

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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Minister's Greetings

Well, here we are in July again.

At WRBT most of us when we think July, we think Obon and Bon Odori.

The origin of Obon is believed to come from the Urabon sutra, which tells the story of Moggallana, who was a disciple of the Buddha, who during a meditative trance saw his deceased mother suffering in the World of Hungry ghosts, (the Buddhist equivalent of purgatory). Saddened, he went to the Buddha and asked how he could release his mother from her suffering. Buddha instructed him to make offerings to the Buddhist monks who had just completed their summer retreat. The disciple did this and saw his mother's release. He also began to see the true nature of her past unselfishness and the many sacrifices that she had made for him. Moggallana, happy because of his mother's release and grateful for his mother's kindness, danced with joy. This "dance of joy" becomes Bon Odori which spread all over Japan in the Kamakura period. Through natural disasters and manmade ones our Bon Odori festival has been a tradition celebrated for over 500 years. This year will be our 52nd year at WRBT.

Here is a short poem about a frog:

The Optimistic Frog

Two frogs fell into a deep cream bowl,
 One was an optimistic soul;
 But the other took a gloomy view,
 "We shall drown," he cried without more ado.
 So with a last despairing cry,
 He flung up his legs and he said, "Good-bye."
 Quoth the other frog with a merry grin,
 "I can't get out but I won't give in.
 I'll just swim 'round 'til my strength is spent,
 Then I will die the more content."
 Bravely he swam 'til it would seem
 His struggles began to churn the cream;
 On the top of the butter at last he stopped
 And out of the bowl he gaily hopped.
 What of the moral? 'Tis easily found;
 If you can't get out, keep swimming around.

For 10 kalpas (eons) Dharmakara kept trying to save all sentient beings.
 and finally one day,
 came up with a way.
 Say Namu Amida Butsu.
 It is so simple even a small child can do it.
 That's all there is to it!!!!

Again, this year, we are not able to assemble in large crowds. However, with a great deal of **optimism**, our Obon Committee has come up with several ways to enjoy and perhaps participate in Bon Odori this year. Stay tuned.

NAMO AMIDA BUTSU

Reverend James Hozen Warrick



Greetings from the Chairman!

Hello, temple members.

The month of July brings the hot days of summer and our Bon Odori Festival. Thankfully, with the widespread administration of the vaccine, the threat from Covid -19 appears to be waning. Consequently, the Board has authorized the initial steps that we hope will end with a full re-opening of the temple sometime this fall. Our first events were the Memorial Day cemetery services. They were accomplished with no adverse incidents. Next on the schedule is the outdoor Summer Solstice meditation session on June 19th. If everything goes well, it will be followed by our first outdoor service at the temple on July 18th. Assuming no incidents, it will be followed by our outdoor Hatsubon Service on August 8, 2021. An entirely virtual video Bon Odori will air on August 14, 2021. Although, this is a conservative approach, the Board felt that this was the prudent and safest way to re-open the Temple.

Finally, I encourage everyone to sign up to be vaccinated. It does not hurt, and it is the only way we can reduce community spread enough to fully get back to normal. Hopefully, that will be sometime this fall.

In the meantime, stay safe, stay at home, wear a mask, or GET VACCINATED!

In gassho,
Randy

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

View online on July 4th at 10:30am

www.wrbt.org/service

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

Tsuruichi Komoto	1974	Noriko Tanabe	2005
Minoru Terada	1979	Yooko Watanabe	2010
Kiyomi Mizoguchi	1980	Stanley Doi	2010
Mike Arima	1987	Sayoko Kawasaki	2011
Isamu Suyematsu	1989	Kazuko Watanabe	2013
Yoneko Terayama	1990	Hiroshi Nakai	2014
George Takeshi Watanabe	1991	Ben Yamada	2015
Misue Komatsu	1995	Doris Sagara	2019
Mitzi Mitsuko Ibuki	1998	Yae Mikami	2019
George Tonojo Kawasaki	2002	Kayo Terayama	2020
Tokio Toyoshima	2005	Amy Kato	2020
Nancy Mikami	2005		

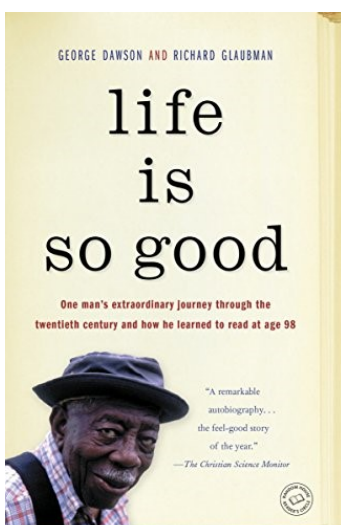
1 year ~ 2020 3 year ~ 2019 7 year ~ 2015 13 year ~ 2009
17 year ~ 2005 25 year ~ 1997 33 year ~ 1989 50 year ~ 1972

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

WRBT Virtual Book Club

Life is so Good

Chapters 13 - 24 Sunday July 11 @ 7 P.M.



“George Dawson, a slave’s grandson who learned to read at age 98 and lived to the age of 103, reflects on his life and shares valuable lessons in living, as well as a fresh, firsthand view of America during the entire sweep of the twentieth century. Richard Glaubman captures Dawson’s irresistible voice and view of the world, offering insights into humanity, history, hardships, and happiness. From segregation and civil rights, to the wars and the presidents, to defining moments in history, George Dawson’s description and assessment of the last century inspires readers with the message that has sustained him through it all:

“Life is so good. I do believe it’s getting better.”

Please sign up at wrbt.org/bookclub

Bon Odori Fundraising Programs

Traditionally, our summer Bon Odori program has been our biggest event of the year. It has been an effective fundraising activity while at the same time increasing visibility in our surrounding communities for many years. Unfortunately, the Covid-19 pandemic has prevented normal fundraising activities during both 2020 and 2021. As a result, we have been forced to adopt new fundraising ideas to balance our budget.

Bon Odori Dessert Box <https://wrbt.square.site>

To help you enjoy your Bon Odori experience, we encourage you to purchase an official White River Bon Odori Dessert Box. Boxes include our delicious pie, Japanese manju, and a special mochi – all available for purchase for \$28. Dessert boxes will be ready for pick up on August 14th 11:00 am - 12:00 pm.

Obon Dance Sponsorships <https://wrbt.square.site>

Our next new program is the sponsorship of individual Bon Odori dances. The names of sponsors will be displayed during our virtual Bon Odori video that airs on our Youtube channel on August 14, 2021. Sponsors can be individuals, families, or groups of individuals or families. There is a minimum sponsorship of \$250 per dance, and you can combine your sponsorship contribution with others to reach the minimum. You may sponsor as many dances as you wish. Please submit a separate web order online or mail-in a form for each dance sponsorship contribution (attached to this newsletter) by July 31st, 2021. You may use the website or US mail to submit order forms.

The Bon Odori Dances eligible for sponsorship are: 1) Mikokoro, 2) Soran Bushi, 3) Pokemon Ondo, 4) Gosshu Ondo, 5) Tanko Bushi, 6) Sakura Ondo, 7) Shiawase Samba, 8) Omatsuri Ondo, and 9) Zenkoku Ondo.

Memorial Lanterns <https://wrbt.square.site>

We are continuing last year's very successful Memorial Lantern Program. Lanterns will be shown during the virtual Bon Odori video and names will be recognized during the program. Please submit your names by July 31st, 2021.

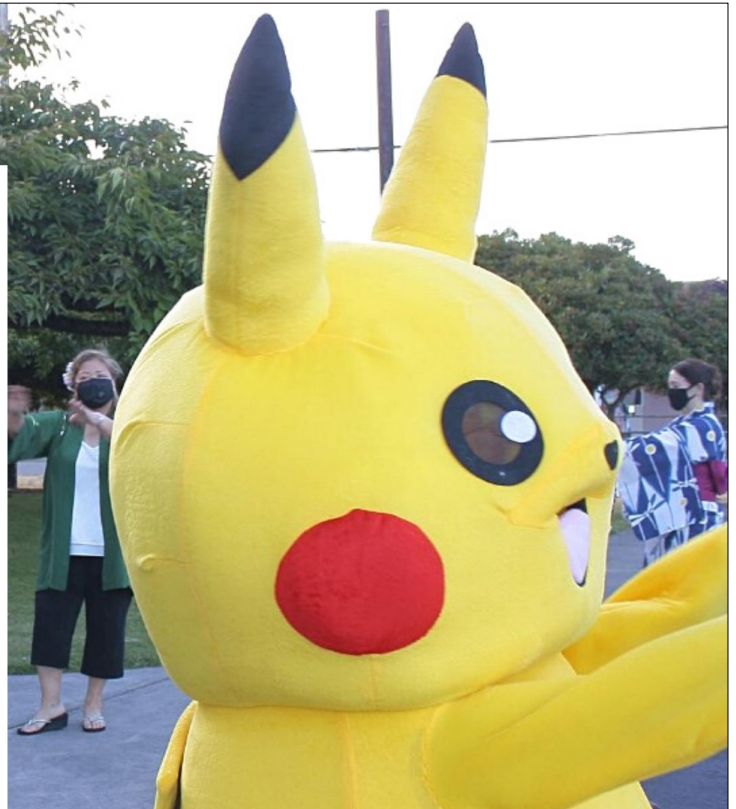
Mailed order forms (included in this newsletter) must be received or website purchases <https://wrbt.square.site> made by Saturday, July 31, 2021. Question? Email office@wrbt.org



White River Buddhist Temple Virtual Bon Odori

August 14, 2021

WWW.WRBT.ORG/BONODORI2021



Join us for our Virtual Bon Odori Dance Video Recording!

In lieu of our traditional in-person Bon Odori, we're going virtual again! The White River dance instructors will once again dance to several Bon Odori favorites with a video that will premiere on August 14th. However, this year, **we're excited to invite temple members and their families to participate in two of our dances - Gosshu Ondo and Tanko Bushi.** Participants are required to register in advance and dances will be fully masked, socially distanced, with strict adherence to COVID-19 protocols.

Join us on July 3rd at 7:30 pm in front of the Temple! Wear your traditional Bon Odori attire (yukata, kimono, happi coat, etc.) and masks. Attendance is extremely limited.

Registration link: www.wrbt.org/dancerecording

“Supporting Communities”

This illustration was inspired by the flower bouquet fundraisers that White River Buddhist Temple put together throughout 2020 - 2021. Although each character is wearing a mask, I hope you can recognize some members that I drew: Randy Okimoto, Valerie Yamanaka, Kendall Kosai, Kelsey Asato, Georgette Magnin, Ruth Terry, Charlene Grinolds, Charles Natsuhara, and me (Tessa Asato)! Although we weren't all in one spot, this illustration is a loose representation of some (not all) members volunteering.

Artist: Tessa Asato

Title: "Supporting Communities"

Medium: Pen & Ink

Size: 9"x12"



“SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES”

6.08.21

Restart Committee

The Memorial Day Services at four local cemeteries were highly successful. Everything went reasonably smooth and there have been no reported infections. Attendance was good with 4 attending at Mountain View, 35 at Pioneer, 34 at Hillcrest and 15 at Washington Memorial. Compliance with Covid protocols was good and we have received several comments from attendees that the services were very much appreciated.

For the June 19th Summer Solstice Meditation session and July 18, 2021, trial Outdoor Service, the following Covid -19 protocols will be in place.

- **“Out of consideration for the safety of others, we strongly recommend that all attendees be fully vaccinated.”**
- Masks, social distancing requirements and Covid symptoms questionnaires will be in force.
- A pre-event sign-up list will be utilized and updated at the temple with current contact phone numbers and/or e-mail addresses. A separate supplementary sign-up sheet at the temple will be maintained. Please register at www.wrbt.org/outdoorservice
- Chanting will be by Rev. Warrick only.
- Oshoko only, no incense.
- Onsite participation is limited to church members and guests.

The outdoor summer service on Sunday, July 18th will serve as a test run for the August 8, 2021, Hatsubon service. The location will be on the basketball court with chairs and tents being set up as necessary.

Facilities Committee

Front sign repair: JR Pewitt is coordinating a repair project of the wooden sign in front of the temple. He has disassembled the sign, and is in the process of repairing, and re-painting it.

Wisteria Trellis project: Charles, JR, Chiho and Georgette have finished this project. It is very attractive in front of the Koshido bars.

Garden Maintenance & Fence Repair: Mary and Randy are doing some weeding and re-barking of the garden area. They are also working on repairing the fencing. If interested in volunteering contact Mary @ coggermh@nventure.com. Mary’s request for a storage unit for gardening equipment was approved by the Board.

Negotiating Committee: We received a land appraisal from the Auburn Fire Department regarding the 1.4 acres of land that they desire to purchase. Because that appraisal seemed low, the Board authorized the Committee to obtain a separate appraisal. Both appraisals gave no value to the garage. The Committee is discussing and contemplating future steps.

ABA

A fall field trip to the Seattle Asian Art Museum is being planned. The next ABA virtual meeting is scheduled for September 13, 2021 at 1 pm.

2021 Pledge Totals

May 1 - 31, 2021

Thank you for your support in 2021!

Date	PLEDGES DECLARED		Contributors	DOLLARS COLLECTED	
	Additional	Total		Additional	Total
June 7, 2021	\$980	\$32,230	42	\$975	\$28,125

Name and Amount Not Specified for Publishing:

Amount Not Specified for Publishing: Under \$500: Brad Dong Susie Dong

\$500- \$999: Anonymous #12

\$500- \$999:

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

For Comparison

June 2, 2020	\$3,450	\$36,800	44	\$5,430	\$29,235
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BCA Offerings

[https://](https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/buddhist-education)

www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/buddhist-education

Contact cbe@bcahq.org | (510) 809-1460

Shinshu & Christianity

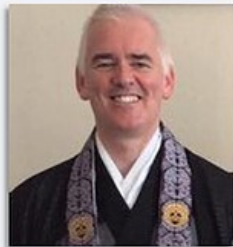
Saturday, July 3rd
11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Guest Speaker:

REVEREND DAVID QUIRKE-THORNTON

SHIN BUDDHIST FELLOWSHIP UNITED KINGDOM

Rev. David Quirke-Thornton is a member of the [Shin Buddhist Fellowship UK](#). Formerly a Franciscan friar, he trained as a Buddhist Chaplain at The Buddhist Society in London and has served as chaplain to the police. In 2019, he received Tokudo ordination from Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha in Kyoto. Among his areas of interest are interfaith and intra-Buddhist relations. He works in government as chief officer overseeing human services in central London and he is Humanitarian Assistance Lead Officer (HALO) for disasters and terrorist attacks and provides advice and guidance to political leaders.



Creating Inclusive Sanghas

Saturday, July 24th
11:00 am - 1:00 pm

GUEST SPEAKERS:

Mushim Patricia Ikeda
East Bay Meditation Center

Rev. Harry Bridge
BUDDHIST CHURCH OF OAKLAND

Shinshu teaches us that the Dharma is open to all. And yet, it can be difficult to include people in our Sangha who we feel are different than us.

This 2-hour workshop is an opportunity to examine how we often form judgments based on unexamined assumptions and to explore how to compassionately learn more about ourselves and others in a way that opens the door for deeper, more authentic relationships.



Mushim Ikeda is a Buddhist and secular mindfulness teacher and diversity, equity and inclusion consultant. She is a core teacher at [East Bay Meditation Center](#). For more information: www.mushimikeda.com



Rev. Bridge has served as resident minister for the [Buddhist Church of Oakland](#) since 2009 and is adjunct faculty at the [Institute for Buddhist Studies](#). He is also co-host of a podcast, [Dharma Realm](#), with Dr. Scott Mitchell.

SAVE THE DATE!

Northwest District (Virtual) Convention
September 12 –19, 2021

74th Annual Northwest District (Virtual) Convention

The
Appreciation
Realization
Transformation
Of Buddhist Living



Keynote Speaker
Reverend Peter Hata
Higashi Honganji Los Angeles Betsuin
Founding Member Of The
Legendary Jazz Fusion Group
Hiroshima

No Registration Fee!

SEPTEMBER 12 - 19, 2021

Featured Presenters:

Kim Stafford (State of Oregon Poet Laureate, emeritus)
Nobuko Miyamoto (Songwriter, Dance & Theater Artist, Cultural Activist)
Brian Koichi Mizushima (BCA Youth Coordinator)
Rev. Ko'e Umezu (Asst. Minister WLABT, Illustrator/Storyboard Artist)
Rev. Yuki Sugahara (Resident Minister OBT, Musician)

Registration and Other Details to Follow

www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com/nw-district-convention2021
contact us: convention@oregonbuddhisttemple.com

Buddhist Women's Association

BWA@wrbt.org

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

Please help the WBA get a head start with re-opening the temple by suggesting your ideas for in-person activities. Please reply to Georgette by e-mail: oz.georgette@gmail.com or phone 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 re-start 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.

Housing the Homeless

It's complicated ... each individual is different, and each situation is different. What is similar is that connections matter.

Mr. Kent Hay, Outreach Program Administrator, City of Auburn says "while housing is important, it is more important that people start working on issues before getting into housing. I take providers out with me to encampments and have them make connections for treatment for Mental Health and Chemical Dependency treatment. A lot of these folks are afraid to go back inside, so it takes some building of trust that you will stick with them and follow up once they are in housing and not leave them to fail."

White River Buddhist Temple is partnering with the City of Auburn's Mayor Nancy Backus, Kent Hay, the Interfaith Roundtable group, and the Auburn Food Bank by providing funds to help homeless individuals in the Auburn community. This Interfaith Roundtable is made up of various Auburn faith communities and each believes that it takes Compassion, Responsibility, Community to give individuals a hand up and out of their homelessness situation. Rev. Warrick has represented WRBT, at the monthly Roundtable meetings, for more than one year. Recently WRBT requested, and was granted, \$5,000 in funds from the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) Social Welfare Fund. We greatly appreciate and want to thank the BCA for this important contribution. We asked Mr. Hay to describe how these funds are helping people regain a stable footing with his help and with the variety of services that are being offered to individuals. Mr. Hay described how the funds from WRBT and the BCA's Social Welfare funds are making an impact on individuals in the Auburn community.

Mr. Hay described the following, "We have used funding to assist with a family of 7 (Mom currently pregnant, and her five children) move from living outside in a park into a 4-bedroom 2 bath apartment. We were also able to assist a veteran pay off his collections from a previous eviction that was holding him back from being able to rent an apartment. There is a man and woman from the shelter (Ray of Hope Emergency Shelter) that decided to team up and move into a 2-bedroom apartment. Due to their lack of credit the apartment manager was willing to accept a bigger deposit to approve them. The move was scheduled for the 3rd week of June. I was able to use some of the funds, in June, to assist a woman getting her car fixed in order to move out of the garage she was living in and needed to leave. She also has a housing voucher, and we are working on getting her into a new home.

Most of the vouchers come from the HEN (Housing Essential Needs) program that is approved through DSHS and distributed through Catholic Community Services. The family was able to obtain a housing voucher through Section 8.

I do have a set aside of funds from the Mayors budget, but there are certain things that I can and cannot use those funds for. I am also unable to write checks so that's why working with the food bank is so important in order to access the funds needed that WRBT has provided to get people into housing.

While we cannot make people participate in any further participation, we do encourage and I do follow up with people by going to their homes and making sure they are following through with paying bills on time, connecting with any providers they need to be working with, assist with budgeting, and just making sure they continue to be housed permanently. We are currently in talks with a business in the community to have people use a phone app to connect and chart their days and notify people when they are having difficulties.

With the start of the Community Court that launched in June people that opt in with low level crimes (theft, trespass, drug paraphernalia etc.) will have to meet requirements to have their case dismissed. Each person that opts in will complete an assessment and will be required to follow through with all the services that are recommended. They will meet with the providers in the Resource Center of Auburn and follow through as required while they are in the program."

As stated at the beginning homelessness and re-homing individuals is complicated. We at WRBT believe that individuals need to feel a part of their community, to have hope, and to have responsibility in order to measure their progress and to feel successful. We are grateful to Mr. Kent Hay and to the program developed out of the Mayor's Interfaith Roundtable. We will keep you posted regarding this program and the individuals it is helping.

In the August newsletter ... We look forward to telling you about Miss Allison and how she is progressing with our help.

Newsletter Reminder

March newsletter articles are due **Sunday, July 18th**. Please send articles to newsletter@wrbt.org. Save a tree and a stamp - receive your newsletter via email! Contact newsletter@wrbt.org

Donations

The Temple gratefully acknowledges the following donations received and recorded from May 19th through June 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. Please contact Charles Natsuhara, Assistant 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 - \$3904.82

Shotsuki (Monthly) Memorials

Mrs. Marcia Kato-Martin	In memory of Masaru Kato
M/M. Sharon and Mark Kosai	May and June Shotsuki
Ms. Kathryn Natsuhara	In memory of Shizuko Natsuhara
Mr. Charles Natsuhara	In memory of Shizuko Natsuhara
Mrs. Charlene Grinolds	In memory of Kitaro Tsuji and Charles Tsuji
Mr. Joe Watanabe	In memory of Gary Watanabe
Mrs. Yuki Iwai	In memory of Shina Iwai
Mrs. Lorraine Blackler	In memory of Yuki Kitagawa
Ms. Laurie Tanaka	In memory of Aiko Horiuchi
Ms. Susie Taketa	In memory of Jan Ibuki and Naomi Martin

Memorials - In Memory of Yoshiko Yamada

M/M. Wayne and Sally Mizuki	Mrs. Charlene Grinolds	Ms. Darlene Yamada
M/M. Lynne and Ken Tanino	Mrs. Marcia Kato-Martin	Mrs. Margaret Teramoto
Mrs. Hime Suyematsu and Family		

Gotan-e Service

M/M. Wayne and Sally Mizuki	Mrs. Charlene Grinolds	M/M Sharon and Mark Kosai
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Hanamatsuri Service

Mrs. Katie Komoto

Memorial Day

Mr. Randy Okimoto	Ms. Bonnie Kurata	Mrs. Lorraine Blackler
M/M Ilene & Don Grome	Ms. Kayoko Terada	Nishimura Family
Ms. Miyuki Peterson	Mrs. Mabel Nishizaki	M/M Alvin & Mitsuko Terada
M/M Calvin & Yvette Terada	Mr. Dennis Yamashita	M/M James & Ikuko Dodobara
M/M Kenny & Yoshie Dodobara	M/M Sharon & Mark Kosai	Douglas & Keiko Dodobara
2 - Anonymous		
M/M Ron & Suzuko Terada	In memory of Minoru and Yayeko Terada	
Mrs. Margaret Teramoto	In memory of Fukijiro and Setsu Yanagawa	

Backpack Program

M/M Mike & Louise Kato	Mrs. Rosie Kato	Mrs. Charlene Grinolds
M/M Norma & Bill Geenty	Mrs. Maydell Crane	Ms. Marsha Okino
Mrs. Gayle Takemura	Ms. Vivian Alexander	Ms. Darlene Yamada
M/M Bob & Mitzi Akiyama	Mrs. Katie Komoto	Anonymous

General Donations

Ms. Patricia Cosgrove	In Appreciation
M/M Wayne and Sally Mizuki	In Appreciation
Kroger Give Back Program	

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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