

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

November 4, 2010

Dear Friends,

Another fall is upon us and almost gone. What beautiful days we have had! Thank you to everyone who helped with the Feeding the Hungry Ghosts ceremonies this past weekend. Having the festival ceremony on the newly-finished front porch seemed a good way as well to bless the area. The annual bonfire was especially moving this year.

Cool Congregations Workshop November 13 1:00-2:30pm. This workshop will be offered by Nancy Fletcher and Doug Carnine, both of whom attended the training program sponsored by "Oregon Interfaith Power & Light" (a program of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon). The workshop's purpose emphasizes "accountability in our individual and collective energy decisions in an interdependent world." We'll be looking at our carbon footprints and learning ways we can reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. Caring for our environment as the home of "all sentient beings" has always been an important Buddhist principle and an area where we can always learn how to do more. If you haven't signed up yet, call Doug at 541-485-3781 or Nancy at 541-683-4387.

Members Meeting & Potluck Sunday, November 21. We'll follow our usual Sunday schedule by celebrating Thanksgiving, then meeting together in lieu of a Dharma talk at 10:15. The potluck will follow, beginning around noon. Families & children are welcome to join us then.

Ongoing Schedule. Weekends:

Saturday, November 6 – no meditation or service

Sunday, November 7 – usual Sunday service (9:30-noon: meditation, service, talk)

Saturday, November 13 – orientation for newcomers 8:45-11:30am.

Cool Congregations Workshop 1:00-2:30pm

Sunday, November 14 – **Veterans Day Ceremony** (usual Sunday schedule)

Saturday, November 20 - Meditation Day (10:00am-4:00pm)

Sunday, November 21 – **Thanksgiving Ceremony, members meeting, potluck**

Saturday, November 27 – **Workday 10:30-4:30pm** leaf raking, other fall maintenance, winter preparation

Sunday, November 28 - usual Sunday schedule

Weekdays:

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday evenings:

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

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

Food for Lane County. The Priory sangha is participating in Food for Lane County's Thanksgiving & Christmas food drive. If you'd like to help, please bring canned corn, beans, cranberries, & sweet potatoes/yams (or other canned or packaged food) and place them in the labeled boxes on the front porch. Linda Carnine is our contact person. Food drive ends November 30.

Comings and Goings. Rev. Oswin and Rev. Alethea are driving to Shasta Abbey on November 5, where they will join other Priory members to take part in the monastery's 40th anniversary, the annual festival memorial for Rev. Master Jiyu, and the induction ceremony for Rev. Master Meian, the new abbess. We take everyone's good wishes on this important occasion. Rev. Oswin will be returning on November 8, along with Rev. Veronica Snedaker, who will be training at the temple during November.

Charlotte Cat's Recovery. Charlotte the Priory cat, who is known for her independent spirit, has seemingly recovered from her recent illness. After not eating for two weeks and refusing to allow us to give her any kind of oral medication, she holed up in her little house and came out several days later almost healed. It was a good lesson in accepting impermanence and impending death, as well as allowing other beings to make their own choices, regardless of what we might think is good to do. Thank you to everyone for the merit offered, and to Randi Golub who visited the Priory twice to administer shots. Charlotte is back to her usual self now.

Orientation Dates for 2011: January 8, February 5, March 5, April 2, May 7, June 4, July 9, August 6, September 10, October 8, November 12, and December 3.

In gratitude. Thank you to everyone who makes offerings to the temple of your time, service, money, goods, merit & goodwill. We received recently an abundance of food, as well as shortening, protein bars, prescriptions & supplements, toothpaste, Dharma books, miniature Sarasvati statue, pen refills & printer ink, gravel and dump fees. A special thanks to Myron for weekly tofu & tempeh runs, and to all who helped with Rev. Alethea's restricted dietary needs. "The two kinds of alms, material and spiritual, have the abundance of boundless merit. Now that they have been fulfilled in this act of charity, both self and other gain pleasure therefrom." (Alms Verse from Order of Buddhist Contemplatives liturgy)

In gassho, *Oswin*

P.S. If anyone would like to rake leaves, we'd be grateful for the help.