

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

Rev. Cynthia Yasaki, Resident Minister

Temple Office Phone: 253-833-1442

Rev. Cyndi's Cell Phone: 253-307-3543

Website: www.wrbt.org

Email: office@wrbt.org

Email: rev.jikaku.yasaki@wrbt.org



Minister's Greetings

When writing this article for the month of September, the devastation of the Maui Wildfires is fresh in my mind. It has only been over a week and we still have not received accurate information on how much Maui was affected, especially in the city of Lahaina. The pictures not only show how horrifying the fires, but are also heartbreaking to see how much the community has lost.

As someone who has never been to Lahaina, I can only imagine the beauty that was lost. All of the shops, religious centers, and community centers that made the city unique. All of the artwork on buildings, street corners, and parks celebrating a diverse community. All of the friendly people, waving carefreely to each other in greeting of another beautiful day in Hawaii.

If I ever get the chance to go to Lahaina, I would never be able to see the beauty that was there. Not knowing what was affected, I will probably never get to see the original local shops, religious centers, and community centers which made the city unique. I will probably never get to see the artwork on the buildings, street corners, and community centers that celebrated their diverse community. I will probably never get to see people waving carefreely to each other to greet another beautiful day knowing they are doing their best to live after this disaster.

I am then reminded of one of the birds that reside in Amida Buddha's Pure Land. The phoenix is a mythical bird that is said to have a beautiful voice and to be born from ash. A phoenix perfectly symbolizes Lahaina and the community rallying around it. After such devastating wildfires, I see a community rising from the ashes to rebuild. I see groups from all over the world raising their voices in support and asking what they can do to help those who have been affected by the tragedy. I see the community in the shape of a beautiful phoenix rising from the ashes of these fires to become a symbol of resilience.

Namo Amida Butsu. #mauistrong

Gassho,

Rev. Cyndi Yasaki



Greetings from the President

This month we return to our first in-person Northwest District Buddhist Convention since the beginning of the pandemic. With a full schedule and wonderful guest speaker, we hope that you will find the time to attend the event and support our friends at the Tacoma Buddhist Temple. More information can be found at www.tacomabt.org.

Last month, I had the opportunity to attend the 60th Anniversary of the March on Washington, a commemoration of the civil rights where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech. Tens of thousands attended the event including a diverse set of communities, faiths, unions, and advocates. The event was inspiring and a reminder of the importance of working together to make our communities a better place. I hope that our Temple will continue to bring forward a vision of shared cooperation with others and welcome

Finally, with the recent rise in COVID cases, the Temple will find opportunities to partner to ensure our Sangha gets access to the most up to date booster shot. More to come, but in the meantime, please be safe! Protecting the safety of our members is a top priority!

Gassho,

Kendall

September Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service

IN PERSON (and Streamed Live) Service

September 10th at 10:30am

www.wrbt.org/service

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

| | | | |
|-----------------------|------|-----------------------|------|
| Rikuye Kawasaki | 1975 | Takejiro Hama | 2009 |
| Charley Miyoshi | 1983 | Edward Tanaka | 2013 |
| Matsuo Sakagami | 1988 | Lloyd Herndon | 2014 |
| Jackie Kawasaki Wills | 1991 | Nancy Tomiye Fujikawa | 2015 |
| Edwin Arima | 1997 | John H Hamakami Sr | 2017 |
| Joe Toshio Nishimoto | 2001 | Helen H Mizuki | 2017 |
| Jack Schilthroat | 2002 | John Kitagawa | 2020 |
| May Fumie Kajikami | 2003 | William Geenty | 2021 |
| Janis Tsuneko Ikuta | 2005 | | |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 year ~ 2022 | 3 year ~ 2021 | 7 year ~ 2017 | 13 year ~ 2011 |
| 17 year ~ 2007 | 25 year ~ 1999 | 33 year ~ 1991 | 50 year ~ 1974 |

MEMORIAL SERVICES To remember those that we have lost, Jodo Shinshu has the tradition of holding memorial services in certain years after their passing. If you would like to schedule a service for your loved one who passed in the following years, please contact Rev. Cyndi via email at rev.jikaku.yasaki@wrbt.org.

Buddhism Discussion

We will resuming our Buddhism Discussion sessions with new topics. We will be announcing the first session date and topic soon so stay tuned!

Women Talking by Miriam Toews

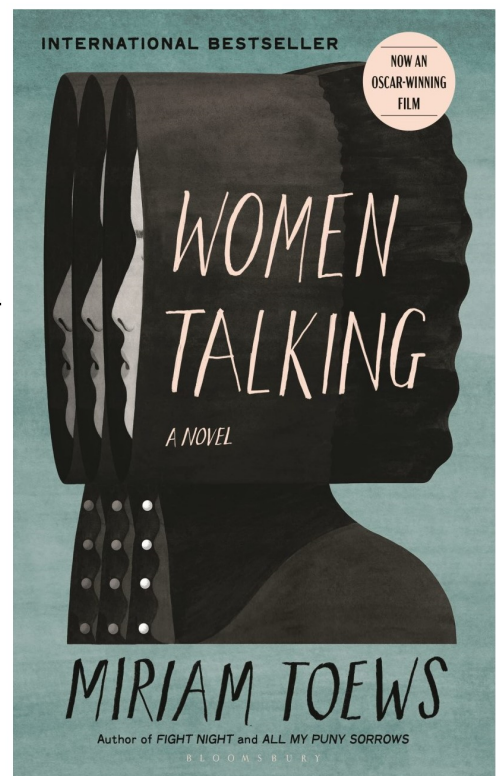
Sept. 10, 2023 @ 7pm

INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER based on a real-life event

One evening, eight Mennonite women climb into a hay loft to conduct a secret meeting. For the past two years, each of these women, and more than a hundred other girls in their colony, has been repeatedly violated in the night by demons coming to punish them for their sins. Now that the women have learned they were in fact drugged and attacked by a group of men from their own community, they are determined to protect themselves and their daughters from future harm.

While the men of the colony are off in the city, attempting to raise enough money to bail out the rapists and bring them home, these women—all illiterate, without any knowledge of the world outside their community and unable even to speak the language of the country they live in—have very little time to make a choice: Should they stay in the only world they’ve ever known or should they dare to escape?

Based on real events and told through the “minutes” of the women’s all-female symposium, Toews’s masterful novel uses wry, politically engaged humor to relate this tale of women claiming their own power to decide.



- October 15 @ 7pm - The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency by Alexander McCall Smith
- November 12 @ 7pm - Violetta by Isabel Allende
- December 10 @ 7pm - Master Slave Husband Wife by Ilyon Woo

Buddhist Women's Association

BWA@wrbt.org

Crafts and Coffee is back. Thursday, Sept 21 and October 26, from 10:30am to 12:30pm. Bring a craft to show or work on. Optional no-host lunch follows. All are welcome; you do not need to be a Temple or BWA member.

WR BWA Fall general meeting scheduled for Sunday, November 19, after service. Please submit agenda items to Georgette at BWA@wrbt.org by September 30.

Georgette's observations. I'd like to thank all who volunteered their time and talents to create a wonderful Obon. So glad the community gathered to enjoy this joyous event.

BWA members were involved in many activities before, during, and after Obon. I was able to take a bit of time from my efforts on the rice cooking committee to observe. I was very happy to see that both men and women were setting up the lights and booths. You wouldn't get me up on that lift to string the wires. Many had to remember skills that we had not used for several years. Or learn new ones such as frying dumplings and filling somen salad pouches.

So good to see families and friends gathered around, in the bleachers, under the canopies. The hondo/chapel was full for the Obon service. The chanting sounded so rich and full. Wouldn't it be great to have a full hondo more often?

There was a lovely crescent moon floating in the western sky for our closing set of dances. Blinky rings cheerfully flashed reflecting our joy. The dance instructors and leaders looked assured and graceful through the whole event. So many smiles and happy chatter as the crowds filtered their way home. Thank you to everyone at Obon to create many special moments for me to treasure in future times.

Gassho (My sincere thanks and gratitude), Georgette

2023 Bazaar**Sunday October 22, Noon to 3:00 PM**

The temple has started planning for this year's Bazaar. Like last year food items will be pre-order, but customers will be coming inside for pick-up. We plan to have produce, bake sale and gifts/handicrafts. Our next planning meeting will be a Zoom meeting on Wednesday Sept. 6th at 7 PM. Contact Charles Natsuhara if you would like to help chair any of the committees or have any questions.

Newsletter Reminder

October newsletter articles are due **Sunday, September 17th.** Please send articles to newsletter@wrbt.org. 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

The ABA is in summer recess. Our next scheduled ZOOM meeting is Monday, September 11, 2023. Our next event is a field trip to see the Seattle Mariners vs. LA Angels and Shohei Otani on Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at 1 pm. Tickets are limited so if interested, be sure to sign up on the sheet on the back bulletin board. At this time, we have 7 persons signed up and 7 tickets remain available. A fall field trip to the Seattle Asian Art Museum in Volunteer Park is also being planned during late September or early October.

Service Volunteer Sign Up

Sign up to help with weekly services.

- ◆ Chair service
- ◆ Bring and arrange flowers for the onaijin - we can help arrange if you wish.
- ◆ Bring fruit for the onaijin
- ◆ Ring Kansho before service



Sign Up at bit.ly/WRBTservice (case sensitive) or contact office@wrbt.org.

2024 Obon Odori Exhibit

In July of 2024 the White River Valley Museum is planning a temporary exhibit telling the story the temple's Obon Odori. The exhibit will feature interviews, pictures and artifacts. If you have a story about Obon and are willing to be interviewed please contact Kendall Kosai or Charles Natsuhara. Also the temple is looking for pictures, especially from the Christopher temple, and the 70's and 80's. We will be giving updates as the planning for the exhibit progresses.

OObon Committee

Thank you and Congratulations to all temple members and volunteers that made our 2023 White River Buddhist Temple Bon Odori Festival a resounding success. Attendance and participation was outstanding! Everything progressed smoothly without incident. As for finances, we sold out at most of our food booths and finance reports indicate that revenues and net income significantly exceeded our 2019 Bon Odori. Reviews from participants were also positive.

During our post-Obon wrap-up meeting it was decided to form a "Obon modernization Committee" to work on updating the Obon wiring and lanterns (which are breaking down) and the kori machines. Both are more than 50 years old. Volunteers for the committee include: Randy Okimoto, Barbara Aregger, JR Pewitt, and maybe Jack Ibuki. If interested in serving on the committee, please contact Randy Okimoto at reokimoto@comcast.net.

Donations

The Temple gratefully acknowledges the following donations received and recorded from July 18th through August 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>.

Total Donations Received - \$ 3521.00

Shotsuki (Monthly) Memorials

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Mr. Don Maekawa | In memory of Zentaro Maekawa |
| M/M Yick & Nina Chin | In memory of Zentaro Maekawa |
| Ms. Miyuki Peterson | In memory of George Uchida |
| Ms. Georgette Magnin | In memory of Alice Arita |
| Mrs. Tomeko Taketa | In memory of James Komoto and Amy Kato |
| Mrs. Lilly Kato | August Shotsuki |
| Mrs. Katie Komoto | In memory of James Komoto |
| M/M Sharon & Mark Kosai | In memory of James Komoto |
| Ms. Susan Taketa | In memory of James Komoto |
| Ms. Marcia Kato | In memory of James Komoto |
| Mrs. Charlene Grinolds | In memory of Tomi Tsuji |
| Ms. Laurie Tanaka | In memory of Tsuki Tanaka |
| Mrs. Alva Nishimura | August Shotsuki |

Obon

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------|
| M/M Bob & Mitzi Akiyama | Ms. Miyuki Peterson | Mrs. Norma Geenty |
| Mr. Dennis Yamashita | | |
| Mrs. Mitzi Yamamoto | In memory of Toshi Yamamoto & Jay Murashige | |
| Dr. & Mrs. Allan & Ronalee Mizoguchi | In memory of Hiroto & Kiyomi Mizoguchi | |

Bon Odori

| | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| M/M James & Ikuko Dodobara | Seattle YBA | Ms. Darlene Yamada |
| Mr. Ron Hamakawa | Mrs. Norma Geenty | Mrs. Charlene Grinolds |
| M/M Roger Fukai & Shirley Kanda | M/M Randy & Eva Chun | Ms. Emi Kuioka |

Bon Odori Dance Sponsorship

| | | |
|---|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Okimoto Family | Toyoshima Family | M/M Roger Fukai & Shirley Kanda |
| Ms. Sara Perrott | Mr. Dennis Asato | Ms. Georgette Magnin |
| M/M Mike & Louise Kato, Mrs. Rosie Kato | | Natsuhara Family |
| Ms. Pamela Okano | | |

Memorial Correction

From August Newsletter

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Ms. Midori Omori | In memory of Isoko Yoshihara |
| Mrs. Bette Terada | In memory of Kinuye Fukuzawa Terada |

General Donations

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Ms. Clara Beard | In appreciation |
|-----------------|-----------------|

2023 Pledge Totals

July 1 - 31, 2023

Thank you for your support in 2023!

| Date | PLEDGES DECLARED | | Contributors | DOLLARS COLLECTED | |
|----------------|------------------|----------|--------------|-------------------|----------|
| | Additional | Total | | Additional | Total |
| August 9, 2023 | \$1,500 | \$34,740 | 40 | \$1,785 | \$29,630 |

For Comparison

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------|----------|----|---------|----------|
| August 11, 2022 | \$1,500 | \$31,940 | 39 | \$2,095 | \$28,340 |
|-----------------|---------|----------|----|---------|----------|

Name and Amount Not Specified for Publishing: Anonymous #10 Anonymous #11

Amount Not Specified for Publishing:

Under \$500:

\$500- \$999:

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

****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

office@wrbt.org
(253) 833-1442

Rev. Cyndi Yasaki

rev.jikaku.yasaki@wrbt.org
(253) 307-3543

Mailing Address: White River Buddhist Temple
PO Box 855
Auburn, WA 98071 - 0855

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