

Please join us for the Spring O-Higan Seminar

Working of Wisdom: The Light That Shines On All Lives

March 11, 2017 Saturday at 1:30pm

Guest speaker - Rev. Michael Conway

What is the “Amida” in *Namu Amida Butsu*, the phrase recited and heard by followers of the Pure Land tradition of Buddhism? In Sanskrit, it is both *Amitayus* “not-countable-lives” and *Amitabha* “not-bounded-light.” Rather than indicating a specific being, Amida symbolizes the working of wisdom in our day-to-day reality, unceasingly bringing us towards Awakening.

Rev. Conway will present how Amida is described in metaphors by the historical Buddha in the Larger Sukhavativyuha Sutra, by 6th century Chinese Pure Land teacher Tanluan and by 12th century Japanese teacher Shinran Shonin.



A fully-ordained (*kyoshi*) minister of the Higashi Honganji (Ōtani-ha), Rev. Michael Conway was born in Chicago in 1976. He graduated from Northwestern University in 1997. Soon after, he started attending the Buddhist Temple of Chicago. In 2003, he entered Otani University’s graduate school in the Shin Buddhist Studies department. There, he served as Departmental Assistant from 2009 to 2011. He completed his Ph.D. in Shin Buddhist Studies in 2011. He served as the Managing Editor of *The Eastern Buddhist* academic journal from 2011 to 2015. He has been a Full Time Lecturer at Otani University since 2015.

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Everyone is welcome (free-will donations appreciated)

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