

Mid-America Buddhist Association

July 2022 eNews



Drone photo of MABA. Help us design new walking paths!

‘All dhammas are not-self’ —
When one sees [this] with discernment
and grows disenchanted with stress,
this is the path to purity.

—Dhammapada v. 279

Greetings from MABA

**Join us every [Sunday](#) for meditation, talks, chanting, and discussions
In person, on [Zoom](#), and [Facebook](#), join us!**

***MABA is open to the public on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.
Please wear masks indoors, be vaccinated, and maintain social distancing.***

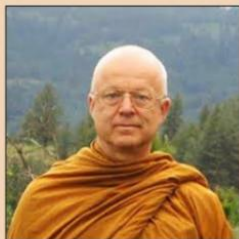
Again, we are gently reminded of a few guidelines when visiting the monastery. Along with COVID precautions, please refrain from wearing fragrances, speak in low tones, wear respectful clothing (plain colors, no bare knees or shoulders), and remove shoes before entering buildings. All are welcome to walk around the grounds and stay for lunch at 11:45am.

Dear Dharma Friends,

Welcome to summer in the Midwest! Due to the heatwaves in June, some of our gardens required twice daily watering and shade cloth, both to sustain and protect sensitive plants that had not yet become established. We see that with a little nurturing now, great benefits will be afforded later on. Similar results may certainly be had with our Dharma practice when we can sit and meditate for at least ten minutes twice a day.

We have a lot to share with you this month! First,

**MABA's
Study Group
Welcomes Back**



**Ajaan
Ṭhānissaro Bhikkhu**

**Wednesday, July 6, 2022
7:30–9:00 pm CT**

Part of our Zoom Dhamma Talk Series

**Studying:
Not-Self**

Author of articles, *The Not-Self Strategy*, and
The Limits of Description, and the book,
Selves & Not-Self

Ajaan's teachings on Zoom are always well received at MABA. We are thankful Ajaan has again accepted our invitation to join us for another virtual visit during our 2022 series of Dhamma Talks on Zoom.

Since Ajaan seldom travels, this is a rare opportunity to learn from one of the great present-day Buddhist translators and commentators.

Everyone is welcome!

To Register: www.eventbrite.com/e/367227967737

Donations gratefully accepted:
maba-usa.org/contribute

On Wednesday, July 6 at 7:30pm, we once again welcome Ven. Thanissaro Bhikkhu virtually from California as part of our Zoom Dhamma Talk Series. Ajaan Geoff will be speaking to us on Not-Self. All are welcome! Register for free tickets at [Eventbrite here](#).

Our **Book Study Group** continues to read and discuss Ajaan's book, *Selves & Not-Self* as part of our **Sunday Mornings** program. Join us then as well!

Children's Half-Day

Ages 5–12

July 10 & 24 ~ August 7 & 21 ~ September 11 & 25
9:30am – 11:45am

*(same time as our Sunday Mornings program;
we come together for lunch at 11:45am)*

For more information and to sign-up
Please contact: office@maba-usa.org

Next, after a two-year hiatus, we are excited to announce our Children's Half-Day program is resuming, with twice a month dates in July, August, and September! On these dates, children ages 5 through 12 will have their own program in Manjusri Hall, while our regular **Sunday Mornings** program will be in Chan Hall. Then we all meet for lunch at 11:45am.

This month's focus will be on loving kindness. Facilitated by Ven. Kongke, Stacey, Jennifer, and with adult helpers, the program includes short meditations, story-telling, walk or yoga, crafts, and sharing. Those younger than five-years old are welcome when accompanied by an adult, while those older than 12 are welcome to be helpers. Adult helpers are always welcome as well! For more information and to sign-up, please email the **MABA office** with "children's group" in the subject line. We look forward to seeing you again!

And **IBFA's** new building in Chicago's Chinatown has been closed in, with all windows and doors installed. Volunteers are working to help Master and Venerables finish painting, cleaning, and moving in furnishings. Photos are on the **IBFA website**. Please email the **office** for details on volunteering (join our carpool); we're very close to our final inspection and opening, help us get there. See you in Chicago!

Also, our Dizang Blessing will be held on Sunday, September 4, more information is below.

Lastly, Master is asking for a few people who enjoy hiking to help us design new walking paths at MABA! With 76 acres of gently rolling terrain, we have USGS topological maps and a drone with a camera to help us plot easy and medium difficulty walkways. We are also renovating the existing walking path around MABA's pond, including planting Missouri natives and setting pavers. Donations for landscaping, plants, pavers, and benches along the routes are welcome. Planning in earnest will begin after Labor Day, with work beginning in the fall. Please contact Master at the **office** if you'd like to be part of the design team.

This month's guided meditation from Xiānkuān Don Yéye: Patience

We invite you to join us every **Sunday Morning**, either in person, on **Zoom**, or on **Facebook** for meditation, Dharma talks, chanting, and discussions. All are welcome.

As always, we are grateful for your ongoing **support**.
May all beings be well and happy, please continue to stay safe.

Your Friends in the Dharma,
The Community at MABA

Dizang Blessing ~ September 4

Mid-America Buddhist Association
2022 年地藏王菩薩祈福燃燈登記表

2022 Dizang Dharma Assembly Blessing Candles Registration Form

祈福燃燈平安燈：點燈日期從 8/31/2022 至 9/4/2022 共計五日。每盞燈以登記兩名為限，每盞燈\$30。
Blessing Candles: Candle will be lit from 8/31/2022 to 9/4/2022. Total of 5 days, each candle lit is limited to two names, \$30 per candle lit.

平安祈福燈 1
Blessing Candle _____

平安祈福燈 2
Blessing Candle _____

平安祈福燈 3
Blessing Candle _____

平安祈福燈 4
Blessing Candle _____

為往生者點燈：點燈日期從 8/31/2022 至 9/4/2022 共計五日。每盞燈以登記兩名為限，每盞燈\$30。
Candle will be lit from 8/31/2022 to 9/4/2022. Total of 5 days, each candle lit is limited to two names, \$30 per candle lit.

往生燈 1
Deceased Candle _____

往生燈 2
Deceased Candle _____

往生燈 3
Deceased Candle _____

往生燈 4
Deceased Candle _____

Please make check payable to MABA. Please fill in the form and send together with the check to MABA, 299 Heger Lane, Augusta, MO 63332 on or before 8/30/2022 for our preparation purpose. If you wish to send via zelle, please use email: office@maba-usa.org.

Applicant Name: _____ Tel: (____) _____ Total Amount: \$ _____
Received By: _____ Receipt # _____ Date: ____/____/2022

[Click image to download form in .pdf](#)

DIZANG BLESSING CEREMONY
美中佛教會地藏祈福法會

Sunday, September 4th, 2022
星期日 2022 年九月四日
10:00 AM ~ 11:30 AM

Reciting *Diamond Sutra, Heart Sutra,*
Name of Amitabha Buddha
Offering & Transferring of Merit
念誦金剛經、心經、佛號；
上供、回向

注：歡迎您和家人親友們共同來參與法會追思往生者。全程務必戴
口罩及遵守 MABA 列下的防疫措施。本會準備午齋與大家共享。
Note: MABA welcome you and your family, relatives, and friends to participate in this Dharma
Assembly to commemorate the departed. Please wear mask at all time & follow the restriction
rules set by MABA. Vegetarian lunch will be served.

有興趣長期收到 MABA 活動和訊息，
請添加 MABA 的微信 ID: MABAAugustaMO
To receive MABA news via WeChat,
please add MABAAugustaMO to your WeChat contact.

299 Heger Ln, Augusta, MO 63332
Website: <https://www.maba-usa.org>

[Click image to download flyer in .pdf](#)

Study Group in Chinese ~ Wednesday Evenings

Chinese Study Group

in Mandarin

Wednesdays 8–10 pm CT
Skype Host: Sin EE

Current topic of study: Discourse by Master Yin Shun –
the “**Extensive Commentary on the Five Skandas of the Mahayana Tradition**”
大乘廣五論講記

Contact: Katty Choi

Email: kattymetta2you@gmail.com OR: lktan_sinee@yahoo.com

All who interested are welcome to join us!

MABA Calendar

- July 3 -- Sunday Mornings at MABA** - Dharma Talk by Xianchu Cory
July 6 -- An Evening with Thanissaro Bhikkhu, on Not-Self
July 10 -- Sunday Mornings at MABA - Dharma Talk by Ven. Kongke
July 17 -- Sunday Mornings at MABA - Dharma Talk by Xianji Lee
July 24 -- Sunday Mornings at MABA - Dharma Talk by Jeff
July 31 -- Sunday Mornings at MABA - Dharma Talk by Xianxing Sherrie

Topic: Dharma for Difficult Times

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### **Sunday Mornings at MABA Schedule:**

- 9:15 am -- Meditation Instruction Video
- 9:30 am -- Guided Sitting Meditation
- 10:00 am -- Dharma Talk
- 10:30 am – Chanting (in English), Announcements, and short break  
(Facebook streaming ends)
- 11:00 am -- **Study Group**
- 11:45 am -- Conclude

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Sunday Mornings at MABA and our **Study Group** meet every Sunday morning in person and via Zoom and Facebook. All are welcome, no experience necessary. If you would like to receive a weekly email reminder, please send an email to **Xiankuan Don Yeye** with "subscribe to weekly email" in the subject line

Zoom link for Sunday Mornings at MABA:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86110188493?
pwd=NnhzQ0FxcWZCTzljZHFiMHVxLzc4UT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86110188493?pwd=NnhzQ0FxcWZCTzljZHFiMHVxLzc4UT09)

Meeting ID: 861 1018 8493
Passcode: 828040

Or, find **Sunday Mornings** at MABA on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MABAAugusta



In preparation for our visit by Ven. Thanissaro Bhikkhu, our **Book Study Group** has put aside the *Sūraṅgama Sūtra* (□□□□ *Shǒulèngyán Jīng*) for now, instead "concentrating our heroic progress" on Ajahn Geoff's book, *Selves & Not-Self*, as part of our regular **Sunday Morning** program. All are welcome, no experience necessary. To sign up for these classes, contact Xiǎnxǐng Sherrie at retreat@maba-usa.org to receive the free .pdf book, *Selves and Not-Self*. Or join us on **Sunday Morning** and download it then.

Come visit with us on **Sunday Mornings!**

MABA Cares

The MABA community is happy to be of benefit to any of our sangha members in difficulty, and we are able to help in several ways.

If you are in a food emergency, MABA can provide supplies from MABA's pantry; if you cannot make it out to the monastery, we can deliver. For longer-term food assistance, we can help you find a food pantry.

Whether spiritual counseling and moral support, professional mental health counseling, end-of-life questions, or legal assistance, we can help you find a provider. If you feel unsafe, let us know.

Please have no fear of reaching out, anyone can fall into difficulty, and there is no shame in a helping hand from a friend. Reach out to MABA at www.maba-usa.org/contact-us if you need assistance.



Dharma Talks and Guided Meditations

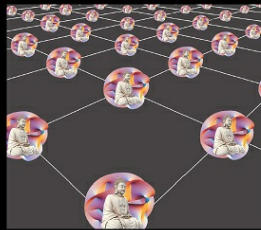
This month's guided meditation from
Xiānkuān Don Yéye:
Patience

Xiānkuān continues to post new guided meditations on YouTube. Learn how to calm the mind, gain insight, and cultivate loving kindness and compassion at:

Six Pathways

Six Pathways to Happiness:
Mindfulness and Psychology
in Chinese Buddhism

Volume I



Xiankuan

Six Pathways is available in both softcover and e-book at [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com). Stay tuned for Volume II this fall!

MABA continues to upload past Dharma Talks, and can be found at MABA's YouTube channel (more to come):

[Dharma Talks at MABA](#)

Photos, Events, and More!

To view more photos from events at MABA, please visit our [Media page](#).

Please visit our [Event Calendar](#) for upcoming events.

[Donate Now](#)

**Please consider making a donation today
to support our on-going programs.**

All donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

You may make secure contributions directly to MABA via PayPal, [PayPal Giving Fund](#), Zelle, or by sending a check made payable to "MABA" to 299 Heger Lane, Augusta, MO 63332

Thank you for your continued support!

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