

EUGENEZENDO

Butsugenji - Buddha Eye Temple

Community Bulletin

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January 2011

Announcements

Children's Program resumes Sunday January 9 at 9 a.m. On alternate Sundays we chant a slightly shorter service, and invite children of any age to sit with us for the first ten minutes of zazen... after which our Children's Program director, Yoan Nelson, whisks the kids away for dharma fun in the Yurt. Please bring your young'uns some Sunday, and/or contact Yoan or the Temple directly (see our phone/email on our "masthead" above.)

Campus Zazen resumes January 6. Our University of Oregon sitting group meets at noon on Thursdays at the Koinonia Center: 14th and Kincaid. This group is great for newcomers and oldtimers alike. Zazen instruction and "dharma chat" is offered from 12-12:20, followed by a half-hour of zazen.

Dana to the Residential Program: Did you know that our Temple residents share a common larder and rely, in large measure, on dana for their meals? Gifts of food are always welcome. If you would like to donate any household items or pieces of furniture, these gifts are also deeply appreciated. Just touch base with the residents (at present, that's Sogaku and Myoshin) -- or simply email/call the Temple directly.

House Blessings: Once again this year, Ejo will be available to visit sangha members at home to offer blessings for a safe and fruitful new year. In addition to blessing one's living space, these visits are also an opportunity to empower the images (e.g. statues, scrolls, pictures) on home altars. More information about these visits will be available soon in the front room of the temple and at our website. Or, call/email for more details.



"Gender and the Way"

A Series of Tuesday Night Discussions. On Tuesday, January 11th, we will begin a set of five evening discussions devoted to the question of gender and its relationship to the Buddha Way. This series of Tuesday evening discussions found its initial inspiration in a

very concrete historical dilemma -- namely, the problem of patriarchy in the history of Buddhism -- and an equally concrete liturgical consideration: *how can our Temple best venerate our countless women ancestors?* This specific question of veneration will guide some of our discussions, but we will also take this opportunity to address the issue of gender in a broader buddhadharma setting. A central question to consider might be: what does it truly mean to embody this buddha mudra -- to embody the posture of our original teacher, Shakyamuni Buddha? How do different bodies take up the Dharma -- and how do we as a sangha continue to nurture human individuality and uniqueness, while also respecting shared histories and physical realities...? Please join us for this important series of discussions. However, because we hope to develop a safe space in which to engage this complex topic, we do ask that participants plan on attending all five discussions if at all possible.

New Year's Celebration: January 1 at 1 pm

Join us for an ongoing Butsugenji tradition: our tempting and tasty New Year's Celebration. This joyous event is perfect for friends and family -- including the littlest ones. A brief ceremony will be followed by a feast of traditional Japanese New Year's food: *mochi* (a rice cake made from pounding rice until it becomes one amazing, glutinous mass of yum) eaten with two traditional soups: *oshiruko* (made from sweet Japanese red beans) and *ozoni* (a savory broth, reminiscent of udon soup, but made vegan in Butsugenji style). One last note: did we mention that the ceremony would be brief? According to one temple spokesperson, the ceremony will nonetheless be deeply impressive: "dharma lightning bolts will fly from the sutras." Come one, come all!

What is Sanzen?

On every calendar we write that "sanzen is an opportunity to meet privately with a teacher for the purpose of studying the Buddha Way." But what does that mean, really? For many of us, sanzen is an opportunity to bring forward questions from our practice so that our teacher will provide some answers. We might even think of sanzen like Buddhist "office hours." But this viewpoint can also be confusing. Sanzen meetings tend to be brief -- maybe 10 minutes or even less. Our familiar



models of "study" may trip us up here. How can you "study" anything in such a brief time? Actually, a short time can really work when we bring something important to talk about. Any question that's on our mind can be an opening -- a "dharma gate" -- to the "study" that is our life. Sanzen just helps us open that gate.

Looking Ahead: The Butsugenji Spring Term opens on Sunday February 13th with our first retreat February 18-20. It's not too early to meet with Ejo to discuss your plans or voice your questions about our temple's training opportunities.

Eugene Zendo

January 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 1 p.m. New Year's Celebration
2 ZENDO CLOSED	3 ZENDO CLOSED	4 Weekday Schedule 6:00 a.m. Sanzen 7 p.m. Double Sit	5 Weekday Schedule 4:30 – 6 p.m. Sanzen with zazen	6 Weekday Schedule 6:00 a.m. Sanzen Campus Zazen Noon: 14 th & Kincaid	7 Weekday Schedule	8
9 Children's Program Sunday Schedule 8-8:45 Intro to Zendo 9-9:30 Service 9:30-10:10 Zazen 10:10-10:20 Break 10:20-11 Dharma	10 Weekday Schedule 4:30 – 6 p.m. Sanzen with zazen	11 Weekday Schedule 6:00 a.m. Sanzen 7 p.m. Zazen & "Gender and the Way" Discussion	12 Weekday Schedule 4:30 – 6 p.m. Sanzen with zazen	13 Weekday Schedule 6:00 a.m. Sanzen Campus Zazen Noon: 14 th & Kincaid	14 Weekday Schedule	15
16 Sunday Schedule 8-8:45 Intro to Zendo 9-9:30 Service 9:30-10:10 Zazen 10:10-10:20 Break 10:20-11 Dharma	17 Weekday Schedule 4:30 – 6 p.m. Sanzen with zazen	18 Weekday Schedule 6:00 a.m. Sanzen 7 p.m. Zazen & "Gender and the Way" Discussion	19 Weekday Schedule 4:30 – 6 p.m. Sanzen with zazen 7 p.m. Fusatsu (Atonement Service)	20 Weekday Schedule 6:00 a.m. Sanzen Campus Zazen Noon: 14 th & Kincaid	21 Weekday Schedule	22
23 Children's Program Sunday Schedule 8-8:45 Intro to Zendo 9-9:30 Service 9:30-10:10 Zazen 10:10-10:20 Break 10:20-11 Dharma	24 Weekday Schedule 4:30 – 6 p.m. Sanzen with zazen	25 Weekday Schedule 6:00 a.m. Sanzen 7 p.m. Zazen & "Gender and the Way" Discussion	26 Weekday Schedule (NO SANZEN)	27 Weekday Schedule (NO SANZEN) Campus Zazen Noon: 14 th & Kincaid	28 Weekday Schedule	
30 Sunday Schedule 8-8:45 Intro to Zendo 9-9:30 Service 9:30-10:10 Zazen 10:10-10:20 Break 10:20-11 Dharma	31 Weekday Schedule 4:30 – 6 p.m. Sanzen with zazen		<p>Sanzen: Sanzen is an opportunity to meet privately with a teacher for the purpose of studying the Buddha Way. Sanzen is available on a regular basis Monday and Wednesday afternoons. Please come to the zendo between 4:30 and 6:00 p.m. An attendant will help you get settled. (If you'd like, please feel free to join us for evening service before sanzen as well.) Sanzen is also available during the second period of morning zazen (6:00 a.m.) on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Sit at the seats marked "sanzen" next to the door and listen for Eio's bell.</p>			

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Buddhist
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