

2008 Event Summary

Continued

The Temple continued to work with an architect and a Temple building committee on the design and permitting process for a new dharma room addition. Four fund-raising events were conducted in support of this project and Temple operations:

- A dharma camp was held in the summer to teach 17 children meditation skills, cultural awareness, and creativity in arts and crafts. Fifteen volunteers supported this program.
- A Korean college student took part in a language study program to improve her English and cultural appreciation. Two host families and about seven volunteers supported her effort.
- A bazaar was held in October, and about 25 volunteers served to prepare and run the event. Two hundred people visited on the day of the bazaar.
- A movie night was held to view and discuss movies relevant to spiritual ideals.

Reflecting on all the achievements of 2008, we are deeply grateful. This was only possible with all the sincere practice and generous contributions from our wonderful dharma practitioners and visitors. We pray that in 2009 we continue to deepen our quality of practice and expand the outreach of *Won-Buddhism*



2008 Event Summary

The *Won-Buddhism* Temple of NC supports the spiritual cultivation of community members through the teachings of Ven. Sotaesan, the founder of *Won-Buddhism*. A variety of spiritual sessions and services were held throughout the year:

- The Temple conducted meditation services on Tuesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays. The average attendance on Tuesdays was 16; Saturdays, 13; and Sundays, 16.
- The Temple held morning sessions to further the practice of those interested in daily meditation. There was an average of 5 practitioners in early morning meditation.
- An average of 8 practitioners attended 11 Saturday afternoon retreats to further their meditation practice.
- Great Enlightenment Day was celebrated by 50 practitioners on April 28 in recognition of Ven. Sotaesan's Great Awakening and the Founding Day of *Won-Buddhism*.
- Sotaesan's Memorial Service (June 1) was attended by 30 practitioners.
- The *Won-Buddhism* Thanksgiving Service (November 30) was celebrated by 18 attendees.
- New Year's Eve and New Year's Day services were held to send off the old year and guide the spiritual path of practitioners for the coming year. A total of 110 people participated in these events.



2008 Event Summary

Continued

- Monthly children and family meditations continued with an average of 11 participants.
- Altogether, over 91 participants attended the spring and fall dharma sessions and summer lectures by a guest teacher, Ven. Chwatawonim.
- Several groups met for the first time in 2008: the first monthly Korean dharma service; the first monthly informal Dharma discussion; the first Raleigh group meditations at a practitioner's home and at Moving Mantra Yoga Studio.



The Temple also provided much individual support and a number of special outreach services:

- Through supportive individual and dharma counseling, the kyomunims provided service to 368 individuals/families in the Temple or at their homes. In addition to counseling, the Temple also offered special visits for blessing homes, birthday celebrations, and family events as requested.
- Deliverance ceremonies were offered to deliver the souls of the deceased and support the families and friends in their grief. The Temple provided 25 series of deliverance ceremony for departed souls.
- The Temple has been conducting 1000 days of prayer to collect the spirit of practitioners and the community for supporting the dharma room building project.



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2008 Event Summary

Continued

- The kyomunims and practitioners conducted outreach through lectures and meditation workshops at several venues and events: Piedmont Community College, University of North Carolina, Duke University, and International Peace Day.
- The head kyomunim led a four-day meditation retreat at the Southern Dharma Retreat Center near Asheville, NC.
- The Board of Directors held a retreat and visit to the Washington, Philadelphia, Manhattan, New York, and Richmond Temples.
- An overnight retreat was held for four candidates wishing to receive dharma names.
- A Dharma Name Ceremony was held for four recipients and 25 attended to support their commitment.
- A pilgrimage to Korea was undertaken by two practitioners and the head kyomunim. The head kyomunim extended the pilgrimage by making presentations about the NC Temple at dharma services in various Korean Temples.
- The head kyomunim talked on the topic of "Fourfold Grace" at the 38th World Scout Conference in JeJu, Korea before 1300 world scout leaders.
- The Temple maintains a website, www.wonbuddhismNC.org, and about 600 e-mail recipients are informed monthly about Won-Buddhism of NC programs.



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