Minnesota Zen Meditation Center

open hearts
open spaces
DANA AND GENEROSITY

Generosity, or “dana” in Sanskrit, heads the list of the Buddha’s six noble virtues, also known as the paramitas or transcendent actions. Dana takes many forms, and the Minnesota Zen Meditation Center has always depended upon it.

Please join us now by providing your generous financial support. By doing so, you will help us continue to do the wonderful work of sharing the dharma for generations to come. Giver, receiver, and gift can join as one, and all beings will benefit.

Together, we can do this!
DEAR FRIEND

The Minnesota Zen Meditation Center has been sharing the practice and teachings of Zen Buddhism with others since our founding in 1972. And since 1975, our beautiful building on the eastern shore of Bde Maka Ska (formerly Lake Calhoun) has served as our physical and spiritual home. Members and visitors quickly experience our center and community as both welcoming and peaceful.

Today, the yearning for serenity, joy, and meaning has never been stronger in our society—nor has our opportunity to end suffering by sharing these gifts ever been greater.

This capital campaign—Open Hearts, Open Spaces—will allow us to:

- Accommodate membership growth
- Improve accessibility
- Enhance stewardship of our building and grounds

Please join with us in creating the still, open space—both inner and outer—that is the birthright of all beings.
OUR NEEDS

Our sustained membership growth shows that we are meeting important needs, for both individuals and the broader community. However, recent rapid growth and the expectation of continued growth have revealed significant shortcomings in our current home.

As our community grows, our physical capacity must also grow.

To maintain our open hearts, we need to create more open space.

OUR PLANS

Our plans, developed by architect and Zen practitioner Rick Okada, will maintain and enhance our current culture:

- We’ll significantly expand the zendo and create a larger shared space—by removing an inner stairway and sections of several walls and then adding a stairway to the back of the building.

- We’ll add a new first-floor classroom—by remodeling the bamboo porch that overlooks the lake.

- We’ll increase accessibility with remodeled entrances and a new handicapped-accessible bathroom on the first floor.
WHAT WE DO

The Minnesota Zen Meditation Center (MZMC) was the first Zen Buddhist Center in the Midwest, established in 1972 by Katagiri Roshi. Today, nearly 50 years later, we reach thousands of people each year with our vital message of practicing in the here and now, and of promoting joy and ending suffering.

MZMC is a lively place; our programming includes:

- Daily meditation sessions
- Three weekly dharma talks
- Monthly retreats
- Intro to Meditation series for newcomers
- Eight-week practice periods twice a year
- Six classes and study groups each year
- Mentorships, with more than 80 members participating
- Outreach programs to food shelves, correctional facilities, corporations, and the general public

Rosemary Taylor is one of MZMC’s seven dharma transmitted priests.
HOW TO GIVE TO OPEN HEARTS, OPEN SPACES

Make your pledge today by mail, using the enclosed pledge card and return envelope. Or make your pledge electronically through our website, www.mnzencenter.org.

Every gift, no matter how large or small, will make a difference.

Please open your hearts and join with us as we help people experience a deep and quiet joy—right here, right now.

To accommodate our growing sangha, we recently added a second dharma talk on Sundays.

Drop by drop is the water pot filled.

Dhammapada, Verse 122
To help people experience a deep and quiet joy—a joy that arises whenever we are fully engaged in the work or play of this moment.