



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)

December 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



The Warmth of Amida Still Reaches Us!

Rev. Tadao Koyama

I can't believe I am already writing the December Myokyo article! I thought I just finished with November's! Greetings to everyone! I am so thankful and happy that we as a community have continued to thrive and grow throughout this year. I would like to thank this opportunity to thank everyone at Tacoma Buddhist Temple for all of their support and dedication to help spread the Dharma.

I would especially like to thank our wonderful temple President, Crystal Inge for her strong leadership and doing so much work into reopening the temple once again for in-person services and events. Without her leadership, I am not sure where we would be today. Thank you so much Crystal!

As we begin to wrap up this year, it is very common to become engulfed in holiday plans. Myself included! Right now, since the world has pretty much re-opened, everyone is making their holiday plans, buying many gifts, and mentally trying to prepare for the stress of holiday travel. It is also cold! I think that this cold weather is a record!

While we are focused on all of the busy activities that come with the holidays, let us remember the central doctrine of our teachings. That Amida's wisdom and compassion still works for us. We might be approaching the end of 2022, but the working of the Dharma still continues with no timeline. We have goals and new year's resolutions that we set for ourselves on a regular basis. Yet for Amida, the work is endless and timeless.

It is always good to come back to this teaching to remind us that while we may have all of the regular daily life challenges that will inevitably cause us suffering or discomfort, we can always lean on the wisdom and compassion of Amida Buddha. The knowledge knowing that no matter what our circumstance, the dharma continues to work for us.

I encourage all of us to look back to the teachings of Shakyamuni Buddha, of the seven masters, and Shinran. They may have lived centuries before us, but they continue to teach us lessons that are applicable to this day. The consistency of the teachings is what helps ground us turn our focus back to Amida.

I wish everyone a great winter holiday and a wonderful new year! I am so fortunate to be able to be with all of you and to celebrate with you all in-person once again.

Namo Amida Butsu.

President's Message



her greatly.

These past two months have been difficult in terms of losing beloved temple members. I extend my deepest condolences to the family and friends of Yasuko Morita who passed away on Oct 27. As a very close friend of my mom's, I would describe Yasuko as a spunky lady with a great sense of humor and creativity. She led many facets of our temple including the chairing our first obon after the war, being a Dharma School teacher, being active in our BWA, prepping food for our fundraisers and organizing the rummage sale. We will miss



Please save December 4th for our Bodhi Day service led by our Lotus class. Right after our service we will hold our Annual General Membership meeting in the hondo so please attend to hear 2022 highlights and review 2023 budget for approval. The Dharma School will then host a luncheon in the social hall so please join in our first Bodhi Day in three years!

I'm happy to announce Fawcett Street in front of our temple is paved. The sidewalks are done, and parking is open – on most areas. For Sunday services, we'd like to request that everyone enter the temple from the front doors and not the kitchen so our greeters can focus and coordinate efforts on one entry. If you haven't had a chance to attend our service in-person, please join. You may even get a sighting of Rev. and Mrs. Yukawa!

Thank you for your support whether in your time, participation, or donation.

Gassho,
Crystal

Buddhist Women's Association News



Welcome new members Erina and Rachel! We are so excited to welcome you to the Tacoma BWA!!!



We had so much fun making Daifuku Mochi to support the Temple Bazaar. Thank you to everyone that was able to come on a Tuesday morning to help! I truly appreciate everyone accommodating my busy schedule and moving this event to Tuesday.



Thelma and Tracy making and counting 'An balls



Patti, Kazuko and Fujiko measuring, and mixing the mochi batter

Our Food & Clothing drive runs through December 11th. Thank you in advance for your donations to help support others in our community! ❤️

Our BWA New Year's Luncheon is scheduled for January 29th, 2023. This will be a catered luncheon (menu chosen at our October meeting) and we will have a raffle, optional gift exchange and door prizes! We will collect membership dues, luncheon fee and hand out the 2023 BWA Member Booklet and Calendar and year end reports.

Dues: \$15 (note the new dues amount)

Luncheon fee: \$15 (complimentary for new members!)

Gift Exchange: Gift value between \$8-\$10 (participation in gift exchange is optional)

Wishing you all a safe and wonderful holiday season!

In Gassho,
Denise Cline, Tacoma BWA President

Dharma School News



November is such a great month to think of people, places, things, ideas that we are grateful for. Students wrote on Tom Turkey's feathers....bachan, jichan, trees, family, talent, rice, bananas...so honest and with no hesitation!! With the winter holidays approaching, it's an even greater opportunity to share how we appreciate others as well as the colder weather. Just a nice time to recognize the 'good things' in our lives. Thank you ALL!!



Thank you **YBA** for sponsoring such a fun and delicious Halloween day! It was just fun to see the kids and adults in costume and just enjoying everyone. While the Lotus students were busy preparing lunch, the **Lumbini and Maitreya** students shared some treats to our adult guests. They were well received and missed a picture of Ms. Alex enjoying her sucker! Thank you for our first 'food' gathering' since 2019!!



Welcome to **Gma Harriet and Granddaughter Avy** to Dharma School! Avy is in the 7th grade and has a talent for art. We will do a more formal introduction soon. Please welcome them on December 4th as they will join us for the Gingerbread House session.

As most of you are aware, Bodhi Day is on December 4th with our **Lotus Class students chairing the service**. After the service, adults are welcome to remain in the Hondo for a General Meeting while **ALL Dharma School students will go downstairs to make gingerbread houses**. We will be using the houses as our table decorations and also be presenting student gifts, teacher gifts, and temple gifts at the gathering.

Dharma School will be hosting the lunch so will be in charge of setting up, preparing, being hosts, and cleaning up. This will be a new role for some of us but it will be great under the leadership of Junko and DS parents.

Sunday Service Program: 10:00 Dharma School and All sangha arrive, oshoko
Kansho
Class representatives and Adult 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

November/December:

November	27	NO DS	Thanksgiving break
December	4	No Class	Bodhi Day (Gingerbread Houses)
	11	Class	Clean up Classrooms for New Year
	18	NO DS	General Temple Clean Up
	25	NO DS	

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!

I hope everybody had a wonderful Thanksgiving break and is making it through the brisk autumn and winter cold!

The YBA was able to have our annual Halloween candy dash in person for the first time on October 30th! We saw some amazing costumes and ate our fair share of candy. The YBA was able to offer games like the balloon stomp, pin the nose on the pumpkin, and of course, the candy dash for all the kids who came, as well as the adults. I would like to thank all the families who attended and those who volunteered for making this event possible.

The YBA is now hosting our annual Holiday Greeting Fundraiser. By filling out the application form (**see page 15**), you will be able to create a New Year's greeting that will be posted on the January Myokyo. The deadline for submitting the form will be December 18th.

Happy Holidays!
Gassho,
Odessa

Buddhist Education Committee News



First off, I'd like to start by saying thank you to everyone who helped with this year's Fall Bazaar. We truly appreciate you all for taking the time to support our annual event! We enjoyed seeing you all and being able to spend some time together. As Bazaar passes this means that Bodhi day is just around the corner so make sure to mark your calendars for Sunday, December 4th. To wrap up the year on December 31st, we will be holding Joya-e at 4:00 PM followed by toshikoshi soba. Lastly, it wouldn't be complete without New Year's Day service at 10:00 AM followed by rice cake soup.

I always try to take note whenever I notice Buddhism becoming more apparent in my daily life. Most of the time it's pretty impromptu. For example, recently at work my company had our monthly meeting and the theme this month was the changing of seasons. We were told to bring our favorite leaf (with a prize for the top three leaves). The meeting invite was quite vague on what they meant by "our favorite leaf" so I interpreted this as our favorite leaf we'd find on our way to work. As I was on my way to work I thought I had found the perfect "favorite leaf". It quite literally showed the changing of the season since half of the leaf was brown while the other half of the leaf was still mostly green. My plan was to talk about how this individual leaf is showing the transition into the new season and how perfectly flat it was to see the slow gradient from green to brown.

Once I got to work I gently took my leaf out and placed it on my side table so it would not get lost or damaged before the meeting. Then finally it was noon, time for our monthly meeting and time to show off the perfect leaf. As I turned to my side table, the ends of the leaf were no longer flat and perfect, they had begun to curl into itself, and the green half was now only the size of a penny. It shocked me that in only four hours my "perfect" leaf was somehow ruined, but instantly I knew what I wanted to talk about – impermanence. When my turn came, I talked about how this was the perfect leaf, not because of how it looked, but because it taught me that nothing lasts forever and we must cherish each moment. This leaf allowed me to appreciate that moment I experienced when I picked it up. Immediately after sharing, I felt good and actually very profound. However, just like my leaf, that moment was now gone because the next person who shared had a live monstera leaf and the following person had a sensitivity plant which may have seemed more impressive. Ultimately, I did not win a prize, but it was really interesting to reflect on a concept I learned from Buddhism and how it applies to things beyond what I see and hear at temple.

In Gassho,
Kenzo

Facility Committee Update



Gremlins, with all the opportunities for mischief and mayhem, are rubbing their hands in gleeful anticipation as the holiday season rolls in. Little Gremlin rugrats look forward to learning all the tools of the trade: banana peels, broken computers, and cat litter. Santa, of course, is the perfect counterbalance to those pesky holiday Gremlins and their young 'uns – as long as you stay in Santa's good graces. One hundred and fifty years ago, an aspiring artist named Putzo Schmuckaso rendered an oil painting of Santa with a hand inserted in his coat like Napoleon and sporting a mullet like Billy Ray Cyrus. Santa, it seems, enjoyed Putzo's rendering as you can now see it everywhere (if you look closely).

Speaking of aspirations, a fair number of tasks were accomplished last month. The parsonage Trex decking project is proceeding with almost no hitches (we ran shy a few pieces of decking) and is almost complete. Rain might come knocking, but it won't be seeping into the left stage stairwell next to the parsonage. Sealant was thoroughly applied to that area. Another location that got a dose of sealant was the kitchen stove vent on the parsonage roof.

Lynrae Hubbell continues to pick up litter along Fawcett Avenue and S Court D Street. David Yotsuuye, Robert Yotsuuye, Gary Ichinaga, Tom Hubbell, Tony Gregg, Rick Tanabe, Del Sasaki, and Mike Shiogi constantly contribute to our facility maintenance program. With our section of Fawcett Avenue now paved Kurt Osaka and Osaka Gardens might be able to resume maintaining our grounds. If not David Yotsuuye, Jeff Hiroo, Mike Shiogi, Del Sasaki, and Rick Tanabe are sure to step up and get it done.

~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 once 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

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

February 2023

1 st Year	Larry Fujita	February 6, 2022
1 st year	Sam Shimizu	February 11, 2022
3 rd Year	Miyoko Sato	February 2, 2021
7 th Year	Yoshiko Sugiyama	February 16, 2017
17 th Year	Mary Yoneko Masumoto	February 9, 2007
17 th Year	Ben Yoshida	February 6, 2007

Greeter's List

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	Jane Burster/Tony Greg/Jim Doyle
	8	John Inge/Mike Shiogi/Patti Wong
	15	Debbie Abe/Tom Hubbell/Lynn Blick
	22	David Campbell/Tracy & Richard Ling
	29	David Yotsuuye/Bobby Yotsuuye/Carrie Mori

February	5	Barry & June Weled/ Gavin Morgan
	12	Del Sasaki/Jane Burster/ Patti Wong
	19	Tony Greg/Jim Doyle/John Inge

Greeters' Notes:

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

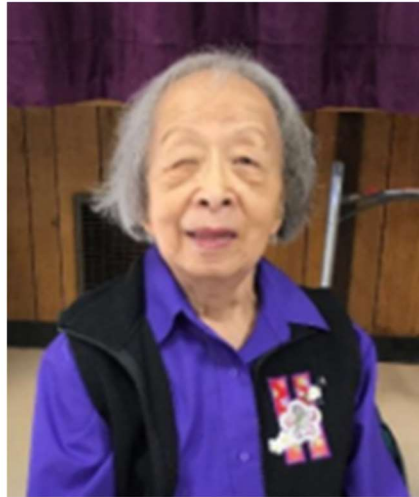
- Temple Information Booklet
- Messages from the Buddha (mini booklet with pale pink cover)
- 1/2-page list of Temple Activities & "Want More Info."
- Extra supplies are in the ministers' room off the hondo.

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.



Our condolences to the family of a dear member
Yasuko Morita



It is with heavy hearts that we announce Yasuko Morita passed away yesterday, October 27th at the age of 94.

Yasuko was very active in the temple from her early days. She helped to reopen our Dharma School in 1947, was the Buddhist Women's Association treasurer for many years, enjoyed food prep for all of the fundraising events, led the BWA rummage and craft sale, and loved the coffee hour after service so she could mingle with all of her temple friends.

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



**SMILE.AMAZON.COM = DONATIONS GO DIRECTLY TO TACOMA
BUDDHIST TEMPLE**

Holiday shopping or just shopping in general?

Please sign up on **smile.amazon.com** and select Tacoma Buddhist Temple as your charitable organization. Amazon donates a small portion each time you shop. BUT... you must type in **https://smile.amazon.com** each time you shop.

Don't forget and happy shopping!



Our condolences to the family of a dear member
Lorus "Clifford" Hatchet



Clifford Hatchet passed away on November 3rd and was 74 years old. He predeces his wife Harriet, and both were originally members of the Kailua Hongwanji in Hawaii.

Clifford was part of the United States Marines Corps where he was stationed in Hawaii. In 2018, they moved to Dupont to be closer to family after their retirement and joined our temple this year.

The family requested that memorial donations be sent to the Temple and appreciates your acknowledgment.

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

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.

December 10, 2022

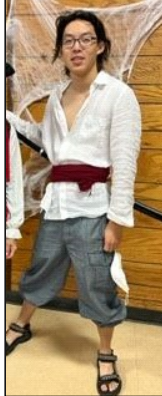
2023: Jan 14, Feb 11, Mar 11, Apr 8, May 13, June 10

Instructor and Temple Member, Kara O'Toole.

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

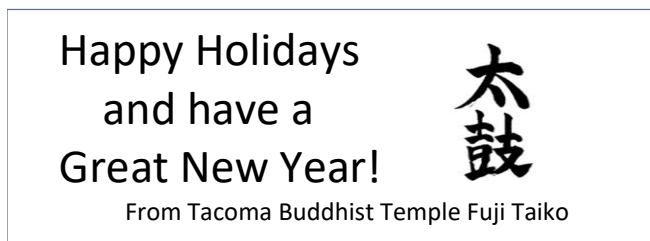
Contact Tracy Ling to register or if you have questions: tling12005@gmail.com





The Tacoma Buddhist Temple - Young Buddhist Association (YBA) invites you to bring in the new year with a Seasons Greetings and Happy Holidays Fundraiser event where you may wish others good cheer for the upcoming year.

Example 1



Large Greetings Example: 3.5 X 2 INCH

Example 2



Medium Greetings Example: 2.5 X 2 INCH

Please submit all information to any YBA member. Thank-you for supporting the Tacoma Buddhist Temple Young Buddhist Association. Gassho: Jet Yotsuuye (YBA Secretary).

Please make checks payable to: **Tacoma Buddhist Temple-YBA**

And mail to: Jet Yotsuuye
3014 43RD AVE NE
TACOMA WA 98422

DEADLINE: Sunday, December 18, 2022

YBA HOLIDAY GREETING FUNDRAISER FORM

PLEASE CHOOSE ONE:

LARGE SIZE: ☐ **\$20** MEDIUM SIZE: ☐ **\$10**

WOULD YOU LIKE TO INCLUDE A DRAWING/MON? ☐ YES

IF YES, PLEASE SEND COPY TO: Jet Yotsuuye at: **yotsuuye@gmail.com**
Or mail together with your check at the above address.

HOLIDAY SEASONS GREETINGS MESSAGE:

note: No advertisements may be included but companies may wish Season's Greetings. Reduction of font size may be necessary to accommodate an increase of words posted.

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

*December 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3 YouTube Shotsuki Service
4 Bodhi Day Service 10 am General Meeting After Service Luncheon after meeting	5	6	7	8	9	10 <i>Spirit, Mind, and Body Yoga for Compassion</i> 9:00 AM
11 In-Person Service 10 am Dharma School BEC Meeting after service	12	13	14 Study Class Via Zoom 6 pm	15	16	17
18 Board Meeting 8:30 am In-Person Service 10 am 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 4 pm

*January 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 <i>New Year's Service 10 am</i>	2	3	4	5	6	7 YouTube Shotsuki Service
8 Sunday Service 10 am Shinnenkai celebration after service	9	10	11 <i>Study class via Zoom 6 pm</i>	12 <i>Book Club at King's Books 7:00 PM</i>	13	14 <i>Spirit, Mind, and Body Yoga for Compassion 9 am</i>
15 <i>Ho-onko Service</i> Board meeting 8:30 am Sunday Service 10 am Dharma School	16 <i>Myokyo Deadline</i>	17	18	19	20	21
22 Sunday Service 10 am Dharma School	23	24	25	26	27	28
29 Sunday Service 10 am Dharma School BWA New Year's Party	30	31				