

Puja Events in March:

Maha Shivarathri: 4th at 5:00
PM

Sai Bhajan: 7th at 7:00 PM

Sarasvati Puja: 9th at 10:00
AM

Sathyanarayana Puja: 20th at
6:30 PM

Holi Cultural Event: 23rd at
5:00 PM

Monthly Bhajan: 29th at 7:00
PM

Weekly Abhishekams:

Mondays: Lord Shiva

Thursdays: Devis

Saturdays: Lord Vishnu

Temple Timings:

Mon-Fri: 9-11 AM and 6-8 PM

Wed: 9-11 AM

Sat & Sun: 9 AM - 12 PM and

5 - 8 PM

Temple is closed on Wednesday
evenings and 4th Sunday of each
month



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Welcome message from the president.....

The Hindu Society of Eastern Washington (HSEW) has grown tremendously over the last 10 years due to the dedication, countless hours and contributions of its members. The founders' vision for the HSEW continues to be the basis for its incredible success in the Tri-Cities. The new 2019 Board of Directors has been given the important responsibility of guiding the continued success of the HSEW and takes this responsibility very seriously. The 2019 HSEW Board is looking forward to sharing a happy and prosperous 2019 with members of the HSEW. Our new Board, officers, and chairpersons of the specific Committees are posted in this newsletter as well as on our website. On that list, you will see some familiar names and a few new names. We are looking for more interested volunteers to join the Board and Committees. Specifically, we have three Board member openings for patron members. We also would like to thank last year's Board for their outstanding work and preparation for hiring a priest.

HSEW is growing into an organization that continues to support the cultural, spiritual and religious growth of the Tri-Cities and surrounding areas. The 2019 HSEW board envisions the HSEW as the Hinduism center of Eastern Washington with influence as far as Spokane. This significant transition in 2019 will take the coordinated effort of all of our members. The HSEW has taken some significant steps in realizing this vision which is outlined here.

The first step in this next phase was to hire a full-time priest. The successful hiring of a full-time priest has allowed for regular Temple opening and weekly functions in addition to special events. The HSEW hired Sri Satyanarayana Molakkalu who has begun performing religious functions at the Temple and privately from mid-January. Satyajji and his wife, Jyothi, have taken a large step in moving to the Tri-Cities from a successful career in Augusta, GA. Please join us in welcoming Satyajji and Jyothi to the Tri-Cities.

Secondly, the 2019 HSEW Board has recognized the need for a better operating structure to support the vision. This operating structure will include Federal registration as a "religious organization", a name change

to "Hindu Temple of Eastern Washington", and changes to the Constitution/By-Laws of the organization. These specific changes implement cost-savings by providing advantages in taxation and operations. The Board has also implemented the necessary committees to allow for the enhanced operations. For example, we have created a new committee called Puja Service Committee (PSC) chaired by Srimathi Prashanthi Kukkadapu. She will serve as a liaison between the Priest and the Board. Please give her your full support.

Ultimately, the success of this transition of the HSEW depends upon the kindness and energy of the entire community. The HSEW Board is making a significant effort in operating in an open and transparent manner. Many thanks to all the folks that have graciously donated towards the Priest initiative as well as the many who renewed their membership during the Diwali Function. The information provided allows us to keep everyone informed and engaged as we embark on this transition. We are looking forward to constructive feedback and recommendations from the Community through the various means of communication that have been completely renovated. Please visit our newly designed website (www.hsew.org) or our newly crafted Facebook page (www.facebook.com/HSEWtemple). All information will be frequently updated through these avenues.

On a personal note, I've only been in the Tri-Cities for five years and involved in HSEW for the last three. HSEW has grown to mean a great deal to me and my family, Radhika (my wife), Aditya (son) and Anusha (daughter). I believe the HSEW will soon be recognized as the religious, spiritual, and cultural center for Hinduism in Eastern Washington. I pledge to the community that we will do everything possible to grow the success of the HSEW under the visionary guidance of the founders. In order to make this happen, we will need the help of all in the Community. I look forward to working with all of you to realize this vision.

Sincerely,

Karthik Subramanian
2019 HSEW Board



Reach us at

www.HSEW.org

Like us at

www.Facebook.com/HSEWtemple

2019 HSEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Karthik Subramanian

Vice President: Saravanan Kasthuri

Secretary: Sanjay Sanan

Assistant Secretary: Parveen Bhargava

Treasurer: Ramprashad Prabhakaran

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PRIEST SERVICES COMMITTEE

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RELIGIOUS COMMITTEE

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Shuttha Shutthanandan

Radha Kishan Motkuri

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AUDIT COMMITTEE

Chair: Shakti Matta

Satish Nune

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Chair: Parveen Bhargava

Radhika Subramanian

BUILDING MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Chair: Karthik Subramanian

Sanjay Sanan

COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Chair: Shuttha Shutthanandan

Ajay Panyala



January Puja events at the HSEW Temple

Several pujas were performed at the temple during the month of January. Here we summarize the performed pujas...

We welcomed the 2019 New Year by performing a puja for all deities around 11:30 AM on January 1st. Lots of devotees came to the temple and participated in the puja and obtained the blessings.



Our annual Ayyappa puja was celebrated on January 12th from 2:30 to 8 PM. The puja was conducted by our new priest Sri Satyajai. The puja was started by performing a puja for Lord Ganesha and followed by "Irumudi katu" ritual (preparation for Ayyappa yatra). After that, the abhishekam was performed to Lord Ganesha, Lord Subramanya and Lord Ayyappa. After the abhishekam, padi puja (for holy 18 steps) and sahasranama archana for all three gods were performed. During the puja, several devotees sang bhajan songs. Maha aarati was offered to all three gods around 8 PM. Finally, the puja was concluded by singing "Harivarasnam" song.



On the morning of January 14th, Mahasankarathi puja was celebrated. Special abhishekam and puja was performed for Lord Suriyanarayanar (sun god).

On January 23rd evening, Thai Poosam festival was celebrated for the first time in our temple. The puja was started by performing a small havan and followed by Abhishekam and puja for Lord Shanmuga (Subramanya) and his two Devis. All devotees participated in chanting slokas with our priest during the havan and abhishekam. In addition, several devotees have participated in "Pall kavadi"



procession (devotees carried a small milk pot on their heads) around the temple even in the cold temperature. Puja was concluded with maha aarati and maha prasadam was distributed to all devotees.



Sai bhajan and monthly bhajan were conducted on first Thursday and last Friday of January.

Besides these special puja, we were performing abhishekam and puja for Lord Shiva and Lord Vishnu on every Monday evenings and Saturdays mornings respectively. In addition, we were chanting Hanuman Chalisa and Lalitha Sahasranamam on Tuesdays and Fridays evenings.





Our Priest: Sri. Satyanarayana Molakkalu

Sri Satyaji is a dedicated Hindu Priest with 33 years of experience performing various pujas and Hindu rituals throughout India and USA. He was born in state of Karnataka in India. He did his initial education at AUP School in Karnataka, India. After his initial education, he studied Rigveda at Kanchi Kamakoti Mutt in Kumbakonam, Tamil Nadu, India. He worked as priest at Dayanand Ashram in Rishikesh, Arsha Vidya Gurukul, Pennsylvania, Murugan Temple, Maryland, and Hindu Temple Society, Georgia. He can speak fluently in several Indian regional languages including English, Hindi, Kannada, Tamil and Telugu. Not only he can perform routine temple pujas such as Nitya puja, alankaras, Kalyanautsava, havans and archanas but also can also carry out major puja at home and commercial places like Grihapravasha, Sathyanarayana Katha, Navagraha Puja, Durga Puja, Vehicle Puja, and Bhoomi Puja. In addition, he can also perform regular Hindu rituals (ceremonies) like Weddings, Upanayanam, Baby Shower, Mundan, Hiranya Shradh. He can perform wedding ceremonies in different Indian traditions such as Punjabi, North Indian, Gujrati, Tamil, Karnatak, Kerala, and Telugu. Please welcome Satyaji and his wife Jyoti to our community and give your full support to them.

Tri-Cities Balagokulam Corner

Q: What is Balagokulam

A: Balagokulam is the place where kids from ages 5 to 18 come together to learn shlokas, yoga, games, stories and crafts. Our goal is to educate the children on our rich Hindu traditions, culture, and values all in one cohesive, memorable experience. By attending Balagokulam children will also develop a sense of sewa, or service to humankind.

All classes are conducted by volunteers on Sundays from 10:30 Am to 12:00 PM. Balagokulam commences late August and ends in the middle of June, following the local school calendar.

More to come.....Stay tune!

Proposed Name Change

The Hindu Society of Eastern Washington (HSEW) has been a strong and successful organization for many years. The HSEW has taken a great step in hiring a priest and is transition to functioning more like a traditional religious organization. In order to operate in the most efficient manner and realize the tax benefits of a religious organization versus a simple non-profit, the current Board of Directors has resolved to change the name of HSEW to the **Hindu Temple of Eastern Washington** (HTEW). The Board would like to get any feedback from the General Body for this change as it is an important step in realizing all the benefits for 2019 and beyond. Please give your inputs to the board.

Quote from Bhagavad-Gita

What have you lost?
Why are you crying?
What did you bring with you,
which you have lost?
What did you produce, which
was destroyed?
Whatever was received, was
received from here
Whatever was given, was given
here
You brought nothing when you
were born
You are taking nothing with you
when you die
Whatever is yours today was
somebody else's Yesterday and
will be somebody's tomorrow.

Change is the law of the universe!



PRIEST CORNER

OM !!!!! SHANTI !!!!! SHANTI !!!!! SHANTI !!!!!

Shanti, meaning peace is a natural state of being. Where there is peace, there is happiness. Everyone, without exception, desires peace in his/her life. However, it appears very difficult to attain peace because it is covered by our own agitations, and very few people manage to remain peaceful even in the midst of the external agitations and disturbances. There are several ways one can attain peace. One of the way is chanting prayers, by which, the peace is experienced internally irrespective of the external disturbances. All prayers end by chanting "OM Shanti Shanti Shanti".

All obstacles, problems, and sorrows originate from three sources. They are:

1. Adhidevika – the unseen forces over which we have no control
2. Adhibhautika – the known factors around us, and
3. Adhyaatmika – problems of our bodies and mind

While chanting, we pray to the Lord to give us the strength to face all the problems and sorrows, and still maintain our internal peace.

We chant Shanti three times. It is believed we chant "Om Shanti" loudly the first time, addressing the unseen forces; softer the second time, addressing the known factors around us, and softest the third time addressing our bodies and mind.

The following shloka professes peace for everyone.

**"Om Sarveshaam Svastirbhavantu, Sarveshaam Shantirbhavantu
Sarveshaam Poornambhavantu, Sarveshaam Mangalambhavantu
Om Shanti Shanti Shanti"**

**Sarve jana Sukhino bhavantu, Sarve santu niramayaha
Sarve bhadrani pashyantu, maa kashchid dukh bhag bhavet"**

The following shloka professes selfless service.

**"Paropakaray Vahanti Nadhyaha, Paropakaray Dushanti Gavaha,
Paropkaray Phalanti Vrikshaha, Paropkaray Idam Shareeram"**

Meaning:

**"Water from the river is utilized by everyone other than itself,
A cow gives milk to quench the thirst of others and
A tree bares fruits to fill others appetite"
OM !!!!! SHANTI !!!!! SHANTI !!!!! SHANTI !!!!!**

I and Jyoti are looking forward to work with this vibrant Hindu community and thank all of you for your continued support and frequent visitation to the temple.

May God bless you all!

Satyanarayana Molakkalu
Priest,
HSEW Temple

Announcements

Soliciting articles

We are soliciting articles of religious and general interest. Please submit maximum 1 page article by Feb 28th.

Please send your articles and input to :
hsewpujaservices@gmail.com

Please renew your membership

Members can make online donations or membership payments and renewals from the HSEW website (<https://hsew.org/>) via credit card or PayPal account. For direct donations, you can use HSEW's PayPal ID: hsewdonation@gmail.com

Private booking in/outside temple:

Members can book priest services by contacting Prashanthi Kukkadapu, Priest Services Committee Chair (PSCC) via email (hsewpujaservices@gmail.com) or phone number (509 676 6046). Online booking will be available soon. <https://hsew.org/schedule-a-puja>



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Thanks !

