

The White Path

Living the Life of the Nembutsu

WHITE RIVER BUDDHIST TEMPLE

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Minister's Greetings

Greetings,

Well, here we are in December and nearing the end of this year. Not only in this country but people all over the world are crossing their fingers, hoping the pandemic does not put a damper on their holiday plans too much. Despite all the uncertainty, this year, the holidays are sure to be different than ever before. December is a month with several holidays. We started hearing holiday music on the radio and tv around

Thanksgiving. One song in particular claims that this time of year is the season to be jolly. The season of jolly seems to start around Thanksgiving and last for most until Christmas. Except for a few of us who like to continue to be jolly into the New Year.

What does it mean to be jolly? Jolly is the happiness that springs forth eternally and creates a jolly attitude or a jolly mindset. I think jolly should be all the time. Why wait for Thanksgiving? Why wait for the holidays? And when the season is over, will we be going back to being unhappy, or will we try to maintain jolliness?

Jolly is not just a gift, or a family dinner, or a holiday tree, or singing a few songs, or a season. Jolly is an attitude. It is an attitude for all seasons. Do you think we could have a jolly year instead of just a jolly season?

If we substitute the word happy for jolly there is no better time to be happy than right now.

If not now, when? After the pandemic? After the economy gets better? When things just get back to normal? We may not be able to wait that long.

Sometimes it seems that we must get through something to be happy. There seems to always be some obstacle in the way, some unfinished business, some time still to be served, a debt to be paid. Then happiness will begin.

There is no "way" to happiness.

Happiness is the way.

There is no "after" to happiness

Happiness is now.

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 he discovered the path to happiness. This is the day the Prince Siddhartha Gautama became enlightened as to the nature of all things. He became Buddha.

I wish you the jolliest (happiest) of seasons and the best, jolly, happy, healthy, and safe New Year possible.

Reverend James Hozen Warrick

Happy Holidays



Greetings from the Chairman!

Hello, temple members.

It has now been over eight months since we held our last in-person Sunday service.

December is normally a busy month for everyone. It is full of holidays, shopping and family get togethers. All activities that are enjoyed by everyone. This year, however, with the colder weather and flu season upon us, the pandemic will curtail many of these happy occasions. This includes our large in-person Sunday and holiday services. Consequently, it looks like group virtual services, group virtual meetings and other group virtual activities will continue to be the norm throughout the holidays and well into the new year. For the future, however, things are looking up, as reports of the impending development of a vaccine are promising. Hopefully, widespread distribution of an effective vaccine will begin sometime in early 2021. However, the safety and health of our Sangha must take a priority and therefore we will be taking any re-opening steps slowly and incrementally.

In the meantime, Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year to All!!

Remember to submit your VOTE to elect four members to our 2021 Board of Trustees. And, stay safe, stay at home, or WEAR A MASK!

In gassho,

Randy

December Restart Committee

In accordance with the Covid 19 Safe Work Plan adopted by the Board on July 8, 2020, the Restart Committee has begun allowing limited and restricted use of Temple facilities on a trial basis. However, depending on the rates of Covid 19 infections and the upcoming flu season, this may change.

White River Virtual Offerings

ALL EVENTS ARE VIRTUAL AT THIS TIME.

The online calendar is kept updated and has links or instructions for access to each event. If you have any questions about access, please contact office@wrbt.org

Access the WRBT calendar by navigating to our website or the shortcut - bit.ly/WRBTcal (case sensitive).

Live-Streamed Virtual Services

Virtual live-streamed services are broadcast at least twice a month on our website at www.wrbt.org/service and YouTube channel. For questions on how to access the service, please contact us at office@wrbt.org.

Socializing with the Sangha

In an effort to remain connected with our Sangha members, we encourage you to join us at 10:00 AM before each live-streamed service for "Socializing with the Sangha" - an opportunity to socialize virtually over Zoom, catch up with friends, and talk about the Dharma. A Zoom link is provided on the calendar bit.ly/WRBTcal (case sensitive). Looking forward to seeing you there!

Virtual Services Archived and Available to Watch Online

Did you miss the live service? All of our virtual services are being archived so that you can view them anytime at www.wrbt.org/virtualseervices

Virtual Meditation

If you are interested in "attending" the virtual meditation sessions, the links are on the online calendar. Please contact Rev. Warrick with questions. (rev.warrick@wrbt.org)

Virtual Book Club

Join the virtual book club! Go to www.wrbt.org/bookclub for more information and to sign up!

Virtual Timeless Favorites Cooking Class

Our Timeless Favorites Cooking Class continues in the virtual format. You can choose to simply watch the class or cook along! Sign up at www.wrbt.org/timelessfavorites

Social Media

Be sure to subscribe to White River's social media pages.

Youtube: youtube.com/whiteriverbuddhisttemple

Instagram: instagram.com/WhiteRiverBT

Facebook: facebook.com/WhiteRiverBT

**December Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service
IN PERSON SERVICES - CANCELLED**

View online on December 6 at 10:30am

www.wrbt.org/service

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

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 ~ 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

WRBT Virtual Book Club

December 6, 2020 @ 7 PM

Please join us for our first book club discussion and meeting where we will talk about *Jewels* by Kenneth Kenshin Tanaka.

You can download the book free by going to www.wrbt.org/bookclub. If you want a hard copy, search, then go to BDK America and look for *Jewels*. The book and shipping cost \$6.00.

“Jewels is an excellent introductory book for youth, Scouts, and young adults. It gives a comprehensive history of Buddhism, a thoughtful discussion of the basic Buddhist teachings, and several examples of the application of Buddhism in a young person's daily life. The book is thorough, clearly written, and easy to understand. I will periodically refer to this book in the future. I have been looking for such a book for a long time.”

Bobby Tanaka, Chair, National Buddhist Committee on Scouting

Download the book and sign up at wrbt.org/bookclub. A zoom link will be sent to you.

If you want more information you can contact one of us who attended the first meeting to choose a book: Mary, Valerie, Kelsey, Tessa, Eva or office@wrbt.org

Temple Cookbook



We're off to a great start! Send in your recipes to include in the new Temple Cookbook!

We know that you have favorite family recipes... we hope that you'll be willing to share a few of them.

In addition, we would love to include recipes from those who are no long with us, along with any short memories that you have about the recipe or person. Please submit your recipe to office@wrbt.org

Thank you! We look forward to your submissions!

Virtual Gingerbread Houses

December 12th at 12:00 pm

Don't miss our annual Gingerbread House event! Instead of getting together, we will be building the houses "together" on Zoom. Open to our Sangha members and their families, a gingerbread house kit will delivered (no-contact) prior to the virtual event.

Space is extremely limited; sign up now at www.wrbt.org/gingerbread



**Virtual Timeless Favorites
Cooking**

December 19th at 11 AM

The next virtual Timeless Favorites cooking class will take place on December 19th at 11:00 AM. The topic and instructor is to be announced. Please RSVP to attend the virtual cooking class at www.wrbt.org/timelessfavorites or contact 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

BWA General Virtual Meeting, Sunday, Dec 13, 1pm. Nomination and election of officers and budget.

Scarf making: Vivian Alexander, Ruth Terry, Char Grinolds, and Gayle Takemura held a socially distanced scarf-making session on November 7. 128 scarves will be equally divided and delivered to Kent Food Bank, Kent Hope and Auburn Food Bank. Special thanks to Karen Murakami for the donation of cutting boards and cutters.

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

Lanterns in our lobby: Our lanterns are on display in the temple foyer. Thanks to volunteers: Vivian Alexander, Maydell Crane, Char Grinolds, Joan Hoskin, Sara Perrott, Gayle Takemura, Ruth Terry, and Darlene Yamada who assembled and/or installed 52 red and white lanterns. Special thanks to Gretchen Hansen for the idea and donation of supplies.

Currently **no in-person BWA activities** are scheduled through 2020. None are planned for the first two months of 2021.

WR BWA gratefully acknowledges receipt of donations for our Eshinni-Kakushinni Service from:

Ron & Karen Murakami
Georgette Magnin
Kathryn Natsuhara

Charles Natsuhara
Bill & Norma Geenty
Shiyoji & Pat Kawabata



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.

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

ABA

The ABA had a virtual meeting on November 16, 2020. The current officers were re-elected to another term. President - Randy Okimoto; Vice President - Randy Chun; Secretary - Norma Geenty; Treasurer - Bill Geenty.

Next years schedule of virtual meetings was also set. The dates are: March 8, 2021 at 1 pm; May 10, 2021 at 1 pm; September 13 at 1 pm; and November 8, 2021 at 1 pm.

Newsletter Reminder

January newsletter articles are due **Sunday, December 13th**. Please send articles to newsletter@wrbt.org. Save a tree and a stamp - receive your newsletter via email! Contact newsletter@wrbt.org

Facilities Committee

Charles, JR and Randy mopped the floors and cleaned and sanitized the tables and cleaned and sanitized the bathrooms on Wednesday, Nov. 4th.

We are waiting for follow up information from the Auburn Fire Department regarding possible purchase or rental of the western portion of the lot.

We are researching prices for the possible replacement of the temple's 10 year-old car.

Kerry Taniguchi obtained eight virtually new replacement fire extinguishers and installed them in the Temple, parsonage and garage. Thank you Kerry.

Donations

The Temple gratefully acknowledges the following donations received and recorded from October 20th through November 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. Please contact Charles Natsuhara, Treasurer, regarding omissions or corrections by phone (253) 833-0789, or by email to finance@wrbt.org

Please note, Eitaikyo Service donations will be listed in the next newsletter

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 - \$2625.00

Shotsuki Memorials

Mrs. Setsuko Hamamoto	In memory of Masaru Hamamoto
M/M Nina & Yick Chinn	In memory of Kiyono Maekawa
M/M Don & Kiyo Maekawa	In memory of Kiyono Maekawa
Mrs. Sanaye Maekawa	In memory of Kiyono Maekawa
Mr. Randy Okimoto	In memory Hatsue Okimoto
Mrs. Katie Komoto	In memory Harry Taketa, Tad Kato
Mrs. Audrie Hayes	In memory of Koko Sutow
Mrs. Joan Rodgers	In memory of Teki Fujimura
Mrs. Monica Furtik	In memory of Harry Taketa, Mae Yamada, and Doug Yamada

Memorials

Tanaka Family	In memory of Betty Tanaka
M/M Nina & Yick Chinn	In memory of Masae Sakagami
M/M Don & Kiyo Maekawa	In memory of Masae Sakagami
Ms. Reiko Hara	In memory of Masae Sakagami
Mrs. Michiko Hirata	In memory of Masae Sakagami
Mrs. Joan Rodgers	In memory of Masae Sakagami
Mrs. Lilly Kato	In memory of Masae Sakagami
Ms. Linda Ishii	In memory of Amy Kato
M/M Eva & Randy Chun	In memory of Amy Kato
Mrs. Michiko Hirata	In memory of Amy Kato
Mrs. Katie Komoto	In memory of Amy Kato, Steve Kato
Yoshie Kosai	In memory of Steve Kato
Mrs. Lilly Kato, Michelle Kato, LuAnn Kato	In memory of Steve Kato
Mr. Allan Mizoguchi	In memory of John Kitagawa
Ms. Ellen Shigeno	In memory of John Kitagawa

General Donations

Ms. Patricia Cosgrove	In Appreciation
M/M Eva & Randy Chun	In appreciation for Cooking Class
M/M Ron & Karen Murakami	Bazaar

2020 Pledge Totals

October 1 - 31, 2020

Thank you for your support in 2020!

Date	PLEDGES DECLARED		Contributors	DOLLARS COLLECTED	
	Additional	Total		Additional	Total
November 6, 2020	\$700	\$41,650	52 ⁱ	\$2,505	\$38,735
Name and Amount Not Specified for Publishing: Anonymous #17 Anonymous #18					
Amount Not Specified for Publishing:					
Under \$500: Valerie Yamanaka					
\$500- \$999:					
\$1,000- \$4,999:					
<u>For Comparison</u>					
October 31, 2019	\$930	\$30,795	50	\$1,085	\$29,020

ⁱ Includes 2 omitted from September report.

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

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