



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 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



Happy Thanksgiving of 2021

Rev. Tadao Koyama

Hello to the wonderful members of the Tacoma Buddhist Temple. As we enter into the month of November, we come to realize that the year of 2021 is almost over! We are also entering the holiday season, which means going to the grocery stores and seeing Christmas decorations all around, listening to holiday songs on the radio non-stop, and the beginning of shopping season! The busy days are ahead!

In America the holiday that is most celebrated amongst people is Thanksgiving. While it may have a certain historical backstory of our country, I believe that there is a very Buddhist meaning behind this holiday as well. When I was growing up at the Sacramento Betsuin, Rev. Bob Oshita would always say that "Thanksgiving is the most Buddhist of the American holidays". As a young kid, to me, Thanksgiving meant eating lots of good food, visiting with family, and most importantly, holidays from school! As I am beginning to grow up, I am starting to understand what Rev. Bob was talking about.

While we celebrate Thanksgiving with our families, either virtually or in-person, let's all take a small moment to reflect on a moment of gratitude. It is easy to say, "be thankful" for something. However, for me, as I start to think about all of the wonderful Thanksgiving family celebrations that I was able to enjoy with my family in the past, I can't help but be brought to tears. I had so much to be thankful for then, and I have so much to be thankful for now. While I miss my family back in California a lot, it brings me great comfort to know that I have been accepted to the family of Tacoma Buddhist Temple. And what a warm and loving family it is.

As Buddhists, we can also be thankful for the Buddha's teachings. While it may be hard to think about this all the time in every waking moment, I am glad that there is a holiday in the United States that is dedicated to the

concept of being thankful. We are thankful that we are born into the causes and conditions that led us to hear and receive the teachings of the Buddha, Shinran Shonin and the many past ministers of Tacoma Buddhist Temple. We are grateful beyond words that for us beings, who are imperfect, have a Buddhist teaching that talks about us directly and that we can lean upon in times of hardship.

As we all begin to gather around the dinner tables again with our family and friends, please take a moment to really acknowledge each other and tell each other how much you all mean to each other. In the hard times of pandemic, it might be easy to really see a lot of the bad that happens or the sadness we experience, but we can also find moments of happiness with confiding and safely embracing the people we love as well. Then when we have that warm feeling of love and care in our hearts, we put our hands together and say “Namo Amida Butsu”.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!



President's Message



Fall has officially arrived with the colder weather and a bit of rain. If you know my brother Rick, he keeps an eye on the front and backyard grass at my house (in Seattle – he lives in Federal Way) and unlike his perfect grass – our grass is not so perfect. So, thanks to the rain, it's turning green again but still has divots, lacks the clean edging I grew up with and its golf-putting smoothness. Why am I talking about grass? Well – he handles the irrigation and oversees grass at the temple. And well – everyone can relate and then not relate to grass– right?



Fall is also when we hold our traditional Fall Bazaar and Rummage Sale. If this newsletter arrives prior to Oct. 27th, you still have time to help fundraise through our Bento Bazaar. Order a **rice curry or teriyaki chicken bento meal** for drive-thru pick-up. For quick ordering, purchase online at <https://www.tacomabt.org/bazaar-food-menu/> or email info@tacomabt.org for an order form. We have plenty of bentos to sell!

Online Sunday services: Our special **Eitaikyo** service will be held via Zoom, November 14. This service is one of six special services recognizing all deceased members of temples who have passed before us. The link will be shared in the online Myokyo or please use the same link as previous services. **Bodhi Day service** on December 5th is sponsored by the Lotus class so please watch via our YouTube channel.

Thank you outgoing board members: I'd like to thank the following for their dedication, unique talents, and guidance during their 3- year term. Much work happens behind the scenes and our temple is healthier and stronger because of them. On behalf of our temple and members, thank you very much. Now you can delete those Zoom links – until next time! 😊

- Erik Hammerstrom, Administration and BEC
- Les Hitsman, Communications/Outreach
- Tom Hubbell, Facilities
- Fred Pelger, BEC
- Donna Sasaki, Membership

Gassho,
Crystal Inge



Buddhist Women's Association News





Hello BWA members!

I hope many of you have had a chance to watch the Eshinni & Kakushinni Service on the temple's YouTube channel. Thank you to Rev. Cyndi Yasaki for the Dharma message and to Donna Sasaki and Megumi Azekawa for the beautiful gatha. A lot of work goes on behind the scenes for these online and live services, and BWA is grateful for everyone that worked so hard to make this a special service.

Are you thinking about going to the 17th World Buddhist Women's Convention in Kyoto Japan in May 2023? It is never too early to start thinking and planning for the convention. At the FBWA Representatives Meeting in October two tour companies gave very nice presentations on the services they will be offering. One of the agencies will have tours and packages for groups (Kintetsu International Express) while the other has options for individuals that are not part of a larger group (JTB USA).

It was so wonderful to see everyone that was able to come to our mochi making and general meeting in October. I hope we will be able to meet and do activities together more and more in the coming months.

Save the DATE(s)

October 14-16, 2022 FBWA Conference (Virtual) – “Winds of Change”

2023 Joint Celebrations at Hongwanji - Shinran Shonin 850th birthday and 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Tradition

- 1st session March 29–April 3, 2023
- 2nd session April 10–April 15
- 3rd session April 24–April 29
- 4th session May 6–May 11 – **17th World Buddhist Women's Convention**
- 5th session May 16–May 21

1st registration period: October 1, 2021-February 28, 2022 | 2nd registration period: April 1, 2022 – March 2023

Respectfully submitted by,
Denise Cline, Tacoma BWA President

Dharma School News



When I see Halloween decorations in the stores, I think of the excitement and anticipation of CANDY and COSTUMES and FUN!! As always, our YBA has planned a safe and fun activity for our Dharma School students and families...Can't wait to see the eager 'look' on cleverly disguised students...and adults....

Dharma School began in full swing this past month via ZOOM. Attendance was great as always, and everyone had a chance to meet **Mr. Gavin Morgan**, new staff member for Lotus Class. It was really nice to see the kids again and to have such enthusiasm for Sensei's message and class activity. Thank you, Prajna Class, for letting me be part of your class – you gals are truly AWESOME!!

Thank you, **Junko**, for spending part of your Sunday so families could pick up their Welcome Back bags and necessary items for their ZOOM class. You are so supportive of our needs and so willing to give up your time. Thank you so much.

I hope some of you had a chance to join **Kara O'Toole's** yoga class or **Junko Yotsuuye's** cooking class. Both ladies are so talented...and wonderful parents to our DS students, **Gus, Jet and Enzo**. Right, guys????

October-November:	October	(Temple is closed the month of October)
	3	DS 10:45-11:30 via ZOOM
	10	NO DS Eshinni/Kakushinni Service – BWA
	17	DS 10:45-11:30 via ZOOM
	24	NO DS 'Live' Temple Service
	31	NO DS YBA Event Noon – 1:00PM
	November	(Temple is closed the month of November)
	7	NO DS Bazaar Take out
	14	NO DS Eitaikyo Service
	21	DS 10:45-11:30 via ZOOM
	28	NO DS Thanksgiving Break

Thank you, **YBA**, for allowing DS to use part of your last meeting to assign parts for the Bodhi Day Service. **Sensei, Alex, Gavin and I** appreciate the willingness of all students to be part of this service.

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 all of you are doing well despite the cold and rainy weather we have encountered recently.



The YBA has held two more meetings these past four weeks mainly discussing on how to hold the Halloween Candy Drive-by while keeping both us and the participants safe.

We have settled on having a Dharma School Candy Scavenger Hunt where children will search around the backyard for candy based on a map we give the kids at the beginning, while maintaining the social distancing. The Dharma School Candy Scavenger Hunt will occur on **October 31st**. We look forward to seeing Dharma School students. Make sure you wear your favorite costume (and mask!)

Happy Halloween, Bazaar and Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,
Jet Yotsuuye

**Buddhist
Education**



Committee News



Keeping Alive the Heartbeat of our Temple

Hopefully we will be making a turn for the better soon. Would be a positive sign when we start to see Covid cases here and across the nation in a real downward trend. It has thrown us all into a very difficult way of life, with cancellations of celebrations, memorials, temple services and social gatherings.

Some years ago, when we didn't have a resident minister, it was difficult keeping temple life, our religious life, going. But true to our temple history, people stepped up. Our current temple president, Crystal Inge, among many others, helped to give Dharma talks each Sunday, and they were wonderful! Providing support in whatever way possible was a given.

Today, though our temple doors remain closed, we are fortunate to have a resident minister where many BCA temples do not. Rev. Koyama and Rev. Cyndi came during an unprecedented pandemic. But they try to connect with our membership through online and zoom services, giving Dharma talks and conducting small socially distanced services for families of departed loved ones. Not easy to do in a pandemic!

My point is, we could all step up by making connections and participating in everything that is being offered to keep temple "life" energized and alive.

Reach out to Rev. Koyama by phone or a "how are you" email. Participate in *Spirit, Mind and Body Health* classes, Rev. Koyama's study classes, book club, Dharma School, YBA and TYABA, and our awesome BWA! Volunteer to join the temple board of directors. There are many ways to connect, to keep the heartbeat of our temple vibrant and strong. Let us all do our part!

Congratulations Rev. Cyndi!

Rev. Cyndi finished her thesis to receive her master's in arts in Buddhist Studies from Institute of Buddhist Studies!

Her thesis was on Fazhao, a Pure Land Chinese monk, and his contributions to Nembutsu recitation. His contribution to Jodo Shinshu is in the ritual called the Goenembutsu Hojisan, a ritual performed at Honzan (the head temple of Jodo Shinshu in Kyoto) for memorial services of the past Monshu and during the weeklong Hoonko in January commemorating the memorial of Shinran Shonin.

Gassho,
Donna Sasaki

Toban News



We were so excited to see everyone last month at the in-person service in the temple garden. Thank you all for being safe and socially distant in this very confusing time with COVID restrictions and guidelines always in flux. If you have any ideas or comments on how the Toban Committee can help, please let us know!



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.

Toban Committee: Crystal Inge, Donna Sasaki, Barry Weled & Kaila Yoshitomi.
In gassho, Kaila

Facility Committee Update



My almost 40 years as a pest controller has imbued me with a high level of experience in keeping folks from being stung, bitten, and annoyed. Most of the time my knowledge base expanded with training, research, and working with intractable critter control situations. Other times my “expertise” grew with slap-happy risk assessments that put me within a hairs width of garnering the Darwin Award. One lesson in my ill-gotten wisdom-if you don’t want to become a piper of yellow jackets make sure you don’t squirt attractant on your clothing. When the gremlins see the likes of me coming up the pike, they bet their bottom monopoly money they’ll have a productive, enjoyable day. However, they reach for their tissues when the rest of the facilities crew show up.

One task that will certainly delight the upcoming Bazaar kitchen crew was the installation and testing of the social hall kitchen range. Just so we don’t have to boil hot water in large tubs, the water heaters, impacted by the gas shut down in preparation for the new range, were restarted. The damaged parsonage sliding door and screen were replaced. Also, the temple lot got a much-needed mowing.

Now for an item straight off my crystal ball and tea leaf reading. Oh yes, it’s coming in clearly now - I predict AAA Fire Protection and AES (electrical contractor) will be given notice to proceed with fire suppression system installation now that the new range is in place. Now my tassology skills have led me to conclude that you all think I’m full of it. See how good I am? We are both right. All that information came from Tom Hubbell’s “Grounds and Facilities Board Meeting Report.” I’ll just drink the tea and leave the tasseography to the experts.

Tom and Lynrae Hubbell remain vigilant in keeping our section of S Fawcett Ave free of trash. David Yotsuuye, Robert Yotsuuye, Gary Ichinaga, Tom Hubbell, Tony Gregg, Rick Tanabe, Del Sasaki, and Mike Shiogi continue to keep our temple in great shape. Kurt Osaka and Osaka Gardens are keeping our lawn the envy of the neighborhood.

~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

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

November

3 rd Year	Linda Mitsuko Teal	November 28, 2019
25 th Year	John Yoshiro Fujita	November 21, 1997
25 th Year	Asa Ikeda	November 30, 1997

December

1 st Year	Miyoko Kanda	December 17, 2020
13 th Year	Fumiye Tanabe	December 22, 2009
17 th Year	Yoshiko Tanabe	December 15, 2005
25 th Year	Masako Osada	December 9, 1997
25 th Year	Hsien Chin Kephart	December 31, 1997

January 2022

3 rd Year	Ichiro Nakayama	January 21, 2020
7 th Year	James Masagi Itami	January 1, 2016
7 th Year	Anna Henderson Netter	January 4, 2016
13 th Year	Chiyeko Tadaye Kawasaki	January 7, 2010
17 th Year	Hideko Murakami	January 13, 2006
25 th Year	Shimizu Fujimura	January 24, 1998
50 th Year	Takeshi Mukai	January 16, 1973

[Greeters Schedule](#)

*The greeters list will resume when the temple reopens.



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

We've mentioned that you can 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!

Book Club

Thursday, Nov. 11 – 7 pm

via ZOOM

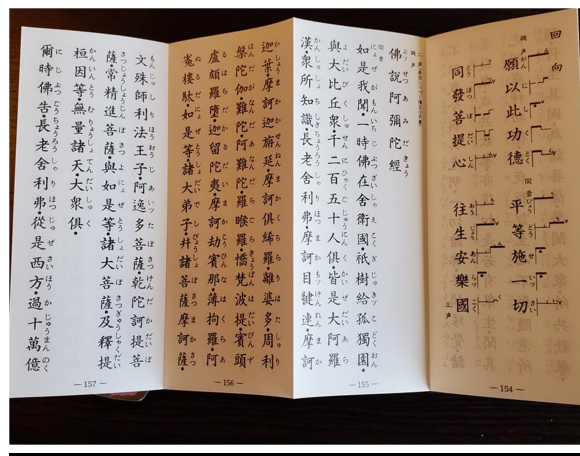
*Walking the Way: 81 Zen Encounters with the
Tao Te Ching*

Rosenbaum and Weitsman,

Tacoma Buddhist Temple Eitaikyo Service

永代經

Please join us for our special Eitaikyo Zoom Service this year!
We honor our past members who have contributed so much to
our temple through the reading of the sutras.



Date: November 14, 2021

Time: 10am

Location: Zoom link will be sent prior to service

*November 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6 <i>YouTube Shotsuki Service</i> Poinsettia Sale Deadline
7 YouTube Service Bazaar Drive Thru 11-1pm No Dharma School	8	9	10 <i>Study Class</i> 6pm Via Zoom	11 <i>Book club, 7pm</i> Via Zoom	12	13 <i>Spirit Mind Body</i> Class 9am Yoga For Compassion
14 <i>Live Eitaikyo Service</i> Via Zoom 10am <i>No Dharma School</i>	15	16	17 <i>BEC Meeting</i> 7pm	18	19	20
21 Youtube Service Temple Board Meeting Dharma School Via Zoom	22	23	24	25 Thanksgiving	26	27
28 Live Zoom Service 10:00 AM No Dharma School	29	30				

*December 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4 <i>YouTube Shotsuki Service</i> Poinsettia Pick up at TBT
5 <i>YouTube Bodhi Day</i> Temple General Meeting, 10am Via Zoom	6	7	8 <i>Study Class</i> 6pm Via Zoom	9 <i>No Book Club</i>	10	11
12 <i>YouTube Service</i> Last Dharma School <i>Zoom of 2021</i>	13	14	15 <i>Temple Board Meeting, 7pm</i> <i>(Tentative)</i>	16	17	18
19 Live Zoom Service 10am No Dharma School	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 YouTube Service No Dharma School	27	28	29	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i> Joya-e YouTube Service	



Get Ready for the Holidays and Order Your Red Poinsettia

Order deadline: Sunday, November 14

Brighten up your Bodhi Day and holidays with a beautiful red poinsettia. This special variety is grown by *Star Lake Greenhouse*, owned by temple members Todd and Marcia Nakamura. The vivid red poinsettia is in a 6" pot wrapped with decorative foil and is sure to last well beyond the holidays. Thank you for your support!

Pick-up location: Tacoma Buddhist Temple

Saturday, December 4th, 11:00am – 1:00 pm

Questions: info@tacomabt.org

TACOMA BUDDHIS TEMPLE 2021 POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

First and Last Name _____

Email Address _____

Phone _____

Quantity _____ x \$20 = Total \$ _____

Mailing address: Tacoma Buddhist Temple/Poinsettia; 1717 Fawcett Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98402

_____ Mark check enclosed and write quantity in the Subject Line on your check

Questions, please contact info@tacomabt@gmail.com. Thank you so much for your order and see you the Saturday, Dec 4th 11:00 am – 1:00 pm for pick up.

Tacoma Buddhist Temple

White River Buddhist Temple *presents...*

A Musical Revue Fundraiser

Benefitting the Auburn Food Bank's "Food to Go" Student Backpack Program!

Streaming November 20th ♦ 4:00PM

Featuring these Performers and More!



Bronson Bragg

Take7 Little Big Band



Melanie Vail



Kareem Kandi



Voices 4

www.wrbt.org/foodtogo



In-person outdoor service in July. Remember the sunny weather and seeing smiling eyes in the temple's garden?