

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

Temple Office Phone: 253-833-1442

Website: www.wrbt.org

E-mail: office@wrbt.org

E-mail: Rev.Warrick@wrbt.org



Minister's Greetings

Greetings,

“March comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb.” This old proverb is used to describe the weather in March which straddles winter and spring in the northern hemisphere, where it tends to be very harsh and unpleasant in the beginning but milder and more palatable at the end.

Growing up in Western North Carolina mountains, my siblings and I used to play a game to see who could spot the first of what my mom called a “March flower.” We often started looking in January and February, hoping that when we found one, this would mean that spring was just around the corner. This little flower we were looking for was the daffodil.

Daffodils are plentiful here in Western Washington this time of year thanks to the folks in the Puyallup Valley. Daffodils came to the Puyallup Valley around 1925 to replace the area’s dying hop industry. The U.S. Department of Agriculture recommended bulb growing because of the Valley’s excellent soil and ideal climate. About 200 varieties of Daffodils are grown here. This humble flower is so loved there that for more than 80 years they have had a parade in its honor.

The daffodil has been associated in history with death and rebirth—from the death of the self-loving Narcissus in Greek mythology to its perennial return as an Easter flower. The daffodil also symbolizes unequalled love, so giving this flower to someone expresses a deep love that cannot be rivaled or imitated. Much like the love given to us by the Buddha Amida.

The Spring Equinox occurs in March. It is a time when the weather is normally neither too warm nor too cold and the days and nights are of equal length. At this unique time of the year, the two shores of light and dark are so close to one another the passage back and forth is easier. Harmony pervades throughout the universe. It is a good time to set aside a special day to reconsider the Buddhist teachings, reflect upon ourselves, and pay respect to the innumerable people from the past to the present who have come into our lives and in some way or other influenced it to be better. As Jodo Shinshu Buddhists we gather before the sacred shrine of Amida Buddha to meditate on the harmony of nature and devote ourselves to realizing this harmony within.

This special day we have set aside this month is called O-Higan. Higan is an abbreviation of “To-Higan” which literally meaning “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 the end of our life. 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, compassion. The observance of Ohigan gives us an opportunity to gather and express our gratitude to the Buddha for teaching us the way. I hope you will join us for our virtual O-Higan service on March 14th this year.

Reverend James Hozen Warrick



Greetings from the Chairman!

Hello, temple members.

It has now been 11 months since we held our last in-person Sunday service.

To me, the month of March has always meant the end of winter and the coming of Spring and Mariner baseball. I have routinely planned my annual vacation for this month. Every year my folks and I would fly down to Arizona to enjoy the warm weather, the nice golf courses and of course the Mariner spring training baseball

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President’s Message Continued from Page 1

games. It was a welcome break from the rainy northwest weather. This year, I had planned to do the same vacation, but because of high risk of Covid-19 in Arizona, I decided to cancel it this year. But there is always next year.

Even though a vaccine has been discovered, Covid-19 remains a significant risk in the community. As a result, the Temple will need to remain closed. However, the light at the end of this Covid-19 tunnel continues to get brighter. According to President Biden, he hopes that the increased vaccination programs will bring things back to a more normal environment by the end of the summer. In the meantime, I encourage everyone to sign up to be vaccinated. It doesn’t hurt and it is the only way we can reduce community spread enough to re-open the temple.

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

In gassho,
Randy

**March Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service
IN PERSON SERVICES - CANCELLED
View online on March 7 at 10:30am
www.wrbt.org/service**

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

Kiyoko Nishimura	1972	Ted Tadao Komoto	2006
Sue Arima	1973	Kimi Teraoka	2006
Tatsu Sato Abe	1981	Tokie Nakai	2007
Masanuki Yamada	1984	Bobbie Akira Tanabe	2008
Tazo Nishimura	1986	Benjamin Tsutomu Taketa	2008
Yoshio Horiuchi	1986	Toshi Terayama	2011
Tamayo Mikami	1991	Itsuko Funai	2013
Mitsuwo Ikuta	1993	Satoru Kato	2014
Harry Susumu Anzai	1994	Stan Tsujikawa	2017
Tsutae Tiny Taketa	1996	Yasumi Kinoshita	2017
Hiroto Mizoguchi	2001	Steve Kato	2020
Kai Honore Hansen	2005	Sherry Mizuki	2020
Shigeru Nishimura	2005		

1 year ~ 2020	3 year ~ 2019	7 year ~ 2015	13 year ~ 2009
17 year ~ 2005	25 year ~ 1997	33 year ~ 1989	50 year ~ 1972

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

**WRBT Virtual Book Club
March 7, 2021 at 7pm**

Being Mortal: Illness, Medicine and What Matters in the End

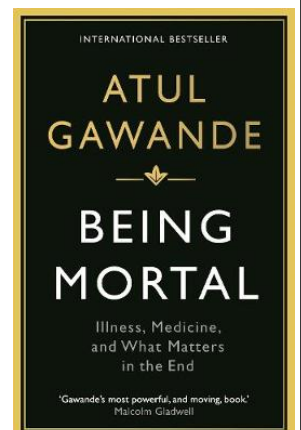
Named a Best Book of the Year by *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times Book Review*, NPR, and *Chicago Tribune*

Medicine has triumphed in modern times, transforming the dangers of childbirth, injury, and disease from harrowing to manageable. But when it comes to the inescapable realities of aging and death, what medicine can do often runs counter to what it should.

Through eye-opening research and gripping stories of his own patients and family, Gawande reveals the suffering this dynamic has produced. Nursing homes, devoted above all to safety, battle with residents over the food they are allowed to eat and the choices they are allowed to make. Doctors, uncomfortable discussing patients' anxieties about death, fall back on false hopes and treatments that are actually shortening lives instead of improving them.

Sign up at wrbt.org/bookclub and a zoom link will be sent to you. We look forward to a meaningful discussion! If you have any questions, please direct them to: office@wrbt.org.

This is part 2 of this book discussion: Chapter 6 - Epilogue. Feel free to join, even if you were unable to participate in part 1.



Buddhist Women's Association

BWA@wrbt.org

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

White River BWA gratefully acknowledges several anonymous donations that have been received in late 2020 and Jan-Feb 2021. Mail delivery has been a bit delayed. Your generosity will keep the spirit strong and bright.

Lady Kujo Service, Feb 14, 2021. Rev. Cyndi Yasaki of Tacoma Buddhist Temple was our guest speaker. The BWA appreciates having this annual service to recognize the contributions made by women.

Virtual Crafts and Coffee, Saturday, March 13 and Thursday, April 22, 2021, 1030am. Please join us for a Zoom session. Show off a craft, enjoy seeing and conversing with temple members. All are welcome to participate. BWA membership is not required. Please see the temple website calendar for the Zoom link. Questions, please contact Georgette

at oz.georgette@gmail.com or 206 854 7913.

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: wrlink4gold-enchain@comcast.net

Currently no in-person BWA activities are scheduled in 2021. We will follow the guidance of the restart committee.

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.

ABA

The ABA has suspended all in-person activities because of COVID-19. Our next scheduled virtual ZOOM meeting is Monday, March 8, 2021 at 1 pm.

Mochi March!

Join us for our next Timeless Favorites cooking class on **March 6th** at 11 am. Instructor Memi Yamashita will be teaching us how to make **Matcha Shiratama Dango** (green tea mochi)! Register at www.wrbt.org/timelessfavorites! Hope to see you there.

Following our next class, we will hold a second Timeless Favorites class this month on **March 27th** at 11 am with instructors Lilly and Luann Kato who will teach us how to make **Sakura Mochi**! Don't miss out!

WRBT Timeless Favorites Online Cooking Class
Saturday, March 6th @ 11 am
Featuring instructor Memi Yamashita cooking Matcha Shiratama!
 Register at: www.wrbt.org/timelessfavorites

WRBT Timeless Favorites Online Cooking Class
Saturday, March 27th @ 11 am
Featuring instructors LuAnn and Lilly Kato cooking Sakura Mochi!
 Register at: www.wrbt.org/timelessfavorites

Donations

The Temple gratefully acknowledges the following donations received and recorded from January 19th through February 15th. 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. **2020 year-end donation letters have been sent out.** If you have any questions about the letter, or any omission or correction in donations, please contact Charles Natsuhara, Assistant Treasurer, by phone (253) 833-0789, or by email to finance@wrbt.org

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

Total Donations Received - \$2296.19

Shotsuki (Monthly) Memorials

Ms. Jill Komoto	In memory of George and Lily Komoto
Mr. Dennis Yamashita	In memory of Haru Miyoshi
Mr. Randy Okimoto	In memory of Mary Sakuma
Mrs. Audrie Hayes	In memory of Kart Funai and Kaz Tsujikawa

Ho-onko Service

Mrs. Setsuko Hamamoto	M/M Shirley Kanda & Roger Fukai
M/M Ron and Karen Murakami	Mr. Dennis Yamashita
Mrs. Connie Toda	M/M James and Ikuko Dodobara

Memorials

Mrs. Joan Rodgers	In memory of Ritsuko Hamamura
Mrs. Yoshiko Yamada	In memory of Ritsuko Hamamura
M/M Ron and Karen Murakami	In memory of Ritsuko Hamamura
Mrs. Connie Toda	In memory of Ritsuko Hamamura
M/M Ron and Karen Murakami	In memory of Amy Kato
M/M Ron and Karen Murakami	17 yr. Memorial for Pete and Yae Sasaki
Ms. Nancy Schneider	In memory of Suyeko Fujikado

General Donations

Mrs. Yoshiko Yamada	In Appreciation
Ms. Patricia Cosgrove	In Appreciation
BCA Dana Program	Mrs. Charlene Grinolds
Anonymous	Osaisen
Kroger Give Back Program	

**2021 Pledge Totals
January 1 - 31, 2020**

Thank you for your support in 2020!

Date	PLEDGES DECLARED		Contributors	DOLLARS COLLECTED	
	Additional	Total		Additional	Total
January 31, 2021	\$5,200	\$5,200	10	\$1,225	\$1,225
Name and Amount Not Specified for Publishing:					
	Anonymous #25	Anonymous #26	Anonymous #27	Anonymous #24	Anonymous #28
	Anonymous #29				
Amount Not Specified for Publishing:					
	Ruth Terry		Mark Terry		
Under \$500:	Catherina Contreras	Don Gardner	Judy Gardner	Joan Hoskin	David Hoskin
\$500- \$999:	Carolyn Schwab	Joe Schwab			
\$1,000- \$4,999:	Randy Okimoto				
<u>For Comparison</u>					
February 3, 2020	\$15,250	\$15,250	17	\$10,370	\$10,370

Newsletter Reminder

March newsletter articles are due **Sunday, March 14th**. Please send articles to newsletter@wrbt.org. Save a tree and a stamp - receive your newsletter via email! Contact newsletter@wrbt.org

Registration for this BCA offering can be found at:

www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/event-details/letting-go-a-zen-shin-approach-to-liberation



CBE SEMINARS ONLINE FOR ALL

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC - REGISTER FOR ZOOM LINK

*Pacific Time - Check local time zone

TWO SATURDAY SESSIONS, 11 AM - 1 PM (PACIFIC TIME)

ZEN & SHIN BUDDHISM

PART 1:
MARCH 6, 2021

PART 2:
MARCH 13, 2021



Letting Go:
A ZEN & SHIN
APPROACH TO LIBERATION

Dr. Duncan Ryuken Williams

University of Southern California
Author, *AMERICAN SUTRA: A STORY OF FAITH AND FREEDOM IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR* (2019)

Duncan Ryuken Williams was born in Tokyo, Japan to a Japanese mother and British father and grew up in Japan and England until age 17, when he came to the U.S. to attend college (Reed College) and graduate school (Harvard University, where he received a Ph.D. in Religion). He is currently Professor of Religion and East Asian Languages & Cultures and the Director of the USC Shinso Ito Center for Japanese Religions and Culture. Previously, he held the Shinjo Ito Distinguished Chair of Japanese Buddhism at UC Berkeley. He has also been ordained since 1993 as a Buddhist priest in the Soto Zen tradition and served as the Buddhist chaplain at Harvard University from 1994-96.



Zen Practice
TIMELESS CALLING,
TIMELY RESPONSE

Tenkei Coppens Roshi

Abbot, Zen River Temple- Uithuizen, The Netherlands
Author, *TIMELESS CALLING, TIMELY RESPONSE, A GUIDE FOR ZEN BUDDHIST PRACTICE* (2020)

Anton Tenkei Coppens is the abbot of Zen River Temple. Born in The Netherlands, he has a background in art and art history, started his Zen training in England in 1976, and continued it from 1980 with Genpo Merzel Roshi and Taizan Maezumi Roshi, mostly in the US but also in several European countries. He received Shiho, Dharma transmission, from Genpo Roshi in 1996 and Inka, the final seal of approval, in 2006. Tenkei Roshi also practiced Zen in Japan with Junyu Kuroda Roshi and became a fully qualified representative of the Soto school. Together with his wife, Tamara Myoho Gabrysch Roshi, and a number of close students, he established Zen River Temple in 2002.

"Timeless Calling, Timely Response aims to serve as an inspiration for anyone interested in hearing their life's calling and

We are sharing Tacoma Buddhist Temple's invitation to join their *Spirit, Mind and Body Health Series* flyer that you may be interested in. Contact information is on the flyer

Tacoma Buddhist Temple's
Spirit, Mind and Body Health Series
2021

Please join the first in the series of classes and demonstrations

Yoga for Compassion

A mindful Yoga class for all physical abilities!
Saturday, March 6th 10 – 11 a.m. PST via Zoom



CLASS DESCRIPTION:

Yoga for Compassion is for all levels of experience, a place for people to begin their yoga practice or to reconnect with their yoga roots. In *Yoga for Compassion*, you will learn the fundamentals of yoga postures and experience connecting movement and breath. The class will begin seated in a chair and then progress to standing. The compassionate class environment will provide you with a positive Yoga experience in our diverse Sangha. Grab a member of your "pod" – everyone is welcome!

INSTRUCTOR: KARA O'TOOLE

Kara and her family are active members of the Temple. She received a Masters of Fine Arts in Dance from UW and was a professional dancer. She has been a yoga instructor for more than thirty years. Her classes blend her advanced yoga teacher training (RYT-500) with an exceptional balance of postures, breathing techniques and spiritual elements of yoga. Currently, she is a featured yoga instructor at Tuladhara Yoga (Tacoma), Pacific Lutheran University, Narrows Glen Senior Living and Dance for Parkinson's for the Seattle Theater Group.

SIGN UP BY MARCH 1ST

- **Waiver submittal:** Print, screenshot or go to tacomabt.org for the form. Email Tracy Ling at: tling12005@gmail.com Or mail: 1717 S. Fawcett Ave. Tacoma, WA 98402
- **Free of Charge!** Everyone is welcome. Donations are gladly accepted to support future programs (tacomabt.org to donate online or mail to our address)
- **Class Zoom link:** Will be emailed prior to the class and a waiver is received
- **Questions:** Please contact Tracy Ling, tling12005@gmail.com



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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