Dear Village Zendo Sangha and Friends,

Now is the time for us to renew our practice during our Winter Ango! Each year we set aside time in our lives to renew our intention to live a meaningful life—by increasing our zazen, our study, and our interaction with sangha. This year we will do this on Zoom and create new ways to work for the Dharma!

I am pleased to announce that our Shuso, the ‘practice leader’ for this Ango is Kojin, Benjamine Heath. Kojin will offer his leadership and model practice for us during this time.

As you may recall, Ango means ‘peaceful dwelling’, and it is my hope that all of us who participate will encounter our own peaceful dwellings in our hearts and minds. And this year, we need to do this more than ever. To that end, I encourage you to attend the retreats, study sessions, and zazenkais that we have scheduled for Ango, to work with the commitment form that Kojin has devised, to study the text by Dogen, Uji, the Time Being, and to enter wholeheartedly into this time of invigorated practice.

The Ango officially begins on December 26th and flows on into March 14, ending with our Shuso Hossen on that day. This is the traditional length of an Ango, and gives us all time to settle into a deep winter practice.

Please take time to notice what is important in your life and do try to attend our beloved Year-End Retreat online on Zoom. It is a time of introspection, of clarity and resolve. Sitting together in our homes, walking in our various locations, taking time to rest, to watch the time flow, and listening to our own nature—this is our annual practice of restoring and re-centering.

For more information and to register:

https://villagezendo.org/events/being-time-virtual-winter-sesshin/

Kojin’s letter and his commitment form, as well as our study text, are available at that link. Please make your practice a reality, come back to your self, join the Ango!

Gassho,

Enkyo Roshi