



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)

October 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



Fall Changes Again and Again

Rev. Tadao Koyama

Happy October everyone! I would first like to congratulate and thank all the members of the Tacoma Buddhist Temple for their hard work in hosting our annual Northwest Convention! This was my first, fully in-person convention and I had a blast. It was very nice to see my uncle, Rev. Dean Koyama, and my Auntie Linda. They wish to send their regards and thanks to you all as well. I know they enjoyed themselves immensely being back up in Washington.

I know everyone is beginning to notice that the days are becoming shorter and that the temperatures are starting to drop. We are now feeling the fall season upon us! This means falling leaves, Halloween, school being back in session for college, and the end of the year in sight!

The theme for this year's dharma school is the *Cycles of Life*. We notice that we cycle through the year with routines and rituals for every season. The clothes we wear, the activities we participate in, even the types of food we eat. In the winter we eat stews, soups, and heartier foods. In the summer we eat colder dishes, lighter food, and more liquids to keep ourselves hydrated.

We also have the daily routines and rituals that we do even without thinking. Maybe you always have breakfast at a certain time? Do you get out of bed by a certain time? Perhaps you go on an exercise regimen certain times of the day or certain days of the week. My father, for example, has to get his morning run, or bicycle ride in every morning! Sometimes his rigidly sticking to this routine drives my mother crazy. For most of you too, every Sunday you come to the temple.

I love that at temple we also have cycles we go through as well. Every year we plan for our big events like Hoonko, Ohigan, Hanamatsuri, Obon, Bazaar, etc. As we begin each new month, we kind of predict or prepare for the events we know are in store for us. How wonderful it is to be part of a temple community who continues to move through the year and nurture the sangha all along the way.

Yes, it is possible to change routines and to alter our schedules, but the sun will still go down at night and rise in the morning. The days will continue to progress as well as the years. For us, the numbers and days will not

cease. Yet at the same time, the same can be said for Amida's light. Amida Buddha is the Buddha of infinite light and life. As the cycles never cease to end, neither will the working of the Dharma. The Dharma wheel will continue to turn and spread wisdom and compassion for all.

Namo Amida Butsu.

President's Message



I am writing this just after the conclusion of our annual NW District Convention. With our temple hosting the convention this year, it required our members putting in an incredible amount of work and long hours to ensure its success. While there are many of us who were involved in various capacities, a special acknowledgement needs to go to June Akita, David Yotsuuye, Kaila Yoshitomi, Lynne Tanino and Lynrae Hubbell, for their hard work.

The result of this work was a special weekend of community and camaraderie, where members of the seven district temples could share the dharma together. There were too many highlights during the course of the weekend to list all, but hearing Reverend Dean's talk on wisdom & compassion, Erik Hammerstrom's on Buddhism and the Healing Arts and Bishop Harada's Sunday Dharma talk were all special highlights for me. For those who were unable to attend this year, I encourage you to attend next year, when the White River Temple will be hosting the convention at the Muckleshoot Casino Resort, September 20th-23rd.

Gassho,
John

Buddhist Women's Association News



Welcome to fall! BWA has a very busy month ahead, so be sure to mark your calendars for these important October events:

- **October 8th** – Eshinni & Kakushinni Memorial Service with special guest speaker Rev. Blayne Higa
- **October 15** – December 3 – BWA Food & Clothing Drive
- **October 22nd** – BWA General Meeting: Cabinet Elections, By-Laws vote, NY Luncheon planning
- **October 28th** – Prepare Daifuku Mochi for Bazaar

Thank you to all the BWA members that helped make our bus trip to Bainbridge Island in August such a fun and adventurous day. The next bus trip will be here before we know it, so start thinking of where you would like to visit on our next bus trip!

The Tacoma BWA congratulates the Tacoma Buddhist Temple and especially the convention committee and the many volunteers, for hosting a successful and memorable NW District Convention in September.

In Gassho,
Denise Cline, Tacoma BWA President



Dharma School News



How's everyone enjoying the new school year? Fall can be quite hectic for families with school kids, but it's a relief to see the summer heat giving way to the changing season. Have you noticed that Pumpkin Spice is back in full swing?



We had a Dharma School Teachers' Meeting on August 27 with focus on administrative tasks for the upcoming school year 2023-2024. A significant change we've made is transitioning to digital student registration.

Dharma School Parents, if you've already registered your children, thank you! If not, please use the QR code below to register your children. This form gathers crucial information about our Dharma School children, such as allergies and emergency contacts.

Ensuring the safety of our children is our top priority, and this form helps us in achieving that goal. Your assistance in making our Dharma School a safe and nurturing environment for the kids is greatly appreciated!



Dharma School October and November Schedule:

October	1	DS Class
	8	DS Class
	15	DS Class
	22	DS Class
	29	NO DS Class - YBA Halloween Party! All DS Students welcome!
November	5	NO DS Class (Bazaar)
	12	DS Class
	19	DS Class
	26	NO DS Class

If there are any changes in the future, we will contact you accordingly.

Gassho,
Coco & Junko

Young Buddhist Association News



Hello everyone!



I hope everyone is having a good start to autumn so far!

I am so glad to say that the NW Convention was a success!

We definitely had so much fun planning activities and helping out with the YBA portion of the convention! YBA is also very excited to help make some signs, help set up, and just overall contribute to the Bazaar, and Oshogatsu (New Year's) this year and try our best to do our part to help!

Also, we just wanted to say another thanks for all the help and support from our Obon sales, and that we gave a donation of \$1300 to the temple and to help fund the Maui relief from the fires, again we wouldn't be able to do this without any of your guys' support! And just a reminder that YBA will be hosting a Halloween party again this year, however, the date is still to be determined, but we will be sure to keep you all posted!

One last thing, YBA is having a Seasons Greetings and Happy Holidays Fundraiser event! More information is in the attached flyer, and if you have any questions feel free to ask me, or any of the other YBA members!

Gassho,
Nao

[Buddhist Education Committee News](#)



Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's 76th NW District Buddhist Convention a success. If you were present at Saturday's opening service, you may find some of this information familiar, but I believe it's worth sharing one of the remarkable ideas presented by our keynote speaker, Rev. Dean Koyama.

Rev. Koyama drew our attention to a seemingly simple but profound concept connected to the iconic character, Hello Kitty, created by Yuko Shimizu. Hello Kitty, as you may or may not know, is consistently depicted without a mouth. This deliberate design choice allows you, the viewers to project their own emotions onto Hello Kitty. When you're happy, it appears as though Hello Kitty is sharing in your happiness. Conversely, during moments of sadness, Hello Kitty seems to empathize with your feelings.

Now, how does this relate to Buddhism? I encourage you, with permission from the minister, to take a closer look at Amida Buddha the next time you visit the temple. You'll notice that Amida Buddha also has a serene, mutual expression. This design makes it easier for us to project our own emotions onto Amida Buddha. During moments of joy, Amida Buddha appears to celebrate with us, and in times of sorrow, he stands as a symbol of comfort and understanding.

While I've touched upon this idea briefly, Rev. Dean Koyama's keynote speech was filled with many other insightful details. Once again, a heartfelt thank you to Rev. Dean Koyama for delivering a thought-provoking keynote.

~Kenzo

[Facility Committee Update](#)



Well, somebody prayed for rain and it's just around the corner. Those dry, summer dog day afternoon canines will be flinging water everywhere. In that spirit, one of our forthcoming projects will be to seal or replace the leaky roof over the garage. While we are on a roll regarding roofs, your facility crew is planning to install a new roof over the staircase at the stage right exterior door. With no pun intended, we'll step away from the roofs and make some racket as we tackle some much-needed repairs to the exterior stairs leading up the Reverend Pratt Room and the temple office. Feel free to duct tape my hands to my mouth to keep me off the puns. To prevent us from going off the rails, we'll strive to ensure that people can grab on to something and keep the posterior part of their anatomies off the ground. Therefore, a replacement railing is planned for the stairs at the left front side of the temple. Additionally, a wall in the women's restroom next to the Reverend Pratt Room will get a coat of paint.

Rick Tanabe, Delbert Sasaki, Jeff Hiroo, and Mike Shiogi are doing a stellar job at maintaining our grounds.

Let's thank Lynrae Hubbell for her efforts at keeping Fawcett Avenue and Court D Street free of litter. David Yotsuuye, Bobby Yotsuuye, Les Hitsman, Tom Hubbell, Tony Gregg, Rick Tanabe, and Del Sasaki always vigilant about keeping on top of our temple maintenance needs.

~Dave

Toban News



October 7	Fall Seminar
October 8	Eshinni & Kakushinni Memorial Service
October 15	BWA Food & Clothing Drive Starts, Board Meeting 8:30 , Coffee Hour after service
October 22	BWA General Meeting, DS Halloween Party (?)
October 28	BWA Daifuku Mochi
October	October Toban-set up Temple Clean up with September Toban

November	November Toban-set up Temple Clean up with December Toban
November 5	Fall Craft & Food Bazaar (TENTATIVE)
November 18	9 AM Spirit, Mind, & Body
November 19	8:30 AM Board Meeting, Eitaikyo Service, Coffee Hour after service
November 26	9 AM BWA Coffee & Craft

December 3	Bodhi Day Service, General Mtg., Potluck Lunch, BWA Clothing Drive Ends
December 10	Last Day of DS 2023, Coffee Hour after service
December 31	Year End Service (Time TBA)
December	December Toban set up Temple clean up with November Toban

COFFEE HOUR UPDATES: Toban Chairs - October (Alex Theisen), November (Kara & Kt), December (Jeff & Vivian Hiroo). **DATES:** October 15, November 19, December 10

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**

OCTOBER TOBAN

Alex Theisen
Kim & Cindy Nakamura
Todd & Marcia Nakamura
Vicki Yoshioka
Harumi Sasao
Don Arima & Susan Bogni
Asako Arima (call)

NOVEMBER TOBAN

Kara O'Toole & Kt Hendrie
Merlaine & Josiah Cook
Claire Silver
Gavin Morgan
Tom & Lynrae Hubbell
Fujiko Yoshikawa
Nancy Butterfield

DECEMBER TOBAN

Jeff & Vivian Hiroo
Denise Cline
Delbert & Cynthia Sasaki
Craig O'Hanlon
Tad & Joan Kajimura
Tisha Tisdale
Danny Otsuka (call)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND HELP WITH OUR TEMPLE.

Tracy Ling/Michael Shiogi

Library News



New in the library:

You Belong. A Call for Connection - Sebene Selassie (a book club book)

Mentioned in Rev. Koyama's Dharma message:

Ocean: An Intro to Jodo Shinshu Buddhism in America - Kenneth Tanaka

River of Fire River of Water - Unno Taitetsu (In Jodo Shinshu section)

Shoshinge The Heart of Shin Buddhism - Alfred Bloom

The Four Noble Truths - Dalai Lama (In Dalai Lama section)

~Jane

Greeter's List

October	1	Jeff Hiroo/Coco Inoue
	8	Kara O'Toole/Kt Hendrie
	15	June & Barry Weled
	22	Mike Shiogi/Debby Abe
	29	Tom Hubbell/Lynn Blick
November	5	Mayumi & Kevin Ikeda
	12	David Yotsuuye/Bobby Yotsuuye
	19	Tony Greg/Jim Doyle
	26	Tracy Ling/David Campbell
December	3	Gavin Morgan/Del Sasaki

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



October 2023

1 st Year	Hanako Yoshida	October 10, 2022
1 st Year	Yasuko Morita	October 27, 2022
17 th Year	Rex Harrison	October 3, 2007
50 th Year	Shina Asai	October 1, 1974
50 th Year	Heiichi Asai	October 11, 1974
50 th Year	Sadayoshi Matsumoto	October 16, 1974

November 2023

33 rd Year	Ray Konishi	November 16, 1991
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December 2023

7 th Year	Ryomi Tanino	December 8, 2017
25 th Year	Tazu Abe	December 16, 1999
33 rd Year	Shigeo Oka	December 16, 1991
33 rd Year	Shogo Hiroo	December 29, 1991

Book Club
Thursday, October 12
7 pm @ King's Books

**Transformative Encounters:
Encounters With....**

Senauke

Book Club

Thursday, November 9
7 pm @ King's Book

**The Way of Tenderness:
Awakening through Race,
Sexuality and Gender**

Earthlyn Zenju Manuel



**Tacoma Buddhist Temple
presents
2023 Fall Seminar**

**Our Special Guest Speaker
Rev. Blayne Higa
Resident Minister of
Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple**



**Realizing Buddha's Nature, Awakening to our Own:
Finding Wholeness and Healing in Shin Buddhism**

Date: Saturday, October, 7
Time: Seminar 2pm-4pm, Dinner 5pm-7:30pm
Place: Tacoma Buddhist Temple Social Hall
1717 Fawcett Ave, Tacoma, WA 98402
Cost: Seminar is Free, Dinner \$15 suggested donation

The "entrusting heart" of Shinjin is a growing experience nurtured in the soil of our everyday lives. We are continuously being made aware of our limited and imperfect self, which is embraced by Amida Buddha's infinite wisdom and compassion through the joys and sorrows of life. Shin Buddhism offers a realistic path of wholeness and healing for those of us who are trapped by the myth of perfection. Let's explore how Shin Buddhist spirituality offers hope for the hopeless.

Register via the QR code!



Japanese Donation Items are Welcomed!

The Tacoma Buddhist Temple **collects Japanese items as part of our heritage and fundraising efforts**. The list provides general information to the categories we appreciate from the community. If you'd like to donate, please contact info@tacomabt.org to schedule a time for your drop off. For members, please drop off items on our stage in the social using the paper tag to identify your name and items.

We appreciate the donations and reserve the right to not accept the donation based on the category.

ACCEPTED JAPANESE ITEMS

Japanese Art: Scrolls, ukiyo-e prints, paintings, drawings, calligraphy, screens, posters.

Japanese Books: Cookbooks only.

Japanese Clothing and Dance Accessories: Happi coat, kimono, obi, kanzashi, geta, zori, haori, hakama, yukata, Japanese handbags, tabi, kimono under garments, ties and sashes. Uchiwa, tenugui, sensu (folding fan), castanets, kasa (Japanese umbrella).

Japanese Kitchen & Cooking Items: Rice cookers (shamoji), mochi machines, donabe (hot pot), sushi molds.

Japanese Musical Instruments: hakuhaichi, koto, taiko drums.

Obutsudan and accessories: Family-owned altar, small to mid-sized that is easily transportable.

Japanese Tablewares: chawan, teapots, tea sets, sake sets, Japanese dishes, ceramics, miso bowls, dishes, plates and platters.

Japanese Textiles: kimono material, furoshiki and other Japanese made fabrics, table clothes and placemats.

Japanese Toys: kendama, tako (kites), hagoita, koma (tops), shogi, Go, hanafuda (card game).

Items we will NOT accept:

Appliances (home equipment) – e.g. Refrigerators, dishwashers, washing machines, etc.

Beauty Products (cosmetics) – e.g. perfume, shampoo, soaps

Bed Parts – e.g. mattresses or frames

Clothes – shoes, jackets, purses, pants, etc.

Non-Japanese Books and Records – Encyclopedias, magazines, newspapers, albums, history books, etc.

Electronics – e.g. cameras, laptops, televisions, stereos, peripheral equipment

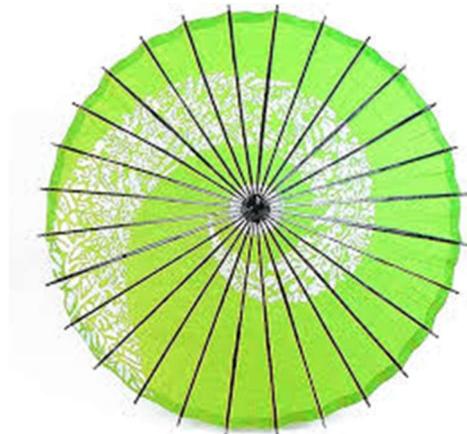
Furniture – e.g. couches, tables, office furniture, lamps, shelves, night stands, chairs, empty picture frames, rugs, etc.

Heavily Damaged Items – e.g. picture frames with shattered glass, chipped bowls, punctured artwork, heavily soiled clothing

Japanese American Historical Items – e.g. camp furniture, camp jewelry, immigration documentation

Office Supplies – e.g. binders, paper, pencils, folders (unique Japanese items accepted)

VHS – Any VHS equipment or video cassette





76th NW District Buddhist Convention
from Chaos to Compassion
September 15-17, 2023



*October 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Sunday Service 10 am	2	3	4	5	6	7 <i>Isshin Open Taiko 9 am</i> Fall seminar 2 pm-4 pm Rev. Blayne Higa Seminar Dinner 5 pm-7:30 pm
8 <i>Eshinni Kakushinni Service</i> 10 am Guest Speaker Rev. Blayne Higa Dharma School After Service Origami Workshop after DS	9	10	11 <i>Study class</i> <i>Via Zoom at 6 pm</i>	12 <i>Book Club at</i> King's Books 7 pm	13	14 <i>Spirit Mind and Body</i> Yoga For Compassion 9 am Temple Social Hall Taught by Kara O'Toole
15 Board meeting 8:30 am Sunday Service 10 am Dharma School After Service Food/Clothing drive starts Coffee Hour 11:00 am	16 <i>Myokyo Deadline</i>	17	18	19	20	21
22 Sunday Service 10 am Dharma School After Service BWA meeting after service	23	24	25	26	27	28 <i>BWA Daifuku Mochi 9 am</i>
29 Sunday Service at 10 am Halloween party after service	30	31				

*November 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5 FALL BAZAAR - tentative	6	7	8 <i>Study class</i> <i>Via Zoom at 6 pm</i>	9 <i>Book Club at</i> King's Books 7 pm	10	11
12 Sunday Service 10 am Dharma School After Service	13	14	15	16	17	18 <i>Spirit Mind and Body</i> Yoga For Compassion 9 am Temple Social Hall Taught by Kara O'Toole
19 Board meeting 8:30 am Eitaikyo Service 10am Dharma School After Service Coffee Hour 11:00 am	20 <i>Myokyo Deadline</i>	21	22	23 <i>Thanksgiving</i>	24	25
26 Sunday Service at 10 am BWA Coffee & Craft 9 am	27	28	29	30		