

Sangha News

Jan-Feb 2011

Special Event

8 pm Dec 31, 2010
Temple Service and
Social.

- Join us to ring in the New Year we will have a short service, Kansho ringing 108 times.
- Bring snacks and beverages of choice, games to play
- Say goodbye to 2010 and 108 imperfections

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December Message by Sensei James Martin

Well it is that time of year again! As we approach Christmas the pace of life can become hectic and often has us rushing about with last minute shopping and parties with coworkers, family and friends. As an "enlightened" former Christian I still like to wish everyone a very merry.....um.....holiday season! Actually I still often wish friends and family a Merry Christmas even though technically, coming from a Buddhist, it may not seem quite kosher. Yet, to me, any event that encourages us to practice a little extra kindness, Dana (generosity) and compassion should be celebrated by all.

Although December 25th is traditionally considered a Christian holiday season the origin has ties to Roman, Pagan and Germanic cultures. One theory posits that Christians selected this date to compete with a Roman festival, the 'birthday of the unconquered sun'. This festival was placed on the date of the solstice, December 25 as established in 46 BCE by Julius Caesar because this was on this day that the Sun reversed its southward retreat and proved itself to be "unconquered." Being a warm climate lover I appreciate this sentiment and will eagerly anticipate the moment.

In case you have forgotten December is a special month for Buddhists because we also celebrate Bodhi day (day of enlightenment) which falls on Dec. 8. (We get the best of both worlds living in a predominantly Christian society!) Shakyamuni conquered Mara (symbolizing doubt and temptation) and became a Buddha, teaching that the middle path is the right way. Either extreme is to be avoided. Don't overindulge but do enjoy the holiday. Don't be a scrooge, yet don't break the bank (unless you're buying for the Sensei!)

This year we hope you can save some time & energy and join us at the temple for a New Years Eve social at 8:00 pm. Bring some snacks and beverages of choice. We will be ringing the Kansho 108 times as a reminder of the imperfections humans might possess. The following day is our New Years day service at 2:30 pm. I hope to see you soon, if not in 2010 then for sure in 2011!

The best of the season to all!!

In Gassho, Namo Amida Butsu

Sensei James

January 2011

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1 2:30 pm: New Years Day service	2 9:30am: Meditation 10:30 am: Shotsuki/ Monthly Memorial Service
3	4	5	6 7:30 pm: Movie Night Service	7	8	9 9:30 am: Meditation 10:30 am: Service and Dharma Time
10	11	12	13 7:30 pm: Service	14	15	16 9:30 am: Meditation 10:30 am: Honoko Service
17	20 7 pm Board Meeting	19 Ethical Investing workshop	20 7:30 pm: Service	21	22	23 9:30 am: Meditation 10:30 am: Service and Dharma Time
24	25	26	27 7:30 pm: Service	28	29	30 9:30 am: Meditation 10:30 am: Service
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SPECIAL EVENT PLANNED FOR JAN 19TH :

The Calgary Buddhist Temple will host a keynote presentation on the topic of ethics and investing. The presentation will be provided by Rod Burylo, Chief Compliance Officer, of Western Canada's leading exempt market investment dealer. Rod is an international speaker, business author and Advisor of the Year Award winner.

Further details to follow.

Contact Sensei James if you are interested in attending.403-988-6857

February 2011

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3 7:30 pm: Service	4	5	6 9:30am: Meditation 10:30 am: Shotsuki/ Monthly Memorial 1pm: Intro to Buddhism
7	8	9	10 7:30 pm: Service	11	12	13 9:30 am: Meditation 10:30 am: Nirvana Day Service and Dharma Time
14	15 7 pm: Board Meeting	16	17 7:30 pm: Service	18	19	20 9:30 am: Meditation 10:30 am: Service
21	22	23	24 7:30 pm: Service	25	26	27 9:30 am: Meditation 10:30 am: Service
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The Calgary Buddhist Temple Vision & Mission

Vision

To set in motion a way of living, learning and teaching a life of joy and gratitude through Jodo Shinshu Buddhism

Mission

To develop Knowledge, understanding and awareness of Shin Buddhism by:

- Offering regular Temple services, Dharma school and study groups
- Celebrating Buddhist ceremonies and established traditions
- Sharing a dynamic resource centre for Buddhist study for all ages
- Skillfully applying Buddhist teachings with the Sangha and community at large

Key Values

Compassion
Gratitude
Transformation
Wisdom
Community

Thank you from the Dharma School

Dharma Time would like to thank everyone who donated to the bottle drive this Fall; over \$300 was raised. The money was used to buy gifts that the children packed into boxes for *Joi to the World*, a non-profit

organisation in Calgary that provides shoe box sized boxes for those who are in need around Christmas. The children filled 10 boxes for adult men and women. If you would like more information about *Joi to the World*, you can get more information at www.joitotheworld.org