tobans wipe down, mop and clean

Cleaning supply locations are located behind the duty list in the hallway and kitchen. Thank you very much for your understanding and cooperation on these changes as we are getting back to 'normal. Any suggestions to make this process work smoother are welcome.

Barry Weled and June Akita

Yearly Memorial Service

General Memorial Service Years for 2022

1 st Year – 2021	17 th Year – 2006
3 rd Year – 2020	25 th Year – 1998
7 th Year – 2016	33 rd Year – 1990
13 th Year – 2010	50 th Year – 1973



General Memorial Service Years for 2023

1 st Year – 2022	17 th Year – 2007
3 rd Year – 2021	25 th Year – 1999
7 th Year – 2017	33 rd Year – 1991
13 th Year – 2011	50 th Year – 1974

November 2022

7 th Year	Demi Renai Nibbana	November 5, 2016
25 th Year	Henry Yutaka Tanabe	November 27, 1998
33 rd Year	Yukiko Higashi	November 22, 1990

December 2022

3 rd Year	Miyoko Kanda	December 17, 2020
13 th Year	Gene Yoshio Dogen	December 25, 2010
33 rd Year	Hideyoshi Jinguji	December 31, 1990

January 2023

17 th Year	Sarah Sugimoto	January 18, 2007
25 th Year	Kinuko Sasaki	January 6, 1999
25 th Year	Sally Sakaye Kawasaki	January 10, 1999
25 th Year	James Mamoru Hiroo	January 29, 1999
25 th Year	Tommy Sadao Kubota	January 30, 1999
33 rd Year	Chieko Oka	January 24, 1991
50 th Year	Keiko Smith	January 14, 1974

Greeter's List

November	6	Bazaar – No service
	13	Tony Greg/Jim Doyle/John Inge
	20	Mike Shiogi/Debbie Abe/Lynn Blick
	27	Lynrae & Tom Hubbell/David Campbell
December	4	Tracy & Richard Ling/David Yotsuuye
	11	Bobby Yotsuuye/Barry & June Weled
	18	Carrie Mori/Gavin Morgan/Del Sasaki
	25	No service

January 1 New Year's Service

Greeters' Notes:

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."
- Extra supplies are in the ministers' room off the hondo.

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.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Updated COVID 19 booster requirements at the Tacoma Buddhist Temple

Our temple goal is to maintain the safety and health of our Sangha. With that in mind, updated booster requirements were discussed at the October 16, 2022, Board of Directors meeting and the following update for booster requirements was approved for those who enjoy attending services or events at the Tacoma Buddhist Temple.

This requirement is effective on December 1, 2022:

Participants 6 months to 4 years have completed their primary series. 5 years and older must show COVID- 19 vaccination records. If eligible a COVID-19 booster in the past 6 months.

TBT will continue to maintain requirements of screening for illness, masks, and social distancing. Thank you for your support to assist in keeping our Sangha healthy. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to Tracy Ling at tling12005@gmail.com or Barry Weled at bjpulm1@mac.com

Current information from the CDC

"Boosters improve your protection against serious illness or death from COVID-19 infection. They are safe and recommended for most people, including children. Updated boosters help restore protection that has decreased since your previous COVID 19 vaccination and provide better protection against the new variants." Bivalent boosters from Pfizer and Moderna are approved from 5 years old and up. The Bivalent booster is the first "proactive" booster to provide immunity against COVID 19. The booster contains mRNA to provide activation of antibody production against the current variant and 2nd activation for the predicted future COVID 19 variant. The bivalent booster can be administered 2 months from the last date of primary series or 2 months after the last booster date."

Tacoma Buddhist Temple's
Spirit, Mind and Body Health Series



Yoga for Compassion

Monthly, Saturday 9:00 am – 10:00 am in the temple social hall or via Zoom

You will learn the fundamentals of yoga postures and experience connecting movement and breath. The class will begin seated in a chair and then progress to standing. Please save these dates and connect with Tracy Ling to register or if you have questions.

November 12

December 10

Instructor and Temple Member, Kara O'Toole.

Free class! Register www.tacomabt.org for Waiver and Zoom Link.

Contact Tracy Ling to register or if you have questions: tling12005@gmail.com





Our condolences to the family of a dear member

Hana Yoshida



We announce with heavy hearts that Hana Yoshida passed away on Monday, October 10, 2022. She was 103 and our most senior Keiro temple member. With roots in Tacoma, she and her husband Nobu Yoshida were owners of the Fuji 10-cent store, running a successful business providing families and communities with Japanese groceries, toys, and other supplies. She and her husband were very involved with the temple and were the first to be married when families came back after WWII. Hana also started our first Bon Odori and enjoyed teaching dances to everyone.

The family would like koden (memorial donation) to be given to:

**Franciscan Hospice House
2901 Bridgeport Way W
University Place, WA 98466**

*May you find comfort in the light of the infinite Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha.
Namo Amida Butsu*

Book Club

November 10 @ 7:00 pm

***Zen and the Art of Saving the
Planet***

Thich Nhat Hahn



Happy Grandparents' Day!!!!

Helping with the Fall Seminar dinner



DECEMBER

31



JANUARY

1



NEW YEAR'S EVE NEW YEAR'S DAY

**Akemashite Omedetou
Gozaimasu! Come celebrate
at Tacoma Buddhist
Temple!**

New Year's Eve Service: December 31, 2022 @ 4pm
Toshikoshi Soba after service.

New Year's Day Service: January 1, 2023 @ 10am
Ozoni after service

*November 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 <i>BWA Daifuku Mochi prep for Bazaar 10am-2pm</i>	2	3	4	5 YouTube Shotsuki Service
6 <i>Daylight Savings Time ends</i> Fall Drive-Thru Bazaar 11am-1pm No Service	7	8	9 <i>Study class Hybrid 6pm at Temple</i>	10 <i>Book Club at King's Books 7pm</i>	11	12 <i>Spirit, Mind, and Body Yoga for Compassion</i> 9am
13 Eitaikyo Service 10am Dharma School BEC Meeting after service	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 Board Meeting 8:30am In-Person Service 10am Dharma School	21 Myokyo Deadline	22	23	24 Thanksgiving	25	26
27 In-Person Service 10am No Dharma School	28	29	30			

*December 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3 YouTube Shotsuki Service
4 Bodhi Day Service 10am General Meeting After Service Buffet Luncheon after meeting	5	6	7	8	9	10 <i>Spirit, Mind, and Body Yoga for Compassion</i> 9am
11 In-Person Service 10am Dharma School BEC Meeting after service	12	13	14 <i>Study class Hybrid 6pm at Temple</i>	15	16	17
18 Board Meeting 8:30am In-Person Service 10am Temple Cleanup After Service No Dharma School	19 Myokyo Deadline	20	21	22	23	24
25 No Service	26	27	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve Service 4pm