

The White Path

Living the Life of the Nembutsu

WHITE RIVER BUDDHIST TEMPLE

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Reverend Koshin Ogui, Resident Minister

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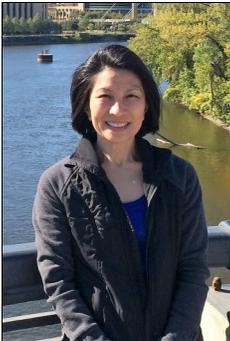
Greetings from Reverend Koshin Ogui

Mayumi and I were very honored to visit with my three sisters (ages 89, 86, and 82) and brother (75), and her brother. We were especially honored to visit with her mother (age 92) during our visit to Japan.

We realized that each one with their own Karmic path, is living their lives at their best of their abilities, which was very impressive. We truly realized that we are all different but we are all good as we are and what we could do.

We are thankful to the White River Buddhist Temple sangha for allowing us to visit with our families in Japan.

Gassho, Sensei & Mayumi



Message from the Chairperson

A recent article in the Tacoma News Tribune about a church closing was brought to my attention. The full article is here. <http://bit.ly/whitneyclosure>

After 109 years, Whitney United Methodist Church in Puyallup is closing their doors. I am familiar with this church as this is one of the churches my husband attended as a child. I attended many fundraisers at this church which used to be right down the road from Tacoma Buddhist Temple until it was sold in 1999 to UW Tacoma, and they relocated to Puyallup.

Like White River Buddhist Temple, Whitney UMC was founded by Japanese immigrants and the church built after holding services in members' homes. Whitney closed its doors during World War II when the members were sent to internment camps and they reopened their doors after returning to the area. The church was not only a place for religious practice, it was a social hub.

Whitney UMC struggled with a declining membership, which has been evident over many years. From the Puyallup Herald: "We were weighing the options to close when there was a lot of us here, and we could do it in a celebratory way to honor our traditions and our legacy," Yokota-Love [Whitney's Pastor] said. "I think that's what built this Japanese American community to be close knit: the connection to our culture, our ancestors, our heritage and celebrating who we are."

It's sad to see these events unfold for the remaining members of Whitney UMC and I wish nothing but the best for the remaining members. While I can't speak for Whitney UMC and all of the reasons for their closure, I see parallels with our Temple. We are a primarily Japanese American congregation and have seen the decline in membership as generations move away and find other places to meet their social needs. While I agree with Whitney UMC and embrace the idea that we maintain the connection to our culture, our ancestors, and our heritage, I also believe that in order to remain a relevant and vibrant organization in the future, we must change our mindset of doing the same thing that we have been doing in the past. We need to truly open our doors to all of those who wish to learn about the Dharma, encourage them to share their experiences, and make everyone feel welcome.

This is exactly what our Planning committee is working towards – developing a plan to reach out to all of those that are interested in the Dharma and create a Temple for future generations. We have been very fortunate that we have very strong support from our Sangha. We need to always remember where we came from and those who have made our Temple what it is. Therefore, input from those that attend Temple regularly, those that attend for special events only, and those that no longer attend are equally important.

Continued on Page 2.

...Continued from Page 1. (Chairman's Report)

To provide us with any input (no matter how insignificant you think it is), please contact anyone from the Planning Committee (Roger Fukai, Joe Watanabe, Lilly Kato, Greg Watson, Bill Geenty, Ryan Kosai, Sharon Kosai) or send an email to planning@wrbt.org. Together we can look forward to a bright future for White River Buddhist Temple.

Sharon Kosai

PS: Please join me for "Pastries with the President" on Sunday, July 17th at 10:30am. No agenda, No donation, No catch. Just coffee, pastries, and good conversation with your fellow Sangha members!

**July Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service
July 3, 2016 at 11:00 AM**

According to our Temple records, the following people passed away in the month of July. Family and friends are cordially invited to attend the Shotsuki Hoyo Monthly Memorial Service on Sunday, July 3rd at 11:00 am. If any names have inadvertently been omitted, please email office@wrbt.org or speak with Rev. Ogui to correct our records.

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

1 year ~ 2015	3 year ~ 2014	7 year ~ 2010
13 year ~ 2004	17 year ~ 2000	25 year ~ 1992

DESIGNATED MEMORIAL SERVICE YEARS To schedule a family memorial service, please contact office@wrbt.org or speak with Rev Ogui.

Obon Service Notice

In this month's newsletter you will find an invitation for the Obon/Hatsubon service, to be held on Sunday, July 10th. An envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

For those who receive their newsletter electronically, envelopes will be available at the Temple.

BON ODORI FESTIVAL UPDATE

The White River Bon Odori Festival will be held on Saturday, July 23, 2016 from 4 to 9:30 pm. The planning process is moving along smoothly as nearly all committee chairpersons have been decided. In an attempt to reduce last year's staffing problems, we have consolidated some booths. Although Bon Odori is by far our most popular event, it is also a challenge to produce since members need to be able to enjoy the festive dancing in addition to cooking food and staffing booths. For those reasons, we have implemented an outreach program to try to attract volunteers from outside the temple, with limited success. Since our initial recruitment process has been completed, we will now open it up to a voluntary sign up process. Look at the white board at the Temple for up-to-date committee information. We also plan to make an online sign up application available. If you have not yet been contacted and wish to help or if you have friends or relatives that would like to help, please let me know their names and phone numbers and/or e-mail addresses. If you have any questions, please contact Bon Odori Chairman, Randy Okimoto at 253 859 2605 or reokimoto@comcast.net.

TIMELESS FAVORITES COOKING CLASS

We will be skipping the July Timeless Favorites Cooking Class. The next session will be held on Saturday, August 6th at 10:00 am. Stay tuned to what we'll be cooking!

Donations and April Fundraisers

The Temple gratefully acknowledges the following donations received and recorded from May 16th through June 9th. Please contact Ron Murakami, Treasurer, regarding omissions or corrections by phone (253) 845-3062, or by email to ron.murakami@comcast.net. Due to Internet publishing, amount is deleted.

Memorial Day Services

Anonymous	Stan Kondo
Marcia Kajimura Beck & Chris Beck	M/M Mark & Sharon Kosai
Mrs Lorraine Blackler	Mrs Ruth Nakanishi
Bill Glasser	M/M Allan & Kayoko Terada
Irene Goto	Mrs Margaret Teramoto
Donald & Ilene Grome	Toyoshima Family

Monthly (Shotsuki) Memorials and Other Memorial Donations

Mrs Lorraine Blackler	In memory of Yuki Kitagawa
Mrs Yuki Iwai	In memory of Shina Iwai
Mrs Amy Kato	In memory of Naomi Martin
Ms Joanne Kitagawa	In memory of Yuki Kitagawa
Mr John Kitagawa	In memory of Yuki Kitagawa
M/M Mark & Sharon Kosai	June Shotsuki Hoyo
Mrs Ruth Nakanishi	In memory of Bachan & Sutt
Mr Charles Natsuhara	In memory of Shizuko Natsuhara
Ms Kathryn Natsuhara	In memory of Shizuko Natsuhara
Mrs Alice Nishimoto	In memory of Shizuka & Ben Nishimoto
Mabel Nishizaki	Memorial Day in memory of Elaine
M/M Dennis & Judy Nomura	In memory of Hatsue Mizuki-Pike
Mrs Betty Tanaka	In memory of Aiko Horiuchi
Ms Laurie Tanaka	In memory of Aiko Horiuchi
M/M Ron & Suzuko Terada	Memorial Day in memory of Minoru & Yayeko Terada
Mr Joe Watanabe	In memory of Gary Watanabe

Other Donations

M/M Randy & Eva Chun	Gotan-e Service
Cris & Melissa Cyders	General donation from Upton-Cyders Giving Account
Shirley Kanda & Roger Fukai	Gotan-e Service
Shirley Kanda & Roger Fukai	Gift In-kind donation of Teachers Appreciation Lunch
Mrs Charlene Grinolds	Donation for plants
Mr John Hamakami	Gotan-e Service
Mrs Rosie Kato	Gotan-e Service
M/M Wayne & Sally Mizuki	Gotan-e Service
Mrs Alice Nishimoto	Gotan-e Service

2016 Pledge Totals

May 1-31, 2016

Thank you for your support in 2016!

Date	PLEDGES DECLARED			DOLLARS COLLECTED	
	Additional	Total	Contributors	Additional	Total
06/01/16	\$1,800	\$26,010	46	\$3,370	\$17,385

Amount Not Specified for Internet Publishing

Charles Natsuhara

Newsletter by Email

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email, please contact newsletter@wrbt.org



BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Year Round Donations

April - May - June

Non-Perishable Foods & Toiletries (canned & dried foods, peanut butter, toothbrush/
toothbrush/toothpaste, shampoo, etc)

We will continue to disperse donations to various non-profits.

The 2016 BWA Cabinet:	President	Norma Geenty
	Vice President	Darlene Yamada
	Secretary	Connie Toda
	Treasurer	Pat Kawabata
	Auditor	Gayle Takemura

Green Box Year-Round Collections. Please keep those year-round donations coming – toiletries and food are in demand for children during the summer.

May 16, Mon, 3:15-7:00 p.m. - VA Puget Sound Fisher House – Another great meal, consisting of teriyaki chicken, salad, rice, asparagus, spinach and cookies, was prepared for the Fisher House/VA Hospital patients and their families. Thank you to Charlene, Karen, Wayne, Sally, Gayle, and Lilly for your support. The next meal is planned for Tuesday, July 26.

May 22, Sun, 12 noon – BWA general meeting. Thank you for all who attended the brown bag general meeting. Congratulations and thank you to Connie Toda, who volunteered to be BWA's new Secretary, replacing Deidre Lorenz who stepped down due to family commitments. Our next scheduled general meeting will be August 7.

Oct 7-9, Fri-Sun – 44th Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations Conference: "Linked in the Nembutsu, Tsunagatte," Westin Hotel – Bellevue. Show your support for the conference and become a Booster. (A Booster donation form is enclosed in this newsletter as well as posted in the hallway. The deadline for submission is August 31.) The cost to attend this conference is \$195, and payment is also due by August 31. Online registration instructions to sign-up for the conference can be found at: <http://buddhistchurchesofamerica.org/2016fbwaconference>. Hotel reservations are at the special group rate of \$129 per night for up to 4 people. These block of rooms are available through September 7 or until the block is sold out. If you have any questions regarding the registration process, please contact Karen Murakami. Lastly, we are seeking volunteers to help with Registration. Karen will distribute information on this in the near future.

Year Round Collections

Coins for diapers (collection jar in lobby)

Recycle lightbulbs (collection box in lobby)

Newspaper and towels for needy animals (give to Darlene Yamada)

If BWA members wish to submit items for the newsletter, please email them to Darlene Yamada at: dzy2012@yahoo.com.

Gassho,
Norma Geenty, BWA President

White River BWA gratefully acknowledges receipt of a generous donation from Katie Komoto.



From March meal at Fischer House
Sandra & Anthony Lier with Sally

Walk and Fun Run to End Lung Cancer

WRBT BWA has formed a team to participate in the Walk and Fun Run to End Lung Cancer to be held on August 13th at Seward Park in Seattle beginning at 10 am. Our team is named Friends of Lillian to honor our Sangha member, Lillian Asato who is bravely battling lung cancer. While BWA is organizing this event, we are inviting and encouraging all Sangha members and supporters to join our team. All those wishing to participate in the Walk-Run may register online at: lungevity.donordrive.com/event/seattle. Registration fee is \$25 for adults and \$15 for Seniors. There is also a sign up sheet on the 2nd bulletin board from the kitchen door. If you would like to donate, that may also be done online at the same website shown above or by giving Eva Chun your check. Any questions may be directed to Eva Chun at chunrandall@hotmail.com.

Dharma School News

On June 4th our temple hosted the annual teacher appreciation lunch. Lucas, Nathan, Tyler, Rexford, Hudson, Tristan, and Kristopher all earned pins and certificates for their years in Dharma school. Lucas and Nathan earned nine year pins, Tyler earned his three year pin, and Rexford, Hudson, Tristan and Kristopher earned their one year pins. Congratulations students! Lots of thanks to the students and the parents who make it all possible.

Thank you, Ruth Terry and Mary Cogger for your dedication to the Dharma School students!

ABA News

Thanks to Lilly Kato for chairing the picnic and Yuri and Pat and Lu Ann for helping set up the lunch. We had a good variety of food. Thanks everyone for your contributions. Also thank you to Barb Areggar and Sharon Kosai for shopping for the prizes and to Jared Aregger and Jeffrey Nakamura for running the games, Great job! Thank you to Charles and Randy for setting up the tents, tables and chair outside, The weather was perfect for the picnic this year.

Thank You

- Roger and Shirley Fukai for paying for the Teacher Appreciation Lunch!
- Rev. and Mrs. Ogui for donating the Golden Chain tree and Thank You, Mary Cogger for getting it planted.

Have a Few Extra Hours?

If you have a few extra hours a month, we can use your ideas on the Buddhist Education Committee. Contact Rev. Ogui RevKoshin@wrbt.org.

And...we're always looking for someone to help put together the newsletter. If you are able to give a few hours a month, contact Sharon at office@wrbt.org.

**44th Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations Conference
The Westin Bellevue, October 7-9, 2016**

Please help support the Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations (FBWA) Conference by being a Booster! Your participation will be greatly appreciated.

To become a Booster, please complete the form below and submit by **August 31, 2016**.

Checks made payable to: BCA FBWA
Write on Memo Line: 2016 Conference/Boosters
Mail check & form to: Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple
Attn: 2016 FBWA Booster
 1427 S Main St.
 Seattle, WA 98144

If you have any questions, please contact Janet Baba at: babajbaba@comcast.net or (206) 722-2454. Thank you.

 Please enclose the form below with your Booster Donation. Thank you for your support!
2016 FBWA Conference Booster

I wish to donate: \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ Other _____

Please write check number here: _____

(Please print your name, as you would like it to appear in the conference booklet.)

First: _____ Last: _____ Temple: _____

Address: _____ City & State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

*To donate in Memory of an individual, print the individual's name below:

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 Ogui's Formal Temple Office Hours

Wed - Sat 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

Sunday 8:30 am - 1:00 pm

Religious or other consultations and home visitations are encouraged to be made by appointment Wednesday through Sunday. However, Reverend Ogui is on-call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

If you have a **non-emergency** need for minister assistance, please call the Temple phone (253) 833-1442. If your call is not answered immediately, please leave a message and Rev Ogui will return your call as soon as possible.

If you have an **emergency** need for minister assistance, call Rev. Ogui's cell phone.

To Email the Temple office: office@wrbt.org

To Email Rev Ogui: RevKoshin@wrbt.org

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