

The White Path

Living the Life of the Nembutsu

WHITE RIVER BUDDHIST TEMPLE

3625 Auburn Way N., WA 98002

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 855, Auburn, WA 98071-0855

Reverend Jim Warrick, Minister

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E-mail: Rev.Warrick@wrbt.org



Minister's Greetings

Greetings,

Well here we are in August and the nice warm weather is predicted to continue through the month.

August is one of the few months when sunshine is plentiful here in the Pacific Northwest.

Our health experts tell us there are many benefits to sunshine. Everything from lowering blood pressure to sleeping better. And like most things done in excess there are unwanted consequences like skin cancer. They advise short doses as being best.

As I think about sunshine, I think about growing up down south where there is an abundance of sunshine. As a young boy the possibility of skin cancer never entered my mind. Each and every day started with no shoes and no shirt.

Every time I hear John Fogerty's song "Born on the Bayou" I am carried back to those lazy childhood days.

I can remember the fourth of July,
 runnin' through the backwood bare.
 and I can still hear my old hound dog barkin',
 chasin' down a hoodoo there,

Usually my "runnin' through the backwood bare." Resulted in a painful sunburn.

My mother would scold me for staying in the sun too long and then she would rub butter, Yes butter! On my back to make the burn go away. I don't believe there is any medicinal qualities in butter that can help heal sunburn. But it sure felt good.

Thinking about those days reminds me of lyrics from another song George Gershwin's 1935 opera Porgy and Bess.

Summertime, an' the livin' is easy
 One of these mornin's you goin' to rise up singin'
 Then you'll spread yo' wings an' you'll take to the sky.
 But till that mornin', there's a nothin' can harm you
 With Daddy an' Mammy standin' by.

In his Hymns on the Pure Land Master we find Shinran's words:

Sakyamuni and Amida are our father and our mother,
 Full of love and compassion for us;
 Guiding us through various skillful means,
 They bring us to awaken the supreme shinjin.

These words fill my heart with gratitude. It is my hope that you too can feel grateful each time the morning sun touches you.

Namo Amida Butsu

Rev. James Hozen Warrick

Condolences

White River Buddhist Temple sends their deepest condolences to the family of Kayo Terayama. Kayo and his wife Toshi were long time members of the Temple and we remember both of them putting in so many hours of hard work to help this Temple flourish. They both are greatly missed.

Q&A with Rev. Warrick

What's your favorite part about being a minister at White River?

That's a very good question. Most people would probably expect me to say food; well that's a big part. I do enjoy the food at White River very much - gained a little weight; I really enjoy it. But the Sangha members at White River is really what I enjoy so much. I enjoy being with them, they're very loving, very kind, very generous, very caring people. The picture of the perfect Sangha. Sure, we have our ups and downs and our differences but we manage to get through those without any major problems at all. I think being at White River, I have become a more mellow person because of the interaction with the Sangha. My wife Rona says it's just because I'm getting older - that may be part of it too but I'm certainly enjoying my time with the Sangha members at White River.



Greetings from the Chairman!

Hello, temple members. I hope that you are all doing well and able to keep busy during this “stay at home” time. Remember, high health risk individuals and anyone 65 and over are advised to stay at home until Phase IV is achieved.

It has now been over four months since we held our last in-person Sunday service. When in-person Sunday services will resume remains a question. The Board met on July 8th and decided that because of the nationwide surge in covid-19 cases and recent upticks in King County cases, it was much too risky to re-open in July or August. Consequently, the Board extended the suspension of in-person Sunday services until at least mid-September. To fill the void at least partially, the Board decided to focus on offering online virtual services through ZOOM or some other media. As a result, the Temple offered its first virtual service on ZOOM during its July Shotsuki service on July 5th. It was very promising. We had more than twenty viewers with only some minor production issues. Our next virtual service will be our August 9th Hatsubon service. Virtual services can easily be viewed on any online computer, tablet, or smartphone. We encourage all members to seek help from younger more tech-savvy family members so they can view virtual services. Unfortunately, it may be some time before in-person services are resumed. If you think you will need help getting access to the virtual services, please contact Randy Okimoto at reokimoto@comcast.net, (206 437 9341).

The Board will re-examine the issue of whether in-person Sunday services should be resumed at its September 8th meeting, but unless significant progress has been made in controlling the virus, it is likely a further extension will be necessary. In making that decision, the Board will consider Governor Inslee’s “re-opening process”, recent guidelines issued by the BCA, CDC Advisories, and input from members. So, please let us know what you think. reokimoto@comcast.net

In the meantime, stay safe, stay at home, or WEAR A MASK!

In gassho,
Randy

August Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service
In person service CANCELLED; will be available to view online
www.wrbt.org/virtualservices

According to our Temple records, the following people passed away in the month of August. If any names have inadvertently been omitted or if you have any questions about Shotsuki services, please contact office@wrbt.org

Hiroshi Sagara	1972	Oshie Kiyota	1991
Tomi Tsuji	1974	Zentaro Tom Maekawa	1994
Shizue Hirose	1975	Mikio Mori	1995
Hikozo Kawasaki	1976	George Shikao Uchida	2004
Harumi Karel Ikuta	1978	Susumu Cliford Hayashi	2004
Tsuki Tanaka	1979	Alice Kazuko Arita	2004
Haru Ikuta	1981	Lorraine K. Mikami	2006
Morito Nishimoto	1981	Masami Arima	2006
Misuno Nishimoto	1985	James Komoto	2013
Shiro Murashige	1989	Ben Teraoka	2015

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

White River Virtual Offerings

While we are unable to physically be together at this time, Rev. Warrick and others have been providing virtual services, meditation sessions, and other relevant content to help all of us maintain connected. For those that are unable to view the videos online, email office@wrbt.org or call the Temple (253-833-1442) for a transcript of Rev. Warrick's latest Dharma talk.

Virtual Services Videos Available Online

While the temple continues to suspend operations during COVID-19, Rev. Warrick and temple sangha members have conducted several virtual services that you can view anytime at

www.wrbt.org/virtualseervices

Social Media

Make sure that you subscribe to White River's social media pages.

Youtube:

youtube.com/whiteriverbuddhisttemple

Instagram: instagram.com/WhiteRiverBT

Facebook: facebook.com/WhiteRiverBT

Virtual Meditation

WRBT offers two virtual meditation activities to help you cope and adapt to our "new normal."

Weekly Meditation Service. Every Sunday at 9 a.m. (for approximately 45 minutes) we conduct a meditation service consisting of 30 minute meditation practice, recitation of Gomonshu's Pledge, and a few minutes of Sangha-chat. If you are new to meditation and you'd like a little instruction, please let us know when you sign on to the service and we can replace the 30 minute practice with a 15 minute "guided" meditation which provides instruction.

Cyders-led Meditation Learning and Practice. On the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month from 10-noon Cris and Melissa Cyders lead us in instruction, practice, and discussion on meditation. This is meant for both the beginner and experienced meditator. This session provides more in-depth instruction than the weekly Meditation Service.

For audio/video connection all you need is internet access and computer or smartphone/tablet. For audio you need just a telephone.

Just email Sensei (rev.warrick@wrbt.org) for access codes and login instruction.

BCA Virtual Offerings



CBE SEMINARS ONLINE FOR ALL

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 2020

11 am - 1 pm (PDT)

"HIGASHI HONGANJI & NISHI HONGWANJI: HISTORY & THOUGHT"



Special Guest Speaker:
Rev. Ken Yamada
Editor, Shinshu Center of America

SPEAKER BIO: Rev. Ken Yamada was born in Oakland and attended Berkeley Higashi Honganji temple, participated in Jr. YBA activities and played basketball. After graduating from U.C. Berkeley, majoring in sociology with a Buddhism focus, he studied Jodo Shinshu at the Institute of Buddhist Studies in Berkeley, and Chuo Bukkyo Gakuin in Kyoto, but couldn't understand Buddhism and dropped out. He worked as a newspaper reporter in Los Angeles, New York and San Francisco, and later became a magazine editor. He rediscovered Buddhism, re-entered the ministry and served 13 years at the Berkeley temple. Three years ago, he became editor of Higashi's Shinshu Center of America, overseeing English publications.

REGISTRATION IS FREE

[Click to Register](https://forms.gle/CaK5PxRTNmWdfZ758) (<https://forms.gle/CaK5PxRTNmWdfZ758>)

DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED

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CBE Seminars Online For All

BCA members and the public are invited to FREE online programs. All are welcome!

August 1st & 8th 2020

Looking to the Future of American Buddhism

TWO LECTURES & DISCUSSIONS

- ~ How will American Buddhists respond to the rapid changes we are facing in this present moment?
- ~ How will global issues such as climate change or pandemics affect our communities and our practice?
- ~ How might we respond to social & political issues and live up to our ideals of wisdom & compassion?

SAT., AUG. 1, 2020
11 am - 1 pm (PDT)



Dr. Scott Mitchell

Dean of Students and Faculty Affairs
Institute of Buddhist Studies

Scott Mitchell holds the Yoshitaka Tamai Professorial Chair at the Institute of Buddhist Studies. He received his Ph.D. from the Graduate Theological Union and M.A. from IBS/GTU. He teaches and writes about Buddhism in the West, Buddhist modernism, Pure Land Buddhism, and Buddhism and media. He is the author of *Buddhism in America: Global Religion, Local Contexts* (Bloomsbury, 2016); and *articles in BuddhaDharma/Lion's Roar*.

SAT., AUG. 8, 2020
11 am - 1 pm (PDT)



Dr. Funie Hsu

Assistant Professor of American Studies
San Jose State University

Funie Hsu received her Ph.D. in Education, UC Berkeley with a Designated Emphasis in Women, Gender & Sexuality; and her Ed.M. in Education Policy & Management, Harvard Graduate School of Education. Her research areas include American Buddhism, race, and mindfulness; her articles are on *Lion's Roar* online; and she is on the Journal of Global Buddhism's editorial board. She is active with the Buddhist Church of Oakland; and her family practice in the Taiwanese Humanistic Buddhist tradition.

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Registration is Free ~ Donations gratefully accepted ~ Click to Donate
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Contact CBE: email: cbe@bcahq.org or phone: 510.809.1460

Thank You!

In this newsletter, we have noted many of the people who have been volunteering their time for the Temple. Thank you to all of those who have been working behind the scenes to bring us online content and keeping us all connected! We also want to say "Thank You" to everyone who has been working at the Temple to clean, maintain, and keep the Temple secure during our absence. We appreciate all that you are doing!

White River Committee on an Alternative Obon (CAO) Pivots Amid Pandemic

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic and consideration of our Sangha's safety, this year's in-person Bon Odori gathering has been cancelled. While we will not be celebrating in our traditional way, we still plan on recognizing the importance of the holiday through a Hatsu-bon service during which we will honor the spirits of our ancestors. **We will be having a virtual live-streamed outdoor service during the evening of August 9th including a service followed by a socially distanced dance performance from our Temple dance instructors.**

Although the Temple's finances remain on solid ground for the immediate future, we are also working to lessen the financial impact of cancelling our in-person festival. To this end, we will be seeking to generate lost funds through three ways:

Flower Bouquet Sales – In partnership with Fresh Flower Farm, a local flower farm up the road from the Temple, we will be selling pre-order only flower bouquets at the price of \$25/bouquet. Contactless pick-up of the flowers will be at designated locations across the region on the morning of August 8th, 2020.

Bon Odori Lanterns – We invite all Temple members to have the names of their own ancestors inscribed on a lantern that will be displayed during the service - symbolizing the spirits of our ancestors as they float down a river to get to the other shore - the Pure Land. During the evening service, each ancestor will be represented by an inscribed paper lantern which will be displayed. The names and dedications will also be included in our Temple newsletter and website. While requesting a lantern in memory of a loved one comes at no cost and is open to everyone, donations are gladly accepted as we are grateful for the Dana that you give to the temple.

General Donations – You may choose to simply make a gift to the temple to help keep us operating. All donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

All information about this year's Bon Odori and ways that you can support the temple can be found on our website at www.wrbt.org/BonOdori2020 and on the last page of this newsletter. Pre-orders are due by July 25th. Please contact Kendall Kosai if you have any questions at kkosai2@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support!



CBE SEMINARS ONLINE FOR ALL
FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
SATURDAY, JULY 25, 2020
11 am - 12:30 pm (PDT)

NEW PROGRAM!

Traditions & Innovations in American Obon Dance

Guest Speaker:
Dr. Wynn Kiyama

Executive Director, Portland Taiko; Director, Portland State University Taiko Ensemble; Co-Founder, American Bon Consortium



Wynn Kiyama received his Ph.D. in Musicology from New York University. His research on obon dance in the United States has been shared in articles, lectures, a museum exhibit, the online photo exhibit: *Obon Dancing in America: Reverend Yoshio Iwanaga Photo Album*, and the CD: *Joy, Remembrance, Death: Obon Music for North America*. This lecture will explore the roots of obon, the unique characteristics of bon odori in the continental United States, the legacy of Reverend Yoshio Iwanaga, and new innovations.




REGISTRATION IS FREE
[Click to Register](https://forms.gle/18ait2D31G99HZoU6) (https://forms.gle/18ait2D31G99HZoU6)

DONATIONS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED
[Click to Donate](https://bca.kindful.com/) https://bca.kindful.com/

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Visit buddhistchurchesofamerica.org email: cbe@bcahq.org or phone: 510.809.1460

Tacoma Buddhist Temple to Hold Virtual Bon Odori August 1st



In lieu of a live Bon Odori event, Tacoma Buddhist Temple will hold a virtual Obon on Saturday, August 1st. A video of performances, recipes, demonstrations includes Rev. Miyaji, Rev. Koyama, Fuji Taiko, Bon Odori dancing and special guests. You can watch the video via their Temple Youtube channel going live at 5:00pm.

TACOMA BUDDHIST TEMPLE

VIRTUAL OBON

AUGUST 1, 2020 @ 5PM

Join our Obon Festival on our YouTube channel!
 The video will go live August 1st at 5pm.
 Enjoy taiko drumming, dancing, food recipes and more!

tacomabt.org |    | (253) 627-1417



Buddhist Women's Association

BWA@wrbt.org

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

Karen Murakami continues a weekly BWA Connections e-mail. For requests to be added to the distribution list or to submit information, please send to Karen's e-mail: wrlink4goldenchain@comcast.net

Three gallons each of chicken noodle and minestrone soup were delivered to Kent Hope.

Currently no BWA meetings or activities are scheduled. Because conditions may change after this article is printed, please check for updates.

All previously planned Fun Fellowship outings have been cancelled. This includes Emerald Downs Corgi Races.

The following events will be reschedule: BWA General Meeting and Scarf making (Vivian Chair)

Future Events (pending Temple reopening):

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

Fall Gift Card Fundraiser. Date and details pending.



Obon 2018: May this bring you good memories of past Obons and inspire hope for the future.

YEAR-ROUND COLLECTIONS

Thank you for your past donations; collections will resume when the Temple re-opens

Green Box Collections: Items such as canned foods, toiletries, baby supplies will be welcome when the temple opens again. Thank you for your past donations.

Newspapers: Thank you for your donations of newspapers. During the Temple closure, you can donate directly to Inca's Secret: 8433 S 212th St #105, Kent, WA 98031, (253) 437-1312

Diaper/Change Jar: The jar is on the lobby table during service days. We collect your loose change to purchase diapers and wipes, etc. for those in need. Thank you very much for your generous donations. We Love Kent received three boxes of diapers and 3 packages of wipes paid by individual donations and diaper jar contents.

ABA

The ABA is on summer recess so there has been no activity. Our next scheduled Zoom meeting is Monday, Sept. 14th at 1:00 pm. The cooking class has been cancelled. Please contact Randy O. for more information.

Facilities Committee

Tomo is still stuck in Japan waiting for a visa. With the covid 19 infection rates in the US still climbing, its unclear when he will be able to return. The wisteria trellis project is moving forward with JR, Charles and I trying to schedule a convenient time to complete the project. Charles and JR are mowing the grass areas and Mary, Vivian, Janis and Randy are maintaining the garden and playground areas.

Restart Committee Report:

The Restart Committee met on June 25, 2020. The following members volunteered and were added to the Restart Committee, Ruth Terry & Char Grinolds.

Because of the spike in covid-19 cases nationwide and an upward tick in cases in King County, the Committee recommended that the Board extend the suspension of in-person Sunday Services until mid September of 2020 and that the Temple focus on offering Virtual Services online instead. A Virtual Shotsuki Service was conducted online using Zoom on July 5, 2020. Rev. Warrick presided over the service, Ruth was Covid Supervisor, Randy Set-up Supervisor, Rona Onajin Supervisor and Kendall IT Supervisor, with Tessa, Judy & Don, and Valerie as virtual program participants. Although there were some unexpected issues, most things went very well. The virtual service had more than twenty viewers. If members are interested in helping with these virtual services, please contact Randy Okimoto at reokimoto@comcast.net.

The Committee also submitted for approval by the Board, a White River Buddhist Temple Safe Work Plan. A copy of the approved plan will be posted on the foyer bulletin board and should be used as a guide when in-person gatherings are held at the Temple.

Donations

The Temple gratefully acknowledges the following donations received and recorded from June 16th through July 14th. Thank you to the many people whose financial donations, as well as their donations of goods, energy, and time help us to conduct services, programs and maintain the temple.

Note: Donations made for Obon / Bon Odori will be listed in the next newsletter (September).

Please contact Charles Natsuhara, Treasurer, regarding omissions or corrections by phone (253) 833-0789, or by email to finance@wrbt.org

Donations can be sent directly to the temple. You can also make a donation by credit card at the temple website <https://www.wrbt.org/donate>.

Total Donations Received - \$1000

Gotan-e

Mrs. Charlene Grinolds

Memorials

Mrs. Charlene Grinolds	April, June Shotsuki - In memory of Barbara Tsuji, and Kitaro Tsuji
Ms. Darlene Yamada	July Shotsuki – In memory of Ben Yamada
Mrs. Yoshiko Yamada	July Shotsuki – In memory of Ben Yamada
Ms. Karen Yamada	July Shotsuki – In memory of Ben Yamada
Ms. Lorraine Blackler	July Shotsuki – In memory of Kiyomi Mizoguchi
Mr. Joe Watanabe	July Shotsuki – In memory of Yooko Watanabe
Mrs. Monica Furtick	July Shotsuki – In memory of Yooko Watanabe
Mr. Randy Okimoto	July Shotsuki – In memory of Tokio Toyoshima
Ms. Georgette Magnin	August Shotsuki – In memory of Alice Arita
Mrs. Joan Rodgers	In memory of Betty Tanaka
Ms. Lorraine Blackler	In memory of Betty Tanaka
Mrs. Lilly Kato	In memory of Betty Tanaka

General Donations

Mrs. Charlene Grinolds	BCA Dana Program
M/M Mitsuko & Alvin Terada	In Appreciation
Mrs. Mabel Nishizaki	Memorial Day
M/M Allan & Kayoko Terada	Memorial Day

2020 Pledge Totals

June 1 – 30, 2020

Thank you for your support in 2020!

Date	PLEDGES DECLARED		Contributors	DOLLARS COLLECTED	
	Additional	Total		Additional	Total
July 1, 2020	\$1,050	\$37,850	46	\$1,780	\$31,015

Name and Amount Not Specified for Publishing: Anonymous #15

Amount Not Specified for Publishing: Kathryn Komoto

Under \$500: Gayle Takemura

\$500- \$999:

\$1,000- \$4,999:

For Comparison

July 1, 2019	\$0	\$24,965	37	\$1,690	\$21,645
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August Calendar

Due to the fluid situation related to COVID-19, an August calendar is not included in this month’s newsletter. You can find the latest up-to-date information on our online calendar.

bit.ly/WRBTcal (case sensitive)

Newsletter Reminder

July newsletter articles are due **Sunday, August 16th**. Please send articles to newsletter@wrbt.org.

Save a tree and a stamp - receive your newsletter via email! Contact newsletter@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 (SUSPENDED)

~~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

Mailing Address: White River Buddhist Temple
PO Box 855
Auburn, WA 98071 - 0855

White River Buddhist Temple
PO Box 855
Auburn, WA 98071-0855



White River Buddhist Temple

2020 Bon Odori Order Form

PO Box 855, Auburn, WA 98071-0855

With the 2020 White River Bon Odori in-person event cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Temple is re-imagining this year's Bon Odori through supporting the local community and remembering our loved ones. Orders can also be made online at: www.wrbt.org/BonOdori2020

Order Form

Flower Bouquet

Number of Bouquets Ordering _____ x **\$25** = \$ _____

Pickup will take place on the morning of **August 8th**. Please select your pickup location:

White River Buddhist Temple (3625 Auburn Way North, Auburn, WA 98002)

Seattle Betsuin (1427 S Main Street, Seattle, WA 98144)

Tacoma Buddhist Temple (1717 S Fawcett Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98402)

Memory Lanterns

Number of memory lanterns ordering _____

Name(s) requested to be printed on lantern (4 names max per lantern)

Memory lanterns are free to request. Donations are welcomed!

I'd like to make a donation to White River

\$50

\$100

\$250

Other: \$ _____

Payment & Contact Information

Check Enclosed (Payable to White River Buddhist Temple)

Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ CCV Number: _____

First Name: _____ **Last Name:** _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email address: _____

**Please return this form to White River Buddhist Temple at
PO Box 855, Auburn, WA 98071-0855 by July 25th, 2020**

WHITE RIVER BUDDHIST TEMPLE
BOARD MEETING MINUTES JUNE 10TH, 2020

President Randy Okimoto called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and Rev. Warrick led in Gassho. **Board Members Present:** Randy Okimoto, Kendall Kosai, Charles Natsuhara, Sally Mizuki, Tessa Asato, Gretchen Hansen, Ruth Terry, Vivian Alexander, Don Gardner, Judy Gardner, Norma Geenty, and Joan Hoaskins. **Supporting Members:** Georgette Magnin. **Noted:** This Board Meeting was a teleconference/Zoom video conference call, due to COVID-19 Pandemic, the Board followed Washington Statewide safety precautions, “Stay at Home” current Status, modified PHASE 1.5. Zoom video conference call: <https://adl.zoom.us/j/99300640559> Conference phone +1(253) 215-8782; Meeting ID: 993 0064 0559.

Essential Temple Operations: Minutes (Submitted by Tessa Asato): May 2020 WRBT Board Minutes were approved as corrected (MSC: Norma Geenty/Kendall Kosai). The motion was approved by the vote of the Board. **Treasurer’s Report (Submitted by Charles Natsuhara):** Full report can be obtained by any Board member.

May 2020 Actual, YTD Actual, YTD Budget

	May 2020	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Total Operating Revenues	\$10,402	\$45,647	\$35,468
Total Operating Expenses	\$9,295	\$50,366	\$50,034
Net (Decrease) Increase	\$1,107	(\$4,718)	(\$14,566)

Pledges continue to do extremely well and we have received some general donations in support of the temple. These along with memorial donations have resulted in a net gain for the month of May. Expenses were consistent with regular monthly activities. Investments have turned around and we have an unrealized gain of \$26,601. We continue to have higher pledge income as compared to budget. Other revenue categories are close to budget except for memorials and fundraising which are down. Expenses are tracking close to budget. We are still doing much better in our YTD actual operations as compared to budget.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS: All Reports can be obtained by any Board Member. **Pledge Update (Submitted by Randy Okimoto):**

	Additional Pledges Declared	Total Declared	Contributors	Additional \$ Collected	Total \$ Collected
6/02/20	\$3,450	\$36,800	44	\$5,430	\$29,235
6/03/19	\$3,300	\$24,965	37	\$3,470	\$19,955

Investment Committee IC (Report Submitted by Randy Okimoto): The Investment Committee did not meet in May. The Investment Minimum Reserves needed for the year 2020 were calculated to be \$258,596 as of 1/1/2020. During the 71-month period of investment between June of 2014 through April 30, 2020 the total investments incurred a net gain of \$68,427 or 16.2% and/or 2.74% per year.

Calendar: Services and activities cancelled through July 12th, the Restart Committee is anticipating that July 19th will be an in-person service that will follow state-wide guidelines. **Minister’s Report (Submitted by Rev. Warrick):** Sensei has been working with the Northwest District Ministers, posting services to their respective Youtube sites. The NWD Ministers plan to do a farewell service for Rev. Takashi Miyaji, who will be leaving Tacoma on July 15th, the current Tacoma Buddhist Temple minister. The Group of ministers plan to do another joint Hatsubon service. Sensei conducted virtual Shotsukihoyo memorial services for May and June. He also conducted virtual memorial services at the four local cemeteries for Memorial day. Kendall Kosai has been working with sensei in editing his services and posting them onto the WRBT website, youtube, and facebook. Sensei continues checking in on sangha members through phone/video chats. **Religious (Submitted by Charlene Grinolds) & Restart Committee (Submitted by Randy Okimoto):** The religious Committee has met twice in the last three weeks. They have discussed sensei’s reportings of checking on Sangha members, Kendall Kosai and Valerie Yamanaka’s collaboration work with sensei on the monthly Shotsuki services, virtual meditation sessions going well, and advising the Restart Committee consider doing an Obon Service sometime in August rather than making it one of the first services we do. Would like to do a few trial runs before we do in person Shotsuki or Obon services. The next Religious meeting will be held on Thursday July 2nd. There were two items the Religious Committee wanted the Board to discuss and approve upon, the first item was vote on holding an early morning outdoor Solstice Service on Saturday, June 20th 4 a.m. with compliance of Gov. Inslee’s COVID-19 safety guidelines (MSC: Norma Geenty/Don Gardner) the motion was approved by the vote of the Board. The second item, vote on committee recommended Orei for Bishop Umezu of \$300 and Rev. Ron Kobata of \$500 (MSC: Norma Geenty/Sally Mizuki) the motion was approved by the vote of the Board. Rev. Kobata was a resident minister for White River back in the 1970’s for four years, WRBT was his first temple. **Facilities (Submitted by Randy**

Okimoto): Due to COVID-19 pandemic and visa issues, Tomo is still stuck in Japan. Charles Natsuhara has been mowing the lawn, Randy weeding the playground, Janis, Vivian, and Mary are maintaining the garden areas. The ADT alarm system keypad was replaced, at a cost of \$100 plus \$7 per month upgrade. Norma Geenty has a friend that may be willing to prune the bonsai pine tree outside of sensei's office. Kerry Taniguchi inspected all of the fire extinguishers and they are all overdue, some are 15-20 years old, he recommends replacing all of them. Replacing 7 or 8 will cost roughly \$40 to \$50 each. Kerry then examined the stove/oven and something needs to be done, which will be \$400 approximately, he is still researching. Mary Cogger has been working on replacing the Wisteria Trellis on the Southeast corner of the Temple that collapsed a few years ago. She has a friend who is willing to donate labor to install the trellis so the costs will be primarily materials of up to \$1,000 approximately. The committee has reviewed Mary Cogger's Wisteria Trellis replacement plan and recommends the project be approved, discussions took place on how valuable this plan was. Charles shared that Lilly Kato pointed out the wisteria came from the old temple, so there is sentimental value to this project. Mary Cogger's Wisteria Trellis Rebuild project will use up \$1,000 from the Mikami Maintenance funds, donated labor from her friend will put this together, and it will be located at the Southeast side of the Temple. (MSC: Norma Geenty/Joan Hoaskins) the motion was approved with the vote of the Board. **ABA (submitted by Randy Okimoto):** No activity. Next cooking class and meeting will be on September 14th with Katie Komoto as chief chef. **IT (Submitted by Roger Fukai):** Kendall presented Roger's recommendation of replacement for a small projector, that would be up to \$1,500 from the Mikami Maintenance Funds. However, this project is still gathering more intel and the board decided to table this subject matter. **Dharma School (No Report):** No activity. **BWA (Submitted by Georgette Magnin):** Karen Murakami continues to distribute weekly BWA connections email for BWA members and others. She requests submissions of messages of support, ideas, places to use our skills. Can contact her at wrlink4goldenchain@comcast.net to be added to the distribution list. Temple activities currently suspended through July 12th, 2020. No BWA events in May. Newspaper and Green Box collections, on hold due to COVID-19 pandemic. **Communications Committee (Sharon Kosai):** No Report. **AD HOC COMMITTEES: Strategic Planning Committee (Report submitted by Roger Fukai):** COVID-19 pandemic, "Stay at home" has kept virtually all planning committee activities at a standstill. The only program active is Program E (NEW - Demographic of non-AARP chair Kendall Kosai). Kendall worked with Rev. Warrick, editing, posting videos on the internet and recruiting others. **Bon Odori Committee (Submitted by Randy Okimoto):** Auburn Mayor has been notified that our public festival has been canceled, along with Georgetown Brewery. **Ad Hoc Security Committee (No report). Restart Committee (Submitted by Kendall Kosai & Norma Geenty):** The Restart committee met on June 8th, to discuss the restart of WRBT. During PHASE 1, places of worship can conduct outside services. We will be piloting this through the summer solstice sit outside. Randy has drafted an initial plan and is being edited. Norma added that Sangha members Ruth Terry, Mary Cogger, and Melissa Berrens have been making cloth masks (approximately 30 to 40) and Ruth will hand out cloth masks to those attending the Solstice morning service. Plan to have everyone attending/participating WRBT wear masks. If anyone needs cloth masks, please contact Norma. The next meeting will be held on June 25th 7 p.m. **Alternative Bon Odori Committee CAO (Submitted by Kendall Kosai):** Kendall has reported that CAO has met twice to discuss the plan for Obon this year in lieu of a traditional Obon (Due to COVID-19 pandemic). Currently King County is in PHASE 1.5, and will not be issuing health permits until PHASE 3; due to the uncertainty of when we reach phase 3- CAO has determined we will not be selling food for fundraising. CAO plans on sending solicitation letters to all contacts seeking a gift to WRBT, this area will be led by Randy; the letter will contain the option of requesting a lantern in memory of a loved one to be displayed during the Obon service. Donations are open ended, this area will be led by Tessa. The committee also wants to explore partnerships with the Hmong flower farmers community, run a flower bouquet sale for curbside pick-up, led by Kendall/Val. Obon service will be an outdoor evening service, recommended with RSVPs only. Potential for dancing performance from Obon teacher after, service will be live streamed. All of this will take place on recent date changes of August 8th (for flower bouquet pickup) and August 9th for the Obon service. Next meeting will be on June 15th. A motion was made to approve all of CAO's plans (MSC: Norma Geenty/Sally Mizuki) the motion was approved with the vote of the Board. **Old Business:** No Discussions. **New Business:** No Discussions. **Miscellaneous New Items: Thank yous** - The Board made a number of acknowledgements amongst the Sangha members. Thank you Charles Natsuhara for mowing the lawn. Kendall Kosai and your committee for doing the alternative Obon planning and helping Rev. Warrick edit/post his services. Thank you Ruth Terry, Mary Cogger, and Melissa Berrens for making masks. Thank you Don and Judy for playing music and sharing on the latest Shotsuki service video. Thank you Ron and Karen Murakami for donating the automatic Purell Dispenser. Thank you Janis, Vivian, and Randy for weeding the garden/temple areas.

Next Board Meeting, July 8th, 2020 at 7 p.m.
Randy Okimoto closes the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted in Gassho,

Tessa Asato