

The Buddha Mind Grapevine

OCT. 2013



Buddha Mind News

We have finally received all of the necessary permits for us to relocate and use our new building. Work is ongoing to pack and relocate items from the old building and to prepare the new building. Your continued help and support is greatly appreciated.



DEAR DHARMA FRIENDS,

We are very happy to share with you all news that we are finally moving into our new building! With the completion of the new Chan hall, it is a time that we can focus on our inner temple that is growing as well. As we build our new monastery we accumulate great merit to contribute to our inner temple.

The November monthly ceremony will be the Diamond Sutra Ceremony and the Purification Ceremony for the new Chan Hall. We will be chanting the Diamond Sutra on non-ceremonial Sundays from 10:00 to 11:00. Coinciding with these events, we will be studying the Diamond Sutra in Sutra Study class each Wednesday.

The Diamond Sutra is one of the most treasured of Buddhist Sutras. It is known as the Diamond Sutra because its teaching is said to be clear, strong, and sharp like a diamond that can cut through delusion and release us from attachment, and help bring us to nirvana. Like a diamond, the sutra is solid, stable and very bright – its light of wisdom shatters all darkness. The Diamond Sutra urges us to cut through the illusions of reality that surrounds us.

Buddhism Calms Our Mind

A Buddhist's attitude towards "causality and retribution" is positive, not negative. In every phenomena, where there is cause there is effect. Only when we make efforts to cultivate "good causes," will we surely attain "good results" in the future.

~ Grand Master Wei-Chueh

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The Buddha Mind Grapevine

Page2

Classes & Events

- Zen Meditation & Buddhism Class
Level 1, Tuesdays 7 - 9 pm
- Sutra Study Class, Wednesdays 7 - 9 pm
(Level II Class required)
- Diamond Sutra Ceremony
Non-Ceremonial Sundays, 10 – 11 am
- Saturday Meditation Session
Saturdays, 3:30 – 4:30 pm
- Meditation Class in Chinese, Non-Ceremonial
Sundays, 10 am – 12:30 pm
- Kids' Meditation Class, Saturdays, 10/26,
11/09, 11/23, 10:30 am – 12:00 pm (Followed
by Kids Mandarin Chinese Class)
- Youth Meditation Class, Saturdays, 10/26,
11/09, 11/23, 9:30 – 11:30am
- Vegetarian Cooking Class, Saturdays, 11/16,
1 – 2:30 pm
- Yoga Class
Non-Ceremonial Sundays, 9 – 10 am
- Half-Day Zen Retreat
Sunday 10/27 & 11/24, 2 – 5:30 pm

DHARMA EVENTS

Purification Ceremony of the New Buddha Mind Monastery

Sunday 11/3/2013

- 9:30 am Purification Ceremony
- 10:00 am Chanting "The Diamond Sutra" &
Dharma Talk
- 11:30 am Grand Meal Offering Before Buddhas
Blessing & Memorial Services
- 12:30pm Vegetarian Lunch

Great Compassion Guan Yin Ceremony

Sunday, 12/1/2013

- 9:30 am Chanting "The Universal Gateway of
Bodhisattva Guan Yin" / Dharma Talk
- 11:00 am Grand Meal Offering / Blessing
- 12:00 pm Vegetarian Lunch

Buddha Mind Monastery Honored with Campus Compact Award

This past month, Buddha Mind Monastery participated in the Campus Compact Heartland Conference, a coalition of university leaders committed to fulfilling the civic purposes of higher education through community service and development of citizenship skills.

During the conference, Buddha Mind Monastery was honored with "The Outstanding Community and Campus Collaboration Award!" The award "recognizes significant positive impact through sustained campus-community partnership." The service-learning was done with students from Prof. Dann May's Introduction to World Religions course at Buddha Mind Monastery.

In the past seven years, over 500 students who took an introductory world religions course at OCU have completed service-learning projects at Buddha Mind Monastery. This participation allows us to share with the students our service-learning philosophy, best practices, and traditional Zen Buddhist practices.



Following their service project focusing on "working meditation," the students are invited to a session of seated and walking meditation and a brief lecture given by the Abbess. The instruction includes the importance of obtaining clarity of mind and how to integrate this into their studies and into their daily lives. Students are urged to concentrate and be mindful of the work they are doing for the community, no matter how mundane or routine the tasks seems to be. This introduces them to the concept of unconditional giving on an individual basis and as part of a community service effort. A vegetarian meal is provided to promote vegetarianism on a compassionate, healthy, and environmental level and they are taught not to waste any of the food out of respect and appreciation.

Our appreciation goes out to those of you who have volunteered to help out with the students, and to those of you who have not yet volunteered, we encourage you to come to join us. We depend on everyone's involvement and support to make this a successful experience for the students.

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Pilgrimage Tour to Chung Tai Chan Monastery in Taiwan 2013

This past August, Buddha Mind once again had a group that traveled to Taiwan for the annual Pilgrimage to Chung Tai Chan Monastery. This year's itinerary was a little different than in past years as the group first went to Japan and toured several Japanese Buddhist Temples in and around the Kyoto area. Temples visited included the famous Todai-ji Temple, Horyuji, Sanzen-in Temple, Nishi Hongwanji, Sanjusangen-do, the Ritsu Sect Headquarters at Toshodaiji Temple, Kiyomizu Temple and the Golden Pagoda. They toured Ryoan ji Temple and its world-famous Zen Rock Garden.



In Taiwan, they toured beautiful national parks including Taroko National Park, Shakadang Trail, Cingshui Cliffs, and the Sun Moon Lake and Recreation Area before moving to the Chung Tai Monastery. There they toured the monastery and museum and participated in the Medicine Buddha Ceremony, the Ullambana Ceremony, Three Refuges, Five Precepts Transmission, and Mountain Pilgrimage including an award ceremony and talk given by the Venerable Grand Master. The group participated in sitting, walking, and working meditation and had many opportunities to visit, meet and make friends with Dharma brothers and sisters from other Chung Tai affiliated monasteries!



The Buddha Mind Grapevine

Page 4

We Are Building a Pure Land --New Buddha Mind Monastery--

We appreciate all of the help and support that we have received these past months to help us plan and build our monastery. None of this would have been possible without each and every contribution.

Our goal was to have a place to practice in peace and for all to enjoy. Keeping with this we want to remind everyone that our monastery and walking trail is open to the public. We ask only that all visitors remain respectful to our practice.

The Purification Ceremony for the new building will be conducted during the November ceremony, Sunday, November 3rd. We invite all to attend to purify both our inner and outer temples.



Our Rising Stars

Youth Class

This fall we started a new youth meditation class designed for our teens, and young adults. This class was developed to teach meditation and practice in an age specific manner, while providing a venue for our youth to meet other young Buddhist practitioners.

The class includes chanting, sitting and walking meditation, and a Dharma lesson. Included are activities that encourage interactivity to help foster critical thinking skills to apply in their practice and daily life. The class is also designed for them to mentor younger Dharma students. We invite everyone that may have family or friends that would benefit from this class to encourage them to attend. This is a great opportunity for our youth to begin and continue a spiritual journey.

Kid's Class

In our kid's class we also chant, meditate, and have activities. Our activities in this class are geared towards a younger audience, and we have great activities that teach basic Buddhist principles such as compassion, generosity, mindfulness, and cooperation. Both kids and parents have fun and learn together!!

