

Membership

Join us today!



湖鏡庵

milwaukee zen center

A little history

In the mid-1970's few friends in the Milwaukee area began meeting to study Buddhism and to practice zazen. Slowly the group grew more organized and with the help of many people, the Milwaukee Zen Center was incorporated in 1983 as a non-profit religious organization.

In September, 1985, Rev. Tozen Akiyama arrived to serve as the Resident Priest. Then, in September, 1986, the Zen Center purchased its present home, where all center activities take place. Rev. Akiyama led the activities at the Center for sixteen years before designating his student, Rev. Tonen O'Connor, as the next Resident Priest. She served for 10 years, becoming semi-retired in 2011.

Rev, Hoko Karnegis arrived September, 2011 for a two-year residency while MZC continues its work on clerical succession.



湖鏡庵

milwaukee zen center

2825 North Stowell Avenue • Milwaukee, WI • 53211-3775
www.milwaukeezencenter.org • Visit us on Facebook
kokyo-an@att.net • 414-963-0526

milwaukee zen center
湖鏡庵

Yes! I want to be a member!

Name: _____
Street address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
E-mail: _____

I'm pledging at the following membership level: I will donate automatically via PayPal on the MZC website.

- Dragon: \$100/month
 Red Bird: \$50/month
 White Tiger: \$30/month
 Tortoise: \$10/month
- I will set up an automatic payment with my own bank.
 I will send a monthly check.
 I'm enclosing a one-time donation of \$ _____.

Thank you for your gift of support!

Please return this form to MZC at 2825 North Stowell Avenue • Milwaukee, WI • 53211-3775

*A place to rest
in the dharma*



Milwaukee Zen Center is also known as *Kokyo-an*, Lake Mirror Hermitage. We're located just minutes from Lake Michigan, whose waters reflect the changing shapes and colors of the clouds just as a mirror perfectly reflects whatever passes before it—without grasping, rejecting or labeling those images.

A hermitage is a safe and quiet place to put aside the world of demands and delusions and find rest. MZC offers an opportunity to come together with others to take refuge in the Buddha-nature that each of us already is.

Our members make our practice possible

A stable financial outlook is part of what makes MZC a place to rest in the dharma. We rely on membership support in order to offer Soto Zen practice, take care of our facilities and teachers, and respond to the changing needs of practitioners.

Won't you join us as a member today? Just choose the membership level that's the best fit for you.

- **Blue Dragon:** \$100/month and up
- **Red Bird:** \$50/month and up
- **White Tiger:** \$30/month and up
- **Black Tortoise:** \$10/month and up

Each of our membership levels is named for a spiritual guardian animal from our tradition. That's because our members play such an important role in protecting and encouraging Soto Zen practice in Milwaukee and in the ten directions.

We encourage members to make their monthly gifts automatically, via the PayPal button on our website



or online bill pay programs at their own banks. We'll be able to count on those funds each month, and members don't have to remember to write and send checks.

To become a member of MZC, please fill out and return the form on the reverse side of this trifold and tell us how you'll be making your monthly gift. MZC is registered nonprofit under IRS regulation 501(c)(3), and your donation will be tax deductible.

You'll be supporting activities like these:

- Zazen instruction for newcomers to Soto Zen practice
- Weekly opportunities to sit zazen together
- Weekly dharma book discussion group
- Weekly dharma talks from the head teacher or a special guest speaker
- Chanting services
- Instruction in sewing *rakusu* (lay robes)
- Quarterly newsletters
- Ceremonies for weddings, memorials, and taking precepts
- One-day and two-day sittings
- Practice support for prison inmates
- Responses to community requests for a Buddhist presence at interfaith events