

The White Path

Living the Life of the Nembutsu

WHITE RIVER BUDDHIST TEMPLE

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Reverend Jim Warrick, Minister

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Minister's Greetings

Greetings,

Well here we are in September. This month the weather is in a time of transition. This seasonal change from the hot summer days to the cooler, milder fall weather is marked by the equinox. A time when both day and night are of an equal length. It is a time when the temperature is usually not too hot or too cold. It is said to be a time when the veil between darkness and light is at its thinnest. A time when crossing over from the darkness of ignorance to the light of wisdom is less difficult.

This month, along with most Japanese Buddhist traditions, we celebrate O-higan. Higan is an abbreviation of "To-Higan" which literally means "to reach the other shore." In Buddhism, the world of suffering is referred to as "this shore" and the world of Enlightenment is called "other shore."

In order to reach the other shore, we do not have to wait for our lives to end. We can all reach the other shore right now by hearing and entrusting in the Buddha's vows and allowing Buddha's energy to fill our hearts and minds with wisdom and compassion.

Our world has changed a lot since our last O-Higan celebration. COVID-19 was unleashed and caused a worldwide pandemic. This resulted in our leaders shutting down the economy, providing new guidelines for social activities, and asking everyone to "just stay home". These bold efforts have hopefully saved many lives. They have also created financial hardships, depression, anxieties, and in general worries about our future. Throw in political and racial unrest and we have found ourselves in dark times.

There have been many dark times in our world in the past, but mankind has passed through them and came out safer, stronger and hopefully more compassionate. We must trust that our leaders "see the light" and put an end to all racial injustices. We must also trust that through the efforts of many physicians and scientists that therapeutic medicines and vaccines will be developed, and we can get back to normal. This trust along with true entrusting in the infinite wisdom and compassion that is Amida Buddha will see us through these dark times to the light that awaits us on "the other shore".

Namo Amida Butsu

Rev. James Hozen Warrick

Welcome Rev. Tadao Koyama

White River Buddhist Temple wishes to welcome Rev. Tadao Koyama to the Northwest District.

As of August 1st, 2020, Rev. Koyama has been assigned by Bishop Marvin Harada to the Tacoma Buddhist Temple.

He was born in Sacramento, California. He is the nephew of Rev. Dean Koyama who served at both Tacoma Buddhist Temple and Seattle Betsuin about 15 years ago.

Tadao Sensei recently returned from Japan where he has spent the last two years studying and training at both Chuobukkyogakuin and Gonshikishidoshu.

We look forward when we all can meet him in person.

Condolences

White River Buddhist Temple sends their deepest condolences to the family of Amy Kato. A long time member of the Temple, Amy will be remembered as generous, hard working, kind hearted, and an amazing cook! We will miss her greatly.

Greetings from the Chairman!

Hello, temple members. I hope that everyone is safe and healthy. Our Virtual Bon Odori was held on the evening of August 9th and we were really pleased with the results. If you haven't had a chance to view it yet, it can still be seen through our White River Buddhist Temple website at <https://www.wrbt.org> Just go to the Bon Odori 2020 page on the website and click on the Pokémon image. I want to thank everyone who participated in this year's White River Buddhist Temple Virtual Bon Odori and especially Kendall Kosai, who put it all together. It is a worthy memorial.

It has now been over five months since we held our last in-person Sunday service. When in-person Sunday services will resume remains a question but in light of recent King County Covid 19 infection rates, it doesn't appear to be anytime soon. Much depends on when a vaccine becomes available. The Temple Board's Restart Committee met on August 20, 2020 and after much discussion, decided that it will recommend to the Board during its September 9th meeting that: 1: Sunday in-person services be suspended indefinitely; 2: that the Fall Bazaar be either cancelled or significantly modified to reduce in-person contact (similar to the Obon) and 3: that the Temple begin streaming virtual services twice monthly beginning in September. If you have any questions or concerns about any of the Restart Committee's recommendations, please contact any Board member.



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. If you think you will need help getting access to the virtual services, please contact Randy Okimoto at reokimoto@comcast.net, or (206 437 9341).

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

In gassho,
Randy

**September 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 September. If any names have inadvertently been omitted or if you have any questions about Shotsuki services, please contact office@wrbt.org

Yae Okimoto	1972	May Fumie Kajikami	2003
Rikuye Kawasaki	1975	Janis Tsuneko Ikuta	2005
Charley Miyoshi	1983	Takejiro Hama	2009
Matsuo Sakagami	1988	Edward Tanaka	2013
Jackie Kawasaki Wills	1991	Lloyd Herndon	2014
Edwin Arima	1997	Nancy Tomiye Fujikawa	2015
Joe Toshio Nishimoto	2001	John H Hamakami Sr	2017
Jack Schilthorath	2002	Helen H Mizuki	2017

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 Committee on an Alternative Obon (CAO)

As it became clear that this year's Bon Odori would look different, the Committee on an Alternative Obon (CAO) got to work to help make up the significant revenue deficit from the cancellation of our traditional in-person Bon Odori. To this end, the committee formed a partnership with a local Hmong flower farm, implemented an online store, and launched the 2020 Bon Odori with a video.

We would like to thank everyone who purchased a flower bouquet, memory lantern, and gave a generous donation toward our Bon Odori this year. Over 100 bouquets, 100 lanterns, and many donations later, we are well on our way to sustainability for 2020. Our deepest gratitude to our community.

A special thank you to the committee members who helped put the efforts together: Tessa Asato, Charlene Grinolds, Georgette I Magnin, Sally Mizuki, Charles Natsuhara, Randy Okimoto, Ruth Terry, Rev. Jim Warrick, Valerie Yamanaka. Thank you to Gretchen Hansen for the wonderful cards. And thank you to Fresh Flower Farms for their support.

If you have not had the opportunity to watch the virtual Bon Odori, please visit our Bon Odori 2020 page: www.wrbt.org/bonodori2020.

Temple Statement

Over the past several weeks, we have seen a groundswell movement for racial justice that has brought a moment of self-reflection upon our own Temple and how we can be a better Sangha. Often referenced, our motto "You Are Welcome Here", is a commitment to welcoming individuals from all backgrounds and walks of life.

As a Temple that has faced racial prejudice and discrimination, we hold a unique responsibility to be allies for those who are suffering the same - a moral obligation to speak out. The Buddha Dharma teaches us the tenet of non-discrimination, that Amida Buddha's wisdom and compassion embraces all beings equally. Unfortunately, for too long, this equality has not existed in society and that is why we believe that Black lives matter.

This moment is not lost upon us as we all have a role to play in educating ourselves, supporting our community, and providing a space for the Buddha Dharma. We can be better and must be better. As foolish beings, we do not have all the answers, but we are committed to examining our own biases, promoting diverse experiences, and fostering a more welcoming place for all people. We will continue to live the Eightfold Path to make our world a better place for all - seeking change on a societal, institutional, and individual level.

It was felt that the Temple needed to make a statement about the racial injustice that has been happening for far too long. The above statement was created with input from the following sangha members; Kendall Kosai, Roger Fukai, Charles Natsuhara, Rev. Warrick, Gretchen Hansen, Lilly Kato, Norma Geenty, Sharon Kosai, Ruth Terry, Kelsey Asato, Tessa Asato, Val Yamanaka & Char Grinolds and was approved by the Board of Directors at their last meeting. This statement will be posted on our website and social media sites. We wanted to make sure that all members were informed of this statement in case you or anyone should ask you about it. You are welcome to contact Char Grinolds, Kendall Kosai or send a message to office@wrbt.org with any questions you might have.

White River Virtual Offerings

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/virtualservices

Virtual Meditation

If you are interested in "attending" the virtual meditation sessions, please contact Rev. Warrick for access. (rev.warrick@wrbt.org)

Social Media

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

Youtube:

[youtube.com/whiteriverbuddhisttemple](https://www.youtube.com/whiteriverbuddhisttemple)

Instagram: [instagram.com/WhiteRiverBT](https://www.instagram.com/WhiteRiverBT)

Facebook: [facebook.com/WhiteRiverBT](https://www.facebook.com/WhiteRiverBT)



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.

Women in Buddhism

To register or find more information on the event, <https://seattlebetsuin.com/2020wib/>



Tools for Spiritual Wellness



SPEAKERS:

Carmela Javellana Hirano, M.D.
Radical Humility: Jodo Shinshu Path to Joy

Bonnie Duran, Ph.D.
Dharma for Undoing Internalized Stereotypes

Sharon A. Suh, Ph.D.
Meditation & Yoga for Healing Trauma

Sheri Mizumori, Ph.D.
Brain Health & Everyday Well-Being

Tara Tamaribuchi, B.F.A.
Art as Healing



seattlebetsuin.com/2020wib
Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple & Women's Association
and BCA Center for Buddhist Education

Donations

The Temple gratefully acknowledges the following donations received and recorded from July 14th through August 17th. 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. Special thank you to everyone who made donations for Obon, Memorial Lanterns, and our Virtual Bon Odori.

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 - \$11,927

Obon, Obon Memorial Lanterns, Virtual Bon Odori

M/M Bob & Mitzi Akiyama	Mr. Gary Komoto	Mrs. Joan Rodgers
Mr. Dennis Asato	Ms. Jill Komoto	M/M Yuri & Itsuo Shiotani
Ms. Lorraine Blackler	Mrs. Katie Komoto	Ms. Darlene Suyematsu
M/M Eva & Randy Chun	Mr. Kendall Kosai	Mrs. Melissa Ong
Mrs. Mary Cogger	M/M Sharon & Mark Kosai	Ms. Carolyn Takei
Ms. Nancy Colson	Pajouablai Lee	Mrs. Kiyomi Taketa-Ozanich
Ms. Diane Cowles	Mrs. Karen Little	Ms. Susan Taketa
M/M Jim & Ikuko Dodobara	Ms. Georgette Magnin	Ms. Laurie Tanaka
Mrs. Amy Doran	Mr. Connor McKinney	M/M Alvin & Mitsuko Terada
M/M Don & Judy Gardner	M/M Wayne & Sally Mizuki	M/M Marvin & Kiyo Terada
M/M Bill & Norma Geenty	M/M Allan & Ronalee Mizoguchi	Ms. Mayumi Terada
Ms. Jennifer Greene	Mr. Tyler Moriguchi	Ms. Yvette Terada
Mrs. Charlene Grinolds	M/M Ron & Karen Murakami	Mrs. Connie Toda
Ms. Denise Hamasaki	M/M Curtis & Charlene Nakayama	Tamio & Takako Uchida
M/M Mark & Sandy Hedington	Ms. Bonnie Natsuhara	Uwajimaya Co.
Ms. Lisa Hockett	Mr. Charles Natsuhara	Rev. & Mrs. James Warrick
Mrs. Joan Hoskin	Ms. Jean Natsuhara	Ms. Sandra Watanabe
Ms. Brianna Houser	Ms. Kathryn Natsuhara	Mr. Joe Watanabe
Ms. Janet Hudspeth	Ms. Leanne Nishi-Wong	Ms. Kate Wehr
Ms. Jeri Jarvie	Mr. Gordy Nishimoto	Mrs. Carolyn Yamada
M/M Don & Beta Kato	M/M Karen & Robert Nishimoto	Ms. Darlene Yamada
Ms. Marcia Kato	Ms. Janine Okawa	Ms. Karen Yamada
M/M Mike Kato	Mr. David Okimoto	M/M Janis & Alan Yamada
M/M Pat & Shiyoji Kawabata	Mr. Randy Okimoto	Mrs. Mitzi Yamamoto
M/M Tetsuden & Kanako Kashima	Ms. Sara Perrott	Mrs. Valerie Yamanaka
Mr. George Kikuchi	Ms. Miyuki Peterson	Mr. Dennis Yamashita
Ms. Anika Kix	M/M James & Chiho Pewitt	Ms. Kerrie Zylstra-Mallon
M/M Bill & Kim Komoto	Teri Pollard	Anonymous – 6 Individuals

Hatsubon

Mrs. Lilly Kato, Ms. LuAnn Kato, Mrs. Michele Kato In Memory of Steven Kato and Amy Kato

Memorials

Mrs. Carolyn Yamada, Mr. Robert Sagara, and Mr. Gary Sagara, Mrs. Laura Dyson	July Shotsuki - In memory of Doris Sagara
M/M Sharon & Mark Kosai	July Shotsuki and August Shotsuki
Mrs. Joan Rodgers	July Shotsuki – In memory of Doris Sagara and Ben Yamada
M/M Pat & Shiyoji Kawabata	August Shotsuki – In memory of Ish Suyematsu and George Kawasaki
Mrs. Hime Suyematsu and Family	August Shotsuki – In memory of Ish Suyematsu
Ms. LuAnn Kato	In memory of Betty Tanaka and Amy Kato
Ms. Kemi Nakabayashi	In memory of Tad Kato and In honor of Lilly Kato

General Donations

M/M Sharon & Mark Kosai	July and August -Temple Support
Ms. Genie Lau	In Appreciation
M/M Roger & Shirley Fukai	Special Services
Mr. Kendall Kosai	In kind donation – tea lights
Ms. Tessa Asato	In kind donation – lantern materials

**2020 Pledge Totals
July 1 – 31, 2020**

Thank you for your support in 2020!

Date	PLEDGES DECLARED			DOLLARS COLLECTED	
	Additional	Total	Contributors	Additional	Total
August 1, 2020	\$100	\$37,950	46	\$855	\$31,870
Name and Amount Not Specified for Publishing:					
Amount Not Specified for Publishing:					
Under \$500: Anonymous #10 increased pledge by \$100					
\$500- \$999:					
\$1,000- \$4,999:					
<u>For Comparison</u>					
August 3, 2019	\$1,550	\$26,515	40	\$2,070	\$23,715

Buddhist Women's Association

BWA@wrbt.org

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

Sincere thanks to all who participated in the Alternative Obon flower distribution, Hatsu-Bon service, and Virtual Bon Odori. May we have in-person gatherings soon.

It's not too early for Christmas: The Temple Board has approved participation in the White River Valley Museum's Festival of Trees. The 2020 theme is 'Light'. Gretchen Hansen has proposed decorating the tree with Bodhi lights from last year and adding 50 paper lanterns. She is providing the materials. On behalf of the BWA, I would like to invite about 6 people to help by assembling the paper lanterns at home. Details will be forthcoming. Please contact Georgette at oz.georgette@gmail.com if you are interested in helping with this project.

Currently no BWA activities are scheduled through September 2020. Because conditions may change after this article is printed, please check for updates. All 2020 Fun Fellowship outings and the Fall 2020 Gift Card fundraiser has been cancelled.

The following events will be rescheduled: BWA General Meeting (Discuss goals and activities for the future) and Scarf making (Vivian Chair)

Future Events (pending Temple reopening - please check Temple website for latest information):

Eshinni-Kakushinni Service (Oct 11, Sun 10:30am): Guest Speaker Rev. Candice Shibata
Please check the temple website for the latest information on this event.

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



Above: WRBT decorated this tree for the 2019 "Festival of Trees"

YEAR-ROUND COLLECTIONS

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

Newspapers: Thank you for your donations of newspapers. You can donate directly to Inca's Secret: 8433 S 212th St #105, Kent, WA 98031, (253) 437-1312. Collections at the temple will resume when it opens to the public.

The following collection activities are suspended until the temple re-opens for in-person services (Diaper/Change Jar and YEAR-ROUND Green Box Collections). Thank you so much for your past support.

Facilities Committee

Tomo is still stuck in Japan waiting for a visa. The wisteria trellis project is moving forward with JR, Charles, and Randy 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.

Newsletter Reminder

July newsletter articles are due **Sunday, September 13th**. 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

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(253) 833-1442

Rev Warrick

Rev.Warrick@wrbt.org

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