



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](tel:2536271417)

EMAIL: info@tacomabt.org

WEB: www.tacomabt.org



MYOKYO 明鏡

(MYOKYO, the Bright Mirror of Buddha Dharma always illuminates our LIFE)

September 2024

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



Where I Have Been, Where I Am, Where I Am Going

Rev. Tadao Koyama

Happy September everyone! We are now approaching the fall season of the year, which happens to be my favorite time of the year!

Recently, I assisted the Jodo Shinshu International Office and Center for Buddhist Education in the final pre-Kyoshi training seminar in Berkeley, CA. The ten-day Kyoshi-Kyoshu where the candidates embark on their next journey in the priesthood. I am very privileged to be asked to assist them in their training in terms of chanting and ritual.

While I am an instructor in this context, I must always remember that I too was once a novice and needed to be guided by one more experienced than myself. This serves as a good reminder that I must approach teaching with an attitude of humility and gratitude, rather than ego and arrogance. Something I continuously struggle with. I was once them.

Currently, I am an instructor in the BCA of chanting and ritual. I did attend a special school in Japan that granted me this certification when I graduated the program. This title though doesn't come with bragging rights, or ego. At least it shouldn't. There is a responsibility that I was tasked with by the head temple, and by the BCA to assist in the training of priest aspirants in the BCA. This is a position that I take seriously. This is where I am now. However, I must also remember that I still have a way to go.

What helps me during these times is having ministers' way more experienced than me attend these seminars as well. As talented and skilled as I may think I am, I still pale in comparison to the more experienced ministers who have served the BCA diligently for over 30 years. I still have a long way to go before I can even compare myself to them.

I am not denying that I worked hard in order to get to where I am today, but it was through the harder work, efforts, and generosity of countless others who helped bring me here. I must never forget this lesson of humility and gratitude.

President's Message



“Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school.” — Albert Einstein

Part of my morning walk takes me by my neighborhood elementary school. This morning, as I walked past the school's playground, I noticed a parade, of sorts, taking place. A procession of parents holding hands with their young sons or daughters, walking through the school gate.

I took it to be the first day of kindergarten, where they had the school to themselves. A day before the bigger kids arrived, where they could begin to learn the mysteries of going to school. In this case, learning how to assemble for class by standing in line.

As our temple's dharma school reconvenes again this month, I am reminded of my memories of going to school. That many of the lasting lessons I learned took place independent of the curriculum being taught. That this will no doubt probably be true with our dharma students. That despite our teacher's best efforts, memories of being part of a temple community, sitting in the Hondo, enjoying the temple's Halloween party or interacting with older sangha members, may be their most lasting. That just because we may no longer be in school, that we can be open to continuing our own education by learning from our temple's younger members.

Gassho,
John

Buddhist Women's Association News



Happy Fall! Just in time for the beautiful PNW weather, we have a few really fun activities planned. BWA members will be lending a helping hand to repackage bulk food items on **Saturday September 7 at noon**. Over the years we have supported EFN by delivering many of our food drive items to this amazing local community organization. This time we will donate our time and energy to help with this much needed task. If you have any questions about this exciting Dana project activity, please reach out to Denise.

Then, it is finally time for the **ANNUAL BWA BUS TRIP!** We will depart from Tacoma Buddhist Temple at 8 am on **SEPTEMBER 28** for a fun day to the Leavenworth area with stops along the way including a fruit stand and more! Please RSVP to Denise as soon as possible and not later than September 15.

Thanks so much to everyone that helped to make our Obon mochi sales such a huge success. We made 1,376 mochi, which is the most we have ever made in a single session. Your hard work and years of thoughtfully honing our methods helped us be incredibly efficient in the making of 1,376 pillowy soft and delicious daifuku mochi! A special thanks to our friends at Seattle Betsuin BWA that joined us once again! It has been an honor to have this opportunity to strengthen our ties and build new friendships.



And finally.... Thank you to all the BWA members that participated in the August 17 crafting session lead by Patti. You made some amazing items for our upcoming sale. Thank you!!!

Upcoming events:

September 7 - Dana Day! 12 pm - 2:30 pm to repackage bulk food items at Emergency Food Network

September 13-15, 2024 –NW District Buddhist Convention, hosted by White River Buddhist Temple

September 28 – BUS TRIP! departs 8 AM

October – December – Annual BWA Food and Clothing Drive

October 4-6, 2024 - Federation of Buddhist Women’s Associations (FBWA) Conference in San Jose, CA

October 20 – Eshinni/Kakushinni Memorial Service, BWA General Meeting (following service and apple distribution)

October 26 – Daifuku mochi at 9 AM

December 8 – Bodhi Day Service – BWA hosts potluck following service and Temple General Meeting



In Gassho,
Denise Cline, Tacoma BWA President

Dharma School News



Welcome back, and thank you to our wonderful DS teaching staff for volunteering this 2024-25 school year:



Lotus: Alex Theisen, Kenji Shipp and Gavin Morgan

Prajna/Maitreya: Kjirsten Winters, Meesa Pedrozo and Jill Case

Lumbini: Karen Yoshitomi, and Me.

September 8th will be our first day of DS. The class configuration will stay the same as last year:

Lotus (9-12th grades)

Prajna/Maitreya (3-8th grades) combined

Lumbini (birth-2nd grades).

Dharma School will begin at 10:00 AM with a message from Sensei, chanting, and gathas. Students and staff will then be dismissed to their classes. During DS, the adult service will take place in the Hondo. The adult service and DS will be over at approximately 11:30.

Although there is no DS on September 22, our DS graduate, Kate Inge, will make a presentation about her trip to Japan during the coffee hour after the safety presentation. Be sure not to miss it! Prior to our first service with DS on September 8, our Young Buddhist Association (YBA) will be serving a Welcome Back Morning Snack downstairs in the social hall starting at 9 AM. If this is too early for you, the YBA will pack leftovers into a snack pack for you to take home after service.

September-October Dharma School Schedule:

- September 1** NO DS Labor Day Weekend
8 DS First Day of DS/ show up early for morning snack
15 NO DS NWD Convention Closing Service (participation counts as attendance)
22 NO DS Ohigan Service & Safety presentation
29 DS Regular DS
- October 6** DS Regular Class
13 DS All DS (guest speaker - Kwabi Amoah-Foson)
20 DS Regular Class
27 NO DS YBA Halloween Party! All DS Students welcome!

If there are any changes in the future, we will contact you accordingly. I hope everybody had a great summer and we look forward to seeing you on September 8.

Gassho, Junko

Young Buddhist Association News



Hello everyone!

I hope everyone enjoyed and made the most out of their summer! I am Enzo and I will be the YBA president for the upcoming 2024-25 school year. I am very excited for the many activities and challenges in the year to come! I will try my best to fill Nao's shoes. She has set a great example to follow and my goal this year will be to build on what she established.



Some upcoming YBA events include:

- **9/8** First day of Dharma School "Welcome Back Morning Snack"
- **9/13 – 9/15** NW Buddhist Convention at Muckleshoot
- **10/27** Halloween Party/Candy Dash

I am happy to report that both the YBA shaved ice and t-shirt fundraiser sold out at this year's Obon! I would like to thank Tai for making the design for the t-shirt and the rest of the YBA for helping at the shaved ice booth and with the silk-screening process.

I look forward to seeing everyone at Temple!

Gassho,

Enzo





Buddhist Education Committee News



Welcome back to Dharma school students! The return of students to our temple always reminds me that it will soon be autumn, my favorite season. Although each of the changing seasons teaches its own lessons about impermanence, I find autumn to be the most “Buddhist” of them all. The maple leaves in front of our temple will soon turn a fiery red and drop away, and as the days turn grey we may long for the beauty of the cherry blossoms in spring. But Nature marches on and each day of the fall brings both new beauty and new dying back. This reminds me of the famous poem by Kobayashi Issa (1763-1828), a Jodo Shinshu priest who lived a rough life. After the death of his baby daughter, Sato, he wrote:

露の世は露の世ながらさりながら
tsuyu no yo wa tsuyu no yo nagara sari nagara

this world of dew
 is a world of dew
 and yet... oh, and yet...

There’s a lifetime of Buddhist teaching in his seventeen syllables. As Dharma school resumes, the leaves turn, and we all come back to more regular attendance at the temple, I encourage us all to reflect on what the Dharma means to us in our daily lives.

BEC continues to support sensei and organize opportunities to encounter the Dharma. We are excited for the Fall Seminar, which will take place in the social hall on Saturday, October 19 at 2 p.m. Sensei has invited Rev. Kusunoki and Alex Sakamoto to do a live recording of their “Minds of Ministers” podcast. We hope you can join us for this fun, interactive, and informative event. And stay tuned for further opportunities!

- Erik Hammerstrom

Facility Committee Update



The plan for staining the parsonage deck is well underway. Tom Hubbell did a beautiful rendering of the proposed final result, and it was not what yours truly anticipated. I was envisioning some psychedelic or Andy Warhol themed colors. Apparently, Tom doesn’t have the same regard for the “Campbell Soup Cans” color schemes as this writer. So, in contrast to the shocking hues I pictured, Tom’s recommendation is an aesthetically pleasing slate black. Additionally, the underground electrical cable that leads to the garage malfunctioned. Therefore, a temporary line was installed to provide juice to that location.

David Yotsuuye, Robert Yotsuuye, Tom Hubbell, Rick Tanabe, and Del Sasaki are keeping our facility maintenance program on track.

Lynrae Hubbell keeps at it with her vigilant efforts to clean our stretch of Fawcett Avenue and Court D. Rick Tanabe and Delbert Sasaki are keeping the temple lawn, adjacent lot, and the wisteria in prime condition.
~Dave

Toban News



September 1 **BCA 125th Anniversary (Streamed) 10 AM**
September 8 **Welcome Back Morning Snack 9 AM**, First Day of DS
September 13 – 15 NW Buddhist Convention, WR Hosting, **No service at temple**
September 22 Sunday service, Board Mtg., Emergency Prep Review Meeting,
 Coffee Hour & Kate Inge's presentation
September 29 Sunday service

October 6 Sunday service
October 13 Sunday service, Coffee Hour, BWA Food & Clothing Drive Starts
October 19 Fall Seminar - Rev. Kusunoki & Alex Sakamoto
October 20 Sunday service – Eshinni/Kakushinni service, Board Meeting, BWA General Meeting
October 27 Sunday service, Halloween party

November 3 Fall Bazaar
November 10 Sunday service
November 17 Sunday service, Board Mtg., Coffee Hour
November 24 Sunday service

COFFEE HOUR UPDATES: Toban Chairs - **September 22** (Kim & Cindy Nakamura), **October 13** (Claire Silver), **November 17** (Denise Cline)

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.

****OTHER SEPTEMBER TOBAN CLEAN UP DUTIES:** Set up time with October Toban to clean the Temple, provide small snack for Bazaar, set/clean up the week before the event (PENDING)

****OTHER OCTOBER TOBAN CLEAN UP DUTIES:** Set up time with September Toban to clean the Temple, provide, set/clean up, serve snacks on SATURDAY, November 2 - afterwards clean up kitchen counter.

****OTHER NOVEMBER TOBAN CLEAN UP DUTIES:** Set up time with December Toban to clean the Temple, provide, set/clean up, serve snacks for breaks on Sunday, November 3 in the Rev. Pratt Room, clean up area after it is done. (PENDING)

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.**

Event Reminder: First Day of Dharma School - **September 8, September 13 - 15** - NW Convention (White River Hosting), Emergency Prep. Review - **September 22**, BWA Food/Clothing Drive Start - **October 13**, Fall Seminar - **October 19-20**, Fall Bazaar - **November 3**

A NEW RESPONSIBILITY WAS ADDED TO THE MONTHLY CLEAN-UP FOR TOBANS: In the Rev. Pratt Room kitchen, please clean out the refrigerator of outdated food and wipe out the shelves. A **CONTENT SIGN IN SHEET** will be posted on the refrigerator. It will also be posted on the Temple Clean Up List as one for the jobs. Thanks for your support on this issue.

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

SEPTEMBER TOBAN

Kim & Cindy Nakamura
Todd & Marcia Nakamura
Vicki Yoshioka
Alex Theisen
Nick Greenaway
Don Arima & Susan Bogno
Asako Arima
Danny Otsuka

OCTOBER TOBAN

Claire Silver
Gavin Morgan
Tom & Lynrae Hubbell
Kara O'Toole & KT Hendrie
Fujiko Yoshikawa
Nancy Butterfield

NOVEMBER TOBAN

Denise Cline
Del & Cynthia Sasaki
Joel Robinson
Jeff & Vivian Hiroo
Chris Kibbey
Tad & Joan Kajimura
Trisha Tisdale
Emiko & John Kurata

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND HELP WITH OUR TEMPLE.

Tracy Ling/Michael Shiogi

Library News



The World We Have by Thich Nhat Hanh is a small book with a big message regarding the state of the planet. He guides us through ways to accept and engage in the reality of climate change with the Buddhist concepts of impermanence and compassion. The final section of the book is filled with practices for mindful living. Reviewed by Claire Silver.

Living Nembutsu by Jeff Wilson explores how the teachings of Shinran can provide guidance in facing the social and environmental challenges of our times, particularly for the groups marginalized and oppressed experiences. Study guide is available at https://cdn.shopify.com/s/files/1/2503/2728/files/Living_Nembutsu_Reader_s_Study_Guide.pdf?v=1682789162

How Much is Enough? Is a collection of essays by Buddhist scholars, practitioners and activists. They examine the effects of our own decisions to produce and purchase products on the human environment.

In addition, if you see the book, ***Ocean***, floating around, would you return it to the library or sign it out on the clipboard.

Jane

Greeter's List

September	1	Brian/Etsuko Willis
	8	Claire Silver/Tom Hubbell
	15	NWD Convention; SERVICE at Muckleshoot
	22	Gavin Morgan/Jane Burster
	29	Del Sasaki/Claire Silver
October	6	Mike Shiogi/Debby Abe
	13	Jeff Hiroo/Coco Inoue
	20	Kara O'Toole/KT Hendrie
	27	Barry/June Weled
November	3	BAZAAR - NO SERVICE
	10	Mayumi & Kevin Ikeda
	17	Lynn Blick / Jim Doyle
	24	Tracy Ling / David Campbell



Greeter's Notes

BEFORE GUESTS ARRIVE

- Put out the carpet in front of the entrance door.
- Put the "Please knock" sign on front door.

AFTER THE SERVICE

- Bring the carpet back into foyer.
- Bring the "Please knock" sign in.

Please have new visitors sign the visitor sign-in sheet in the binder and give them the following:

- Temple Information Booklet (pale green cover)
- TBT Information Sheet with temple info and recommended books
- Spirit, Mind and Body information flyer

Extra supplies are in the office supply room off the Rev Pratt room in the file drawer labeled Membership. Please do a headcount, including downstairs and balcony, and enter it into the Visitor Sign-In sheet. If you are not available, please find your replacement. More detailed greeter instructions are in the Visitor Binder in the foyer.

Yearly Memorial Service

Memorial Service Years for 2024

1 st Year - 2023	17 th Year - 2008
3 rd Year - 2022	25 th Year - 2000
7 th Year - 2018	33 rd Year - 1992
13 th Year - 2012	50 th Year - 1975



September 2024

1 st Year	Tada Yotsuuye	September 19, 2023
7 th Year	John Hiroshi Nakagawara	September 4, 2018
17 th Year	Motoshi Yamasaki	September 28, 2008
25 th Year	Susumu Sato	September 14, 2000
50 th Year	Masao Okada	September 15, 1975

October 2024

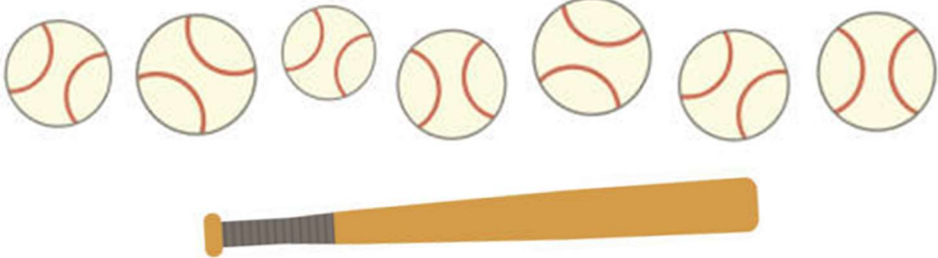
3 rd Year	Hanako Yoshida	October 10, 2022
3 rd Year	Yasuko Morita	October 27, 2022
17 th Year	Masae Shigeno	October 31, 2008
25 th Year	Yoshiko Komoto	October 6, 2000
25 th Year	George Arima	October 16, 2000
33 rd Year	Renarch Masten	October 30, 1992
50 th Year	Tadashi Horike	October 16, 1975

November 2024

7 th Year	Herbert Isamu Saito	November 7, 2018
7 th Year	Toshie Fujita	November 11, 2018
17 th Year	Joe Hideo Kosai	November 4, 2008
17 th Year	Yoshimi Mayeda	November 5, 2008
17 th Year	Toshiko Sasaki	November 30, 2008

Book Club
King's Books
Thursday, September 12 @ 7 PM
One Long Listening: A Memoir of Grief, Friendship, and Spiritual Care
Chenxing Han

Book Club
King's Books
Thursday, October 10 @ 7 PM
One Thing: Developing a Buddha Brain
One Simple Practice at a Time
Rick Hanson



Softball News

Tacoma Buddhist Temple Softball played valiantly to ultimately lose the championship game to a combined Seattle-White River team!

With the passionate coaching of Kevin Ikeda, the MVP skills of Jared, Thelma Abe's grandson, and the focused performance of our own Reverend Koyama, we were able to dominate the games leading up to the championship match where Seattle ultimately won the 2024 Tri-Temple Championship game.



We look forward to hosting next year's Tri-Temple Softball Match, so mark your calendars and swing some bats, we will play hard to bring that trophy back for Tacoma! In Gassho...

**What a Summer for TACOMA
BUDDHIST TEMPLE'S - FUJI TAIKO!
& WELCOME BACK TO THE 2024-25
SCHOOL YEAR!**

We had a busy yet enjoyable summer performing at various events throughout the south Puget Sound to finish with Tacoma and Olympia Bon Odori Festivals. We welcomed a few

new members: **Coco Inoue** of our own Temple, **Jody Linick** of Bonney Lake, **Jaira Peterson** of Port Orchard, and welcomed back a few: **Boira Mok**, **Sachiko Johnson**, and a few joined us for a short while as Kitakyushu Exchange students: **Lynn Igarashi & Ayano Nagamura**. Along with our corps group of



performing members we always love performing with Seattle Matsuri at our Obon! Taking the rest of the Summer off, we look forward to what lies ahead and hope the energy continues!



For those interested in performing taiko in public, please feel free to contact Bobby Yotsuuye at: yotsuuye@outlook.com



Issho Open Taiko (IOT) 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. IOT is an informal taiko education and "hands on" program without a requirement for regular attendance.

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.

TACOMA BUDDHIST TEMPLE 2024 FALL SEMINAR

Live Broadcast of Minds of Ministers

MIND OF MINISTER
WITH REV. KATSU



ASK
SENSEI



Date: October 19, 2pm-4pm

**Place: Tacoma Buddhist Temple Social Hall
1717 Fawcett Ave, Tacoma, WA 98402**

Contact: revtadaok@gmail.com

Description:

Come and enjoy a live broadcast and conversation of Seattle Betsuin's Mind of Minister with Rev. Katsu. Join the conversation as Alex Sakamoto, Rev. Katsu, and Rev. Koyama discuss various topics of our tradition of Jodo Shinshu. More information to follow!

September 22, 2024

Kate Inge presents
her Japan trip with the
Youth Buddhist International
Cultural Study Exchange

Don't miss it!





*September 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Sunday Service in Hondo 10 AM Special Live Stream of BCA 125th Anniversary Service	2 Labor Day	3	4	5	6	7 BWA - Dana Day EFN 12 N - 2:30 PM
8 Sunday Service 10 AM First day of Dharma School	9	10	11 Study Class via Zoom 6 PM	12 Book Club King's Books 7:00 PM	13 NW Convention Muckleshoot	14 NW Convention Muckleshoot
15 NW Convention Sunday Service Muckleshoot 10 AM	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Board Meeting 8:30 AM Sunday Service 10 AM Emergency Prepare meeting Coffee Hour After Service	23 *Myokyo Deadline	24	25	26	27	28 BWA Bus trip 8 AM ~Leavenworth
29 Sunday Service 10 AM	30					

*October 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Sunday Service 10 AM	7	8	9 Study Class via Zoom 6 PM	10 Book Club King's Books 7:00 PM	11	12
13 Sunday Service 10 AM BWA Clothing Drive Begins Coffee Hour after service	14	15	16	17	18	19 Fall Seminar TBT Social Hall 2 PM - 4 PM
20 Board meeting 8:30 AM Eshinni/Kakushinni Service 10 AM BWA General Meeting after Service	21 Myokyo Deadline	22	23	24	25	26 BWA Daifuku Mochi Making in Temple kitchen 9 AM
27 Sunday Service 10 AM Dharma School Halloween party after service	28	29	30			