



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)

August 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

Traditions and Modernity

Rev. Tadao Koyama



Happy August, Sangha! We are just beginning to come out of Obon season! While our Obon hasn't happened yet, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the hard-working volunteers for their amazing job in putting on this event. This is an event all temples look forward to as well as the local community. When we think about the traditions we observe here at Tacoma Buddhist Temple, we can see a long line of events that dates to its founding!

Obon odori has had an extensive history since the temples were established here in the United States. No doubt that this tradition will continue. At the same time, obon has evolved over the years as well. What was once probably just a members-only event, due to Obon not being advertised to the public, or even discrimination, the event has expanded outside of the temple sangha and the general community has taken a large interest in the dancing and the food.

Another modern element is the music. While many of the songs we dance to are very traditional, we have some modern Japanese songs, as well as some American ones too! I would especially like to highlight the Lantern Song composed by the group Bonbu Stories. This song is in dedication to the 125th anniversary of the Buddhist Churches of America. This modern song honors our past and reflects on the dancing that was done by our ancestors and our loved ones before us.

This is also a time when community members and folks who are not familiar with Buddhism get a chance to come through the temple doors and see the shrine and possibly burn some incense. This is also an activity that helps to share the Dharma with all people who come through the temple doors.

As I reflect on this major event, I realize that so many elements must come together to make it special and meaningful for everyone. Hard workers are needed to volunteer to ensure the event happens. Cooks to make all the delicious food. We have skilled dance instructors to be the center of the circle so people can follow the dancing. We have religious leaders to share the Dharma with interested visitors. We have

technical support so the music can be heard throughout the street. We have security to provide protection. We have enthusiastic guests to come and enjoy. All these people are needed in order to make our Obon special, and every year we never cease to have all of them here.

I thank you all from the bottom of my heart for bringing together this special Obon!
Namo Amida Butsu.

President's Message



In prior messages, I have talked about impermanence. The need to fight the impulse to resist ongoing change and even embrace impermanence as the one constant in our lives. There are times though, when embracing this change is hard. When it means entering into the unknown. Times when it is, frankly, kind of scary.

I say this because I retire in August.

Yes, I hear from family and friends “on the other side” that life is great. Demands on one’s time change. There are opportunities to sleep in a little later. An ability to appreciate the small moments. More time to travel and pursue personal interests. Sounds great.

This precipice I am about to leap off of though, takes me in another direction. Like thinking of my own mortality. The ultimate example of impermanence, it is frankly something to date, I have given scant thought. The actuarial tables tell me I have 15 years left to plan for. That leaves me kind of incredulous. I mean, looking back that long to 2009 does not seem that long ago.....

I then gather my wits. I reflect that I am healthy. I have such an amazing family and great friends. I am so fortunate. That this is my time to embrace the future. To be thoughtful of how I spend every day. To look for opportunities to serve the betterment of the community. To value the life that I am so fortunate to be living. To appreciate how startlingly beautiful impermanence can be.

Gassho,
John

Buddhist Women's Association News



BWA has lots of news to report this month!

Mark your calendars – the ANNUAL **BWA BUS TRIP** has been scheduled! We will depart from Tacoma Buddhist Temple at 8 AM on **SEPTEMBER 28th** for a fun day to the Leavenworth area with stops along the way including a fruit stand! Please RSVP with payment to Denise as soon as possible and not later than **September 8th**. Price for TBWA members/children – **Free**, TBT members/BWA spouse - **\$25**, Guests - **\$40**.



Announcement: Virtual Community Fundraiser for Federation of Buddhist Women's Association

When

Friday, August 9, 2024

Place your order for pickup or delivery on Friday, August 9

Where

Available at Panda Express Express locations nationwide.

www.pandaexpress.com

How

Online orders only
Apply code **923254** in the fundraiser box during checkout or via the App

28% of sales will be donated to the FBWA to raise money for the 2024 FBWA Conference October 4-6, 2024, in San Jose, CA



Our **BWA Cards & Correspondence** activity has been scheduled for **August 25th** following service. Join us after service for this fun activity writing cards and staying in touch with our sangha members! Coffee and snacks will be available as well as crafts activities as we prepare for the NW District Convention. Additional crafting activities to be scheduled in the near future. Announcements will be via Sunday services and emailed.

Thank you for supporting BWA's Annual Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive! Together we collected 41 jars of peanut butter and 30 jars of jam/jelly that were taken to Tacoma's Emergency Food Network and distributed to local food banks, pantries and kitchens.



Upcoming events:

- August 25** – Card writing, crafts and social hour, following service
- September 7th 12 PM – 2:30 PM:** Hoshano-hi (Dana Service Day) EFN Repack activity
- September 13-15, 2024** –NW District Buddhist Convention, hosted by White River Buddhist Temple
- September 28** – BUS TRIP! to Leavenworth
- 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)
- December 8** – Bodhi Day Service –BWA hosts potluck following service and Temple General Meeting

In Gassho,
Denise Cline, Tacoma BWA President

Dharma School News



I hope you all are enjoying the good heat and lots of sunshine this time of the year!

No Dharma school during this time of the year, but we have **Obon festival on August 3 (4 PM - 8 PM)** filled with fun activities for everyone – Obon dance, Taiko performance, and of course, shaved ice!! Hope to see you all at the festival and those who signed up to volunteer, BIG thanks for your help and support.

To prepare ourselves and have a great start for the next Dharma School year, **DS teachers are gathering on Aug. 18** for our annual planning session.

White River Buddhist Temple will be hosting this year's Northwest District convention on September 13-15. We are supporting the fees for DS teachers and students, so please register if you can attend at **NWDconvension.org**

Dharma School Schedule:

August	3	No DS	Obon Matsuri
September	8	DS	First Dharma School

September 15 No DS NW District convention
If there are any changes in the future, we will contact you accordingly.

In Gassho,
Coco & Junko

Young Buddhist Association News



Junko and I would like to thank last school year's YBA President **Nao Wainer** for an extraordinary year running and coordinating with the YBA to achieve the many tasks and goals set at the beginning of the school year. Her leadership and guidance were autonomous, and she really took the initiative to ensure all tasks were completed. Nao is just a junior at Stadium High School so will be around one more year to help with our new cadre of 2024-25 officers.



YBA is a great opportunity to volunteer your time and effort for the good of the temple and community. YBA consist of high school aged Dharma students but is independent of temple Dharma School activities.

We also thank the 2023-24 YBA Cabinet for their excellent support: VP-Enzo Yotsuuye, Secretary-Tamsin Shipp, and Treasurer-Ivan Winters.

Congratulations to the newly elected incoming 2024-25 YBA Cabinet officers:

President - **Enzo Yotsuuye**
Vice President - **Minara Sugano**
Secretary - **Tamsin Shipp**
Treasurer - **Tai Alexander**

Welcome aboard! We look forward to you gaining some leadership experience and your support.

For YBA's near future/upcoming 2024-25 school year activities, we will host a shaved ice, t-shirt and other miscellaneous items table at the Tacoma Bon Odori. We will also be hosting on our annual "**Welcome back Coffee/Tea & Muffin Breakfast**" prior to service on **September 8th at 9 AM** and our first order of business will be to finalize our schedule.

Please enjoy your summer and we look forward to seeing you, in person, when the school year begins!
Gassho,
Bobby & Junko
YBA Advisors

Buddhist Education Committee News



Happy Obon season everyone!

I am currently writing this article during Obon season, but to those who are reading this after Obon, thank you for participating and supporting the temple. The last couple of months, people have shared their personal Obon experiences and what this time of year means to them and their loved ones. However, this month I would like to recognize those who attended the June seminar and to those in the background who helped to organize the event. I would like to extend a special thank you to our panelists, Joel Robinson of the Tacoma Buddhist Temple and Charles Reneau of the Oregon Buddhist Temple.



As someone who has grown up going to the temple, I was pleased to hear the perspective of those who have sought refuge in the temple. It was particularly interesting for me to hear about their first experience at temple because I have attended temple all my life and had become accustomed to the routine of service. For example, when people think of a Buddhist temple, they do not expect to see pews, an organ, and have a minister provide a sermon. These are usually associated with Western religion. While listening to Joel and Charles speak about their experience, it made me think deeper about what other things we do that people who haven't attended our temple before would not expect of a Buddhist temple. This was one thing that stuck with me from this seminar and if you missed it the first time or would like to reexperience it, please check it out on the Tacoma Buddhist Temple YouTube channel.

Lastly, with our **Obon on August 3**, there will be no service the day after on Sunday, August 4. Please join us on **August 11 for Sanga Service**. There are no special services for the month of August. As always, every second Wednesday of the month is Jodo Shinshu 101 class. This month's coffee hour will be held on August 11. We hope to see you soon!

In Gassho,
Kenzo

Facility Committee Update



As I ambled toward the temple for greeter duty, I noticed Tom Hubbell and David Yotsuuye gazing upward at something. Instantly, my overwrought imagination kicked into hyperdrive. I speculated they had spotted a spacecraft and perhaps ET would be attending the upcoming service. However, if I mispronounced their names as I introduced them to the Sangha I might spark an intergalactic war. Luckily, the reality was more down to earth. All Tom and David were doing was scoping out the gingko tree to plan a much-needed trimming.



Lynrae Hubbell presses on in keeping our stretch of Fawcett Avenue and Court D Street litter free. David Yotsuuye, Robert Yotsuuye, Tom Hubbell, Tony Gregg, Rick Tanabe, and Del Sasaki are uber vigilant in rising up to our maintenance challenges. Our temple and parsonage lawns get some tender loving care at the hands of Rick Tanabe, Delbert Sasaki, and Michael Shiogi.

~Dave

Toban News



- August 3** Obon Festival, **4 - 8 PM**
- August 4** **No service**
- August 10** Tri-Temple Softball Tournament, **8 AM - 1 PM**
- August 11** Sunday service, Coffee Hour
- August 18** Sunday service, Board Meeting, DS Teachers Meeting
- August 25** Sunday service



- September 1** **BCA 125th Anniversary Live Stream Service 10 AM**
- September 8** **Welcome Back Morning Snack 9 AM**, First Day of. Dharma School
- September 13 – 15** NW Buddhist Convention, White River Hosting, **No service at temple**
- September 22** Sunday service, Board Mtg., Emergency Prep Review Meeting, Coffee Hour
- September 29** Sunday service
- October 6** Sunday service
- October 13** Sunday service, Coffee Hour, BWA Food & Clothing Drive Starts
- October 19** Fall Seminar
- October 20** Sunday service – Eshinni/Kakushinni service, Board Meeting, BWA General Meeting

October 27 Sunday service, Halloween party?

COFFEE HOUR UPDATES: Toban Chairs - **August 11** (Emma & Kate Inge), **September 22** (Kim & Cindy Nakamura), **October 13** (Claire Silver)

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 AUGUST TOBAN CLEAN UP DUTIES:** Set up time with July Toban to clean the Temple, Bring & Set up snacks for Obon workers during the event

****OTHER SEPTEMBER TOBAN CLEAN UP DUTIES:** Set up time with October Toban to clean the Temple, Provide small snack for Bazaar set 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 up, serve snacks on SATURDAY, November 2 - afterwards clean up kitchen counter. (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: Obon Festival - **August 3**, Tri Softball Tournament – **August 10**, First Day of Dharma School - **September 8**, NW Convention (White River Hosting) - **September 13 – 15**.

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

AUGUST TOBAN

Kate & Emma Inge
Rick Tanabe
Carrie Mori
Crystal & John Inge
Edward & Yoshie Mayeda

SEPTEMBER TOBAN

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

OCTOBER TOBAN

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

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

Library News

Jodo Shin Section

Pure Land History, Tradition and Practice by Charles Johnson

This concise introduction covers the core principles of Pure Land from its development in India through China and Japan up to the present day.

Zen Section

Zen Shin Talks by Rev. Koshin Ogui



This hard-to-find book is by Rev. Koshin Ogui, a retired Bishop of the BCA and one-time minister at White River Temple. Rev. Ogui taught an intriguing mixture of Zen and Shin Buddhism at his temple in the Midwest, and in this collection of short talks, he points out how we can see and apply the Buddha dharma in our daily lives. Charming and inspiring. (Reviewed by Erik)

Book Club Section

The Little Book on Zen Healing by Paula Arai. Dr. Arai is a professor at the Institute of Buddhist Studies and explains how to engage in daily tasks with attentiveness, intention, and creativity and develop family rituals to celebrate relationship and mark transition.

Jane

Greeter's List

August	4	NO SERVICE
	11	Chiko Faria/David Yotsuuye
	18	Inge Family
	25	Inge Family
September	1	Brian/Etsuko Willis
	8	Claire Silver/Tom Hubbell
	15	NWD Convention; no service at temple
	22	Gavin Morgan/Jane Burster
October	29	Del Sasaki/Patti Wong
	6	Mike Shiogi/Debby Abe
	13	Jeff Hiroo/Coco Inoue
	20	Kara O'Toole/KT Hendrie
	27	Barry/June Weled



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



August 2024

13th Year Kenichi Nakano
17th Year Yoshiye Marie Nakashima
25th Year Setsuko Cooney
33rd Year Yoshihiko Tanabe

August 8, 2012
August 14, 2008
August 1, 2000
August 9, 1992

September 2024

1st Year Tada Yotsuuye
7th Year John Hiroshi Nakagawara
17th Year Motoshi Yamasaki
25th Year Susumu Sato
50th Year Masao Okada

September 19, 2023
September 4, 2018
September 28, 2008
September 14, 2000
September 15, 1975

October 2024

3rd Year Hanako Yoshida
3rd Year Yasuko Morita
17th Year Masae Shigeno
25th Year Yoshiko Komoto
25th Year George Arima
33rd Year Renarch Masten
50th Year Tadashi Horike

October 10, 2022
October 27, 2022
October 31, 2008
October 6, 2000
October 16, 2000
October 30, 1992
October 16, 1975

BOOK CLUB
KING'S BOOKS
AUGUST 8 @ 7 PM

**The World We Have: A Buddhist
Approach to Peace and Ecology**
Thich Nhat Hanh

Book Club
King's Books
Thursday, September 12 @ 7 PM

***One Long Listening: A Memoir of
Grief, Friendship, and Spiritual
Care***

Chenxing Han

Welcome New Member!!

Christopher Kirby



I'm from Snohomish, WA. I chose to join the TBT because I feel like the Jodo Shinshu practice aligns with my own personal values. More importantly, the atmosphere of inclusion and the celebration of differences is so vibrant and clear and that's a community that I want to be a part of.

As far as skills that I can bring to the Sangha and the Temple, I spent 2014-2023 working as a Senior Director of childcare programs for the YMCA and KinderCare, running summer camps and school year programs, so I am definitely interested in helping out with the Dharma school program. Child development is something that I have studied both in and out of university. I also have experience with social media and building up new brands, so I would be interested

in helping with increasing the visibility of the Sangha to the community in Tacoma/welcoming new members (as a new member myself, I feel like it could be a good opportunity for mutual growth and development).

One thing that I want the Sangha to know about me is that I'm a little quiet but I'm excited to be here and I'm an open book. I enjoy talking to people and connecting, and I hope I can uplift and support this community.

Cheers!
CHRISTOPHER KIBBEY
He/They



White River Buddhist Temple, Seattle Betsuin, and Tacoma Buddhist Temple Present:

2024 TRI-TEMPLE SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

August 10, 2024

Brannan Park, Field 1 | Auburn, WA



Tacoma
Vs
Seattle
Vs
White River

As of last year, our Annual Softball Tournament between ***Tacoma*** and ***Seattle*** became a 3-way tournament with the addition of ***White River Buddhist Temple*** who will be hosting this year's ***Tri-Temple Softball Tournament*** on **Saturday, August 10th at Brannan Park, Field 1 in Auburn from 8 am - 1 pm**. It's just a few blocks SE from their Temple and turf is on the infield, (super helpful for safety!) Typically, the tournament has an open game for everyone to join in at the start and then the tournament begins! Bring lots of refreshments and an umbrella to shade yourself. Last year Tacoma barely squeaked out 2 unexpected wins to finish the tournament on top, but all three teams were very equal in strength. This year Tacoma will be short a few players so bring your best game and let's bring home that trophy one more time! If you have any questions, please contact ***Bobby Yotsuuye*** at yotsuuye@outlook.com

TEAM WEAR:

TACOMA: White jersey or t-shirt

SEATTLE: Purple jersey or t-shirt

WHITE RIVER: Unknown



TACOMA FUJI TAIKO!

KONNICHWA: ... from Tacoma Buddhist Temple's own
We are: Fuji Taiko! Founded back in 2009 we're just a bunch of volunteers whose primary function is to have fun playing/performing taiko! We consist of temple members and non-temple members who get together usually after Sunday service and beat on a drum.



What we do: We perform at temple events like this month's **Bon Odori**, the New Year's Party and wherever the temple needs us. Sharing the art of taiko throughout the South Puget Sound community, we've performed and run intro-workshops at various public schools, supported internment camp remembrances, performed at UWT/TCC Ethnic events, as well as supporting various cultural events around and for the City of Tacoma.

Upcoming Events: Our next performance will be at our own Tacoma Buddhist Temple's Bon Odori (Japanese Street Dance) on **Saturday, August 3rd from 4PM-8PM**. We will open the street dancing at 5PM. Please come and enjoy our Tacoma Buddhist Temple's Bon Odori and enjoy the dancing, food, and taiko! This warm family environment is enjoyable and one of our highlights of the year. We always look forward to interacting with Seattle Betsuin's own Matsuri Taiko. This will be followed by another performance at Olympia Obon on August 10th at SPSCC from 6-8PM.



Combined Intermission Performance:
Seattle Matsuri Taiko & Tacoma Fuji Taiko!

これからも、よろしくお願ひします。

Yoroshiku!

Gassho: Your friends at Tacoma Fuji Taiko!

White River Buddhist Temple Presents

CONNECTIONS

BUILDING FOR TOMORROW



77th Annual NW District Buddhist Convention



September 13-15, 2024
Muckleshoot Casino Resort
Auburn, WA

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Candice Shibata

NWDconvention.org

Hotel Reservations 1-800-804-4944 Reference the "2024 Buddhist Conference"
Pricing is \$159 for a Deluxe room and \$169 for a Luxury room (Mt. Rainier view)

Tacoma Buddhist Temple Board of Directors Meeting Minutes



Peace Park. Where in Washington is it located?



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.

*August 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3 BWA Fresh Strawberry Mochi making 9 AM Tacoma Obon Matsuri 4 PM - 8 PM
4 No Sunday Service	5	6	7	8 Book Club King's Books 7:00 PM	9	10 Tri-Temple Softball Tournament 8 AM - 1 PM
11 Sunday service 10 AM Coffee Hour after service	12	13	14 No Study Class Summer Break	15	16	17
18 Board Meeting 8:30 AM Sunday Service 10 AM DS Teachers Meeting	19 Myokyo Deadline	20	21	22	23	24
25 Sunday Service 10 AM BWA Craft after service	26	27	28	29	30	31

*September 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Special Live Stream of BCA 125th Anniversary Service 10 AM in Hondo	2 Labor Day	3	4	5	6	7 BWA Dana Day at EFN 12 N - 2:30 PM
8 Sunday Service 10 AM First day of Dharma School YBA host "Welcome Back Morning Snack" 9 AM	9	10	11 Study Class via Zoom 6:00 PM	12 Book Club King's Books 7:00 PM	13 NWD Convention Muckleshoot	14 NWD Convention Muckleshoot
15 NWD Convention Sunday Service at Muckleshoot	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
29 Sunday Service 10 AM	30					