

The White Path

Living the Life of the Nembutsu

WHITE RIVER BUDDHIST TEMPLE

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Minister's Greetings

In January, I had the opportunity to talk to high school students about Buddhism. It was an enlightening experience, and I was happy that they were interested to learn about a religion that most of them do not identify with. My hope is that I was able to pique their interest in learning new things and hope this sparks more learning as they begin their journeys outside of school.

What I touched on in one of the classes was the difference between “wanting” and “needing”. To differentiate between the two, here are the definitions I will be using: “Wanting” is the desire for things (physical and nonphysical) that we do not have. This does not necessarily mean goals, as goals are important to strive for. “Needing” is the desire for things (physical and nonphysical) important to surviving (food, shelter, clothes, medication, love, etc.).

Every human being has different levels of “wanting” and “needing” and it is important to realize when one becomes excessive. For example, I would eventually like to own my own house, but I do not need anything bigger than a nice two-story suburban family home. Does this stop me from looking at the houses that my husband and I have deemed too expensive? No, a part of me wants something more than I need.

In Buddhism, it is about the middle way. Siddhartha Gautama (the being who would become Shakyamuni Buddha) lived in a palace for the first part of his life. He was able to acquire anything he wanted. When Siddhartha became an aesthetic (a monk), he stopped himself from having things he needed. Thus, he became emaciated and almost died. Upon becoming enlightened, Siddhartha Gautama, now Shakyamuni Buddha, realized that the middle way is the way for beings to live. “Wanting” too much is not healthy nor is not having enough so that one is “needing” things.

So the next time you “want” something, think about if you desire it or if it is something that you “need”.

Gassho,
Rev. Cyndi Yasaki



Greetings from the President

In late January, the board and other temple members gathered to plan for 2023 and beyond on key temple issues including fundraising, membership, the 2024 convention, and more! We need everyone to help us continue to grow and become more sustainable as an organization. Your ideas are needed!

I'm pleased to share that late last year White River Buddhist Temple was accepted to adopt a road! This means on a quarterly basis, we will go out and clean up the road. Our “adopted” road includes 37th Street NW from B street to Auburn Way North. Our first clean up is slated for mid-February (date TBD) and I hope you'll join us! This month, we'll also hold our semi-annual membership meeting on February 12th! Please join us.

Finally, three years into the pandemic, I recently caught the latest COVID-19 variant sitting next to someone at a work dinner. Of the 13 colleagues at the dinner, 6 were infected. My symptoms were very mild and I credit the recent bivalent boosters for that. I disclose this to all of you all because I want to be clear how easy it is to catch this new variant and to take great care for each other as a community. To ensure that we are protecting our temple elders and members, my ask to you all is if you don't feel well (even if you're testing negative), please stay home to be respectful of everyone.

Thank you, all, for everything you do.

Gassho,
Kendall

February Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service

IN PERSON (and Streamed Live) Service

February 5th at 10:30am

www.wrbt.org/service

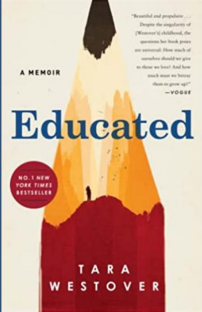
COVID protocols will remain in place with well fitting masks and social distancing.

According to our Temple records, the following people passed away in the month of 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 Schilthorath	2006
Kart Funai	1980	Dorothy Yaguchi	2010
Steven Takeo Tsuji	1987	Lily Yoshie Komoto	2016
Michael James Hamasaki	1991		

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



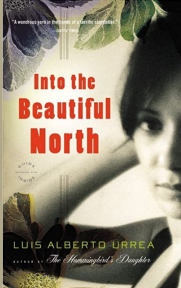
WRBT Virtual Book Club

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.

Buddhism Discussion
January 29th After Service

Right after service on 1/29 we will be having our 6th group discussion (a portion of the WRBT Education Plan) on “Applying Basic Buddhist tenets to Guidelines to Live By.” The goal here is to present in layperson's language the teachings of the Buddha as presented by Shinran Shonin. We have set aside about an hour for this session with 1/3 (to 1/2) being presentation by a lay person with the remaining time left for questions, comments, and (most importantly) experiences. While the information presented is meant for those with little knowledge of Buddhism, hopefully an experienced Buddhist may benefit from such a refresher (it always helps me as I prepare the presentation material). Everyone is welcome.

February 26 Service Note

We will be having a hybrid service on this day where we will be live-streaming the BCA Eitaikyo Service.

The time for this service has not been announced so please watch your email and Temple calendar bit.ly/WRBTcal (case sensitive) for the announcement. You can always contact the office 253-833-1442, office@wrbt.org

Buddhist Women's Association

BWA@wrbt.org

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

If you have ideas for outings or other activity, 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 learning and fun to our gatherings.

Service Volunteer: There is an opportunity for you to chair our services, bring flowers or fruit offerings to decorate our altar. Online signup is encouraged - bit.ly/WRBTservice (case sensitive).

If you are bringing flowers and need assistance with arranging them, 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.

Service Volunteer Sign Up

Sign up to help with weekly services.

- Chair service
- Bring and/or arrange flowers for the onaijin
- Bring fruit for the onaijin

Sign Up at bit.ly/WRBTservice (case sensitive). Contact office@wrbt.org with questions.

Newsletter Reminder

January newsletter articles are due **Sunday, February 19th**. 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.**

ABA

Auburn Food Bank Collection - In past years, the Adult Buddhist Association sponsored a collection of food items for the Auburn Food Bank during the holidays. This year the ABA decided it would be better to collect donations and allow the Food Bank to use the funds where needed the most. The ABA started the collection with a \$200 contribution. It now wants to thank all additional contributors. A total of \$3,486 was collected for the Auburn Food Bank. In addition, the temple will request \$3,000 of matching funds from the BCA Social Welfare Fund. Thank you again to all contributors who made this a very successful fund drive.

The next ABA ZOOM meeting is February 13, 2023, at 1 pm.

Facilities Committee

Kendall will be organizing an adopt the street clean-up event sometime in February. If interested in helping, please let Kendall know.

BYOM

Bring Your Own Mug



As part of our ongoing efforts to reduce waste and save our planet, we are asking you to bring your own reusable coffee mug/cup. Feel free to label and leave your mug at the temple to use next time!

2022 Pledge Totals

December 1 - 31, 2022

Thank you for your support in 2022!

PLEDGES DECLARED			DOLLARS COLLECTED		
Date	Additional	Total	Contributors	Additional	Total
Jan 9, 2023	\$4,265	\$41,955	62	\$5,815	\$41,955
<u>For Comparison</u>					
Jan 12, 2022	\$3,540	\$41,170	65	\$3,890	\$46,790
Name and Amount Not Specified for Publishing: Anonymous #14 Anonymous #15 Anonymous #16 Anonymous #17 Anonymous #18 Anonymous #19 Anonymous #20 Anonymous #21					
Amount Not Specified for Publishing: Himeko Suyematsu					
Under \$500: James R. Pewitt Anonymous #22					
\$500- \$999: Connie Toda					
\$1,000- \$4,999:					

2022 pledge tax letters and 2023 pledge forms will be mailed out in early February. 2023 Pledge forms can also be found on the bulletin board in the front foyer.

Donations

The Temple gratefully acknowledges the following donations received and recorded from December 15th through January 11th. 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 donations made in 2022 will be mailed by the end of January**

Total Donations Received - \$10,345

Shotsuki (Monthly) Memorials

M/M Sharon & Mark Kosai	January Shotsuki
Mrs. Katie Komoto	In memory of Roy Taketa, George Komoto, Frank Komoto
Mrs. Audrie Hayes	In memory of Mas Sutow
M/M James & Chiho Pewitt	January Shotsuki
Mrs. Monica Furtik	In memory of Sunao Iwai
M/M Mitsuko & Alvin Terada	January Shotsuki
Mrs. Charlene Grinolds	In memory of Masao Tsuji
Mr. Randy Okimoto	In memory of Frank Okimoto and Ura Toyoshima
M/M Wayne & Sally Mizuki	In memory of Cheri Mizuki
Mrs. Joan Rodgers	In memory of Shizumi Fujimura
Mrs. Alice Nishimoto	In memory of Yoshi Nishimoto

Memorials

Mrs. Sharon Ito	In memory of parents Frank & Shizuko Natsuhara
Ms. Erika Enomoto	In memory of Kerry Taniguchi
M/M Bonnie & Dennis LaRue	In memory of Anne Mariko LaRue
Mrs. Yoshiko Kozai	In memory of Anne Mariko LaRue
Rev. & Mrs. Yoshiaki Takemura	In memory of Anne Mariko LaRue
Mrs. Kazuko Kobara	In memory of Anne Mariko LaRue
Roger Fukai & Shirley Kanda	In memory of Anne Mariko LaRue

Eitaikyo, Bodhi Day

Mrs. Norma Geenty

Joya-e, Shusho-e

Ms. Hinako Uchida	M/M Alvin & Mitsuko Terada	Ms. Miyuki Peterson
M/M James & Chiho Pewitt	Saori Matsushita	

Bonnenkai

Ms. Miyuki Peterson	Mrs. Gayle Takemura	Mrs. Norma Geenty
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Shinnenkai

Mrs. Norma Geenty	M/M Don & Judy Gardner	Mrs. Gayle Takemura
M/M David & Joan Hoskin	M/M Wayne & Sally Mizuki	Ms. Sara Perrott
Ms. Darlene Yamada		

Food Bank Donations

Roger Fukai and Shirley Kanda	Anonymous
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General Donations

Kiwanis Club of Kent AM	In appreciation - kitchen use
Mrs. Audrie Hayes	Newsletter
Anonymous	In appreciation

*With Deepest
Sympathy*

White River Buddhist Temple extends its deepest sympathy to the family of Sharon Hamamura Harris (daughter of the late Mac & Rits Hamamura), who passed away in December 2022. We appreciated her kindness, as she has always been very generous to our Temple when donating handicrafts and plants for our fundraisers.

****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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(253) 833-1442

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