



Tacoma Buddhist Temple (Jodo Shinshu)

タコマ 仏教会 (浄土真宗)

1717 Fawcett Ave., Tacoma, WA 98402-1706

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)

May 2023

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



Celebrating Shinran's Birth

Rev. Tadao Koyama

Happy May everyone! We are in full swing of Spring! The rain is still falling and the sun visits on occasion! This year of 2023, and this month of May we are celebrating a momentous occasion: the 850th anniversary of our founder, Shinran Shonin's birth, and the founding of our sect of Jodo Shinshu. For this whole year our mother temple, Nishi Hongwanji, is having week-long celebrations of special services to commemorate this auspicious time.

Shinran was born on May 21st, 1173 in Kyoto, Japan. His birth name was Matsuwakamaro, and was born into a branch of the Fujiwara clan. Not much is known about Shinran's childhood but there are many legends that surround his upbringing and his childhood.

We are also commemorating the establishment of the school of Jodo Shinshu! We are not the only pure land followers in Buddhism for sure, but it must be noted that the Jodo Shinshu sect of Buddhism is one of the largest. For me, this is because of the uniqueness of Shinran Shonin himself. His understanding of his master Honen's teachings has made Buddhism accessible to us, and has brought hope to those who normally could not benefit from the hard austere practices of traditional Buddhism.

It is important for us as members of the Jodo Shinshu tradition to offer our thanks to the many teachers back to Shakyamuni for gifting us this teaching. For through the working of the inconceivable vow, we have access and the benefits of the nembutsu teaching. In our daily lives we rush and do our best to get ahead. We, as ordinary beings, don't always see the reflection of our imperfect selves that might be causing harm, or intruding upon others.

Yet for this reason, Shakyamuni, the Seven Masters, and Shinran realized that there needed to be a teaching that was practical and unique to people who did not have the time to devote to many hours of hard practices. We are the ones who benefit from these teachings that are freely given to us from Amida's wisdom and compassion.

Let's all celebrate and give our thanks to Amida Buddha and to Shinran for the teachings that will liberate us from this world of samsara. Namo Amida Butsu.

President's Message



One of the ongoing marvels of this temple is that given the relatively small size of our sangha, we are able to host so many activities each year. This includes our three major community events – Bazaar, Sukiyaki and Bon Odori, the spring and fall seminars, an additional seminar hosted by our Young Adult Buddhist Association, a monthly book club, numerous classes ranging from yoga and meditation, to cooking and flower arranging. All led by our temple members.

As I write this, we are busy preparing for our Sukiyaki Drive-thru and once again, I am able to witness the planning, buying, preparing, cooking and packaging of the meals for our members, relatives and community members. The organization and logistics involved is indeed impressive.

Yes, this is an event we host to financially benefit the temple and its ongoing expenses, but it's more than that. For through the hours of work by our sangha members and volunteers, there is a sense of being on a shared mission. A connectedness that is so special. Old friends catching up as they stand around a table cutting vegetables, or laughing as they cook sukiyaki next to each other, to meeting new acquaintances as they hand off packages of prepared dinners to those picking their meals.

It's the essence of interconnectedness. The definition of community.

Gassho,
John

Buddhist Women's Association News



BWA BENTO SALE – June 4th!!! After a three-year pause – BWA is so excited to bring back our annual BENTO sale. Please see a BWA member for more details and order information. Orders will be taken in advance and bentos will be ready for pick up after service on June 4th.

BWA would like to thank Knudson's Farm for their generous donation of beautiful daffodils for our Hanamido, which was decorated on April 9th for Hanamatsuri service.

In Gassho,
Denise Cline



Note:
Bento for sale may differ from picture.

Dharma School News



Because I was out of the picture most of March with this cold, Dharma School thrived just fine if not more efficiently in my absence! Then I had the honor of attending Maitreya class a few weeks ago, and today I had the opportunity to stay with Lotus class. Having visited all of the classes makes me so proud of our teachers' great lessons and our students who are well so attentive and engaged! Just awesome!



On **April 9th**, we celebrated Buddha's birthday with our first potluck in over three years! It was just nice to see everyone talking and laughing, mask on or not, and feeling comfortable in the setting. We began our DS program with **Ms. Karen** introducing some of the Lumbini children. **Dennis and Dillon Tisdale** were sharing a few answers from the questionnaire that mom received earlier. **Jasper Foote** sat on the stage with mom, and mom shared some of Jasper's adventures in his first year at the temple and at home!!

Ms. Merlaine shared haiku that her very creative students wrote and illustrated. They each read their haiku and showed their illustration as the teachers filmed them. **Aislin, Briony and Hana** proudly enjoyed the applause that everyone shared in the room. Nice work, ladies!!

Ms. Alex proudly introduced her wonderful Lotus class. They created a 'game' for everyone to enjoy. The students created numerous Buddhist questions during class time which really challenged many minds!! Correct answers and speed of answering questions was the goal. **Tom Hubbell** came in first, **Crystal Inge** received spot #2, and **Erik & Henry** came in third for the prizes!! Also receiving PERFECT scores were **Del, Rev. Koyama, Karen, Andre, Jeff and Jim**. *Maybe we can borrow this idea at convention!!!*

As our calendar is forever changing, I am so thankful that the teachers and students adjust so easily

**April 23rd, our planned field trip to Point Defiance Park with Brett Johnson is cancelled.

**May 21, Gotane Service, this will be a joint service so there will be NO Dharma School Classes.

Sunday Service Program: 10:00 Dharma School and All sangha arrive in Hondo
10:40 Dharma School students dismissed to class
11:30 Students dismissed to parents/guardians

May - June

May	7	NO DS	Sukiyaki Take Out
	14	DS	
	21	NO DS	Gotane – honor graduates, Parents' Appreciation Lunch Combined service so no class time
	28	NO DS	Memorial Day break
June	4	DS	Final class for 2023
	11	NO DS	Temple picnic ; Maitreya in charge of games

Thank you to everyone who supports our Dharma School children and our program! It is much appreciated!
Gassho,
June

Young Buddhist Association News



Hello everyone! Spring seems to finally be sticking around after these past rainy weeks! The cherry and plum blossoms are coming into bloom, and I hope everyone is ready for warm weather!



The YBA has been working primarily on the T-Shirt fundraiser. The stencils for screen printing have been made, and after a few test runs, we are ready to set a date to begin printing shirts. We will be holding a meeting to determine a good time to begin printing, most likely sometime between April and May. We will keep everyone updated on how to order and when to pick up shirts as time goes on.

Additionally, the YBA has been looking into participating in the week-long Summer YBA retreat at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley California. This one-week retreat will be filled with lectures from BCA teachers, ice breakers, tours, basic onajin etiquette and much more. The YBA members would attend and represent Tacoma Buddhist Temple at the upcoming workshop if we choose and are able to attend.

Gassho,
Odessa

[Buddhist Education Committee News](#)



While attending sensei's cooking class on how to make Japanese potato salad and chicken karaage. It made me realize and appreciate all the other activities that you can participate in at a temple beyond just attending services. In this article, I wanted to talk briefly about some of the other activities you could do that maybe you might not have known about or considered trying.

Cooking class. The temple occasionally offers cooking classes that allow participants to learn how to prepare traditional or Japanese-inspired dishes. These classes are not only a great opportunity to learn how to cook new dishes, but they also provide an opportunity to learn about the cultural and religious significance of the food. While most importantly at the end, sharing the freshly made meal with friends and family and making new friends in the process.

Yoga for Compassion. Yoga is growing fast in popularity and is often associated with physical and mental wellness. Be on the lookout to join Kara and other temple members as they start their weekend off strong with group yoga. No matter what your experience level is you are always welcome to join, and it is a great way to improve your physical health and mental well-being.

Buddhism 101. For those who are curious to learn more about Buddhism or want to deepen their understanding, we welcome you to our Buddhism 101 classes. These courses provide an overview of the basic principles and teachings of Buddhism, as well as the history and culture of the religion. This is also the place to ask questions without the fear of judgment by others since we are all coming to these classes with the expectation that we are all learners and want to know more.

Taiko. Taiko is traditional Japanese drumming that has become popular around the world. If you stay long enough after temple or come to Obon you have probably at least heard some drumming before. While performing is not always everyone's end goal there are some classes you can take at Temple to learn how to play and get a better understanding of it. This activity is a great way to connect with the temple community while also learning a new skill.

Book Club. Each month the book club meets to read and discuss books related to our sect of Buddhism as well as many other sects of Buddhism in the world. This book club is a great way to connect with like-minded individuals and engage in thoughtful discussions about important topics discussed in the monthly book. They also provide an opportunity to expand your knowledge and deepen your understanding of the religion and culture of the temple.

In conclusion, whether you are interested in cooking, yoga, taiko, or literature, there is likely an opportunity coming soon at a temple that will pique your interest. These activities provide a unique opportunity to connect with Japanese culture and deepen your awareness of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism while also learning new skills. To learn more on how to participate please check our website at: <https://www.tacomabt.org/> So I encourage you to try out one of these highlighted activities!

In Gassho,
Kenzo

Facility Committee Update



Some people have wild imaginations conjuring up impossible objects and critters. For them, a bugged eyed alien and a pink spotted elephant cruising in an open-top UFO is in the realm of possibility. Others might experience optical delusions involving mundane, useful stuff. However, there's no need to pinch yourself as you set your peepers on that new desk you'll spot in the foyer. It's the real deal.



Thanks to our preventive maintenance agreement with the Kliemann Brothers, Old Man Winter will take one look at our temple and look for easy pickings elsewhere. Now that we are back in the post-pandemic groove, filter replacements are scheduled at three-months intervals.

With Lynrae Hubbell keeping at it, litter collecting along Fawcett Avenue and S Court D Street doesn't stand a chance. David Yotsuuye, Robert Yotsuuye, Gary Ichinaga, Tom Hubbell, Tony Gregg, Rick Tanabe, and Del Sasaki rise to all the maintenance challenges that spring up at our temple. With our section of Fawcett Avenue now paved Kurt Osaka and Osaka Gardens should be able to resume maintaining our grounds as the weather warms up.

~Dave

Toban News



Upcoming Dates:



- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| May 7 | Sukiyaki Fundraiser, drive thru pick up |
| May 13 | Mind Spirit & Body, 9 AM |
| May 14 | Coffee /Hour - May/June Toban provides snacks/beverage |
| May 20 | Spring Seminar |
| May 21 | Board Meeting, 8:30 AM |
| May 21 | Gotan-e, Parent Appreciation Luncheon (YBA) |
| May 28 | Memorial Day Service, Cemetery Visitations |
| May | Arrange clean up time of the temple with June Toban |
| **June 3** | Saturday, Garden Clean Up 9 AM – 12 PM |
| June 4 | BWA Bento Fundraiser, Last day of Dharma School |
| June 11 | Temple Picnic at 5 Mile Park, station 2, 9 AM – 2 PM. |
| June 18 | Board Meeting, 8:30 AM |
| June | Arrange clean up time of the temple with May Toban |

July 9 BWA General Meeting
July 12 Eatonville/Orting Cemetery Visit/Clean up
July 16 Obon Cemetery Visitations, Board Meeting, 8:30 AM
July 23 Hatsubon & Urabon-e Service
July 29 Obon dance
July Arrange clean up time of the temple with August Toban

August Arrange clean up time of the temple with July Toban

*** JUNE, JULY, & AUGUST TOBANS WILL BE SUPPORTING OUR OBON CHAIRS FOR OUR UPCOMING FESTIVAL IN JULY, 2023.

All Toban Chairs: Please email or call your Toban Groups to let them know of the above activities, especially for the set-up and clean-up of temple events occurring during your Toban months. Also arrange times for the monthly clean-up of the temple. **Clean-up duties and supply list are posted in the kitchen ONLY.** NEW PORTABLE VACUUM CLEANERS ARE LOCATED IN THE CLOSET BEHIND THE ALTAR.

Coffee Hours: All coffee hours will be held in the social hall for now. Set up tables and chairs (take down after it's over). Provide coffee, tea, etc. Snacks can be made, or store bought.

Questions/concerns, please contact Michael Shiogi (253) 226-5812, mshiogi@comcast.net or Tracy Ling (253) 370-0933, tling12005@gmail.com

Safety Protocols have changed: STARTING APRIL 23, 2023, MASKS WILL BE OPTIONAL. Masks will still be worn when working and serving food.

MAY TOBAN	JUNE TOBAN	JULY TOBAN
Les Hitsman/Fred Pelger	Erik Hammerstrom	Patti Wong
Henry/Wendy Stoll	Kevin/Mayumi Ikeda	David Campbell
Rui Pittman/Victoria Evert	Masahiro Sugano	Jackie & William Poe
Gail Ichinaga	Rachel Meatte	Ken & Lynne Tanino
Anita Nakayama	Debby Abe	Darlene Matsumoto
Michiko Saito (call)	Elsie Taniguchi	Kiyomi Fujita
Kosho & Michiko Yukawa		Harriet Hatch
Akemi Ikeda		

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND HELP WITH OUR TEMPLE.
Tracy Ling/Michael Shiogi

Greeter's List

May 7 **No service -Sukiyaki**
 14 Tracy/Richard Ling
 21 David Yotsuuye/Bobby Yotsuuye
 28 Tony Greg/Jim Doyle

June 4 Gavin Morgan/Del Sasaki
 11 **Temple Picnic**
 18 Patti Wong/Jeff Hiroo
 25 Kara O'Toole/Kt Hendrie

July 2 Barry/June Weled
 9 Coco Inoue/Mike Shiogi

Greeter's 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 or a white/green 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.

Yearly Memorial Service

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



May 2023

3 rd Year	Violet Mizukami	May 17, 2021
13 th Year	Ronald Michael Bollick	May 21, 2011
25 th Year	Gladys Gisi	May 23, 1999
50 th Year	Yuki Okada	May 1, 1974

June 2023

7 th Year	Shimi Komatsu	June 28, 2017
25 th Year	Oito Takehara	June 26, 1999

July 2023

7 th Year	George Ayao Tanbara	July 1, 2017
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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.

May 13, 2023

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





2023 Memorial Day Service and Cemetery Visits

The Tacoma Buddhist Temple will commemorate Memorial Day on Sunday, May 28, 2023, as part of our service, starting at 10 a.m. As is our tradition, we will be recognizing our past veterans, who died during wartime. Following the service, we will have our afternoon visits to the cemeteries in the south sound area. Everyone is invited to join us for this important and meaningful time.

Cemetery Visitations:

Old Tacoma Cemetery:	1:30 pm
Mountain View Cemetery:	2:00 pm
New Tacoma Cemetery:	2:45 pm
Sumner Cemetery:	4:00 pm

Submitted by: Lynrae

Book Club

Thursday, May 11, 2023

At King's Books

How We Live is How We Die

Perma Chodron

Book Club

Thursday, June 8, 2023

At King's Books

You Belong: A Call for Connection

Sebene Selassie

tacoma buddhist temple's

sukiyaki

drive-thru

Sunday, May 7th

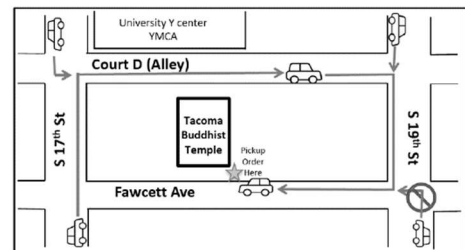
11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Order deadline: April 26th

Enjoy our special sukiyaki recipe individually cooked and served to go. The combo meal includes beef sukiyaki in a sweetened soy sauce broth, side of Japanese rice, mochi cupcake with sweet red bean paste and tsukemono. Drive-thru pick up in front of Tacoma Buddhist Temple.

Please order at www.tacomabt.org or mail in your order form. Send questions to info@tacomabt@gmail.com.

1717 Fawcett Avenue. Tacoma, WA 98402



20 MAY



**TACOMA BUDDHIST TEMPLE PRESENTS
2023 SPRING SEMINAR AND
CHOW MEIN DINNER
SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2023**

Special Guest Speaker: Rev. Rosalie May, What is the Middle Path and

How Do We Find it?

Seminar: 2 pm-4 pm (Social Hall)

Chow Mein Dinner: 5 pm-7:30 pm (Social Hall)

Rev. Rosalie May, of Yakima Buddhist Church, will look at Shakyamuni Buddha's explanations of the Middle Path, and how we can use it to make decisions that align with our values as Buddhists and bring more peace into our lives.

SEMINAR ONLY: FREE (ZOOM OPTION AVAILABLE) SEMINAR + DINNER: SUGGESTED DONATION: \$15

TO RSVP, PLEASE EMAIL REV. KOYAMA AT: REVTADAOK@GMAIL.COM

PLACE: TACOMA BUDDHIST TEMPLE, 1717 FAWCETT AVE, TACOMA, WA 98402



Issho Open Taiko
is an opportunity to
learn beginning level
taiko, have fun and
play together.

Known for 12 years as “***Open Taiko***”, “***Issho***” has been added to capture the spirit of these sessions.

Sessions occur monthly. Periodically, there are 3-4 session weekly workshops to focus on learning more taiko skills and longer songs for those interested.

Participants (public and TBT members) have ranged in age from teens to 80. There is no commitment to regular attendance at sessions.

For more information and to register for a session, contact *Wendy Hamai* at (253) 678-2891 or wfhamai@rainierconnect.com

Donations gratefully accepted by Tacoma Buddhist Temple for sponsorship of this program.



*May 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 Sukiyaki Fundraiser drive 11 am-1 pm No service No Dharma School	8	9	10 Study Class Via Zoom 6 pm	11 Book Club at King's Books 7:00 PM	12	13 Spirit Mind and Body Yoga for Compassion Taught by Kara O'Toole 9 am social hall
14 Sunday Service 10 am Dharma School	15	16	17	18	19	20 Spring Seminar Special Guest Speaker Rev. Rosalie May TBT Social Hall 2 pm-4 pm
21 Board Meeting 8:30am Gotan-E Service 10am Dharma School	22 Myokyo Deadline	23	24	25	26	27
28 Memorial Day Service 10 am Dharma School Cemetery Visitations 1:30 pm	29	30	31			

*June 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3 BWA Bento Food fundraiser 8 am Temple Garden Cleanup 9:00 AM
4 Sunday Service 10 am Final Dharma School	5	6	7	8 Book Club at King's Books 7:00 PM	9	10
11 Temple Picnic 10 am 5 Mile Park, Station 2	12	13	14 Study Class via Zoom 6 pm	15	16	17
18 Board meeting 8:30 am Sunday Service 10 am	19 Myokyo Deadline	20	21	22	23	24 June Seminar 2 pm-4 Temple Social Hall
25 Sunday Service 10 am	26	27	28	29	30	