

Eugene Buddhist Priory
Temple of Boundless Compassion
news@eugenebuddhistpriory.org

December 1, 2010

Dear Friends,

I trust you are all well as winter begins and we train with cold weather and some snow. Fortunately we have our winter festivals for us take heart in and enlighten the dark. I hope many of you will be able to participate.

We're going through a 'sea change' as the Priory expands its long-term residents to include Rev. Alethea Waxman and John Kieres. There will be some trial and error as we make these adjustments, so please bear with us. We are very grateful to have their presence and assistance at the temple.

The winter holiday events are listed below. In short, **Enlightenment Day** will be Sunday, December 19 , with children's activity & potluck. Our **Nine Lessons & Carols Service** will be Wednesday, December 22. We won't have activities on the weekend of December 25 & 26 or Wednesday, December 29. Our **New Year's Celebration** will be Friday, December 31 (no Saturday activity), followed by our **Maitreya (Future Buddha) Festival Ceremony** on Sunday, January 2.

During December the weekday schedule remains the same, as given below. **We will be closed during the month of January**, except for Sunday morning meditation & short morning service (9:30-10:30am) and our Wednesday night reading group at 7:00pm.

Rev. Alethea will be leading the Wednesday discussions in December and January on Rev. Master Jiyu's *Roar of the Tigress, Volume 1*. If you wish to participate, please read chapter 1 for Wednesday, December 6. We have copies at the Priory, or download it at <http://www.shastaabbey.org/pdf/bookRoar1.pdf> .

Ongoing Schedule. Weekdays:

Mornings: Wednesday 7:30-8:45am Meditation & short morning service

Thursday 7:30-9:15am Meditation & full morning service

Friday 7:30-9:15am Meditation & Avalokiteshwara morning service

Evenings: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

Meditation & vespers @ 8:00pm. **Wednesday** activity: 7-9pm.

Weekends:

Saturday, December 4 – **Workday 10:30am-4:30pm** leaf raking, other fall maintenance, winter preparation & holiday decorating (bring sack lunch & food to share)

Sunday, December 5 – usual Sunday schedule (9:30-noon: meditation, service, talk)

Saturday, December 11 – **orientation for newcomers** 8:45-11:30am.

Sunday, December 12 – **Avatamsaka Scripture Festival** (usual Sunday schedule)

Saturday, December 18 – **Silent meditation on the hour** (10:00am-4:00pm)

Sunday, December 19 – **Enlightenment Day**, with children's activity & potluck (families welcome). Usual Sunday schedule with meditation at 9:00am, ceremony at 10:30am, Dharma time at 11:30am, potluck at approx. 12:30pm.

Wednesday, December 22 – **9 Lessons & Carols for Buddha's Enlightenment 7:00pm**
(Saturday & Sunday, December 25 & 26 – No activity)

(Wednesday, December 29 – No activity)

Friday, December 31 – **New Year's Eve Vigil & Ceremony**: meditation begins at 7:00pm, ceremony at 8:30pm, ringing temple bell & then refreshments at 9:30pm
(Saturday, January 1 – No activity)

Sunday, January 2 – **Maitreya Festival Ceremony** (usual Sunday schedule)

Sangha Care Coordinator during December is Wendy Schwall (541-484-1262) and during January, Ernie Rimerman (541-344-5722). Thanks to all who help with this offering.

In gratitude. Thanks to Rev. Veronica for assisting us during November. She was especially helpful in updating e-mail & phone lists and with mending robes, as well as preparing meals and keeping our daily morning activities going. We continue to receive many food offerings, for which we are extremely grateful. Offerings (other than refrigerated items) may now be placed on the altar on the front porch, where we have installed our beautiful amber Avalokiteshwara (Great Compassion) to receive and bless them.

Alms Bowl. With now three temple residents, we'd be grateful for continued support for our operating fund and food offerings. It would be helpful to keep in mind that Rev. Alethea has some food allergies & sensitivities: dairy, caffeine, chocolate, brazil nuts, sulfur dioxide (often sprayed on dried fruit to retain color), and carnations. Prepared dishes that we can all eat together are especially welcome. Thank you for your kindness.

Please take care, and may your training stand you in good stead. With gratitude, *Oswin*

