



VILLAGE ZENDO

Dear Sangha,

How wonderful, our winter angō is almost here! This year, from December 26, 2023, to March 24, 2024, the Village Zendo community (and anyone who wishes to join us) will engage in an intensification of practice and attention to our lives. We go ‘all in’ on our Zen practice!

This is in accord with the traditional Zen long retreats called ‘*angō*’ translated as ‘peaceful dwelling’. Our Village Zendo Winter Angō begins with a weeklong sesshin at Garrison and continues online and in the city temple. It is a time of intensifying our practice in the midst of our ordinary daily lives of coming and going to work, our families and relations. For ninety days we personally commit to more zazen, more study, and other practices such as clear awareness of our interaction with others and attentiveness to the precepts.

This year we are studying “Uji” or “Time Being” - the powerful teaching about time and our relation to it, by Dogen, the deep and poetic Zen Master. We’ll be working from Kaz Tanahashi’s translation that can be found on our website here: https://villagezendo.org/wp-content/pdfs/uji_text.pdf

I encourage you all to study his penetrating meaning. We’ll be addressing his wisdom and antics in talks and discussions during this angō.

This year’s angō shuso, our practice leader, is Jyakuen (Sherrilynn Posey). Jyakuen has been practicing with the Zendo for many years, receiving Jukai in 2016. She will be leading and offering us support and direction during this period. Please study her shuso letter and suggestions for a strong angō for each of us. And, finally, she will also direct our spring urban sesshin, March 20 - 24.

Please enjoy this unique winter/spring angō,

Thank you for your practice,

Roshi Enkyo and the Village Zendo Teachers