

Eugene Buddhist Priory
Temple of Boundless Compassion
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February 26, 2006

Dear Good Friends,

A Dharma article on **Strengthening Your Priory Practice** will be emailed separately (so that any one email will not be too lengthy).

Calendar in brief:

- Saturday, March 4:** Orientation for newcomers, 8:45am
- Sunday, March 5:** Samantabhadra Festival (usual Sunday schedule)
- Thursday, March 9:** Prior's Transmission anniversary
- Saturday, March 11:** Full-day retreat 9:30am till 4:30pm
- Sunday, March 12:** Full morning service (usual Sunday schedule)
- Thursday, March 16:** Meditation instruction at Koinonia Center (14th & Kincaid)
- Saturday, March 18:** Work day (10:30am till 5:00pm)
- Sunday, March 19:** Dharma school/Scripture practice (usual Sun. schedule)
- Tuesday, March 21:** Open meeting on temple & grounds development 7pm
- Sunday, March 26:** Renewal of Vows & Reading of Precepts (usu. Sunday sched)

- Sunday, April 2:** Memorial for Rev. Master Daizui & Rev. Seck Sian Toh
- Tuesday, April 4:** **Alms round** (pending city approval)
- Wednesday, April 5:** **Dharma talk at Priory by Rev. Master Daishin Yalon of Shasta Abbey** (meditation at 7:00pm; talk at 7:30)
- Saturday, April 8:** Orientation for newcomers, 8:45am
- Sunday, April 9:** Manjusri Bodhisattva Festival (usual Sunday schedule)
- Sunday, April 15:** Full-day retreat, 9:30am till 4:30pm
- Sunday, April 16:** Dharma school/Scripture practice
- April 17 until April 30:** Rev. Oswin at Shasta Abbey for ordinations & spring monastic retreat (Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday activities will continue as usual; otherwise temple closed).
- Thursday, April 20:** Meditation instruction at Koinonia Center, 7-8:30pm

Meditation during the week: Wednesday & Friday morning at 7:00am (note earlier time). Evening Meditation & Vespers on Thursday & Friday at 7:45pm. **Saturday & Sunday** meditation & service begins at 9:30am. **Wednesday** evening begins at 7pm. (Please occasionally allow some time to help with cleanup afterwards. We don't want this responsibility falling on the same people every time.)

Looking ahead:

April: We will need volunteers to post a few fliers in southeast Eugene for Rev. Master Daishin's talk the first week of April. We'll also need a few people to distribute fliers to merchants along the alms round route the day before we do it. That would be April 3 (tentative); the tentative route is from the UO to the public library and back. A coordinator (or two) would be of help if someone is willing.

May: Wesak is scheduled for May 21, the week after Mother's Day. As this is the most important and joyful event of the year, celebrating the birth, enlightenment, death, life, & teaching of the Buddha, it's traditional to thoroughly clean and decorate the temple and all its altars. We could use a coordinator/organizer and a crew of decorators & helpers. New ideas for decorating (flowers, flags, etc.) are welcome.

Members Meeting: The minutes of the February 11 meeting will be emailed separately to members, and there will be copies at the Priory. Highlights: (1) We decided to rename our "Third Refuge Committee" the "**Sangha Support Committee.**" "Support" includes all kinds – physical, emotional, spiritual; this also allows "refuge" to resume its primarily spiritual connotation and include the prior. (2) An **open meeting on temple & grounds development** will be at 7pm on March 21; all interested members are welcome. (3) **Annual financial report for 2005** is nearly complete. Copies are available at the priory. Thank you to everyone for your kind and generous support this past year. We have accumulated enough surplus to accomplish closing in the front porch, completing indoor projects, and financing much-needed grounds work.

Alms Round: A traditional alms round will be held mid-day in downtown Eugene April 4 pending city approval. Rev. Master Daishin Yalon and possibly other monks from Portland will join us. We have places for several lay trainees to participate, too. Let me know if you wish to be a part of the procession. (If all goes well and we are permitted to continue the rounds, there will be other opportunities in the future.)

Guest Dharma Talk: Rev. Master Daishin will offer a Dharma talk on Wednesday, April 5, at the temple. This is a public talk, for which we'll do limited publicity, given the seating capacity of the priory. The evening begins with meditation at 7pm.

Meditation Instruction at the **Koinonia Center** at 14th & Kincaid will continue regularly on the third Thursday of each month, 7:00-8:30pm. Anyone is welcome; no prior notice required. It is completely on a dana basis, as are all our activities and offerings.

Prior's Note: I travel to Shasta Abbey on April 17 for the ordination of Mike Running, former priory member and resident, as well as two other aspiring postulants. I will probably stay for the spring Denkoe retreat, returning on Sunday, April 30. Any offering of help with cat or temple care while I am away would be appreciated.

With gratitude, *Rev. Oswin*

