

The White Path

Living the Life of the Nembutsu

WHITE RIVER BUDDHIST TEMPLE

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Minister's Greetings

Happy New Year to everyone!!!

2023 is here and we at the White River Buddhist Temple are excited to be able to get together again for another year filled with the Dharma!

The new year is always a good time to look toward the future and to think about what we would like to do or accomplish. We label these as "New Year's Resolutions" and do our best to accomplish these goals by the end of the year.

Every year I would give myself at least one New Year's Resolution (usually one about me working out a bit more), but by the end of January I would already break it. Instead of giving up on my resolution, I would continue to do my best to keep it throughout the year, knowing I will break it again later on. Because of this, I like to recoin my own New Year's Resolution as my "Continuing Resolution" for the rest of the year.

In the teachings of Jodo Shinshu, Shinran Shonin understands that our foolish minds continue to forget about the infinite wisdom and compassion from Amida Buddha that works on us tirelessly. Meaning that we do not always have our minds on the Buddha of Immeasurable Light and Life constantly during every second of every day. Amida Buddha in understanding that our minds cannot be on the Buddha constantly embraces us because of this foolish mind that we have. Thus, Amida Buddha vowed and perfected the Eighteenth Vow which embraces all of us who have the foolish mind that cannot constantly praise the Buddha of Immeasurable Light and Life.

Just as my foolish mind forgets to accomplish my New Year's Resolution at the beginning of every year, my foolish mind forgets to think upon Amida Buddha. Shinran Shonin's teachings has taught me that it is okay to have a foolish mind and that when my foolish mind remembers to think upon Amida Buddha, to put my hands together in gassho and say Namo Amida Butsu in gratitude to the Buddha who constantly thinks of me, a foolish being with a foolish mind.

Gassho,
Rev. Cyndi Yasaki



Greetings from the President

Happy New Year!

This month, I look forward to having the board meeting to plan for the 2023 year as well as the upcoming 2024 Northwest District Convention. These kind of meetings are critical to ensure that we have a plan to address some of the temple's most pressing challenges. If you'd like to be a part of that meeting, we welcome your input and energy into the conversation - please reach out to me at president@wrbt.org.

This month, we will have our annual Ho-Onko service, Shinnenkai lunch, and bingo! We hope that you'll join us on January 22nd. If you would like to order a bento for our Shinnenkai party, please do so via the form included or online at: www.wrbt.org/shinnenkai2023 or call Kendall 206-947-1235.

Finally, I hope to see many of you in-person at the temple as we have many exciting activities, services, and events on the horizon! We will continue to stream each service/event live online into the future. I also strongly encourage all of you to get your updated COVID boosters and flu vaccinations to help keep the community safe.

Gassho,
Kendall

**January Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service
IN PERSON (and Streamed Live) Service**

January 8th at 10:30am

www.wrbt.org/service

COVID protocols will remain in place with well fitting masks and social distancing.

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

Harry Nakagawa	1977	Sachiko Nakayama	2005
Hajime Nakai	1977	Takio Hank Nishimoto	2006
Jack Kaoru Arima	1979	Yoshi Porky Nishimoto	2007
George Satoru Miyaki	1980	Shizuko Higuchi	2007
Ura Toyoshima	1983	Masami Iida	2008
Masao Tsuji	1987	George S. Ikuta	2008
Yoshito Tanaka	1991	Dorene Nakayama	2010
Minoru Koga	1992	Katherine Dodobara	2010
Yoshiko Mary Matsuyama	1994	Duane Hamamura	2011
Mary Yukie Hiranaka	1996	Frank Okimoto	2011
Chie Onchi	1996	Roy Hajime Taketa	2012
Shizumi Fujimura	1998	Hiroshi Takashima	2014
Akiko Shimatsu	2001	George Tsunoru Komoto	2016
Masao Tom Sutow	2001	Willard Creighton Ferrell	2018
Sunao Iwai	2001	Frank Tokio Komoto	2018
Masako Shimomura	2004	Cheri Mizuki	2020

1 year ~ 2022 3 year ~ 2021 7 year ~ 2017 13 year ~ 2011

17 year ~ 2007 25 year ~ 1999 33 year ~ 1991 50 year ~ 1974

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

WRBT Library Update

In the years leading up to COVID our library was well used. Many patrons checked out books and A.V. supplies, studied, and utilized many of our free resources. The room hosted meetings for formal and informal groups. People also came in before and after service for quiet reflection.

Of course COVID forced us to close, but now we are working to re-open in the new year. Thanks for all the books you donated. They are being sorted, labeled, and put in place on shelves and tabletops. We will have a few more categories of books as well. Bulletin boards are being updated. We're even replacing the 2020 calendar with the current model...2023!

The shelves will be fuller than they were before and space is at a premium. If you stored something in the library please remove it or talk to Mary.

We are missing some items including book stands used to showcase our rotating selection of books. Help in locating those lost or their replacement will be greatly appreciated. If you still have a book checked out, you are welcome to return it so others may also use it. If you're unsure, check our wood box cards containing the records of books checked out. It's located on the table to the left of the doorway as you walk in

We welcome back our existing users and extend an invitation to new users in 2023.

Ho-Onko Family Service

Followed by Shinnenkai Party

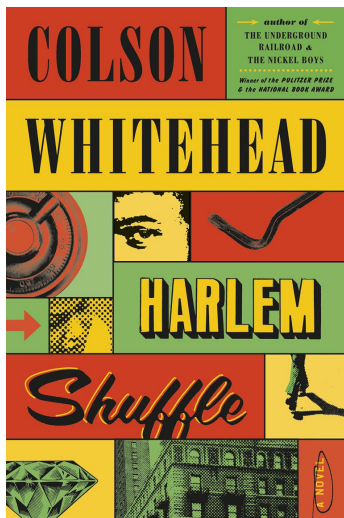
January 22, 2023 at 10:30am

Please join us for our Ho-Onko Family Service followed by our Shinnenkai Party and Bingo. Please pre-order your bento lunch to be enjoyed at the party. Bento is \$10 (our lunch is being partially funded by Norma Geenty in memory of her husband Bill) and **must be pre-ordered by January 13th**. You can send in the enclosed order form, call Kendall 206-947-2461, or order online: www.wrbt.org/shinnenkai2023

WELCOME REV. CYNDI!



At our Bonnenkai Service, we held a welcome luncheon for Rev. Cyndi. We are so excited to welcome her as our resident minister at White River!



White River Virtual Book Club
Next Meeting: 7:00pm on Sunday, January 8, 2023

Book: Harlem Shuffle by Colson Whitehead

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • From the two-time Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Underground Railroad* and *The Nickel Boys*, this gloriously entertaining novel is “fast-paced, keen-eyed and very funny ... about race, power and the history of Harlem all disguised as a thrill-ride crime novel” (*San Francisco Chronicle*).

Harlem Shuffle's ingenious story plays out in a beautifully recreated New York City of the early 1960s. It's a family saga masquerading as a crime novel, a hilarious morality play, a social novel about race and power, and ultimately a love letter to Harlem.

"Ray Carney was only slightly bent when it came to being crooked..." To his customers and neighbors on 125th street, Carney is an upstanding salesman of reasonably priced furniture, making a decent life for himself and his family. Cash is tight, especially with all those installment-plan sofas, so if his cousin Freddie occasionally drops off the odd ring or necklace, Ray doesn't ask where it comes from. He knows a discreet jeweler downtown who doesn't ask questions, either. Then Freddie falls in with a crew who plan to rob the Hotel Theresa—the "Waldorf of Harlem"—and volunteers Ray's services as the fence. The heist doesn't go as planned; they rarely do. Now Ray has a new clientele, one made up of shady cops, vicious local gangster two-bit pornographers, and other assorted Harlem lowlifes. Thus begins the internal tussle between Ray the striver and Ray the crook. As Ray navigates this double life, he begins to see who actually pulls the strings in Harlem. Can Ray avoid getting killed, save his cousin, and grab his share of the big score, all while maintaining his reputation as the go-to source for all your quality home furniture needs?

Future Books:

- February 12th @ 7pm - *Into the Beautiful North* by Luis Alberto Urrea
- March 12th @ 7pm - *Educated* by Tara Westover

WRBT Virtual Book Club

Educated
 By Tara Westover

March 12th at 7:00pm
 Sign up at wrbt.org/bookclub

Educated by Tara Westover

Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara's older brothers became violent. When another brother got himself into college, Tara decided to try a new kind of life. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge University. Only then would she wonder if she'd traveled too far, if there was still a way home.

WRBT Virtual Book Club

Into the Beautiful North
 By Luis Alberto Urrea

February 12th at 7:00pm
 Sign up at wrbt.org/bookclub

Into the Beautiful North by Luis Alberto Urrea

Nineteen-year-old Nayeli works at a taco shop in her Mexican village and dreams about her father, who journeyed to the US to find work. Recently, it has dawned on her that he isn't the only man who has left town. In fact, there are almost no men in the village—they've all gone north. While watching *The Magnificent Seven*, Nayeli decides to go north herself and recruit seven men—her own “Siete Magnificos”—to repopulate her hometown and protect it from the bandidos who plan on taking it over. Filled with unforgettable characters and prose as radiant as the Sinaloan sun, INTO THE BEAUTIFUL NORTH is the story of an irresistible young woman's quest to find herself on both sides of the fence.

Facilities Committee

JR, Charles, Mary, Sharon and Randy continue to work on the outside maintenance. JR, Randy and Charles got together and raked up the leaves, cleaned the gutters and inspected the roof on December 7th. Everything looks fine. Appreciation is expressed to Mary, Sharon, JR, Randy, Charles & also Chiho for making a delicious lunch.

Buddhist Women's Association

BWA@wrbt.org

Fundraiser results: Thanks to all who participated in our See's Candy fundraiser. \$490 was earned for the BWA treasury.

WR BWA dues for 2023 will be \$20/year. The \$5 increase was approved at our November General meeting.

Next BWA General meeting is after service on Sunday, March 19, 2023.

White River Valley Museum visit. Eight members and friends gathered at the Museum on December 8th to view the Festival of Trees and Mother's Love exhibit. We voted for our favorite trees. Please see a separate article on the BWA donation to Auburn Food Bank. Lunch afterward at Trotter's Restaurant was a great opportunity to enjoy each other's company.

If you have ideas for outings in 2023, please contact any BWA officer or email Georgette at oz.georgette@gmail.com or phone 206-854-7913. We would love your ideas to bring back learning and fun.

Flower and Fruit Offerings: There is an opportunity for you to bring flowers or fruit offerings to decorate our altar. The signup sheet with further information is in the hallway by the temple library.

If you are bringing flowers, please contact Sara Perrott in advance, so she knows to be on hand to arrange them on Sunday morning.

Fruit Offering is two each of four different kinds of any fruit.

BWA Donates to Food to Go/Backpack Program

On December 8, President Georgette Magnin, presented a check for \$500.00 to Debbie Christian. Georgette and several members, representing our BWA, met with Debbie Christian to provide funds to help the Food to Go / Backpack Program. Debbie said that the Food Bank currently serves 25 schools and 20 students, at each school, in the Auburn School District. The cost is \$300 to \$500 per week.

The Food Bank delivers the food to each participating school on Wednesday of each week and the counselors deliver the food to selected students on Friday. A 15-day pack will be distributed to cover the Christmas Holiday when the students are on break.



Left to right: Gayle Takemura, Katie Komoto, Debbie Christian, Georgette Magnin, Char Grinolds, Eva Chun, Darlene Yamada, Vivian Alexander

ABA

The ABA is planning spring field trips to the Rhododendron Botanical Gardens in Federal Way and a fall field trip to the Seattle Asian Art Museum in Volunteer Park. Both are open to all temple members and friends as available. Details have yet to be worked out.

Our next ZOOM meeting is Monday, February 13, 2023 at 1 pm.

Sign Up to Serve at the Ray

On Wednesday, 12/14, Char Grinolds, Gayle Takemura, Eva Chun, and Vivian Alexander prepared a meal and served about 40 – 50 people at the Ray of Hope in Auburn. We are getting ready for 2023 and need your help with this Temple outreach project. We will prepare food at Temple and serve at the Ray at 5:00 pm on the fourth Wednesday of the month. The dates for the first 3 months are: January 25, February 22, and March 22. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board across from the kitchen. If you have any questions, please contact Vivian at vivianalexander97@gmail.com or text 206-992-6708.

**2022 Pledge Totals
November 1 - 30, 2022**

Thank you for your support in 2022!

Date	PLEDGES DECLARED		Contributors	DOLLARS COLLECTED	
	Additional	Total		Additional	Total
Dec 4, 2022	\$400	\$37,690	50	\$1,075	\$36,140
<u>For Comparison</u>					
Nov 30, 2021	\$5,780	\$43,810	54	\$5,455	\$43,080
Under \$500: Kendall Kosai					

Donations

The Temple gratefully acknowledges the following donations received and recorded from November 15th through December 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, 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>.

Total Donations Received - \$13,485

Shotsuki (Monthly) Memorials

M/M Sharon & Mark Kosai	December Shotsuki
Ms. Susie Taketa	In memory of Shima Taketa and Josie Taketa
Ms. Marcia Kato	In memory of Shima Taketa and Josie Taketa
Mrs. Katie Komoto	In memory of Shima Taketa and Josie Taketa
Mrs. Lilly Kato	In memory of Shima Taketa
M/M James & Chiho Pewitt	December Shotsuki
Mrs. Connie Toda	In memory of Kiyo Toda
Ms. Kelsey Asato	In memory of Roger Kawasaki
Ms. Tessa Asato	In memory of Roger Kawasaki
Ms. Georgette Magnin	In memory of Joyce Anahori Ding
Ms. Kathryn Natsuhara	In memory of Chiyokichi Natsuhara
Mr. Charles Natsuhara	In memory of Chiyokichi Natsuhara
Mrs. Joan Rodgers	In memory of Teki Fujimura
Mrs. Tomeko Taketa	In memory of Harry Taketa
Ms. Lorraine Blackler	In memory of George, Mary, & Aileen Hiranaka
Mrs. Margaret Teramoto	In memory of Fujiro & Setsu Yanagawa Kay & Tetsuo Yanagawa, Josie Taketa, Mary Mizuta

Memorials

M/M Alan & Janis Yamada	In memory of Esther Kojima
Ms. Kathryn Natsuhara	In memory of Anne Mariko Larue
Mr. Charles Natsuhara	In memory of Anne Mariko Larue

Eitaikyo

Mrs. Yuki Iwai	M/M Alvin & Mitsuko Terada	Mrs. Joan Rodgers
M/M Itsuo & Yuri Shiotani	M/M Dennis & Alva Nishimura	Mrs. Tomeko Taketa
M/M James & Ikuko Dodobara	M/M Bob & Mitzi Akiyama	Mrs. Alice Nishimoto
M/M Tamio & Takako Uchida	Ms. Darlene Yamada	Mrs. Katie Komoto
Ms. Vivian Alexander	Mrs. Charlene Grinolds	Ms. Kathryn Natsuhara
Roger Fukai & Shirley Kanda	M/M Sharon & Mark Kosai	Mr. Randy Okimoto
Mr. Charles Natsuhara	Ms. Kiyomi Taketa-Ozanich	Mrs. Pat Kawabata
M/M Wayne & Sally Mizuki	M/M Eva & Randy Chun	Ms. Mayumi Terada

Bodhi Day

M/M Sharon & Mark Kosai	M/M Dennis & Alva Nishimura	Mr. Randy Okimoto
M/M Alvin & Mitsuko Terada	M/M Wayne & Sally Mizuki	M/M Eva & Randy Chun

Food Bank Donations

Mrs. Charlene Grinolds	M/M Sharon & Mark Kosai	Ms. Georgette Magnin
Ms. Kathryn Natsuhara	Mr. Charles Natsuhara	Mr. Randy Okimoto
White River ABA		

General Donations

M/M James & Diane Cowles	In appreciation
M/M Chris & June Yasaki	In appreciation
Mr. Don Kato	In appreciation
M/M James & Joy Nakata	In appreciation
Mr. Roger Fukai	In appreciation
M/M Wayne & Sally Mizuki	Year end
King County	Host vaccination site
United Way of King County	

Newsletter Reminder

January newsletter articles are due **Sunday, December 15th**. Please send articles to newsletter@wrbt.org.

Save a stamp ~ Save a tree ~ Save \$! We encourage you to sign up for our newsletter by email if this is an option for you. **Contact newsletter@wrbt.org or call 253-833-1442 to opt out of the hard copy newsletter.**



****Views expressed in articles by individuals do not necessarily represent the views of, and should not be attributed to the Temple or Sangha members****

Formal Temple Office Hours by Appointment Only

For ALL ministerial needs (including emergencies), please call Rev. Cyndi Yasaki's cell phone. If your call is not answered immediately, please leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Temple office

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