

From: Louisville Zen Center <louisvillezen@gmail.com>
[REDACTED]

Subject: COVID-19 Closure

Date: Thu, Mar 12, 2020 10:13 pm

Dear Sangha and Friends,

As the number of local, confirmed COVID-19 cases rise, Louisville Zen Center's leadership team must acknowledge the likelihood that more confirmations are still to come. In this interconnected world we must do our part to curb the spread of this disease and prevent our very fragile health care system from becoming overwhelmed.

Today our mother temple, Rochester Zen Center (RZC), made the difficult decision to close its doors to the public. On Monday our sister center, Cleveland Zazen Group, did the same. After speaking at length with Roshi on this matter and considering the advice of Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear as well as the move to deliver classes remotely at UoL, we've determined the time to act is right now. Effective immediately, ALL LOUISVILLE ZEN CENTER SITTINGS AND EVENTS ARE SUSPENDED UNTIL APRIL 1. We'll re-evaluate the situation as April 1 approaches.

I strongly encourage you to keep sitting every day at home. Residents at RZC will continue their regular training schedule (so will I at HPWZ!), and RZC will stream daily sittings, chanting services, and Sunday teisho at <https://www.rzc.org/library/streaming-audio/> You're invited to join them! The bells, block, kyosaku, and other sounds will already be familiar to you. It'll be like sitting with your local sangha at IBY or HPWZ.

In addition, I'll expand my availability to sangha for advising (informal one-to-one instruction) via phone, Skype, and e-mail. Click [here](#) for information about advising. Contact the Center to schedule a meeting.

Our sangha is our greatest asset and our highest priority. But I am convinced this tiny sacrifice can help preserve the health and well-being of ALL members of our world community.

See you soon and be well!

Jeanette Prince-Cherry
Group Leader, Louisville Zen Center

Louisville Zen Center is a 501(c)(3) non-profit that operates on the Buddhist virtue of dana (or giving). We are run entirely by volunteers. We offer beginning and continuing meditation instruction, group practice sessions, work practice, meditation retreats, and other activities and events to support our members and the wider community. For more information, view our website at www.louisvillezen.org/ and connect with us on Facebook. If you do not wish to receive any e-mails from the Center, simply reply to this e-mail with "Unsubscribe". Because of the way our mailing list is set up, this has to be an all-or-nothing choice.