

Eugene Buddhist Priory

Temple of Boundless Compassion

85415 Teague Loop

Eugene, OR 97405-9536 USA

(541) 344-7377; news@eugenebuddhistpriory.org

We celebrated Wesak, the most important holiday of the Buddhist calendar, during the month of May. On May 8, we read and sang the Nine Lessons and Carols. We then saw the movie, "Dhamma Brothers," about a meditation group in a prison in Alabama. We celebrated the Festival of Wesak on May 15, followed by Rev. Master's Oswin Dharma talk and a potluck lunch.

Our cool, wet spring gave way to warmer weather and longer days as we began summer. On Sunday, June 5, we had a Renewal of Vows ceremony. It was warm enough for us to sit outside for Rev. Oswin's Dharma talk on three parables about perseverance in training. Having a ceremony, warm sunshine and a Dharma talk were a great way to begin the month.

Postulant John Kieres has been working outside of the temple to earn money to pay his health insurance premiums. We are grateful to friends and congregation members who have been able to provide work for him.

On Friday, June 10, Rev. Alethea went to Medford for an interview by Faith Trust Institute. She returned on Saturday, June 11. Thanks to those who were able to help with transportation and a lovely meal on return to Eugene.

Work on the chicken coop and yard, called "Chicken Heaven," was completed. On Thursday, June 16, we had the chicks' coming-out party, or debutante ball. The people had leftover carrot cake from Wesak, the cats had sardines somewhere else, and the chicks had kale stems and their first pancake. A good time was had by all.

June is Avalokiteshwara month. The hall has been decorated all month and we've had a vigil and a festival. We joined for a less formal offering of readings and music, similar to the Nine Lessons and Carols we have at Wesak, on June 26.

We met for a members' meeting on June 26 where we discussed the need for a long term fundraising plan and also took suggestions for October's open house. Dixie (541-683-9157) and Martha (541-345-2056) offered to coordinate the open house. [Members will be receiving minutes.]

On Tuesday, June 28th, Rev. Alethea, Doug Carnine and Mary Morrison participated in the yearly Peace Village, held at the First Congregational Church. Peace Village is an interfaith week-long day camp for children which focuses on nonviolent conflict resolution and peacemaking skills. Each day representatives of a different religion take part and offer teaching. Then on Thursday, June 30, the group of 11-14 year olds will come to the Priory for their offering of public service.

Summer Ongoing Schedule

Weekend Calendar: (*Usual Sunday Schedule: 9:30am meditation; 10:15 Service or other activity; 11:00am Dharma talk; 12 noon end.*)

Saturday, July 2 – 9:30 meditation, 10:00 short morning service;

Sunday, July 3 – **Reading of the Precepts & Renewal of Vows** – usual Sun. schedule

Saturday, July 9 – **Orientation for newcomers** 8:45-11:30am.

Sunday, July 10 – 9:30 meditation, 10:05 full morning service, Dharma talk & tea

Saturday, July 16 – 9:30 meditation, 10:00 short morning service; **Workday 10:30—5:00**
Yard Sale preparation.

Sunday, July 17 – **Festival of Achalanatha** (The Immovable Bright One) usual Sun. schedule

Friday, July 21 - **Yard Sale at Linda Pierce's – 2458 Monroe St. 9:00am—3:00pm**

Saturday, July 22 – **Yard Sale at Linda Pierce's – 2458 Monroe St. 8:00am—3:00pm**

Sunday, July 23 – 9:30-10:30 meditation & morning service **Yard Sale & Cleanup 1:00—5:00pm**

Saturday, July 30 – **Meditation Day:** 10am-4pm 40 minute periods; join the meditation as you wish & enter the meditation hall on the hour; bring a sack lunch if staying the day.

Sunday, July 31 – **Retreat morning begins at 6:30** (see August 21 for details)

Saturday, August 6 – **Orientation for newcomers** 8:45-11:30am (runs concurrently with retreat).

Introductory retreat 9:30am-4:00pm. Please call for reservation. Bring a vegetarian sack lunch. An opportunity to sit with others and ask questions about meditation.

Sunday, August 7 – **Reading of the Precepts & Renewal of Vows** – usual Sun. schedule

Saturday, August 13 – 9:30 meditation, 10:00 short morning service

Sunday, August 14 – **Festival of Kshtigarbha** (Earth Womb Bodhisattva) – usual Sunday

Saturday, August 20 – **Meditation Day:** 10am-4pm come join us for meditations on the hour; bring a sack lunch if you're staying the day.

Sunday, August 21 – **Silent retreat morning begins at 6:30** (usual Sunday schedule, too)

For retreat morning, bring granola &/or fruit contribution for breakfast, and sack lunch & food to share if you wish to stay for the noon meal. Come any time; no Dharma talk.

Saturday, August 27 – **Workday 8:30am-2:30pm:** Come in the morning when it's cool.

Sunday, August 28 – **Festival of Bhaisajya-guru** (Buddha of Healing) usual Sun. schedule

Saturday, September 3 – 9:30 meditation, 10:00 Shurangama Ceremony (tentative)

Sunday, September 4 – **Reading of the Precepts & Renewal of Vows** – usual Sun. schedule

Weekdays—note summer time change in morning meditation.

Mornings: Wednesday 7:00-8:15am Meditation & short morning service

Thursday 7:00-8:45am Meditation & full morning service

Friday 7:00-8:45am Meditation & Avalokiteshwara morning service

Evenings: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday Meditation & vespers @ 8:00pm.

Wednesday meditation & discussion group 7-9pm.

Open House: At a members meeting on June 26, those gathered committed to holding an Open House Fund Raiser at the Priory this fall **October 8 or 9**. Its purpose is to raise money for monastic medical insurance. In addition to offering iconography tours of the Buddha Hall, we also will be hosting a **bake sale** for homemade pies and a **silent auction** of items that congregation members & local businesses contribute. If you can bake or pick fruit for pies, offer kitchen assistance or freezer space, gather auction items, make refreshments or signs, prepare the grounds, help in another way, or have other ideas, please contact Dixie Feiner 541-683-9157 or Martha Welches 541-345-2056. Thank you for kind response. This is a great way to help each other & the temple.

Yard Sale July 21-23. See page 2 for times. This fundraiser is also for our monastic medical insurance. Drop items by the priory or call for furniture that requires a truck. Please price items or let us know their value. **Contact Rev. Alethea at the temple if you would like to help.**

Travels: Rev. Master Oswin & Rev. Alethea will be traveling to Throssel Hole Buddhist Abbey in England for most of September—**September 8 through October 3**. Our Order of Buddhist Contemplatives, the larger lineage family to which all our temples & monks belong, will be working at a Rules Conclave to complete the efforts made last September at Shasta Abbey when various other matters needed addressing. John will be tending the priory; please lend him and lay ministers any assistance they need. Rev. Oswin will also be away for some renewal time July 3-11.

You never know... The following is from a letter Doug Carnine received from his prisoner friend/correspondent in Arkansas. Doug thought we would find it an encouraging example of how the dharma reaches people. We never know how one person's actions extend through boundless time & space. "Am reading an article in *Buddhadharma* about this kat name Kiley Jon Clark. Fella drunk himself out of a job, marriage, the trust of his kids, then happened to find himself in a bookstore on the floor with several self help and spiritual books around; Finally grabbed the only one he could afford, he had \$1.50 and the book was \$1.20. It was *Selling Water by the River* [original title of *Zen is Eternal Life* by Rev. Master Jiyu-Kennett]. The book, he read in one sitting, enraptured and from that moment on, he was into Buddhism; Started an organization called Homeless Meditation Practitioners Street Dharma."

In gratitude. The temple exists as an expression of your generosity and kindness—with sincere hearts we say thank you! Among the items donated these last two months were a 1995 Nissan pickup truck from Myron Cook, who had to give up driving (which is already proving of great

use), an electric weed-whacker & grass clippers (we're taking care of the grounds again), ink cartridges for the printer, *Superglue*, a bathroom scale, paper towels, clothespins, hand & poison oak soap, aloe vera gel, razor blades, first aid ointment, supplements & prescriptions, 2 boxes of Buddhist books (again, from Myron), batteries, a light bulb, a decorative lamp, bean seeds, cat supplies, oil & supplies for the truck, lumber (destined for a new woodshed), three loads of firewood (two await splitting) and the loan of a pressure washer to clean the new building's deck. Food offerings included fresh fruit & vegetables, chutney, tofu, soy & dairy cheese, quiche, egg foo yung, soy & dairy yogurt, soy & dairy milk, bread, raisins, jam, salsa, tea, scones, muffins, chocolates, sparkling water, butterscotch brownies, whole wheat flour, margarine, polenta, cookies, tofu spread, faux cream cheese, salad dressing, mushroom bouillon, rice vinegar, rolled spelt, barley & rye, cake, chips, potluck leftovers, frozen entrées, and a number of prepared meals. Acts of service included cleaning, running errands, shopping, bookkeeping, proofing, transportation, and many other things that you do for the sake of the Dharma.

Alms Bowl. Items the temple could use include alternative protein (gluten, *Quorn*, etc.), sandwich bread, olive oil, toasted sesame oil, soy sauce, napkins, toilet paper, hand soap, raisins, safety razor blades, a kitchen toaster (preferably a four-slice model), and continuing work for John.

Wendy Schwall offered this poem at our Readings & Songs for Kanzeon on June 26:

Poem to Avalokiteshvara

She sees all the world
 with eyes of compassion and true kindness
 clear seeing, penetrating even every mote of dust.
 She reaches all the corners of the world
 with her many jeweled hands of
 untold tenderness
 to reach all beings everywhere who cry for her help
 Her sympathy flows as waters
 of the spirit, splashing into pools of wisdom,
 cleansing all with radiant patience
 She calls us home
 she calls us home
 She dwells within
 every one of us
 Oh may I ever see and hear her
 give reverence and devotion
 May we find the heart of great compassion
 which is our true heart's home

In gassho.