

The White Path

Living the Life of the Nembutsu

WHITE RIVER BUDDHIST TEMPLE

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Minister's Greetings

Greetings,

Persimmons, persimmons, persimmons I have been eating and enjoying persimmons what seems like the entire month of November. They are perhaps my favorite fruit. When I first tasted one, I didn't care for the flavor. Maybe it was not quite ripe or maybe I was not ready for something new. Later, as I learned what the perfect persimmon tastes like, I grew to appreciate their delicate, sweet flavor above all other

fruits.

Years ago, when my grandchildren were small, I encouraged them to taste the persimmons. You know how hard it can be to get children just to take the first bite. Well, with Grandma Rona's help, we convinced them to taste their first one and now they are almost as big a fan of persimmons as I am.

The children and I learned that we cannot know the taste of the persimmon merely by touching and seeing it. The taste cannot be explained or transmitted to us by anyone. We must actually taste it to know the wonderful flavor it holds within.

Before he became Buddha, Siddhartha Gautama was raised in conditions of comfort and pleasure, but he nonetheless became dissatisfied with ordinary life. After seeing that all people are subject to old age, illness, loss, and death, he left the household life to seek "the aging-less, illness-less, deathless, sorrow-less, undefiled, and search for the unexcelled rest. He began his search for current and future relief from the seemingly eternal cycle of birth and death that we humans are meant to endure. We sometimes say he was searching for "enlightenment".

After about six years of intense study and practice, he learned that enlightenment cannot be reached through teachers because it cannot be taught. He sat down under a bodhi (fig) tree attained enlightenment. He then formulated ways to teach us how we too can become "enlightened".

What is this "enlightenment" or "awakening experience"? It has many definitions. Sometimes defined as a state of perfect knowledge or wisdom, combined with infinite compassion. Sometimes said to be when a Buddhist discovers the truth about life and ceases to be reborn. What exactly constituted the Buddha's awakening is unknown.

Siddhartha Gautama learned that enlightenment comes from within. It, like the taste of persimmons it cannot be taught, it must be experienced.

This month, on December 8th we Buddhists celebrate Bodhi day. In the Buddhist world it is one of the most important dates we celebrate. This is the occasion when the Buddha attained enlightenment on this same day over 2500 years ago while sitting under the Bodhi tree. This is the day the Prince Siddhartha Gautama became enlightened as to the nature of all things. He became Buddha.

Gassho

Rev. James Hozen Warrick

Bonnenkai Family Service and Potluck Lunch

Sunday, December 15th 10:30am

Please join us for our Bonnenkai Year End Service where we will be installing our new officers. A potluck lunch will follow.



Message from the Chairperson

November is here and the fall colors are spectacular. Ballots are out and December 1st new board members will be announced. They will attend the December board meeting, where new officers will be elected. They will be inducted in January and given the oath by Rev. Warrick.

Thanksgiving is around the corner and I am reflecting on what makes White River Buddhist Temple so special, It's our sangha. Reverend Warrick, Rona and all our sangha members have made us who we are. We welcome all and our expanding our outreach to other faith based organizations. We also reach out to help the homeless, Fisher House and the John Volken Academy. The men from John Volken are amazing. I have used their lawn mowing services and moving services, and my daughter has purchased furniture from Price Co, John Volken's Furniture store.

My wife Sally and I have also had to learn great patience during the remodel of our house. Being stuck in one bedroom together all day has test both our patience. She told me the other day, she's ready to kill me.

I want to sign off wishing all of our sangha a Happy Thanksgiving and GO DAWGS, we're going to win the Apple Cup for the 6th straight year. (I hope?)

Wayne Mizuki

P.S. Remember to join us on December 1st at 10:00am for "Pastries with President." No agenda, No donation, No catch. Just coffee, pastries (or something similar), and good conversation with your fellow Sangha members!

**December Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service
December 1, 2019 at 10:30 AM**

According to our Temple records, the following people passed away in the month of December. Family and friends are cordially invited to attend the Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service on Sunday, December 1st at 10:30 am. If any names have inadvertently been omitted, please email office@wrbt.org to correct our records.

Emon Ikuta	1973	Atsushi Harry Ibuki	2003
Hatsu Emma Hikida	1977	Joyce Anahori Ding	2007
Aileen Aiko Fisher	1977	Phyllis Marie Hansen	2009
Shima Taketa	1978	Josie Taketa	2009
Roger Kawasaki	1999	Hank Miyoshi	2010

1 year ~ 2018	3 year ~ 2017	7 year ~ 2013	13 year ~ 2007
17 year ~ 2003	25 year ~ 1995	33 year ~ 1987	50 year ~ 1970

DESIGNATED MEMORIAL SERVICE YEARS To schedule a family memorial service, please contact office@wrbt.org

TIMELESS FAVORITES

Many thanks to Carolyn Schwab for her lessons on. Russian cooking at the November class. She had Potato Pancakes, Tangu Broccoli, Brats and two types of cookies (ginger spice & Russian tea cookies).

On Saturday, December 7th, Kendall Kosai will teach the Hiroshima style Okonomiyaki. Please sign up at the temple, office@wrbt.org, or by email to Eva Chun or Lilly Kato. Supply fee of \$10 per person.

Meditation Sessions

Saturday, December 14: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Saturday, December 28: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Instructors: Cris & Melissa Cyders

Join us as we continue to explore Zen Shin Meditation, including reviewing correct posture and breathing, and learning to focus attention in the hara (in the body, the focus of strength and concentration of power). All are welcome to attend.

Questions? office@wrbt.org

Buddhist Women's Association

BWA@wrbt.org

All are welcome to participate in BWA activities. You do not need to be a BWA member.



Left to right – Gretchen, Vivian, Judy, Eva, Takako, Georgette. Photo by Karen

Craft & Coffee – White River Valley Museum Project – Gretchen led us making decorations for a holiday cultural tree for the Museum. We stuffed cotton fabric hearts with fiber-fill and stitched them closed. See this project on display at the Museum.

Reverend Anne Spencer was our guest speaker for Eshinni-Kakushinni Service on Sunday, October 27. Rona had this to say about Rev. Spencer’s Sunday Dharma message, “Rev. Spencer's talk about the relationship of Eshinni and her daughter Kakushinni was very touching. She read a letter from Eshinni to her daughter. As a mother, I could just feel the love in her words through the letter that she read.”

Thank you to Georgette & Crew for all the work and delicious dishes brought for potluck lunch after Eshinni-Kakushinni Service!

Gift Card Fundraiser –Gift card orders to Darlene or Karen by Sun, Nov 24. Pay regular price for gift cards for others as well as for your own use for groceries & gas. Receive gift cards Sun, Dec 8. Questions? BWA@wrbt.org

Dec 8, Sun – BWA meeting after service. Election of officers. Door prizes. Share thoughts about what brings you joy and bring ideas for what you’d like to do for Fun Fellowship next year.

Future Dates - All are welcome to participate in our activities whether BWA member or not.

Nov 24, Sun Deadline for gift card orders to Darlene or Karen

Dec 8, Sun Receive your gift cards

Dec 8, Sun BWA membership meeting

Jan 18, Sat Soup-Making

Green Box Year Round Collections in temple lobby – October, November, December = Games, Books, Toys, Clothing. Thank you for your support!

Newspapers - Thank you for your donations of recycled newspapers that are delivered to Inca's Secret! 28 bags of newspapers + 1 bag of towels for Sept–Oct.

Diaper/Change Jar on the lobby table during service days. We are collecting your loose change to purchase diapers and wipes, etc. for those in need. Thank you very much for your donations!

The WR Buddhist Women's Association gratefully acknowledges receipt of donations for our Eshinni/Kakushinni Service from:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Eva Chun | Georgette Magnin |
| Norma & Bill Geenty | Charles Natsuhara |
| Charlene & Loren Grinolds | Kathryn Natsuhara |
| Pat & Shiyoji Kawabata | Kiyomi Taketa Ozanich |
| Amy Kato | Yuri & Itsuo Shiotani |
| Lilly Kato | Darlene Yamada |
| Rosie Kato | Yoshiko Yamada |
| Katie Komoto | Osaisen (Offering) |

Newsletter Reminder

January newsletter articles are due **Sunday, December 15th**. Please send articles to newsletter@wrbt.org. Receive your newsletter via email! Contact newsletter@wrbt.org.

Donations

The Temple gratefully acknowledges the following donations received and recorded from October 15th through November 16th. Thank you to the many people whose financial donations, as well as their donations of goods, energy, and time help the temple provide services, programs, and maintain the temple. Please contact Charles Natsuhara, Treasurer, regarding omissions or corrections by phone (253) 833-0789, or by email to finance@wrbt.org.

Total Donations Received - \$945

Monthly (Shotsuki) Memorials

Mrs. Audrie Hayes	In memory of Tame Tsujikawa
Mrs. Audrie Hayes	In memory of Koko Sutow
Mr. Randy Okimoto	In memory of Hatsue Okimoto
Mr Seiichi Taniguchi	In memory of Kimiko Taniguchi
Mrs. Joan Rodgers	In memory of Teki Fujimura
Mrs. Charlene Grinolds	In memory of Tomio Hamasaki

Bazaar Fundraiser Donations

Mr & Mrs. Ron & Karen Murakami

General Donations

BCA Dana Program	Mrs. Charlene Grinolds
BCA Dana Program	Mr. & Mrs. Wayne and Sally Mizuki
Kitchen Use	Mrs. Kim Komoto
In appreciation	Rev. Anne Spencer
In appreciation	Junko Nakano
In appreciation	Etsu Shimbo
Anonymous	In appreciation - Gomonshu visit
Anonymous	In appreciation – Gomonshu visit
Memorial Service	Lim Kak Ben
Rev. Spencer Dharma Talk	Matthew & Rosalie May
Rev. Spencer Dharma Talk	Anonymous
Pet Memorial – In memory of Loki	Mrs. Joan Rodgers

**2019 Pledge Totals
October 1 – 31, 2019**

Thank you for your support in 2019!

PLEDGES DECLARED			DOLLARS COLLECTED		
Date	Additional	Total	Contributors	Additional	Total
October 31, 2019	\$930	\$30,795	50	\$1,085	\$29,020
Name and Amount Not Specified for Publishing:			Anonymous #21	Anonymous #22	
Amount Not Specified for Publishing: Himeko Suyematsu					
Under \$500: Kiyomi Taketa-Ozanich					
\$500- \$999:					
\$1,000- \$4,999:					
<u>For Comparison</u>					
October 31, 2018	\$3,600	\$28,375	52	\$3,855	\$26,520

ABA News

The ABA held its November 18, 2019 cooking class with Maydell Crane instructing. The class made a tasty tuna fish burger and a wild rice and carrot salad. The meal was enjoyed by all. The ABA members are planning a spring field trip with possible destinations being considered: the Seattle Asian Art Museum, Kubota Gardens, Georgetown Brewery tour, Museum of History and Industry and the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival. The current ABA officers were re-elected for another term. They are: President, Randy Okimoto; Vice President, Randy Chun; Secretary, Norma Geenty and Treasurer, Bill Geenty.

Facilities Committee

The Facilities Committee is evaluating the costs and benefits of installing security cameras inside the temple and outside. If you have any opinions or concerns, please contact Randy Okimoto at reokimoto@comcast.net.

Views expressed in articles by individuals do not necessarily represent the views of, and should not be attributed to the Temple or Sangha members

Reverend Warrick's Formal Temple Office Hours

Wednesday & Thursday 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Sunday 8:30 am - 1:00 pm

For religious or other consultations and home visitations, we advise that an appointment be made directly with Rev. Warrick. Reverend Warrick is on-call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for emergencies.

For ALL ministerial needs (including emergencies), please call the Temple phone (253) 833-1442. If your call is not answered immediately, please leave a message and Rev Warrick will return your call as soon as possible. Note that calls will be forwarded to Rev. Warrick when he is not at the Temple.

Temple office

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Rev Warrick

Rev.Warrick@wrbt.org

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