



# Tacoma Buddhist Temple

(Jodo Shinshu)

タコマ 仏教会 (浄土真宗)

1717 S. Fawcett Ave., Tacoma, WA 98402-1706

TEL: [\(253\) 627-1417](tel:(253)627-1417)

EMAIL: [info@tacomabt.org](mailto:info@tacomabt.org)

WEB: [www.tacomabt.org](http://www.tacomabt.org)

## MYOKYO 明鏡

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

January 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



Koyama

Approaching the New Year with Gratitude

Rev. Tadao

A very Happy New Year to you all! I hope everyone enjoyed their winter holidays and was able to spend them with family and friends (safely of course). As we ring in the new year and start gearing up for 2022, I would like to ask all of us to approach this time with a deep sense of reverence and gratitude. No doubt the past two years we have all had to make some pretty hard decisions and make some difficult adjustments in our lives.

Now that the new year has begun, let us all take a step back look around and take in the truth that we are all still followers of the Buddha Dharma. With this in mind, we can take the first step outside our doors with a sense of gratitude and happiness. The past two years have probably given us a lot of heartache and anger. I am definitely also part of this and there were plenty of moments last year and the year before that caused me to let my three poisons out.

This is okay, sometimes as imperfect beings we fall into the three poisons and can lose sight of the bigger picture. This is why Amida sends us wisdom and compassion. With this new year, we can renew our sense of gratitude not only for our lives and our community, but for the Dharma as well. When we place our hands together in gassho and recite the nembutsu, it is the acknowledgement that we take refuge in the Dharma and the wisdom and compassion of Amida Buddha.

The nembutsu doesn't take our flaws away and doesn't turn us into perfect enlightened beings while we are here in this life. We may yet fall back into the three poisons from time to time. It is possible that we will have

disagreements with our coworkers and friends, even family members. Yet it is also possible for us to turn our minds back to the dharma with a deep sense of gratitude as well.

This month of January also marks the time when we commemorate the passing of Shinran Shonin over 750 years ago. Thanks to his understanding of the pure land path, we as nembutsu followers have a wonderful community and teachings that we can all take refuge in. It still amazes me that the teachings and influence of Shinran Shonin still lasts to this day.

At Nishi Hongwanji every year, a week-long celebration takes place where thousands of Jodo Shinshu followers come to the head temple to express their deep gratitude towards our founder. This ritual has been happening since Kakunyo's time. What could be greater than what taking refuge in a teaching that is meant just for us. That teaches us that because we are flawed there is a dharma path that was created specifically for all of us.

As the new year begins, let us all take a moment to contemplate how wondrous this teaching is for all of us. Happy new year and I look forward to walking the nembutsu path with all of you in the year of 2022.

## **President's Message**



Happy New Year everyone!



I hope everyone is staying safe, healthy and ready to welcome 2022 with optimism. While the past year-plus has been challenging, we have our Sangha and the truly unique qualities of our temple that keeps us connected and cared for.

I would like to thank Rev. Koyama for his dedication to the temple and commitment to meeting members even through a continued online approach to services and temple activities. Because of your support through participation in our fundraisers, online classes, Zoom services, Dharma School and BWA, 2021 was active! We hope to find new ways of connecting with temple members and community be it digital and in person services when the time is right.

I would also like to thank members and new members as you consider the 2022 pledge minimum. The new minimum of \$325 per adult from \$250 is a suggested amount that has not been raised since 2015. Balancing the budget is art and science as donations (memorial, special services, miscellaneous) vary, temple expenses continue to increase and fundraising during COVID is unpredictable. I am very grateful for your continued membership and if you have the opportunity and ability, a slight increase from last year would be greatly appreciated.

Please watch for: TBT's Shinnenkai (New Year's Celebration) live via Zoom on Saturday January 23<sup>rd</sup> with special guest MC and entertainment, more Spirit, Mind and Body classes and other activities throughout the year.

Thank you again, and Happy New Year to everyone!

Gassho,  
Crystal

*Akemashite omedetou gozaimasu!*



## Buddhist Women's Association News



Hello BWA members and Happy New Year!

### **SAVE THE DATE: JANUARY 30, 2022, AT 11:00 AM**

Recap: BWA will have a scaled back and adjusted New Year's Celebration on JANUARY 30, 2022, at 11:00 AM. To stay safe and healthy, we will not have any food or drink. Instead, we will meet for a one-hour gathering in the social hall to visit and simply be together with one another. Like past years, **we will collect membership dues (\$12)** and distribute year end reports and the 2022 BWA Membership Booklet. Also, in keeping with tradition, we will have a gift exchange (\$8-10). Masks will be required (non-cloth masks will be available for you when you arrive) and participants must be fully vaccinated (and boosted if eligible) or show proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR Test within 72 hours of the event. With the new Omicron variant spreading rapidly, if conditions are not suitable for this social gathering, I will send out a notification in advance. Please note that since this is heavily scaled back, NO Toban assistance is needed for preparation or planning.

On December 22<sup>nd</sup> our BWA supported the Tacoma Khmer Theravadin Buddhist Temple with a donation of \$150 for their fence replacement project and a donation of toiletries. This comes after the attack of a temple nun and one other temple member in September.

Please note the registration deadlines below for the 17<sup>th</sup> World Buddhist Women's Convention in Kyoto, Japan.  
**Save the DATE(s)**

**JANUARY 30, 2022** at 11:00 AM in the Social Hall: BWA New Year's Social Gathering & Gift Exchange

**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 – 17<sup>th</sup> World Buddhist Women's Convention**

5th session May 16–May 21

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

Respectfully submitted by,  
Denise Cline, Tacoma BWA President

## Dharma School News



As I think back on 2021, I think gosh, we survived another year of Covid!! However, we still had Live Services; we still met bi-weekly for ZOOM classes; we still went back to school and saw our friends and teachers; we did okay. WHEN we did have a chance to see one another (Halloween Hunt), it was *really* special. We must be pretty resilient and strong!! I commend our Dharma School students and teachers – you are the best!



The Reopening Committee met as did the BEC Committee and now I can safely say, that Dharma School will continue to have classes via ZOOM bi-weekly until the end of June. This decision was made for the safety of our students and families, and to make a definite calendar set for the remainder of this school year.

<b>January</b>	2	Live Service
	9	<b>DS Class via ZOOM</b>
	16	Hoonko Service
	23	<b>DS Class via ZOOM</b>
	30	Live Service
<b>February</b>	6	<b>DS Class via ZOOM (Pet Memorial/Nirvana Day)</b>
	13	Live Service
	20	<b>DS Class via ZOOM (BWA Service)</b>
	27	Live Service

Our Lotus Class did a great job (once again) with our Bodhi Day Service. The students, under the guidance of **Alex Thiesen, Gavin Morgan and Sensei**, completed their tasks and Sensei compiled all the pieces into a wonderful service. Thank you to all the students for giving of your time and expertise in the service. You just make our Dharma School shine. Thank you.

We also gathered via ZOOM to do our graham cracker houses on December 12<sup>th</sup>. Sensei gave a wonderful message about ways to show gratitude in 2022; I asked what is the difference between a house and a home (which many students shared their perfect thoughts); but most were waiting *patiently* to dig into their creations. Besides our own students, we had some parents, grandparents, visiting aunts and even a special pet enjoy the project! Thank you to **Gavin** for keeping time so the students could 'choose' a candy to enjoy every few minutes. Have to say, however, I think we saw Dillon's cheek pretty 'puffy' most of the time! Please stay safe this holiday season. I thank all of you for being who you are and for being part of our temple.



Gassho,  
June

## Young Buddhist Association News



Hello everyone! I hope everyone enjoyed their winter break and is ready for the new year!

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to the YBA Annual Holiday Greetings! We hope you enjoy the final product!

The YBA has held a total of one meeting throughout late November and early December and discussed a sequel to the YBA T-Shirt sale. We will most likely hold a similar fundraiser to last year, only with a new design and a possibility of selling tote bags as well.

Happy New Year!

Gassho,  
Jet Yotsuuye

## Buddhist Education Committee News



Happy New Year to the Tacoma Buddhist Temple Family and Friends from the BEC! We hope you are all looking forward to another year full of Dharma!





Two months ago, I saw a news article that says octopus, crabs, and lobsters are now considered as sentient beings in the United Kingdom. This means if a person were to kill one for consumption, they have to do it in a humane way. This reminded me of the 18<sup>th</sup> Vow, or the Primal Vow, that Bodhisattva Dharmakara declared and perfected to become Amida Buddha. In *The Collected Works of Shinran*, this vow is stated as follows, "If, when I attain Buddhahood, the sentient beings of the ten quarters, with sincere mind entrusting themselves, aspiring to be born in my land, and saying my Name perhaps even ten times, should not be born there, may I not attain the supreme enlightenment (p. 80)." The term, sentient, is defined by Merriam Webster as "responsive to or conscious of sense impressions." This means sentient beings are beings who are able to use their senses to perceive the world around them. With most organisms, we can deduce that they can respond to outside stimulus because they have a nervous system. Currently, scientific research has not concretely determined if plants do or do not have sentience.

So, does this mean that all organisms with sentience are able to be born in the Pure Land? According to Mahayana Buddhism, the only sentient beings able to be born in the Pure Land are human beings. This is because in the realm of humans, we experience both happiness and suffering. This enables us to feel the joy of encountering the Dharma and the stress upon realizing that we are foolish beings who cannot attain Buddhism in this lifetime. This is why we rely on Amida Buddha who realized this and vowed to save us. This is why we say Namu Amida Butsu because we ourselves have realized the joy of encountering the Dharma and the stresses of being a foolish being. So, say Namu Amida Butsu in gratitude to the great realization of the Buddha who saves and loves us just as we are.

~Rev. Cyndi

## Toban



Our Toban committees are important groups of members assigned to a month to support the preparation of events, activities, and cleaning. While we have been closed for services and in-person events, the temple hasn't been too dirty. However, it's been nearly two years and we know proper cleaning helps to maintain the quality of our building inside and out. So, we may be asking Toban groups to schedule one cleaning during your allotted month. Details on safety, requirements, and the month in which we'll start will be announced in future newsletters. Thank you to members who attended the end-of-the-year cleaning and worked hard to start off 2022 with a sparkling temple.

Thank you,  
Barry Weled and June Akita

## Facility Committee Update



If you had the rare chance to drop by the temple in 2021 you were not hearing bees. It was a buzz of activities as your facilities crew strived to improve the temple and the parsonage. First of all, a stylish and functional steel fence was installed across the front of the parsonage. Also, the social hall kitchen got a serious upgrade. Our kitchen stove was retired and replaced with a new, shiny appliance. As I saw David Yotsuuye drive away with the oldie but goodie in the back of his truck, I was sure the stove had built enough good karma to be repurposed into something even more noble. That is much unlike my smoke-billowing 1969 Chevrolet Nova that got reincarnated into an East German Trabant. In conjunction with the new stove our out-of-compliant fire suppression system got replaced. In the spirit of keeping fires at bay the fire extinguishers in the temple were recharged and inspected. Additionally, the kitchen got spruced up with a new coat of paint.

As the temple stirred back to life the garbage and monthly bathroom cleaning services were restarted. But if our wildly leafy trees and bushes had gone into stasis like our temple, we'd have it made in the shade. Didn't they know there's a pandemic going on? Just because our plants don't have vulnerable respiratory systems like we do they didn't have to rub it in and continue their NASCAR-like race to the clouds. Well, in any case facilities crew members cut them back. While we are focusing on plants, Rick Tanabe is in the process of improving the sprinkler system. He also repaired a section that was damaged by the parsonage fence installation.

Now with the permits in hand the facilities crew is starting work on the parsonage deck. A new post will be installed. Unfortunately, a bush may need to be removed to allow the installation to proceed. Robert Yotsuuye is still working the issue of water flowing down the stairs and reaching the stage in the social hall. Ground water might be an issue as well. Sealing the cracks in the stairwell is considered the best solution to this issue.

No piece of trash can escape the watchful eyes of Tom and Lynrae Hubbell along our stretch of S Fawcett Ave. "Let's get 'er done," captures the drive exhibited by David Yotsuuye, Robert Yotsuuye, Gary Ichinaga, Tom Hubbell, Tony Gregg, Rick Tanabe, Del Sasaki, and Mike Shiogi as they tackle multiple issues that arise at our beautiful temple and parsonage. Kurt Osaka and Osaka Gardens work to keep the temple and parsonage lawns the best in the neighborhood.

~Dave

**End of the Year Temple Cleaning.**

**Thank you to those who helped on December 18<sup>th</sup> and throughout the year!**



L-R back row: Tom Hubbell, Lynrae Hubbell, David Yotsuuye, Rick Tanabe, Tony Gregg, Barry Weled, June Weled, Fred Pelger, Les Hitsman, Denise Cline, Donna Sasaki, Ken Tanino, Sean Tanino, Lynne Tanino; L-R front row: Tracy Ling, Gavin Morgan, Rev. Cyndi Yasaki, Rev. Tadao Koyama

**Yearly Memorial Service**

**General Memorial Service Years for 2022**

- |                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Year - 2021  | 17 <sup>th</sup> Year - 2006 |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year - 2020  | 25 <sup>th</sup> Year - 1998 |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Year - 2016  | 33 <sup>rd</sup> Year - 1990 |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> Year - 2010 | 50 <sup>th</sup> Year - 1973 |



**January 2022**

- |                       |                         |                  |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Year  | Ichiro Nakayama         | January 21, 2020 |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Year  | James Masagi Itami      | January 1, 2016  |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Year  | Anna Henderson Netter   | January 4, 2016  |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> Year | Chiyeko Tadaye Kawasaki | January 7, 2010  |

17 <sup>th</sup> Year	Hideko Murakami	January 13, 2006
25 <sup>th</sup> Year	Shimizu Fujimura	January 24, 1998
50 <sup>th</sup> Year	Takeshi Mukai	January 16, 1973
<b>February 2022</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup> Year	Miyoko Sato	February 2, 2021

**March 2022**

1 <sup>st</sup> Year	Katsumi Fujita	March 17, 2021
3 <sup>rd</sup> Year	Allan Kishi	March 29, 2020
7 <sup>th</sup> Year	Yukiko Shiogi	March 1, 2016
33 <sup>rd</sup> Year	Nancy Uchimura	March 3, 1990

**[Greeters Schedule](#)**

\*The greeters list will resume when the temple reopens.

**BOOK CLUB**  
January 13 at 7 pm.  
Via ZOOM  
**Feeling Wisdom: Working with  
Emotions Using Buddhist Teachings  
and Western Psychology**  
Rob Preece

**BOOK CLUB**  
February 10 at 7 pm.  
Via ZOOM  
**Awakening Together: The Spiritual  
Practice of Inclusivity and Community**  
Larry Yang

# **Tacoma Buddhist Temple Shinnenkai**

**Come and join us for our annual New Year party on Zoom!  
Enjoy a special program of Taiko, Music, and Games!**



## **Event Details**

**What: Tacoma Buddhist Temple Shinnenkai**

**Where: Will take place on Zoom and link will be mailed out before the date.**

**Date: Saturday, January 29, 2021**

**Time: 11am**

**We look forward to seeing you all via Zoom and come with an appetite for fun and cheer!**

Tacoma Buddhist Temple's  
**Spirit, Mind and Body Health Series**  
2022

**Two Classes are Back by Popular Demand!**

To register, please email Tracy Ling at [tling12005@gmail.com](mailto:tling12005@gmail.com) or register at [www.tacomabt.org](http://www.tacomabt.org) under the Events tab. For those returning and new attendees, updated yoga waivers will be required for 2022 sessions. Tracy can provide the form via email. No waiver is needed for meditation. We look forward to seeing in each class!

**January 8<sup>th</sup>, Yoga for Compassion for all abilities. 9:00 am.**  
**Next class: Feb 12<sup>th</sup> and March 12<sup>th</sup>**

Kara O'Toole, yoga instructor



This class is for levels of experience, a place for people to begin their yoga practice or to reconnect with their yoga roots. In Yoga for Compassion, 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. This class will most likely return on a monthly basis so please stay tuned for upcoming dates.

**January 22, Whole Body Meditation Class. 9:00 am**



Member and instructor, Kjirstin Winters will help you learn meditation techniques to enrich your everyday life. Music, seated movement and quiet meditation is incorporated into the session.



# Seasons Greetings and Happy Holidays!

*Thank-you for your support,  
Happy New Year  
From your friends at the TBT-YBA*

 <p>Happy Holidays and Happy New Years! From the Rev. Koyama and Cyndi</p>	 <p><i>Have a safe and Happy New Years! From the TBT Young Buddhist Association.</i></p> 
 <p>Best Wishes for a Happy and Healthy 2022 Jeff and Vivian Hiroo</p>	<p><i>Happy 2022! Wishing everyone all the best in 2022</i></p>   <p><i>David and Kathy Yotsuuye</i></p>
<p>明けましておめでとう</p> <p>From ours to yours Bobby, Junko, Jet and Enzo</p> 	<p>Happy Holidays and have a Great New Year!</p>  <p>From Tacoma Buddhist Temple Fuji Taiko</p>
 <p><i>Happy Holidays!</i></p> <p><i>Wishing good things in 2022 Skip, Tracey, Katie &amp; Anna</i></p>	 <p><i>Happy New Year</i></p> <p><i>We look forward to seeing everyone soon!</i></p> <p><i>The Ikedas. Kevin, Mayumi, Akemi, Taishi</i></p>
<p>WISHING YOU A HAPPY &amp; HEALTHY NEW YEAR!</p> <p>ED &amp; YOSHI MAYEDA</p> 	 <p><i>Happy Holidays!</i></p> <p><i>Here's to a Healthy 2022</i></p> <p><i>Del and Cynthia Sasaki</i></p>



*Happy Holidays and a  
Healthy New Year!!  
Elsie (Yotsuuye) Taniguchi*



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!  
BROOKVILLE GARDENS  
TOMMY YOTSUUYE**

*Happy Holidays!  
Stay Healthy  
Shinobu and Kazuko  
Inoue 2022*



*Happy Holidays!*

Thelma Abe & Family

*Sending peace and  
prosperity in 2022*



*Jerry and June Akita*

*Happy Holidays!  
We wish you  
peace and good  
Health in 2022*



*From the Lings*



*Wishing All a Joyful Christmas  
And a New Year full of promise  
Yoshie and Tada Yotsuuye*



*With best wishes  
For a happy and healthy  
New Year!*



Charlotte Omoto



*Wishing you  
A Happy and Healthy  
New Year!  
Donna and Alvin Sasaki*



*We wish you health and happiness  
And look forward to  
Seeing you in 2022!  
Happy New Year!  
~ the Inges*

*Wishing everyone a Happy,  
Healthy and Peaceful New Year!*



*Tom and Lynrae Hubbell*



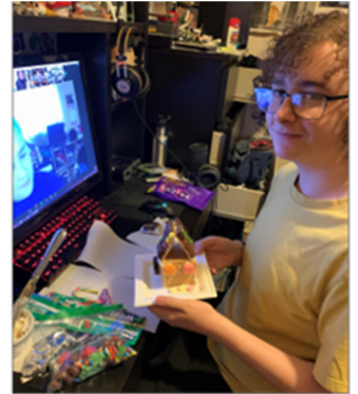
*May we sit together again  
Happy New Year*

*June and Barry Weled*

 <p>ichi-go ichi-e          "Treasuring the unrepeatable          nature of a moment"          May 2022 be filled with          joyful and peaceful moments!          -Carrie Mori</p>	<p><i>Happy Holidays          And have a          Great New Year!          Ted &amp; Martha Tamaki</i></p> 	
 <p><i>Season's Greetings &amp;          Happy 2022!          Ken, Lynne &amp; Sean Tanino</i></p>	<p><i>Season's Greeting</i></p>  <p><i>Gassho          Kosho and Michiko Yukawa</i></p>	
 <p><i>Happy Holidays          And a Happy New Year!          Michael &amp; Priscilla Shiogi</i></p>	 <p><i>Happy Holidays &amp; Best Wishes          For the New Year!          The Cook Family</i></p>	
 <p><i>Happy New Year!          Glenn &amp; Angie Nakashima          From Columbia City,          Oregon</i></p>	<p><i>Happy New Year!          Doug Tanabe          From Las Vegas,          Nevada</i></p> 	<p><i>Live Aloha!          Mitsue Hanabusa</i></p> 
<p><i>Happy New Year!          May your year be filled with          enough.</i></p>  <p><b>SPARK WONG</b></p>	<p><i>Happy New Year!</i></p> <p><i>Ernie &amp; Gail Yamane</i></p>	<p><i>あけましておめでとう          Akemashiite Omedetō          Happy New Year!          In Gassho, Rose Kishi</i></p> 







Graham  
Cracker  
Houses  
become...  
*Graham  
Cracker  
Homes*









## \*January 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 <i>New Year's Day</i> Shusho-e and Shotsuki YouTube Service
2 <i>Live Zoom Service</i> 10am	3	4	5	6	7	8 <i>Spirit Mind and Body</i> <i>Yoga For Compassion</i> With Kara O'Toole 9am-10am Via Zoom
9 <i>YouTube Service</i> BEC Meeting 9am Via Zoom Dharma School Via Zoom 10:45am	10	11	12 <i>Study Class</i> 6pm Via Zoom	13 <i>Book Club 7pm</i> Via Zoom	14	15
16 <i>Hoonko YouTube</i> Service Board Meeting 8:45am Via Zoom	17 Myokyo Deadline	18	19	20	21	22 <i>Spirit Mind and Body</i> Whole Body Meditation With Kjrsten Winters 9am-10am via Zoom
23 <i>YouTube Service</i> Dharma School Via Zoom 10:45am	24	25	26	27	28	29 Shinnenkai Zoom Party 11am-12pm
30 <i>Live Zoom Service</i> 10am BWA New Year's Party 11am	31					

## \*February 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6 <i>Nirvana Day and pet</i> Memorial YouTube Service Dharma School Via Zoom 10:45am	7	8	9 <i>Study Class</i> 6pm via Zoom	10 <i>Book Club 7pm</i> Via Zoom	11	12 <i>Spirit Mind and Body</i> <i>Yoga for Compassion</i> With Kara O'Toole 9am-10am Via Zoom
13 <i>BEC Meeting</i> Via Zoom at 9am <i>Live Zoom Service 10am</i>	14	15	16	17	18	19
20 <i>YouTube Service</i> Board Meeting 8:45am Dharma School Via Zoom 10:45am	21 Myokyo Deadline	22	23	24	25	26
27 <i>Live Zoom Service 10am</i>	28					