

The White Path

Living the Life of the Nembutsu

WHITE RIVER BUDDHIST TEMPLE

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Minister's Greetings

Greetings,

It's convention time! Each year our fellow Jodo Shinshu Buddhists here in the Northwest gather at a hosting temple for the Buddhist Churches of America's Northwest District Convention.

This year is no exception. Seattle Betsuin hosts the 2020 BCA National Council Meeting and the 73rd Annual Northwest District Convention. The Convention theme is "Dana for World Peace".

This month we observe Nirvana Day, by holding our Nehan-E Service on February 9. This service is to commemorate and honor the historical Shakyamuni Buddha who attained Nirvana and passed away on February 15, 486 BCE at Kushingara India, at the age of 80 according to our Mahayana tradition. It is believed that He entered into perfect tranquility, or Nirvana, at that time.

Nirvana means to blow out or extinguish as in the case of a lamp. It is also called the extinction of passions, the uncreated, peaceful happiness, eternal bliss, true reality, dharma-body, dharma-nature, suchness, oneness, and Buddha-nature.

Nirvana is the goal of Buddhist life - the blowing out of blind passions and the extinction of the ignorant self that leads to the birth of an awakened being of wisdom and compassion. In short Nirvana- IS the End of Suffering... In this lifetime and all future lifetimes.

Our Master, Shinran Shonin, tells us when foolish beings possessed of blind passions, the multitudes caught in birth-and-death and defiled by evil karma, realize the mind and practice that Amida directs to them for their going forth, they immediately join the truly settled of the Mahayana. Because they dwell among the truly settled, they necessarily attain nirvana. To necessarily attain nirvana is [to attain] eternal bliss.

Simply put from one of Shinran's hymns:

Concerning the aspiration for supreme enlightenment in the Pure Land path,
 We are urged to realize the mind that seeks to attain Buddhahood;
 The mind that seeks to attain Buddhahood
 Is itself the mind that seeks to save all sentient beings.
 The mind that seeks to save all sentient beings
 Is directed to us through Amida's Vow of wisdom.
 Those who realize this true entrusting that is directed to us
 Attain great, complete nirvana.

For this we bow in gratitude.

Rev. James Hozen Warrick

Ho-On-Ko Service Notice

In this month's newsletter you will find an invitation for the Ho-On-Ko service and Shinnenkai (New Year's party), to be held on Sunday, January 26th. Rev. Katsuya Kusunoki of Seattle Betsuin will be our guest speaker. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience. For those who receive their newsletter electronically, envelopes will be available at the Temple.



Greetings from the Chairman!

Having been on the job for about two weeks now, it has become clear to me that this job is a lot more complicated than I had thought. I tip my hat to our past presidents, Wayne Mizuki, Sharon Komoto, Bill Geenty, Dennis Asato and all the others. Thank you for your service. January is a busy month with our New Year’s Day Service, Shotsuki Service and upcoming Hoonko Service and Shin-nenkai Lunch on January 26th. February too will be busy. Our General Membership meeting is scheduled after service on Sunday, February 9th and the Northwest District Convention in Renton on February 21-23. I encourage all members and prospective members alike to attend the events.

During our General Membership meeting, the last issue to be discussed will be a recent request made to the Board by a cooperative group of mothers of pre-school children. They request that they be allowed to use our facilities for a few hours one or two days a week to teach their children Japanese art, culture and related social skills. If you look at it as an outreach program to recruit new members, this request has some possibilities.

Randy Okimoto

P.S. Remember to join us on February 2nd 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!

**February Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service
February 2, 2020 at 10:30 AM**

According to our Temple records, the following people passed away in the month of February. Family and friends are cordially invited to attend the Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service on Sunday, February 2nd at 10:30 am. If any names have inadvertently been omitted, please email office@wrbt.org to correct our records.

Kishino Yamagata	1974	Kazuo Tsujikawa	1992
Setsu Yanagawa	1979	Mary Yukie Sakuma	2002
Haru Miyoshi	1980	Judy Schilthorath	2006
Kart Funai	1980	Dorothy Yaguchi	2010
Steven Takeo Tsuji	1987	Lily Yoshie Komoto	2016
Michael James Hamasaki	1991		

1 year ~ 2019	3 year ~ 2018	7 year ~ 2014	13 year ~ 2008
17 year ~ 2004	25 year ~ 1996	33 year ~ 1988	50 year ~ 1971

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

Meditation Sessions

Saturday, February 1: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Saturday, February 15: 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

Monthly Play Date at White River

The first Sunday of the month, Dharma school will have play date events, focusing on preschool and grade school aged children. There will be snacks, crafts, and activities. No obligations, just come and have fun! **February 2nd and March 1st** will be the next scheduled events. The playdate will begin after service begins at 10:30; the children will stay for part of the service, then be excused. Contact Ruth Terry if you have any questions - ruthterry@gmail.com

Save the Date
Tsuru folding
March 22, 2020 - Noon

This excerpt is from a Tsuru For Solidarity Press Release:

Japanese Americans from across the country will gather next spring in Washington, D.C. on June 5 – 7, 2020 for a “National Pilgrimage to Close the Camps.” We plan to bring 125,000 paper cranes, or tsuru, as expressions of solidarity with immigrant and refugee communities that are under attack today. The 125,000 cranes represent the members of our community who were rounded up and incarcerated in U.S. concentration camps during World War II, including both Japanese Americans and Japanese Latin Americans.

Standing on the moral authority of our own unjust incarceration, the protest will demand that no matter where someone came from or how they arrived to the United States, they be treated with dignity and respect. We will stand with immigrant communities to condemn the policies that dehumanize them, including ICE detention, jailing and separation of parents, families and children, and the Muslim ban.

The planning is being led by Tsuru for Solidarity, a nonviolent, direct action project of Japanese American Social justice advocates. “We expect this to be the largest gathering of Nikkei since World War II, when we were forcibly removed from our homes and incarcerated in U.S. concentration camps,” said Mike Ishii, one of the lead organizers.

We, at WRBT, would like to support this project by folding and stringing tsuru. All supplies will be provided. This project is scheduled on Sunday, March 22nd, at Noon. Our speaker on that date is Kendall Kosai. We will have snacks immediately following Kendall’s presentation and then we will begin our crane folding.

You may contact Char or Vivian, at wrbt.org, for more information.

Facilities Committee

Tomo is planning to move into the caretaker’s house around the middle of January. He has a bed, couch, chair, dining table, vacuum cleaner and chairs but could use some kitchen things. He plans to prepare a wish list and post it on the bulletin board. Any help will be appreciated.

The Facilities Committee is planning to install two Comcast security cameras; one inside the temple and one outside. The Committee is also considering updating the 20 yr.-old ADT alarm control panel and keypad. The furnace that heats the multipurpose room has been repaired. A contractor has also been hired to fix the backdoor and frame. Work will begin on January 20th. The project might take a couple of days. The new kitchen freezer has been ordered and should be installed sometime this month.

ABA

Our next ABA cooking class and meeting is Monday, February 10, 2020 at 10 am. Eva Chun will be teaching us to make fried saimin with spam and Lilly will be teaching dorayaki. Everyone is invited to attend but we would appreciate a headcount, so please notify Eva or me at reokimoto@comcast.net.

ABA business will include choosing the Spring fieldtrip destination. Suggested sites and events include, Seattle Asian Art Museum, Kubota Gardens, Georgetown Brewery tour, Museum of History and Industry and Skagit Valley Tulip Festival.

TIMELESS FAVORITES

On Saturday, February 8, Sharon Kosai will teach the Timeless Favorites cooking class. The menu is yet TBD.

Newsletter Reminder

March newsletter articles are due **Sunday, February 12th**. 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 December 16th through January 13th. 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. For regular donors, year-end letters listing contributions made during 2018 will be prepared and handed out by the end of January. Please contact Charles Natsuhara, Treasurer, regarding omissions or corrections by phone (253) 833-0789, or by email to finance@wrbt.org.

Total Donations Received - \$3765.00

Monthly (Shotsuki) Memorials

Mrs. Charlene Grinolds	In memory of Masao Tsuji
Mrs Yuki Iwai	In memory of Sunao Iwai
Mrs Amy Kato	In memory of Roy Taketa
Mrs. Rosie Kato	In memory of Frank and George Komoto
Mrs. Katie Komoto	January Shotsuki
Jill Komoto & Alan Lipp	In memory of George Komoto
Mrs Alice Nishimoto	In memory of Yoshi Nishimoto
Mr Randy Okimoto	In memory of Frank Okimoto
Mr Randy Okimoto	In memory of Ura Toyoshima
Mrs Joan Rodgers	In memory of Shizumi Fujimura
Mrs. Audrie Hayes	In memory of Uncle Mas Sutow, Father Kart Funai, Uncle Kaz Tsujikawa, Mother Its Funai, and Uncle Stan Tsujikawa

General Donations

Mrs. Gayle Takemura	Joya-e Service
Mrs. Connie Toda	Joya-e Service
M/M William & Norma Geenty	Year End donation
M/M Eva and Randy Chun	New Year's Day Service
Cris and Melissa Cyders	In appreciation
Ms. Bonnie Natsuhara	WRBT Supporter donation
Mrs. Karen Little	WRBT Supporter donation
Ms. Yvonne Ward	WRBT Supporter donation
Mr. Ross Yanagawa	WRBT Supporter donation
M/M Mike and Louise Kato	WRBT Supporter donation, In memory of Satoru Kato
Mrs. Sharon Ito	WRBT Supporter donation, In memory Shizuko & Frank Natsuhara
Mrs. Audrie Hayes	Newsletter donation
Anonymous	Year End donation
Anonymous	Kitchen use
Case of Bottled Water	Ron & Karen Murakami

2019 Pledge Totals

December 1 – 31, 2019

Thank you for your support in 2019!

Date	PLEDGES DECLARED		Contributors	DOLLARS COLLECTED	
	Additional	Total		Additional	Total
January 3, 2020	\$3,535	\$37,530	72	\$3,775	\$37,195
Name and Amount Not Specified for Publishing:					
	Anonymous #28	Anonymous #29	Anonymous #30	Anonymous #27	Anonymous #31
	Anonymous #32	Anonymous #33			
Amount Not Specified for Publishing:					
	Joe Watanabe	Greg Watson	Kelsey Asato	Tessa Asato	Connie Toda
Under \$500: Joe Schwab Alva Nishimura Dennis Nishimura					
\$500- \$999:					
\$1,000- \$4,999:					
<u>For Comparison</u>					
January 4, 2019	\$4,835	\$34,680	71	\$5,600	\$33,705



Hyatt Regency Lake Washington
1053 Lake Washington Blvd. N, Renton, WA

February 21-23, 2020

Please note: There will be NO SERVICES on Sunday February 23rd at White River. You are welcome to attend the Sunday service at the convention at no charge!

The Seattle Betsuin is honored to host the 73rd Annual Northwest District Convention in conjunction with the 2020 BCA Ministers' Association Meeting and BCA National Council Meeting.

In addition to the normal Saturday workshops, this year's convention will also include the Hongwanji Place Bookstore, a Thursday afternoon IBS/CBE Symposium "Prayers for the World" featuring Rev/Drs Takashi Miyaji, Mutsumi Wondra and David Matsumoto and three Friday evening workshops titled "Temple Safety & Security", "Membership & Propagation" and the "BCA's Minister's Assistant Program".

Also new this year, rather than having a keynote speaker, we will feature several of the BCA ministers who will be in town plus a few guest speakers. Saturday session choices include

- "Engaged Buddhist Women and the Bōmori"
- "EcoSangha & Earth Dana"
- "Sing Namō Amida Butsu"
- "World Peace Begins with Me"
- English & Japanese language Dharmathons
- "Otera de Asobō" (Let's Play at the Temple")
- "Oshōmyō kara no Manabi" (Learning from Chanting)
- "Sustainable Art & Project"
- A Buddhist Parenting Panel
- "DT Suzuki: The Remaking of Pureland Buddhism"
- "Archiving Temple History"
- "Road to Tokudo"
- "Dana for World Peace"

Registration is due January 31, 2020 — Please register at <https://seattlebetsuin.com/convention/> — If you need assistance, please contact Wayne Mizuki. LATE FEE is \$50/person after February 1st.

- \$150 adults
- \$100 students eating adult meals (college included)
- \$80 students eating child meals
- \$100 adult banquet only
- \$45 child banquet only

"Our Lost Years"

White River Buddhist Temple will be co sponsoring the showing of Lane Nishikawa's film "Our Lost Years" about the incarceration of 120,000 Japanese & Japanese Americans, the signing of H.R. 442 & the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. Besides sharing personal stories and the battle for redress and reparations, it shares how the legacy of this community is becoming a voice of justice for all people.

When: Sunday March 1, 2020, 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Where: the Gathering Place located at the Kent Lutheran Church and Community Center 336 2nd Ave. So., Kent WA 98032

Cost: General Admission \$15, Membership with Kent Lutheran, Greater Kent Historical Society, White River Buddhist Temple & JACL \$12, Students (18 and under) and Seniors (65+) \$10. Tickets must be purchased in advance as seating is limited. Purchase tickets at <https://www.brownpapertickets.com/user/eventreports.html?events=4494089>

Lane will be showing his film and taking questions after the film. Copies of the film will be available for purchase along with his other films.

If you have any questions please contact Char Grinolds at charginolds@gmail.com or 253-229-7340

Buddhist Women's Association
BWA@wrbt.org

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

Crafts and Coffee- Jan 29, Tuesday 10-noon. Tsuru folding. Cranes for Solidarity project. See Vivian or Char for more info. Optional lunch, 1pm, Gor Gai, 614 E Main, Auburn

Spring Tea- Feb 16, Sunday 11:30am. Please join us for refreshments and tea following the Lady Kujo service. Sign-up sheet will be in the back hallway. All contributions are welcome. Fresh fruit, vegan and vegetarian are appreciated. Contact Georgette with questions or concerns.

Thank you for the newspaper donations. Thirty-two bags were collected in Nov - Dec.

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

Jan - Mar YEAR-ROUND Green Box DONATIONS - Paper Supplies

Feb 16, Sun 10:30 **Lady Kujo Service and Spring Tea: Guest Speaker: Minister's Assistant Leonora Clarke.**

Feb 21-23 NW Convention and NWD BWA meetings & Special Gathering -- Hyatt Regency Lake Washington, Renton

Mar 5, Thurs Serve Community Meal at Messiah Lutheran.

TBD Scarf-making - Vivian chairing.

Oct 11, Sun 10:30am Eshinni-Kakushinni Service; Guest Speaker Rev. Candice Shibata

Green box Year Round Collections in temple lobby - January - March = Paper Supplies

Thank you for your support! Two big boxes for January. Haven't weighted them yet. Great start for 2020.

Newspapers - Thank you for your donations of newspapers that are delivered to Inca's Secret.

Diaper/Change Jar on the lobby table during service days. We are collect your loose change to purchase diapers and wipes, etc. for those in need. thank you very much for your generous donations. We will count it at the end of the month.

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Please help us update your contact information! **On the following page**, there is an form to complete and send to the Temple. If you wish, you can complete this form online - bit.ly/wrbtcontact (case sensitive)

Here are the options explained:

Temple Updates (email): Sometimes, events don't make it in the newsletter in time. We plan to use this to communicate to the Sangha about events happening at the Temple and in the community that may be of interest to you. Updates will be sent out no more than twice per month.

Call List (phone or email): This is for those that wish to receive notice of events requiring RSVP (orders for special lunches for example) and memorial service notices.

Toban List (phone or email): This is for those who wish to help at the Temple with monthly duties such as assisting with Temple lunches.

Newsletter (US Postal mail or email): You can receive your monthly newsletter via email or US Postal service.

Remember that you can always seek out information by

- ◇ Calling the Temple office 253-833-1442
- ◇ Email office@wrbt.org
- ◇ Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/whiteriverbt>
- ◇ Website www.wrbt.org

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

office@wrbt.org

(253) 833-1442

Rev Warrick

Rev.Warrick@wrbt.org

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