

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 February. February is one of my favorite months. Many famous people were born during the month of February, Abraham Lincoln, George Washington. Ronald Reagan, Johnny Cash, Babe Ruth, and me. Rona and I celebrate our birthdays with a trip to Baskin Robins for a banana split. We also celebrate our wedding anniversary this month the same way. That means two banana splits in the same month. Now you see why February is one of my favorite months.

February is a short month and by the end the weather is usually beginning to get milder signaling the end of winter and promising that the rebirth of Spring is just around the corner. We hope that this February will also bring with it the beginning of the end of this pandemic that has been raging for many months.

This month we observe Nirvana Day, a special service is to commemorate and honor the historical Shakyamuni Buddha who passed away on February 15, 486 BCE at Kushingara India, at the age of 80 according to our Mahayana tradition. It is believed that He entered perfect tranquility, or Nirvana, at that time.

Nirvana is the goal of Buddhist life - the blowing out of blind passions and the extinction of the ignorant self that leads to the birth of an awakened being of wisdom and compassion. In short Nirvana- IS the End of Suffering... In this lifetime and all future lifetimes.

Jodo Shinshu regards Shinjin (true entrusting) as the only and sufficient cause for birth in the Pure Land and attainment of Nirvana. Shinran explained this entrusting as the entrusting of the Other Power, the Other Power being the Power of Amida's Vow. This true entrusting in the Other Power can be understood to mean the entrusting bestowed by the Benevolence of Amida's Vow. This interpretation is the unique characteristic of Shinshu teaching.

Nembutsu, like true entrusting, is also bestowed by the Other Power or Amida's Vow. True entrusting and Nembutsu given by the Other Power keep Jodo Shinshu followers from being attached to their own merits or power and help them enjoy the life of "Egolessness" and "Naturalness" which are fundamental ideas of Buddhism.

Thus, true entrusting in The Primal Vow of Amida Buddha promises Universal Enlightenment for all beings. There is no other vow that has such sweeping power, promising hope, and life's fulfillment to all.

May the new year provide you with many opportunities to attain true entrusting in The Primal vow of Amida Buddha.

NAMO AMIDA BUTSU

Reverend James Hozen Warrick



Greetings from the President

Greetings, Temple Members!

At last month's board meeting, I started the meeting by laying out ground rules for the board – a set of principles in how we will make decisions. Words like respect, trust, compassion, and inclusivity stood as pillars of our values. Board members agreed that our commitment to the temple stands on these pillars and that we will need to hold them close as we continue to support the temple.

As you may have seen in the newsletter last month, Rev. Warrick has decided to officially retire on May 31, 2022. I want to thank Rev. Warrick for his service, dedication, and humor that he has brought to the temple and wish him and Rona a happy retirement! Discussions are

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President’s Message continued

already underway with Bishop Harada on the future of the temple and advocating for a full-time minister. While there is a severe shortage of ministers in the BCA, two separate classes of new ministers from IBS are scheduled to travel to Japan for training as early as this year. We will continue to keep you updated and ask for your patience and flexibility as we explore our different options that are available to us while doing what is best for the temple.

The temple restart committee met earlier this month to discuss reopening the temple. Due to the surge of Omicron cases, it was decided that we would be suspending our previously available in-person memorial services for the time being. We remain hopeful that we can resume in-person activities sometime this year, but will only do so with safety as the primary concern. In the meantime, I encourage you all to continue wearing your masks, get vaccinated and boosted, and request your free covid tests (covidtests.gov).

Finally, I look forward to convening a meeting with temple members on our fundraising plan for 2022. Again, we will need to be creative in the ways we raise funds during these unusual times. If you would like to volunteer or be a part of these meetings, please reach out to me at president@wrbt.org.

Stay safe.

Kendall

February Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service

IN PERSON SERVICES - CANCELLED

View online on February 6th at 10:30am

www.wrbt.org/service

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

Kishino Yamagata	1974	Kazuo Tsujikawa	1992
Setsu Yanagawa	1979	Mary Yukie Sakuma	2002
Haru Miyoshi	1980	Judy Schilthroat	2006
Kart Funai	1980	Dorothy Yaguchi	2010
Steven Takeo Tsuji	1987	Lily Yoshie Komoto	2016
Michael James Hamasaki	1991		

1 year ~ 2021 3 year ~ 2020 7 year ~ 2016 13 year ~ 2010
17 year ~ 2006 25 year ~ 1998 33 year ~ 1990 50 year ~ 1973

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

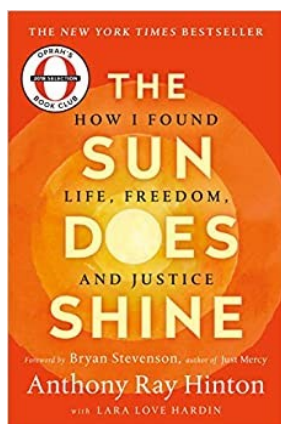
*With Heartfelt
Sympathy*

White River Buddhist Temple extends its deepest condolences to the family of Carolyn Yamada. Carolyn and her late husband Doug spent many hours at the Temple helping out wherever they were needed. Carolyn’s great sense of humor and inner strength will be deeply missed by all.

White River Virtual Book Club

The Sun Does Shine by Anthony Ray Hinton

February 6 @ 7:00 P.M.



“An urgent, emotional memoir from one of the longest-serving condemned death row inmates to be found innocent in America. ... A heart-wrenching yet ultimately hopeful story about truth, justice, and the need for criminal justice reform.” – Kirkus,

If there is ever a story that needs to be told, it is this one. Anthony Ray Hinton is extraordinary, an example to us all of the power of the human spirit to rise above complete injustice. He is using his experience as a way to turn the broken criminal justice system upside down. He is a brilliant storyteller, and his book will make people laugh, cry, and change their own lives for the better. It will also inspire people to never accept the unacceptable, like the death penalty. The Sun Does Shine will be a book that people all around the world will never forget.” - Richard Branson

ANTHONY RAY HINTON was 29 years old when he was convicted of 2 murders. He spent nearly thirty years on death row for crimes he didn’t commit. His case was taken to the supreme court which ruled for a retrial. Released in April 2015, Hinton now speaks widely on prison reform and the power of faith and forgiveness. He lives in Alabama.

Buddhist Women's Association

BWA@wrbt.org

Lady Kujo Memorial Service: Sunday, February 20, 2022, the annual service commemorates this important woman who started the Buddhist Women's Association in Japan in the early 1900s. Rev. Warrick has arranged for Rev. Melissa Opel from Spokane Buddhist Temple to be our virtual guest speaker.

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

No in-person BWA activities are scheduled. We will follow the guidance of the re-start committee.

WR BWA gratefully acknowledges receipt of generous donations from Georgette Magnin and Ron and Karen Murakami.

Newsletter Reminder

March newsletter articles are due **Thursday, February 17th**. Please send articles to newsletter@wrbt.org. Save a tree and a stamp - receive your newsletter via email! Contact newsletter@wrbt.org

ABA

No activity in December. Our next scheduled ABA virtual meeting is Monday, February 14, 2022, at 1pm.

Restart Committee

Because of the recent uptick in Covid 19 variant cases, the Committee decided to suspend indefinitely in-person services at the temple. All private memorial services may be held virtually, only. We will re-visit this issue next month.

The scheduled January 30th Drive-in service at the temple is cancelled and will be held virtually, only.

Facilities Committee

Doxon Motors inquiry about back lot acreage: Doxon's real estate agent indicated that it might be interested in the back 1 acre section of our lot but would need to do some further research. We have indicated that the back lot is available but have expressed concerns about selling in a depressed market during times of high inflation.

Preserving and safeguarding Temple scrolls: Charles and Randy are looking into ways to safeguard and document the value of Temple scrolls.

White River Buddhist Temple Sign: JR has added a wisteria emblem to our wooden sign.



CENTER FOR BUDDHIST EDUCATION (CBE) PROGRAM NEWS

Email: cbe@bcahq.org Phone: (510) 809-1460

CBE Webpage: <https://www.buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/cbe>

Please go to the webpage or contact the Center for Buddhist Education to register

Saturday, February 5, 2022 11 am - 1:00 pm (PT)

"Finding the Antidote to Greed, the first of the Three Poisons" - Addressing drug and alcohol addiction & introducing a Dharma Recovery Program with Guest Speakers: Dr. Michael Conway and Dee-Dee Just

This is the first in a series of in-depth lectures and interactive discussions on the three poisons: Greed, Anger & Ignorance, moderated by Rev. Marvin Harada.

February 26, 2022, 11 am - 1 pm (PT)

"Uen no Chishiki - My Revered Dharma Teachers" - Reflections by Rev. Dr. David Matsumoto on Rev. Haruyoshi Kusada, Rev. Takamaro Shigaraki, and Rev. Jitsuen Kakehashi (This presentation will be in English)

"Uen no Chishiki" (有縁の知識) is a Japanese phrase from TANNISHO and has a rich history in the Shin Buddhist tradition. It refers to "a good teacher of the Way, whom I have been so fortunate as to encounter."

Donations

The Temple gratefully acknowledges the following donations received and recorded from December 16th through January 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. 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 or you can also make a donation by credit card at the temple website <https://www.wrbt.org/donate>. **For regular donors, year-end letters listing contributions made during 2021 will be mailed by the end of January.**

Total Donations Received - \$5450

Shotsuki (Monthly) Memorials

M/M Janis & Alan Yamada	In memory of Mae and Doug Yamada
M/M Alva & Dennis Nishimura	2021 Shotsuki Hoyo
Mrs. Alice Nishimoto	In memory of Yoshio "Porky" Nishimoto
Mrs. Audrie Hayes	In memory of Mas Sutow
Mrs. Joan Rodgers	25 yr. Memorial for Shizumi Fujimura
Mr. Randy Okimoto	In memory of Frank Okimoto and Ura Toyoshima
Mrs. Charlene Grinolds	In memory of Masao Tsuji
Mr. & Mrs. Shirley Kanda & Roger Fukai	In memory of Sui and Yosakichi Hamakami

Memorials

M/M Alva & Dennis Nishimura	In memory of Bill Geenty
Mrs. Lilly Kato	In memory of Michi Chihara
Mrs. Hime Suyematsu & Family	In memory of Michi Chihara

Hoonko

M/M Yuri & Itsuo Shiotani	M/M Mitsuko & Alvin Terada	Ms. Darlene Yamada
Mrs. Joan Rodgers	M/M Bob & Mitzi Akiyama	Mrs. Lilly Kato
Mr. & Mrs. Shirley Kanda & Roger Fukai	Mrs. Charlene Grinolds	Mr. Yukiko Iwai

Eitaikyo

Mrs. Norma Geenty

Bodhi Day

M/M Mitsuko & Alvin Terada

General Donations

In Appreciation

M/M James & Ikuko Dodobara	M/M James & Joy Nakata	Mr. Charles Natsuhara
M/M Jim & Diane Cowles	M/M Mitsuko & Alvin Terada	Ms. Darlene Yamada
M/M Roger Fukai & Shirley Kanda	Mrs. Maydell Crane	Mrs. Norma Geenty
Mrs. Gayle Takemura	M/M Sharon & Mark Kosai	Ms. Irene Goto
M/M Mike & Debbie Akiyama	Mr. Greg Komoto	Anonymous (2)

Mrs. Audrie Hayes

Newsletter

Auburn Foodbank – Food to Go Backpack Program

White River Adult Buddhist Association

2021 Pledge Totals

Dec 1 - 31, 2021

Thank you for your support in 2021!

Date	PLEDGES DECLARED		Contributors	DOLLARS COLLECTED	
	Additional	Total		Additional	Total
Jan 22, 2022	\$3,540 ¹	\$41,170	65	\$3,890 ²	\$46,790
<u>For Comparison</u>					
Jan 8, 2021	\$1,860	\$48,230	71	\$2,460	\$46,595
Name and Amount Not Specified for Publishing:					
	Anonymous #21	Anonymous #22	Anonymous #19	Anonymous #20	
	Anonymous #25	Anonymous #26	Anonymous #23	Anonymous #24	

Amount Not Specified for Publishing: Himeko Suyematsu

Under \$500: Dennis Nishimura Alva Nishimura

¹Includes a pledge of \$180 reclassified from monthly donations in November

²Includes a pledge of \$180 reclassified from monthly donations in November

****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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