



2007 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 9; Saturdays, 10; and Sundays, 20.
- The Temple held morning sessions to further the practice of those interested in daily meditation. There was an average of five practitioners in early morning meditation.
- An average of seven practitioners attended eight Saturday afternoon retreats for furthering their meditation practice.
- Great Enlightenment Day is celebrated April 28 each year in recognition of Ven. Sotaesan's Great Awakening and also the Founding Day of Won-Buddhism. Eighty people participated in Great Enlightenment Day.
- New Year's Eve and New Year's Day services were held to send off the old year and direct the spiritual path of practitioners for the coming year. A total of 125 people participated in these events.
- Children's meditations continued, with an average of 11 participants. The Temple embraced cultural diversity by starting monthly programs for teens, Hispanics, and Koreans
- Altogether, over 270 participants attended the spring and fall dharma sessions and summer lectures by a guest teacher, Ven. Chwatawonim.





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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 334 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 21 series of deliverance ceremonies for departed souls, including the 33 who died at Virginia Tech.
- The Temple conducted 100 days of prayer to collect the spirit of practitioners and the community and to bless benefactors supporting the dharma room addition.
- The kyomunims and practitioners conducted outreach through lectures and meditation workshops. The venues included Piedmont Community College, Wake Forest University, University of North Carolina, Duke University, the Integrative Medical Center, and the “Change Your Mind Day” event in Durham.
- The kyomunims led a three-day meditation retreat at the Southern Dharma Retreat Center, as well as a meditation retreat/workshop for a women's yoga group and at Thich Nhat Hanh Sangha, both in Raleigh.
- The head kyomunim and one Temple member joined with the staff of Won-Buddhism Scout in facilitating a two-week program for the World Scout Jamboree in England. The team reached about 5,000 youths and adults through meditation workshops, explanations of Won-Buddhism, and dharma services.
- The NC Temple also hosted the Richmond Temple in a dharma name ceremony for practitioners from both groups.
- About 500 email recipients are informed about Won-Buddhism of NC programs. In addition, the Temple maintains a website, www.wonbuddhismNC.org.

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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. It conducted six events in support of the project:

- An English-language camp was provided to six Korean children in January and seven Korean children in February. Thirteen host families and about 30 volunteers supported this program on many levels to help the campers improve their English and expand their cultural learning.
- A dharma camp was held in the summer to teach 27 children meditation skills, appreciation for cultural variety, and creativity in arts and crafts. Fifteen volunteers supported this program.
- In December, a Korean college student took part in a language study program to improve her English and cultural awareness. Two host families and about seven volunteers supported her effort.
- A bazaar was held in September, and about 25 volunteers served in preparing and running the event. One hundred people visited on the day of the bazaar.
- A flower-arranging class was taught by a top professional floral artist from Korea who was visiting the Temple in December. She offered four flower-arranging classes, benefiting a total of 44 participants.
- Five movie nights were held in 2007, benefiting an average of 18 participants per night in their discussions of spiritual and social themes.



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Reflecting on all these achievements accomplished in 2007, 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 2008 we continue to deepen our quality of practice and expand the outreach of this great work.

