



## Jushoku's Meanderings

Many non-East Asians are surprised to learn that the Buddhist Path was introduced into China, Korea, Japan and Viet Nam for the protection of the nation. This protection was an extension of the *Brahmavihara*<sup>1</sup>. East Asia established remarkable monasteries and supported monks whose function was to perform ceremonies and pray for the court and people of the nation. The monasteries were transformed and practices diversified. However, an extremely important function has always remained prayers and observances for the welfare of the nation.

Five years ago this month we watched in disbelief as symbols of American power were attacked and destroyed. Thousands of lives were lost in the Twin Towers, the Pentagon, a pasture in Pennsylvania and aboard the commercial airliners. Hatred and retribution by ideological extremists exacted a dreadful toll upon America. We mourn the loss of lives and our innocence. Our *Hondo* (main temple hall) was dedicated to the protection of our nation in the original sense of that phrase from Asia.

Vengeance and retribution on our part will not restore those precious lives or our innocence. We must work to eradicate the conditions that contribute to the hatred of those who would do us harm. Many have blamed Islam as the basis for the vehement hatred we have seen. It is important to distinguish Islam; a faith in Allah, his prophets and a philosophy of sacred reality; from those who while being Muslims, do not act in a way that is consistent with the *Quran*. We need to join in interfaith activities to better unite in solidarity with our brothers and sisters of other faiths who are also seeking to give a voice to peace. At the same time we must be cognizant of and take responsibility for our own role in the social, political and economic forces that we as Westerners participate in that contribute to a widening gulf between the world of the globally powerful and those who are disenfranchised.

This month and next we will have several opportunities to physically manifest the *Brahmavihara* taught by Shakyamuni Buddha. The O-Higan retreat this month is dedicated to peace practices. The Mahasangha Sunday and the Segaki ceremony on that date institute the first Segaki ceremony for world peace. The following month, October 20th at St. John the Divine in New York City and on the 22nd, at Simon's Rock College of Bard in Great Barrington, MA, are *Shomyo for Peace* performances by 20 Japanese Tendai monks. The first anniversary ceremony of the new Hondo at Jiunzan Tendai-ji will also be designated as a ceremony for peace. All of the forgoing activities are based upon the *Brahmavihara* and the ceremonies performed are for the benefit of the nation.

How often have I heard, "What can I do about world peace, social justice and social equality? It begins with participating in actions that construct a world of loving-kindness, compassion, altruistic joy and equanimity. Join us, act now for the benefit of all sentient beings.

*Gassho, Monshin*



<sup>1</sup> *Shakyamuni Buddha sought to liberate all from suffering; physical and mental. This is accomplished through the Four Divine Abodes or Brahmavihara (loving-kindness towards all, compassion, altruistic joy, and equanimity) Methods such as meditation, chanting, esoteric practices, devotion and scholarship are methods intended to result in the relief of suffering in the self and all sentient beings.*

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SHINGI

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# Jiunzan Tendaiji and Mahasangha

## September Events

### ❖ *Sutra Class and Morning Service*

9 Beginning 8:30 a.m. with the Morning Service, which includes chanting of Chapter 7 of the *Lotus Sutra*. The class itself begins at 9 a.m. We are continuing our examination of the *Lotus Sutra* and will be discussing Chapter 7, *The Parable of the Magic City*. It is suggested that the participants copy the chapter in long hand before the class.

### ❖ *Meditation Meetings and Other Events*

*Every Wednesday 6 p.m., discussion, Meditation Service and pot luck dinner*

6 Transcendent Powers of the Tathāgatha—*Lotus Sutra* Chapter 21

13 Compassion through Forgiveness—9/11

20 Refuge in the Buddha, Dharma, Sangha

27 The Bodhisattva Practice—AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa

### *Announcements*

❖ *Please Note:* We have returned to a 6 p.m. starting time for the Wednesday evening services beginning on September 6.

❖ 17 **Refuge class**, 2–4 p.m. Those taking refuge should arrange to attend this class on Sunday afternoon. It prepares one for the refuge ceremony on the September 20 and we are able to answer any questions the participant may have. If you would like to take refuge, but have not notified anyone please let us know your intentions no later than September 15.

❖ 20 **Refuge Ceremony** during the Wednesday evening service. Several people have indicated that they intend to take refuge during our yearly refuge service for sangha mem-

bers.

❖ 22–24 **O-Higan Retreat for Peace and Social Justice.** This includes meditations, practices and study focused on peace and social justice. We gather at 7 p.m. on the Friday, September 22 and the retreat concludes at about 1 p.m. on Sunday, September 24. Please register for this retreat by the September 20.

❖ 24 **Mahasangha Sunday**, 10:30 a.m. This month the primary service is a Segaki Service, with meditations for Peace and Social Justice. Several people will have been in retreat and we request all the members of the sangha to join us for this service. There will be a pot-luck lunch at the conclusion of the service.

❖ Shingaku Jenny Henderson is off on a trip to China, Mongolia and Tibet for the next few months. We wish her Bon Voyage on her journey and look forward to her tales when she returns.

❖ Mark October 21 and 23 on your calendar. Approximately 30 Tendai monks, including the Jigyodan, will be conducting a first anniversary service at Jiunzan Tendai-ji, at 2 p.m. on October 21. On October 22nd about 20 of the monks will be performing *Shomyo for Peace* (lyrical chanting) at Simon's Rock College of Bard's Daniel Arts Center, Great Barrington, MA, at 1 PM. This is a rare opportunity to see such a performance. Tickets to the Simon's Rock performance will be \$25 and will be sold at a reduced price to sangha members. Please try to attend both days as they are very different experiences.

❖ Sangha members are invited to submit articles, announcements and photos for inclusion in the October issue of *Shingi* to [seishin@tendai.org](mailto:seishin@tendai.org) by SEPTEMBER 15.

❖ Schedule updates and future events can be seen at [www.tendai.org](http://www.tendai.org).



*A Segaki service for world peace and social justice will be held on Mahasangha Sunday, September 24, to release those caught up in unfulfillable desires that lead to exploitation and war. The service combines meditation with esoteric practices.*

# Higashi Sangha

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- ❖ **Meditation Service and Dharma Discussion every Monday, 6:30 p.m., East Mountain Retreat Center, 8 Lake Buel Rd., Great Barrington, MA**

## September Events

- 4 Peace and Equanimity.
- 11 Bodhisattva Vows—A Sangha’s Perspective.
- 18 Shila—On Morals and Discipline
- 24 Pot Luck Wisdom: Discussion on Anger
- ❖ Ansu Jane Majdalany and family not only spent quality time with each other but also shared their time with moose, mountain goats, bears and especially wolves while on their vacation in Alaska. A lifetime of stories can be expected.
- ❖ Higashi Sangha took part in the “Unity of Mankind” service for peace at the A.M.E. Zion Church on Sunday, August 6. The gathering of about twenty people from all faiths was organized by the Ba’hai group in Great Barrington in recognition of the anniversary of the Hiroshima atomic bomb. This date is the national day of peace in Japan.
- ❖ Jisho Julia Erickson and her family traveled up the New England coast on their way to Nova Scotia. Julia’s husband Andy is the producer of Higashi’s weekly radio spot on WB-CRlp.



*Avalokiteshvara, Bodhisattva of  
Compassion*

# Nyoirin-An (Ekayana Tendai Sangha)

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- ❖ **Meditation Service every second and fourth Thursday of the month, Nyoirin-An meditation room in Naubeim near Frankfurt, Germany.**

## September Events

- 1–2 Daishin takes part in a stupa consecration ceremony in Hungary

- 14 Shikan Meditation and Dharma Talk: *Lotus Sutra*, Chapter 17 “Distinction of Benefits” (*Funbetsu kudoku*).
- 28 Shikan Meditation and Dharma Talk: *Lotus Sutra*, Chapter 18 “The Benefits of Joyful Acceptance” (*Zuiki kudoku*).

# Nishi Sangha

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- ❖ **Meditation Service and Dharma Discussion every Tuesday, 6 p.m., Friends’ Meeting House, Madison Avenue, Albany, NY**

## September Events

- 5 Buddhism and Patriotism? (A Discussion)—*Shoshin*

- 12 Three Nirvanas—*Mushin*
- 19 O-Higan—*Koyo*
- 26 Zen Mind, Beginner’s Mind, Shunryu Suzuki—*Mushin*

# Danish Lotus Sangha

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## September Events

- ❖ Every Thursday, Meditation Service, 7:30–9:30 p.m.
- ❖ Every Tuesday, Meditation Service and discussion 9:30–10:30 a.m.
- 5–19 The Six Paramitas

- ❖ 26 Preparation for the Retreat Sunday, September 10, Lotus Sutra Studies and Meditation Service, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
- ❖ September 29–October 1, Retreat



# September 2006

Tendai Buddhist Institute

Tendai-shu New York Betsuin and Karuna Tendai Dharma Center [www.tendai.org](http://www.tendai.org)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
				3	4 Higashi Sangha Meditation Service	5 Nishi Sangha Meditation Service
10 Danish Lotus Sangha Meditation Service	11 Higashi Sangha Meditation Service	12 Nishi Sangha Meditation Service Danish Lotus Sangha Meditation Service <i>Yakushi Nyorai Day</i>	13 Jiunzan Tendaiji Meditation Service	14 Nyoirin-An Meditation Service Danish Lotus Sangha Meditation Service  <i>Last Quarter</i>	15	16
17 Jiunzan Tendaiji Refuge Class	18 Higashi Sangha Meditation Service	19 Nishi Sangha Meditation Service Danish Lotus Sangha Meditation Service	20 Jiunzan Tendaiji Meditation Service and Refuge Ceremony	21 Danish Lotus Sangha Meditation Service	22  <i>New Moon</i>	23  <i>Autumnal Equinox</i>  <b>O-Higan Retreat</b>
24 Jiunzan Tendaiji Mahasangha Sunday  <b>O-Higan Retreat</b>	25 Higashi Sangha Meditation Service	26 Danish Lotus Sangha Meditation Service	27 Jiunzan Tendaiji Meditation Service	28 Nyoirin-An Meditation Service Danish Lotus Sangha Meditation Service	29	30  <i>First Quarter</i>  <b>Danish Lotus Retreat</b>