

# ***Greater Baltimore Temple***

2909 Bloom Road, P.O. Box 690, Finksburg, MD 21048

Tel: (410) 861-8387, Web: [www.Baltimoretemple.org](http://www.Baltimoretemple.org), E-mail: [info@baltimoretemple.org](mailto:info@baltimoretemple.org)

**SEPTEMBER to DECEMBER 2024**



## ***Maha Kumbhabhishekam***

**October 4 – 6, 2024**

***INVITATION***



Namaste,

With great pleasure, we extend an invitation to you, your family and friends at the Greater Baltimore Hindu-Jain Temple for the Maha Kumbhabhishekam on Friday, October 4, 2024, through Sunday, October 6, 2024. We are happy to inform you that several cultural, religious and spiritual events have been planned to make this a memorable and divine experience for all our devotees. This is the most auspicious opportunity for all of you to invoke, invite and revel in divine grace as a host of Homas and Rituals have been planned as part of the festivities.

We are excited to celebrate this important milestone with you, and your presence would make it even more valuable.

Warm Regards,

Board of Trustees & Board of Governors

Note: Please refer to **the attached flyer** for the schedule and details of the religious and cultural program.

### ***DONATIONS APPEAL***

Devotees have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to participate in religious pujas and other events linked to Kumbhabhishekam during this celebration. We have renovated the prayer hall and its other areas in anticipation of the Maha Kumbhabhishekam celebration. We appeal to you to generously support the Kumbabishekam both financially and in kind. Please mail or or the included QR code or visit the website at <https://baltimoretemple.app.neoncrm.com/forms/42> or email at [info@baltimoretemple.org](mailto:info@baltimoretemple.org) to make your pledge or donation.





# Greater Baltimore Hindu-Jain Temple

2909, Bloom RD, Finksburg, MD-21048, Ph: 410-861-8387. Email: info@baltimoretemple.org, www.baltimoretemple.org



## Maha Kumbhabhishekam

Baltimore Temple is conducting  
**Maha Kumbhabhishekam Mahotsavam**

a three-day Grand Mahotsavam from

**Friday, October 4th to  
Sunday, October 6th**



**Namaste,**

With great pleasure, we extend an invitation to you, your family and friends at the Greater Baltimore Hindu-Jain Temple for the Maha Kumbhabhishekam ceremony. We are happy to inform you that several cultural, religious and spiritual events have been planned to make this a memorable and divine experience for all our devotees. This is the most auspicious opportunity for all of you to invoke, invite and revel in divine grace as a host of Homas and Rituals have been planned as part of the festivities.

We are excited to celebrate this important milestone with you, and your presence would make it even more valuable.

**Warm Regards,**

Board of Trustees &  
Board of Governors

**Friday, October 4, 2024**

**10:00 am to 1:30 pm**

**Prathama Kala Puja (1st Kala Puja)**

Swasthivachana, Ganpati/ Vishvakshena, Shuddhipunyaha Vachanam, Aacharya ruthvik varana, Rakshabandhanam, Mruthika Sangrahana Vastu Aaradhana, Vatsu homam, Vatsu bali, Dvaraaradhanam, Ankuraarpanahomam, Ankuraarpanam, Kalashadivasam, Aarthi and Prasad (1st Kala Puja).

**4:30 pm to 7:30 pm**

**Dwithiya Kala Puja (2nd Kala Puja)**

Kalashaaradhanam, Mandalaaradhanam, Agni prathista, Sarvadevata Murthi Homam, Lagupurnahuti. Sri Lalitha Sahasranamarchana by devotees Aarthi and Prasad.

**8:30 pm to 11:30 pm**

**Cultural Program - Raas Garba**

## Saturday, October 5, 2024

10:00 am to 1:00 pm	<b>Thrithiya Kala Puja</b> (3rd Kala Puja) Ganapati/ Vishvakshen pooja, Punyahavachana, Kalashaaradhanam, Mandalaaradhanam, Panchagavya Prokshane, Sarvadevata Murthi Homam, Lagupurnahuti, Aarti and Prasad.
4:30 pm to 7:30 pm	<b>Chaturtha Kala Puja</b> (4th Kala Puja) Jivadi Tattvanyasa Homam, Anganyasa Homam, Laghupooranahuti, Ashtabhandhanam, Aarti & Prasad (4th Kala Puja).
2:00 pm to 8:00 pm	<b>Grand Cultural Performance</b>
Oct 5th 2:00 PM	<b>Dance Drama-1:</b> Dance Drama on Shivleela and Dance performances on stories related to Shiva, Performed by Students of Mauva Dance School
Oct 5th 5:00 PM	<b>Musical Evening:</b> Classical and Semi Classical musical Concert from Students of Indian Classical Music School of Maryland
Oct 5th 6:30 PM	<b>Dance Drama-2:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kalyana Srinivasam - Kuchipudi Dance Drama</li> <li>• Directed by Smt. Lakshmi Babu Founder of Kuchipudi Dance Academy MD &amp; VA</li> <li>• Coordinated by: Smt. Bindu Bollam, Teacher Kuchipudi Dance Academy, Ellicott City, MD</li> <li>• Performed by Kuchipudi Dance Academy students</li> </ul>

## Sunday, October 6, 2024

9:00 am to 2:00 pm	<b>Panchama Kala Puja</b> (5th Kala Puja) Pranaprathishtha Homam, Sarva Devata Homam, Mahapooranahuti, Kumbhavisarjanam, Shree Vighraha (Moorti) & Shikhara Kumbhabhishekam, (In Abijin Muhurth 12:29pm to 1:15pm), Gau (Cow) Pooja, Mahanirikshana, Rashtiraashirvadham, Aarti, Acharya Sambhavana and Prasad.
5:00 pm to 7:30 pm	Mata Jagran followed by Aarti & Mahaprasad
10:00 am to 4:00 pm	<b>Grand Cultural Performance</b>
Oct 6th 10:00 AM	<b>Dance Drama-3:</b> Dance Drama from Students of Nrityasamarpan Dance School, performing " <b>Kalyana Rama</b> ", depicting Rama's life from child to youth
Oct 6th 2:00 PM	<b>Dance Fusion:</b> Various Classical and Semiclassical Dance performances from Local Dance Schools

### Donation Appeal

Devotees have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to participate in religious pujas and other events linked to Kumbhabhishekam during this celebration. We have renovated the prayer hall and its other areas in anticipation of the Maha Kumbhabhishekam celebration. We are making an appeal to you and eagerly await your kind contributions and assistance! Please mail or use a **QR code** or <https://baltimoretemple.app.neoncrm.com/forms/42> to make your pledge or donation. Additionally, you can send your pledge to [info@baltimoretemple.org](mailto:info@baltimoretemple.org)



### Sponsorships

#### PROGRAM SPONSORSHIP

Grand Sponsor	\$25,000
Platinum	\$15,000
Gold	\$10,000
Silver	\$5,000
Bronze	\$2,501
Deity (Specify deity name)	\$5,001

Sponsors of the program take part all throughout Maha Kumbhabhishekam

#### INDIVIDUAL EVENT SPONSORSHIP

Priest Sponsor	\$1,001/each
Puja/ Havan Sponsor (3-Days)	\$1,001
Annadanam/ Maha Prasad Sponsor – Noon or Evening	\$1,001
Mata ki Chowki Program Sponsor	\$1,001
Puja/ Havan Sponsor (Daily)	\$501
Flower Seva (Daily)	\$501
Kalash Sponsor	\$201
One Puja Sponsor	\$101
Puja Samagri/Vastra Sponsorship	\$51

Donor - **Any amount** (\$1,001 and above donor will have opportunity to perform Shikhara Kumbha Abhishekam)

## **Ganesh Idol Making 2023**

***Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>***

**10.30am – 1.00pm**

For children 6 years to 14 years old, children 10 years and younger must be accompanied by a parent. Eco-friendly material to make the idol and decorate it will be supplied

**Donation** - \$5 per participant.

**Sponsor:** \$101

Cafeteria will be open for snack & lunch

**Contact information** - Ashwini Nagarkar 443-812-1548, Sanjeev Gholap 240-381-6122, Anish Patil 419-450-8596, Temple 410-861-8387.

## **Ganesh Chaturthi Celebration**

***Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup>***

**6.00pm – 8.00pm**



6:00 pm - 6:30 pm - Ganesh Aagman, Atharvashirsha

6:30 pm - 7:30 pm - Abhishek, Archana, Bhajans

7:30 pm - 8:00 pm - Maha Aarti, Miraunuk (Procession) with Dhol-Tasha  
Followed by Mahaprasad

**Mahaprasad sponsor** \$251/ each (Total \$1,500), **Puja Sponsor** \$101, **Abhishek** \$51, **Archana** \$21

**Contact:** Ashwini Nagarkar 443-812-1548, Sanjeev Gholap 240-381-6122, Atul Patel - 410-978-6472, Rita Ghodasara 410-807-2073, Temple 410-861-8387

## **Ganesh Chaturthi Cultural Program**

***Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>***

**3.00pm – 6.00 pm**

Singing, dancing, instrumental performance items accepted, they should relate to Lord Ganesh.

**Solo** - 3 mins/ each, **Group** - 5 mins/ each

**Sponsor:** \$101

**Contact information** - Dhonika Patel 410-926-5855, Sanjeev Gholap 240-381-6122, Temple 410-861-8387

## **Atharvashirsh Group**

### **Chanting**

***Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup>***

**8:30am to 10:00pm**

100 devotees to participate in chanting  
Ganapati Atharvashirsha 5 times to  
complete 501 paths.

**Puja Sponsor:** \$151

**Contact:** Rita Ghodasara 410-807-2073,  
Sanjeev Gholap 240-381-61122

## **Gauri Trithiya Vrat**

***Thursday, September 5<sup>th</sup>***

**6.00 pm**

**Puja sponsor:** \$21

Devotees fast for five days and worship  
Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati.

## **Gandhi Jayanti**

***Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>***

**3:00pm to 5:00pm**



Celebrating the 155<sup>th</sup> Birthday of  
Mahatma Gandhi.

Speech on the topic “Exploring Swaraj  
in the Age of AI: A Gandhian  
Perspective” by Mr. Jeff Jose, Director,  
Dharmaram Vidya Kshetram followed  
by prayers.

Light refreshments will be served.

**Contact:** Kali Mallik: 410-252-4865,  
Bhupendra Mehta 410-771-0251,  
Dhaivat Maharaja 410-526-8387

## **Sharad Navaratri celebrations**

***Thu, Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> - Fri, Oct 11<sup>th</sup>***

**6.30pm**



**Daily devi puja & Chanting at 6:30 pm**

Shree Mahakali (Durga) puja - Sunday to Tuesday

Shree Mahalakshmi puja – Tuesday

Shree Saraswati puja - Wednesday

Deepa Pooja - Lalitha Sahasranamam – Thursday

Puja sponsor: \$101, Archana: \$ 31

## **Mata Ki Chowki**

***Sunday, October 6<sup>th</sup>***

**5.00pm**



**Celebration starting at 5pm followed by Aarti & Mahaprasad**

Please join us with your family and friends to seek blessings of Maa Durga. Singer: Vishwajeet and party.

Program sponsor: \$1,001, Mahaprasad sponsor: \$501, Sponsor: \$251, Donor: Any amount

**Contact:** Pankaj Grover 410-419-0336, Atul Patel 410-978-6472

## **PRIEST SERVICES**

Priest services are available for Pujas and ceremonies at the temple and outside locations. Please visit the temple website at [www.baltimoretemple.org](http://www.baltimoretemple.org) and click under Services and fill in the form to request a service. Also, call temple at 410-861-8387 to discuss with priest or email at [info@baltimoretemple.org](mailto:info@baltimoretemple.org)

## **Navratri/ Sharad Purnima**

### **Raas Garba**

***Fri, Oct 4<sup>th</sup>, Fri Oct 11<sup>th</sup> &***

***Fri Oct 18<sup>th</sup>***



Navratri Raas Garba - 8:30 pm to 11:30 pm

Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, Sharad Purnima

Raas Garba: 8:30 pm to 11:30 pm

Raas Garba fee: \$10 per person

## **Shree Durga Ashtami Puja**

***Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup>***



**Shree Durga Puja: 6:30 pm**

**Devi Group Chanting 6:15pm to 7:30pm to be followed by Aarti and Mahaprasad**

Puja Sponsor: \$ 101

Archana: \$31

## **Volunteers**

If you would like to join our volunteers' group, please send your name, cell phone number and email address to [info@baltimoretemple.org](mailto:info@baltimoretemple.org) or text on GBT – WhatsApp group

## **Community Hall – Facility Rental**

Promotional Rates for Community Hall Rental - Promotional Rates are valid only till December 31, 2023, if booked by October 15, 2023. Visit the temple website or temple office for additional information.

**Maha Navami puja &  
Vijayadasami / Dussehra**  
***Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup>***  
**6.30pm – 8.00pm**



**Chandi Homan: 11:00am**  
Homan Sponsor: \$101/ couple  
**Contact:** Temple 410-861-8387

Vijayadashami Puja & Aarti: 6:30 pm

**Dussehra Utsav & Ravan Dahan: 7:30pm**  
Temple Cafeteria will be open for Dinner.  
We will celebrate Dussehra utsav by  
burning the effigy of Ravan to symbolize  
the destruction of evil. Please bring your  
children and enjoy the event.

**Karva Chauth**  
***Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>***  
**5.30pm – 7.30pm**



Karva Chauth is observed by married  
women for ensuring wedded bliss and for  
wishing long life for their husbands and  
children. Married women, who observe the  
Karva Chauth Vrat, acquire saubhagya,  
progeny and lasting prosperity.

**Group Puja starting at 5:30 pm and  
every half hour until 7:30 pm**

Sponsor \$21 per person. Temple cafeteria  
will be open for dinner.

**Diwali Cultural Program**  
***Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>***

**4:00 pm – 7:00 pm**

Singing, dancing, instrumental  
performance items accepted, they should  
relate to Diwali Celebration.

Solo - 3 mins/ each, Group - 5 mins/ each  
Sponsor: \$101

To participate, contact: Sanjeev Gholap  
240-381-6122, Temple 410-861-8387

**Diwali Celebrations**



Tuesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>: Dhanteras (Dhan  
trayodasi)

Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup> :  
Narakachaturdasi (Kali Chaudas)

Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, Deepavali

Maha Lakshmi Puja at 6:30pm

Group puja: \$51/ couple followed by Aarti &  
Mahaprasad

**Govardhan Puja and Annakut**  
***Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup>***



Please deliver Samagri by 4:00 pm  
SriNathji Abhishekam 6:00 pm followed by  
Bhajans

Aarti & Mahaprasad 7:30 pm

Grand Program Sponsor: \$1001

Mukhya Manorathi: \$151

Saha Manorathi: \$101

Sevak: \$51

For Annakut prasad, feel free to bring in  
any kind of food items for prasad. However,  
it is preferred that you contact for  
information and list of prasad items, Priti  
Parikh (410-419-3393), Anuradha Patel  
(410-833-1375), or Rita Patel (410-807-  
2073), Bhanuben Patel (410-833-1330),

**Navsmaran - Jain New Year's  
Day Celebration**

***Saturday November 2<sup>nd</sup>***

**11:00am - 2:00pm**



The Greater Baltimore Hindu Jain Temple will celebrate the Jain New Year. The Jain New Year begins on the day after Shri Mahavirswami's Nirvana in the lunar month of Ashwin on Amavasya Day (New Moon Day).

We will chant Navsmaran, Aarati and then Swamivatsalya.

For further information & sponsorship please contact, Bhupendra Mehta (410-241-0673), Sadhana Shavdia (410-952-7526), or Kanan Shah (443-676-6611).

**Haripravodhini Ekadasi/  
Dwadashi/ Tulasi Vivah**

***Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>***



Vivah Puja starts at 6 pm followed by Mahaprasad.

Shri Tulsi & Shri Krishna vivah sponsor \$501/ each

Fruits & Flower sponsor \$ 151

Kanyadaan \$101

Mahaprasad sponsor \$251/ each.

**Disclaimer**

We reserve the right to change dates and details of any program. Please review the latest updates on the Temple Website and Facebooks page.

**Lord Ayyappa Puja**  
***Saturday, December 21<sup>st</sup>***



Lord Ayyappa is the son of Lord Siva and Lord Vishnu (in the form of Mohini). The first day of the Hindu Solar month of Vrushika marks the beginning of Ayyappa Mandala celebration. Puja starts at 11:30 am followed by Mahaprasad.

Ganesh Puja (recitation of Ganapathy adharvaseersham)  
Ayyappa Abhishekam (Recitation of Rudram, Chamakam, Purusha Sooktham)  
Alankaram/ Bhajan  
Ashtothara Archana  
Seeveli with thaalappoli  
Namaskara stotram, Padi pattu, Mangalam  
Mangala Aarti, Prasadam  
Devotees are encouraged to bring flowers, fruits, neivedyam  
Puja Sponsorship: \$51  
Annadanam (prasadam) Sponsorship: \$151  
Sponsorship for all events for the day: \$151

Please participate in the Puja and get Blessings of Lord Ayyappa. For additional information, contact: Geetha & Ram Ramaratnam 443 255 5946, Nandini and Ram Mouli 443-691-7664 & Janaki Sivaraman 410 736 8720

**New Year Day**  
***Sunday, January 1, 2024***



Temple will be open on New Year Day.

**Vaikunta Ekadashi**  
***Thursday, January 9, 2024***

Additional Details will be included in the next newsletter

## **President's Message**

Namaste,

I want to express my gratitude to the priests, volunteers, devotees, board, and committee members for their unwavering support over the last year.

Being our temple's president is a privilege for which I am extremely grateful. We have been able to enhance religious festivals, attendance, and donations thanks to the constant dedication of our priests, committee members, board members, manager, volunteers, donors, and devotees.

Over the course of the previous year, we have focused on revitalizing our temple by promoting volunteerism, religious engagement, improved communication, and the introduction of a program that combines religious celebration with cultural music and dance, all of which have enhanced the devotee experience. We observed numerous festivals, with attendance ranging from 100 to 500 per event, including Bhagwat Katha, Ram Mandir Inauguration, Shivaratri, Ram Navami, Sita-Rama Kalyanam, Mahavir Swamy Bhagwan 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Adi Krithigai celebration for Lord Murugan, Shri Balaji Kalyanam, Shri Krishna Janmashtami, Ganesh Chaturthi, Navratri, Durga Ashtami, Dussehra, Diwali, Srinathji patotsav & Govardhan puja, Navsmaran, Tulsi Vivah, Lord Ayappa puja, Pongal, Homan, Graduation puja and monthly Jain Bhavna, Hanuman Chalisa and Sri Satyanarayan puja.

In addition, there is a significant increase in community hall rentals that we have seen this year. We are investigating methods to increase rental revenue.

We're also investigating ways to recognize and permanently thank devoted long-term volunteers who have given a significant amount of their time and effort. Our goal is to bring the community together and expand the temple in the future by fostering better communication, openness, and organizational policies that benefit the younger generation.

We initiated the renovations of the prayer hall and other places earlier this year in anticipation of Maha Kumbhabhishekam celebration in October.

New projects:

1. Navagraha Room: We are in the process of converting our current library room into a Navagraha room and expecting to schedule Pratishtha during the spring of 2025.

2. Deity chamber and prayer hall entrance improvement: We are looking into improving the deity chamber, prayer hall lobby and front entrance improvement to add temple architecture.

We need to create new religious and cultural programs such as Kirtana Sandhaya, musical night, youth get-together, Senior group etc. We are requesting suggestions/ ideas from the temple members. Also, let us know if you are interested in volunteering for our temple.

**Atul Patel, President**

## **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Mahavir Swami**

### **Bhagvan's Pran Prathistha**

**Jai Jinendra,**

On May 11<sup>th</sup> our Temple celebrated the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Mahavir Swami Bhagvan's Pran Prathistha. On May 9<sup>th</sup> 1999 in the graceful presence & guidance of Muni Shri Chtrabhanuji Pran Prathistha was conducted with joy & jubilation. On the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, we remembered many of our founding supporters who nurtured the idea of a common place of worship for Hindus & Jains of the Greater Baltimore Area. Late Shri Rajanibhai Doshi, Jawaharbhai Mehta, Sanatbhai Mehta, Manubhai Shah, Bhupendrabhai Shah, Kanubhai Shah and many others tirelessly devoted their time in supporting & guiding us. Annasaheb Anuje our former Board President & current Board of Governor member & Bhupendra Mehta a former Board of trustee have served the temple continuously for 30+ years. Event was graced by the leaders & Devotees of Washington Jain Derasar.

The program started with an Invocation by Panditji and a few introductory remarks. Smt. Savita Jain composed & directed a 'Nritya Natika' enacting Tirthankar Mahavir Swami's 'Panchkalaynak' (Five most auspicious events of his life).. Two of Local 'Nritya Shala' students performed a short segment of an authentic Bharatanatyam piece. Guru Janaki Sivraman specially choreographed this dance for the anniversary celebration. The entire cultural program was a testament to Bandwidth & depth of local talent. Dhaivat Maharaja, our resident percussionist once again showed his mastery of Tabla. He accompanied artists for singing & chanting Jain Stavans. The audience of 200+ remained spell bound & truly appreciated Savitaji, Janakiji & many other members of local Jain Sangh who worked hard to put together

such a rich cultural experience for all of us. Our own Saurabh Dalal gave a short lecture on basic tenets of Jainism. Once again an enlightening experience for one and all.

On behalf of GBT Board of Governors & Board of Directors we thank Baltimore Jain Sangh for collecting a large sum of \$ 26,000 during this festive celebration. We Thank Sunila & Deepak Merchant for sponsoring Swami Vatsalya Bhojan. We are equally Thankful to Washington Jain Sangh for Celebrating the anniversary with us & their generous contribution of 2500\$. Special thanks to our beloved leaders Kokilaben & Bhupendrabhai Mehta who with the support of small but strong Sangh have steadfastly served the Temple as well as Baltimore Jain Community for more than 25 years.

May we all continue to live in such wonderful harmony.

Thank You All.

**Nikhil Sheth & Sadhana Shavadia**

### **Recurring Monthly Events**

- **Hanuman Chalisa** – 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month - Sept 7<sup>th</sup>, Oct 5<sup>th</sup>, Nov 2<sup>nd</sup>, Dec 7<sup>th</sup>
- **Sri Lalitha Sahasranama Archana** - 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the month – Sept 1<sup>st</sup>, Oct 6<sup>th</sup>, Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>, Dec 1<sup>st</sup>
- **Murugan Abhishekam Krittika Nakshatram** – Sept 16<sup>th</sup>, Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>, Oct 30<sup>th</sup>, Nov 26<sup>th</sup>, Dec 23<sup>rd</sup>
- **Jain Bhavana** – Sept 10<sup>th</sup>, Oct 15<sup>th</sup>, Nov 13<sup>th</sup>, Dec 17<sup>th</sup>
- **Sri Satyanarayana Puja** - Purnima – Sept 28<sup>th</sup>, Oct 28<sup>th</sup>, Nov 26<sup>th</sup>, Dec 26<sup>th</sup>
- **Sri Ganesh Abhishekam - Sankasthi Chaturthi** – Sept 3<sup>rd</sup>, Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>, Oct 31<sup>st</sup>, Nov 30<sup>th</sup>, Dec 30<sup>th</sup>

### **Balvihar Classes - 2024-25**

In-person Bal Vihar classes will resume on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2024. The classes start at 10:00 am every alternate Sunday at the temple. The most recognizable attribute of this program success is the parents, who devote their time & effort in nurturing our children with so many facets of volunteering. Please share the information with your family and friends to register for Bal Vihar Program at our temple. Visit the temple website for information about the program and for enrollment form. For questions, please reach out to the Bal Vihar Coordinators (Manu Agrawal and Pravin Gautam) at [gbtbalvihar@baltimoretemple.org](mailto:gbtbalvihar@baltimoretemple.org).

## **Outreach and Interfaith Committee Spring -Fall Activities 2024**

The committee has been busy with Outreach/Interfaith work and community educational activities through the Docent and speaker services.

In April GBT hosted the **Annual Interfaith Dialogue at GBT** which was well attended. Six speakers from different religions spoke on the relevance of nonviolence in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

This year GBT joined the consortium of faith-based organizations in Carroll County to provide a hot midday meal to the homeless 4-5 times a year on a rotational basis. The committee members have so far planned, obtained supplies, cooked and served in the **soup kitchen** at the Westminster United Methodist Church in downtown Westminster in Carroll County. The vegetarian meal was enjoyed by the guests.

In July -participated in the **Back to School Project** providing school supplies for needy children in Carroll County. 50 backpacks filled the essential school supplies were handed over to the members of Shepard's Staff organization for distribution.

### **Projects for the rest of 2024**

Alzheimer's Walkathon- Saturday October 26  
Annual Diwali Food and Clothing Drive -Oct /Nov  
Soup kitchen service - August and November

All these Outreach and Interfaith activities are possible only with the continued support of GBT Board of Trustees and the support of fellow devotees.

## **PRIEST SERVICES**

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## **Donation**

If you would like to contribute, please mail your donation or visit the temple website at [www.baltimoretemple.org](http://www.baltimoretemple.org) or scan the following QR code from your cell phone **photo app**.



**The Greater Baltimore Temple**  
2909 Bloom Road  
PO Box 690  
Finksburg, MD 21048

**Please Deliver Immediately**  
Time Sensitive Material  
Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Frederick, MD  
Permit Number 2036

## **Sunday Bhajan - Kirtan & Mahaprasad**

**Appeal to Bhajan Singers:** The Greater Baltimore Temple invites and encourages talented singers and musicians to actively participate in the bhajans held every Sunday evening from 5:00 pm to 6:15 pm, followed by dhun and Aarti at 6:30 pm. Singing bhajans as a group can help to quieten the mind so that the heart can open to the divine, allowing us to taste the blissful reality. It is a participatory spiritual practice in which everyone is encouraged to sing and express their inner joy. Attending Bhajan is also a form of meditation, brings peace tranquility in Individual and family. Please consider joining with your family and children. Children keep this memory in years to come! Groups or individuals interested in singing for a Specific Deity or an assortment of deities can feel free to come up with their own list of bhajans to sing. Families and friends interested in organizing bhajans in memory of their beloved ones can also think of organizing special pujas followed by singing bhajans during this time slot. Interested individuals and families can reach out to the Bhajan coordinators Pundit Joshiji or Pundit Muraliji by calling temple - 410-861-8387

**Mahaprasad:** Sponsor a Sunday's or religious festival's mahaprasad to celebrate a birthday, an anniversary or religious festival with the family, friends & devotees. If you would like to sponsor Mahaprasad – Please contact the following representatives.

Pankaj Grover 410-419-0336

Publisher: Greater Baltimore Temple, Contact: Atul Patel at 410-978-6472 or Sachin Hebbbar at 410-336-3615  
Please send your suggestions & comments to [info@baltimoretemple.org](mailto:info@baltimoretemple.org)