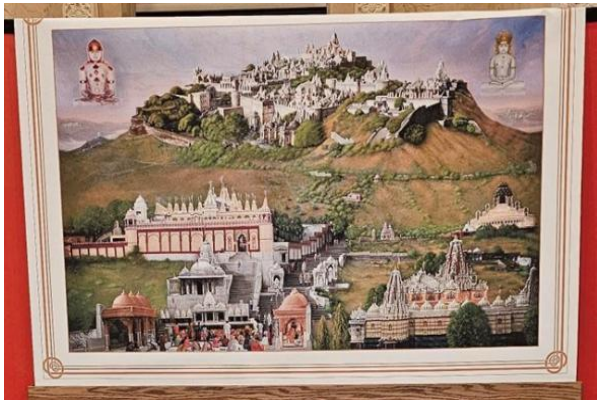




BTI – BCC Newsletter

January 2026 to March 2026



Bharatiya Temple

1612 County Line Road, Chalfont, PA 18914

Ph: 215-997-1181

www.b-temple.org

Temple, Cafeteria & Aarti Timings

<p>Temple Timings</p> <p>Monday to Friday 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM 5:00 PM to 8:30 PM</p> <p>Saturday and Sunday 9:00 AM to 8:30 PM</p> <p>(March – October closes at 9:00 PM)</p>	<p>Aarti Timings</p> <p>Hindu Aarti 12:00 PM and 7:00 PM daily</p> <p>Jain Aarti 11:45 AM and 6:45 PM</p>		
<p>BTI Cafeteria / Bhojanshala</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; width: 50%;"> <p>Thursdays and Fridays 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM</p> </td> <td style="text-align: center; width: 50%;"> <p>Saturdays and Sundays 11:00 AM to 9:00 PM</p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p>Thursdays and Fridays 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM</p>	<p>Saturdays and Sundays 11:00 AM to 9:00 PM</p>
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*** In the event of inclement weather, please check the website or call 215-997-1181

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Upcoming Major Events	
Mother's Day	May 10, 2026
Shani Jayanti	May 16, 2026
Vat Savitri Vrat	May 16, 2026
Adhika Jyeshtha Masam / Purushottam Maas Begins	May 17, 2026
Purushottam Sahasranamavali and Parayan	May 17, 2026 – Jun 14, 2026
Memorial Day	May 25, 2026
Varshik Brahmotsav (Temple Anniversary)	May 29, 2026 – May 31, 2026
Dhwajarojan Jain Anniversary	Jun 6, 2026
Jain Digambar Puja Jain Anniversary ...	Jun 7, 2026
Sampoorna Puja & Udyapan	Jun 15, 2026
Nija Jyestha Masam Begins	Jun 15, 2026
Juneteenth Day	Jun 19, 2026
Independence Day (USA)	Jul 4, 2026
Ashadha Masam Begins	Jul 14, 2026
Ratha Yatra	Jul 16, 2026
Sudarshana Homam	Jul 19, 2026
Gauri Vrat	Jul 25, 2026 – Jul 29, 2026
Jaya Parvati Vrat	Jul 17, 2026 – Jul 31, 2026
Shravan Masam Begins	Aug 13, 2026
Independence Day (India Day)	Aug 15, 2026

“Support Your Temple” Campaign



Bharatiya Temple & Bharatiya Cultural Center

1612 County Line Road, Chalfont, PA 18914
PHONE: 215-997-1181
www.b-temple.org (Tax ID # 23-2959416)



Please help your Temple by making recurring tax deductible donation of your choice by clicking the donate button below. These donations will help the Temple continue with daily pujas, programs and pay for monthly operating expenses. Your donation will also help Vidyalaya/Sunday school.

Monthly Recurring Donation of Your Choice

You will be directed to secure Payment Website



\$20

\$50

\$100

Your Choice Amount

*For questions and information
please contact donations@b-temple.org*

Taking Advantage of Corporate Matching



Each year, companies and businesses support nonprofits by distributing hundreds of millions of dollars in matching gift donations. Most companies match 1:1; some companies match 2:1 and even 3:1. Several of our supporters take advantage of this initiative and we are grateful for their support. Please check with your organization's HR department and follow their established procedures for matching funds.

The matching process can also be found on our website:

<https://b-temple.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/BCC-Corporate-Matching-Contribution-Process.pdf>

To view a List of Companies with Matching Gift Programs, you can visit:

<https://www.1800runaway.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/corporate-match-directory.pdf>

<https://doublethedonation.com/tips/matching-grant-resources/list-matching-gifts-companies/>

If your company matches, then please direct your donation to Bharatiya Cultural Center and follow up with your Company's HR department.

Thanking you in advance for your support!!!



Maximize your impact



with a matching gift!



BTI Cafeteria / Bhojanshala

Thursdays and Fridays

6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Saturdays and Sundays

11:00 AM to 9:00 PM



Entrée / Rice Items

Idli (2), Sambar & Chutney	\$6.00
Medu Vada (2), Sambar & Chutney...	\$6.00
Chole Bhature	\$7.50
Dahi Vada (2)	\$6.00
Daal Pongal	\$6.00
Pav Bhaji	\$6.00
Samosa Chaat (2)	\$6.00
Bhel Puri Chaat	\$6.00
Samosa (3)	\$5.00
Tamarind Rice	\$5.00

Combos

Idli (1), Medu Vada (1) Combo, Sambar & Chutney	\$6.00
Idli (1), Medu Vada (1), Small Masala Dosa (1), Scoop of Pongal (1), Sambar & Chutney ...	\$10.50



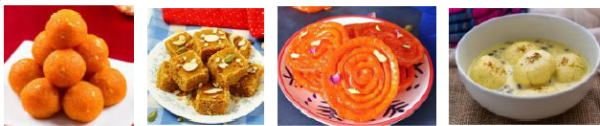
Dosas

Plain Dosa	\$7.00
Masala Dosa	\$8.00
Plain Mysore Dosa	\$7.50
Mysore Masala Dosa	\$8.50

Dosa Grill Closes at 8:30 PM

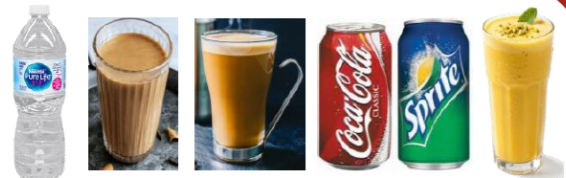
Additional Sides

1 Cup Chutney	\$1.00
1 Cup Sambar	\$1.50
1 Bhature, Idli or Medu Vada	\$2.50



Sweets

Ladoo (2)	\$5.00
Mohanthal (4)	\$5.00
Jalebi	\$5.00
Ras Malai	\$5.00
Mysore Pak	\$5.00
Dudhi Halwa	\$5.00



Beverages

Bottled Water	\$1.00
Coffee / Tea	\$1.50
Coke / Sprite	\$1.50
Mango Lassi	\$3.50

All prices include sales tax
All food menu items are subject to availability
Jain Food option also available

Religious Committee - Hindu

January 2026

Our Bharatiya Temple Devotees welcomed the New Year with their family and friends. All the deities were adorned with new costumes and fresh garlands. Witnessing the Srinivasa Kalyanam and getting the blessings of all the Gods were the highlights of the day. The Temple was open all day long. As a New Year's day tradition Satyanarayan Puja was also performed in the evening

Reciting the verses of *Thiruppavai* and *Thiruvvasagam* during the month of Margazhi (mid-December to mid-January) is a sacred, daily devotional practice. Composed by the poet-saint Andal, and Saint Manickavasagar these hymns focus on supreme devotion (*Bhakti*) and surrender (*Sharanagati*) to the higher power to attain spiritual awakening, peace, and prosperity. It is a cherished tradition in the southern community. It deepens the devotee's connection with the divine and enhances spiritual awareness. The verses impart valuable life lessons and ethical guidance. It encourages communal participation and strengthens social ties during festivals. Regular recitation can enhance mental tranquility and focus.

Every Saturday morning till 10th Jan we recited Thirupalliezchi and Thiruppavai for Balaji and on every Monday at 10:30 AM we recited Thiruvempavai for Lord Siva.

On the 2nd of Thursday, we did a special Puja for Lord Siva known as Thiruvathirai which is celebrated for ten days in Chidambaram in Tamil Nadu, the cosmic dance in the form of Nataraja, symbolizing the cosmic dance of creation, preservation, and destruction. It is considered as a sacred day to view the full moon aligned with the Ardra Star. This is celebrated in honor of Lord Shiva. It is believed that all the Devas visit Chidambaram on this day. The specialty of Chidambaram temple is that the original Deity in the sanctum is taken out of the temple in procession. In all the other Shiva temples, the Urvaha (procession) deity of Sri Nataraja is taken out in procession.

On January 10th, Ayyappa Mandala Puja concluded with Irumudi Kattu. All the Swamis observing Dheeksha took the Irumudi for the sacred journey to the Ayyappa Sannidhanam in Lanham, MD.

Only those who observe the vratham and wear the mala are permitted to carry the irumudi. They can only ascend the 18 steps at the sannidhanam. It is believed that the coconut symbolizes the devotee's body and the Ghee represents the soul. Carrying the Irumudi signifies offering oneself to Lord Ayyappa and receiving his blessings in return.

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Co-Author: Niranjana Samant 215.123.4567 samantn@yahoo.com
Co-Author: Neeta Sharma 732.543.4892 neetasharma12@hotmail.com

Religious Committee - Hindu

Bhoghi was celebrated In the morning around 7 AM the Bhogi fire and puja was done outside the temple. There was a huge turn out of Devotees around the Lohri bonfire in the temple compound.

On 14th around 11 am Surya Makara Sankramana Puja was performed to worship Surya and recited Aditya Hrudaya stotra. On this auspicious day, nearly half a million devotees gather at Sabrimala to witness the Makra Jyothi. Our Ayappa devotees concluded the Mandalam with the Makara jyothi Puja.

We celebrated Andal Kalyanam on the 17th in the evening around 6 PM. Each year, this Kalyanam is celebrated not merely as ritual remembrance, but as a **living affirmation**: when love is pure, the Divine does not resist. He receives it fully. Andal married Lord Ranganatha through her sincere worship only.

Vasanth Panchami was celebrated on the 23rd. Parents brought their kids to worship Goddess Saraswathi to give Knowledge to them.

February 2026

BLC Maha Pravesh: A Historic Success

Friday, February 6, 2026

The community marked a major milestone with the **Maha Pravesh** (Grand Opening) of the **Bharatiya Learning Center (BLC)** . This facility now stands as a permanent home for our heritage and education programs.

The day's ceremonies included:

- **Vastu Shanti & Ganapati Puja:** These sacred rituals were performed to purify the new space and seek the blessings of Lord Ganesha for a smooth start.
- **Punyahavachanam:** A cleansing ritual that sanctified the entire premises for its future as a place of learning.
- **Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony:** The formal inauguration of the classrooms and assembly halls, which have since begun hosting Vedic studies, language classes, and cultural heritage programs.

Maha Siva Ratri Mahotsav

February 13 – February 15, 2026

Devotees experienced a powerful period of divine immersion during the three-day Mahotsav. The temple was filled with the vibrations of sacred chants and deep meditation:

- **Friday, Feb 13:** The Mahotsav commenced with **Swasti Vachan, Ganesh Puja, Punyahavachan, Dikapala Puja, Rakshabandhan, Mritsngrahan, Ankurarpan** followed by Aarti.

Religious Committee - Hindu

- **Saturday, Feb 14:** The highlight of the day was the **Panchadhivas Puja** of the newly acquired **Nandi Vahan** and the Panchagavya Prokshan. The Nandikeshwara Abhishekam was also performed in the evening.
- **Sunday, Feb 15 (Maha Shivaratri):** Devotees were able to come to the temple and offer Abhishekam to the utsav murti all day long. In the evening devotees performed the **Maha Mrityunjay Abhishekam** and Puja. After that devotees sang sweet Shiva Parivar bhajans while the priest performed the Abhishekam of the Moola Murti. Uttar puja was performed late in the night and the Shiva Aarti was sung at midnight.

Key Religious Observances in February

- **Sunderkand Parayan:** Sunday, February 1. The community joined in a powerful group recitation of the "Sunderkand." This chapter of the Ramayana inspired all present with the story of Hanuman's unwavering faith and courage.
- **Satyanarayan Puja (Magha Purnima):** Sunday, February 1. This full moon ritual was dedicated to Lord Vishnu. Devotees gathered to perform the puja to invite peace and harmony into their homes for the coming months.
- **Sankashti Chaturthi:** Wednesday, February 4. This monthly observance honored Lord Ganesha. A special Abhishekam was performed at moonrise to seek the removal of obstacles from the paths of our devotees.
- **Ayyappa and Murugan Puja:** Saturday, February 7. This was a vibrant joint worship service featuring traditional South Indian bhajans and a magnificent **Alankaram** (decoration) for both Swami Ayyappa and Lord Murugan.
- **Siva Abhishekam (Pradosham):** Thursday, Feb 14 & Thursday, Feb 28 . Observed during the twilight hours, these rituals allowed devotees to worship Lord Shiva at a time believed to be most effective for dissolving negative karma.
- **Navagraha Abhishekam:** Saturday, February 21. A sacred bathing ritual was performed for the nine planetary deities. This

Religious Committee - Hindu

March 2026

- **Holi - The Festival of Colors (March 2):** We celebrated the triumph of good over evil with a vibrant community gathering. A Satyanarayan Puja was held on the temple floor where all devotees participated. This was followed by the traditional Holika Dahan in the temple compound.
- **Yugadi & Gudi Padwa (March 19):** We welcomed the Lunar New Year (Krodhi Nama Samvatsara). The day featured the reading of the *Panchanga Shravanam* and the distribution of *Yugadi Pachadi*, symbolizing the various flavors of life we embrace in the coming year. The Rama Raksha Stotram was also chanted by the priests and devotees for the blessings and protection of Sri Rama.
- **Chaitra Navaratri (March 19–27):** This nine-night festival dedicated to Goddess Durga was observed with daily prayers, Chandi Path, special Alankaram, and evening bhajans, culminating in a celebration of divine feminine energy. Durga Mata Abhishekam was performed on Durgashtami during the Navaratri.
- **Sita Rama Kalyanam (March 27):** On the auspicious day of Sri Rama Navami, the temple performed the celestial wedding ceremony of Lord Rama and Mother Sita. Devotees witnessed the sacred rituals, symbolizing peace, righteousness, and marital bliss.
- **Gangaur Festival (March 14):** A beautiful celebration of Goddess Gauri (Parvati). Married women and young girls prayed for the well-being of their families and the blessing of a happy married life.

Key Religious Observances in March

- **Sankashti Chaturthi (March 6):** A special day dedicated to Lord Ganesha to seek his blessings in removing obstacles. We performed a Ganapathi Abhishekam during the evening moonrise.
- **Ayyappa and Murugan Puja (March 14):** Our monthly joint worship service for Lord Ayyappa and Lord Murugan featured traditional Vedic chants, bhajans, and a special community Annadanam.
- **Pradosham (March 16 & 30):** These twilight periods were dedicated to Lord Shiva. Devotees participated in the Rudra Abhishekam to purify their karma and seek spiritual enlightenment.

Religious Committee - Jain

The BTI-Jains committee began **2026** by welcoming **Monika Jain** as the newest committee member, joining **Himani Vyas** and **Mayur J. Shah** in serving the Sangh. The committee looks forward to continuing the spirit of seva while strengthening participation in religious and community activities.

Regular Religious Activities

BTI-Jains continues to hold **monthly Bhavnas on the first Wednesday of each month** and **Snatra Pujas on the second Sunday of each month**.

Aarti is performed daily at **11:45 am and 6:45 pm**.

Chha Gau Bhav Yatra

On **Sunday, March 1, 2026**, devotees gathered to participate in the sacred **Chha Gau Bhav Yatra**, a deeply symbolic spiritual observance.

Traditionally undertaken as a physical pilgrimage in India, this yatra represents a **mental pilgrimage to the holy Mount Shatrunjaya in Palitana, Gujarat**. The word **“Chha”** means six and **“Gau”** refers to a distance of roughly two miles—symbolizing a twelve-mile pilgrimage. Through prayer, devotion, and reflection, participants spiritually undertake this journey to the tirth, strengthening their connection to the sacred site and seeking purification of karmas.

"Through devotion and reflection, devotees spiritually walk the sacred path to Shatrunjaya."



Devotees participate in the Chha Gau Bhav Yatra, symbolically undertaking the sacred pilgrimage to Mount Shatrunjaya.

Chairperson: Nand Todi 215.205.5097 nandtodi@gmail.com
Co-Author: Monika Jain 267.638.5998 jainmonika@yahoo.com
Co-Author: Himaniben Vyas 951.454.3106 hjvyas09@gmail.com
Co-Author: Mayur Shah 610.745.3875 mayurjshah1234@gmail.com

Religious Committee - Jain

Chaitri Maas Sasvati Ayambil Oli

The Sangh also observed **Chaitri Maas Sasvati Ayambil Oli** from **Wednesday, March 25** through **Thursday, April 2**.

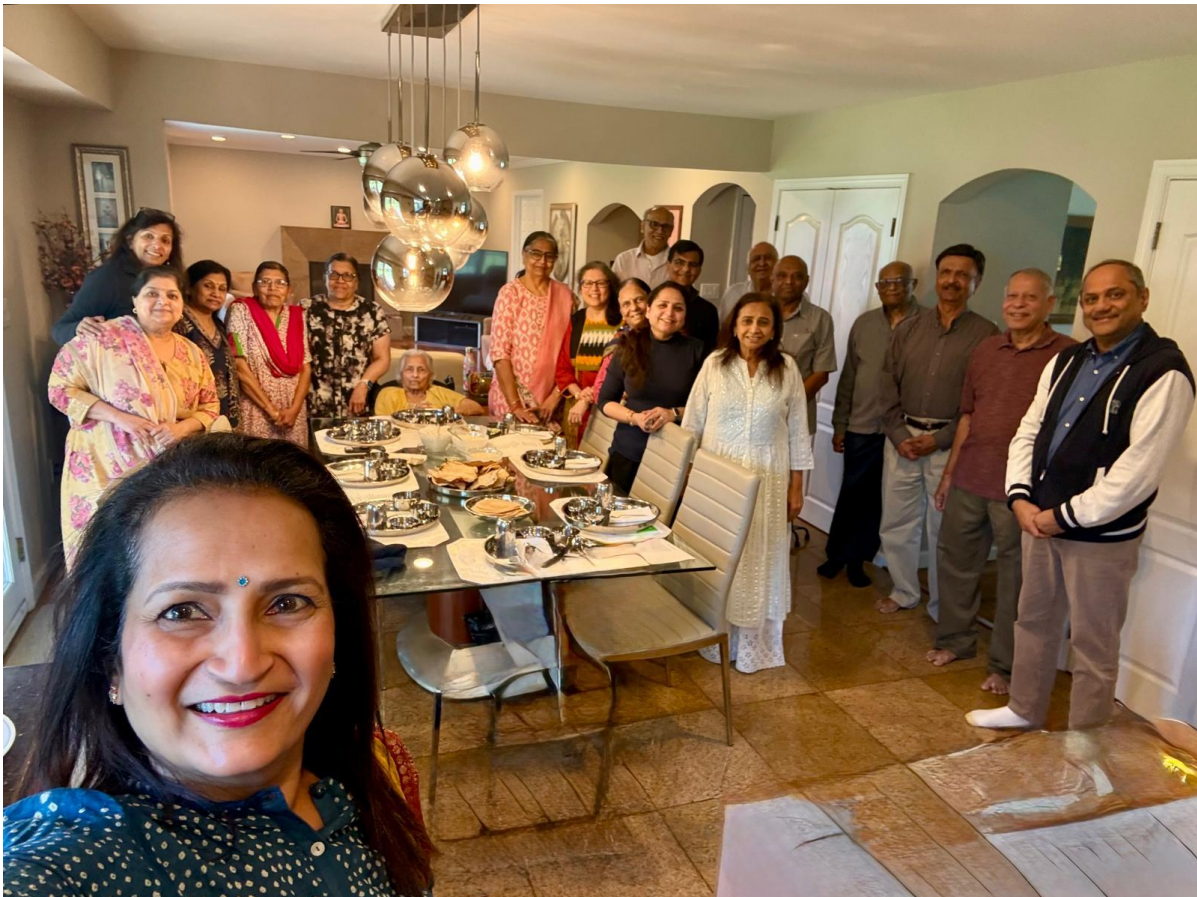
Navapada Aradhana is associated with the sacred story of **Shripal and Mayanasundari**. During this auspicious period, devotees perform **Navapada Aradhana** by worshipping the nine supreme entities:

Arihanta, Siddha, Acharya, Upadhyay, Sadhu, Darshan, Gyan, Charitra, and Tap.

During **Ayambil**, devotees consume **one simple meal per day**, consisting of boiled food prepared **without spices, sugar, salt, oil, butter, milk, vegetables, or fruits**.

Ayambil Oli is observed for **nine days twice each year**, during **Chaitra Maas (March–April)** and **Ashwin Maas (September–October)**, and is regarded as one of the most sacred Jain religious observances.

Jain Sangh members **Rita and Bipin Sheth** graciously hosted one of the Ayambil days, welcoming devotees into their home and preparing food according to the traditional Ayambil guidelines.



Devotees observe Ayambil Oli through Navapada Aradhana and a simple daily meal prepared according to traditional guidelines.

Religious Committee - Jain

Jain Pathshala in the New BCC Building

Jain Pathshala students also began their first classes in the new **BCC building**, marking an exciting milestone for the community. The new space provides a welcoming environment for students to learn Jain values, philosophy, and traditions.



Jain Pathshala students gather for their first classes in the new BCC building.

For more information about the BTI-Jains community, please contact jainsbti@gmail.com.

From the BTI-Jains Sangh to the greater BTI community, we extend a heartfelt **Jai Jinendra!**

Health & Human Services

Chair: Babu Medi, B.Pharm, Ph.D; **Co-Chair:** Anjan Dave, MS, MBA
Advisor: Dr. Akkaraju Sarma MD, FAAFP; **BTI Board Liaison:** Atul Sangal, MSPT

BCC HHS Mission: *Manava Seva is Madhava Seva*

- Provide health related services to the community
- Create, maintain, and communicate health related information to educate the community
- Identify, plan, and conduct professional medical seminars/health fairs
- Organize American Red Cross blood drives and Vaccine clinics
- Provide training sessions on first aid, CPR, AARP driving courses

Blood Drives:

BCC HHS team organized Blood Drives on 20 Dec 2025 and 28th Feb 2026. We collected a total of 62 units of blood that can potentially save up to 186 lives. We had a record number of donors for our Feb drive with 37 donations while our target was 25 donations. Thanks to all the DONORS and Volunteers who made this possible. Great team effort and thanks to all the donors and volunteers for their continued support for the blood drive that has a huge community impact. Kudos to the HHS Team including Anjan Dave, Prabhu Mysore, Meena Durbha, Manisha Sonee, Prakash Kurukunda, Niranjan Yanamandra for making this blood drives very successful. Thanks to youth volunteer Anisha Cheruvu for helping with the drives.

We host 4 drives annually that brings donors from local community along with Bhartiya Temple devotees. The blood drives bring many donors from local community into the Temple and they are all encouraged to visit mandir upstairs when they come to donate.

Thanks to BTI/BCC management for continued support for these activities. This is one of the noble causes the Temple has been supporting for many years that saved thousands of lives.

The next blood drive is scheduled for 06 June 2026 (Saturday) from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Please register using the following link:

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=bharatiya>

Chairperson: Babu Medi 979.204.3185 medibabu@yahoo.com
Co-Chair: Anjan Dave 610.737.0278 anjancd@hotmail.com

Health & Human Services



Food and Health, Bone Health Awareness Program:

BCC HHS team organized Health awareness talks on Food and Health by Dr. Mahesh Ghayal and Bone Health awareness topic by Dr. Yatish Merchant on 12 Oct 2025. Anjan Dave arranged for two Specialist Doctors from New Jersey to come to Bhartiya Temple. We are grateful for the Doctors who traveled on their own to offer this sewa to the community. The presentations were followed by Q&A. We also performed free hemoglobin A1C (HbA1c) test for everyone interested. HbA1C test measures how well a person is controlling their blood sugar level in the past 2-3 months. We provided free yoga mats for all the participants. This event was very well attended with >60 people attending and taking advantage of the quick A1C test. Thanks to BTI management and BoD for the support. Please see few of the pictures from the event attached.

Health & Human Services



FLU and COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic:

BCC HHS team worked with Montgomery County Office of Public Health and Chalfont Pharmacy to organize a free vaccine clinic at the Temple on 09 Nov 2025. Many temple members and parents visiting from India availed of the free vaccines provided for 2025-26 Flu and Covid-19 season.

Education Committee

Adult Spiritual Growth Bharatiya Temple is Conducting study groups, satsangs, and workshops for deeper understanding of scriptures and philosophy.

Offer practical teachings for modern life balance (family, work, spirituality).

Cultural Preservation

Educate about festivals, traditions, and rituals. Promote music, dance, and arts related to temple culture.

Community Engagement

Create interfaith and cultural awareness programs. Provide moral and spiritual guidance to families.

Service & Seva Orientation

Encourage seva (selfless service) through volunteerism in temple activities, food drives, environmental awareness, and helping the needy.

Leadership & Future Growth

Inspire the next generation to take active roles in temple leadership and community service.

Krishna goes on to say that Arjuna should fulfill his dharma through selfless action, which is a frequent theme in the *Bhagavad Gita*. “Selfless” isn’t used in the more common sense of “charitable,” but meaning literally without thought or concern for oneself.

Our senses, mind, and intellect are like doors through which desires enter.

When desires become strong, they cover our clear thinking — just like clouds cover the sun. This makes us confused or deluded, and we forget who we truly are — the soul inside. So, desires can take over our thinking and stop us from seeing things clearly or making wise choices.

These instruments—senses, mind, and intellect—are not bad in themselves. They were given to us for the purpose of achieving God-realization, but we have permitted lust in its many forms to lay siege on them. Now, we have to use the same senses, mind, and intellect to uplift ourselves. In the following verses, Shree Krishna explains how to do that.

Education Committee

Teaching is one of the spiritual gifts given to people in the BHARATIYA TEMPLE but you have to attend our program. Last Thursday of the month Bharatiya Temple presents BHAGAVAD GITA study group. We are honored to have Praveen Sharma, who will guide us through the teaching of BHAGAVAD GITA with question and answer.

Next study group is on APRIL 30TH, THROUGH ZOOM.

Zoom only: Meeting ID 822 0096 3573

Passcode Krishna

Krishna says: Don't fall down to the level of the senses. Instead, lift yourself up — go deeper into who you really are. You are not the body, not the mind, not even the intellect. You are the pure, peaceful Atma — full of joy and light. When you hold on to this truth, the senses lose their power. You become the master — not a slave to desires or emotions. **Krishna goes on to say that Arjuna should fulfill his dharma through selfless action, which is a frequent theme in the *Bhagavad Gita*.** “Selfless” isn't used in the more common sense of “charitable,” but meaning literally without thought or concern for oneself.

SUNDAY, March 8th, 2026 - 10 AM – 12:00 PM

“Steady, Grounded, and Graceful” - Navigating Stress with Gita gyan..... By Brahmachari Pratyagatma Chaitanya, a traditional Vedanta teacher, associated with Arsha Vidya Gurukulam in Saylorsburg, PA.

He studied Vedanta and Sanskrit under Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati. He shares timeless wisdom from the Upanishads and Bhagavad Gita in a practical way that helps modern seekers handle life's pressures with clarity and composure.

Reflects three powerful inner qualities:

- **Steady – Maintaining emotional balance even in challenging situations.**
- **Grounded – Staying connected to values, clarity, and inner strength.**
- **Graceful – Responding thoughtfully rather than reacting impulsively.**

Education Committee



Women's Group

The BCC Women's Group celebrated the International Women's Day on March 21st at the Bharatiya Temple. As March is designated as Women's History Month, the theme of the event was to commemorate Historical Inspirational Indian Women. Our participants showcased a powerful and diverse range of Indian women who have made remarkable contributions to cricket, music and vocal arts, the medical field, and the freedom movement, presented through skits, dance, singing, and other performances. We also recognized a trailblazing woman in our midst, Vinod Sardana, who is the founder of BCC Women's Group and is one of the founders of the Bharatiya Temple and also its Youth Group. The event was a terrific success with approximately 100 women joining the celebration.



Chairperson: Kavita Shah 908.580.1627 KavitaGS101@gmail.com
Co-chair: Poonam Gidwani 215.859.8626 poonamgidwagd@icloud.com

Women's Group



In January 2026, the Women's Group launched Arts & Crafts Group with an open-house on January 21st where the women made flower garlands to adorn the deities of the Temple. The motto of the group is Creating Together, Inspiring Each Other. The Arts & Crafts Group plans to meet monthly at the Temple to foster creativity, bonding, and community engagement.



The BCC Women's Group is continuing its initiative of community service by volunteering at SPARK Senior Center in Lansdale PA. We represent the Bharatiya Temple and serve lunch to the senior citizens on a flexible need-based schedule.



Women's Group



The Women's Group organizes two book clubs that meet regularly. The Evening Book Club discussed *The Wedding People* by Alison Espach on January 13th and *A Great Country* by Shilpi Somaya Gowda on March 10th. The Daytime Book Club discussed *Mother Mary Comes To Me* by Arundhati Roy on February 11th.



Women's Group



The Women's Group is planning several events in the rest of 2026, including a **Summer Picnic on July 25th 2026.**

To continue receiving updates about our upcoming events, please like us on our BCC Women's Group Facebook page or be part of the BCC Women's Group WhatsApp group, or sign up for the Bharatiya Temple emails.

We have a very talented and enthusiastic group of women in the Women's Group Committee who are wholehearted committed to the success of the mission of this group.

Senior Citizen Group

BTI/BCC Senior Citizens Group had a very successful first quarter, with 2 major events.

On February 14th we had Seniors Valentine's Day,

- ✓ Event started with couples Pictures in Valentine's Day photo booth by professional photographer.
- ✓ Hot tea & Snacks were served during Social Meet and Greet Hour.
- ✓ Seniors enjoyed the musical & melodious show of love theme Bollywood songs by talented artists.
- ✓ A beautiful Valentine's themed gifts were also Ruffled.
- ✓ For the Grand finale, Seniors were invited to dance their way through a flower decorated gate and received a fresh Rose, a handmade strawberry covered chocolate gift box and Hershey kisses to share with their Valentines.
- ✓ Fun filled with love & laughter evening concluded with Delicious dinner catered by Saath Restaurant.

All attendees appreciated the event as being the most memorable and beautiful Seniors Valentine's Day celebration ever.



Chairperson: Neelam Gupta 484.620.9222 neelam55@gmail.com
Co-chair: Gautam Shroff 267.261.5682 gautam1944@yahoo.com

Senior Citizen Group



For 2nd event on March 25th, Holi Celebration with SPARK (Seniors Center of Montgomery County)

Ms. Liz Bail, Managing Director, invited BCC Senior Citizen Committee to make a presentation and celebrate HOLI with Montco Seniors at their Lansdale center.

- ✓ Neelam Gupta, Chairperson of BCC Seniors Group, started with a power point presentation about Holi to about 50 Montco seniors.
- ✓ Indo American Seniors Garba group presented Garba Dance, then all Montco seniors also joined and had a wonderful time Dancing to Holi Music
- ✓ The Indian snacks donated by our seniors were served, which everyone enjoyed.
- ✓ Ms. Alexis Drolet, Marketing Director of SPARK, thanked us for the presentation and an opportunity to share the Holi celebrations with Montco Seniors.

Senior Citizen Group



Senior Citizen Group



Bhartiya Temple Senior Citizens Group is working hard to bring more entertaining and inspiring events for our Seniors Community in 2026 and beyond.

Bharatiya Vidyalaya

Bharatiya Vidyalaya: Celebrating 21 Years of Dedicated Service

The 2025–26 academic session (August 2025 thru May 2026) marks our 21st year of dedicated service to the community. With a record enrollment of 216 students, the Vidyalaya continues to thrive as a vibrant center for spiritual, language, and cultural learning. Student sessions run from 9:30 am to 12:20 pm. Following the main program, enrichment classes for Geeta chanting and music are held from 12:20 pm to 12:45 pm.

A Glimpse into a Typical Sunday

The day begins at 9:30 am with a morning assembly where students and volunteers engage in yoga, prayers, and Bhagavad Geeta chanting. Occasionally, students deliver short talks on religion, culture, or language. At 10:00 am, students attend religion classes—Hindu or Jain—followed by language classes at 10:55 am. Occasionally, culture classes replace these religion and language sessions to provide a broader perspective on Indian heritage. We are proud to offer seven Indian languages: Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Marathi, Sanskrit, Tamil, and Telugu. These are offered at various levels, based on proficiency. Students participate in Aarati at 11:50 am.

While students are in class, parents have the opportunity to engage in their own learning and wellness. Options include a Bhagavad Geeta discussion group led by volunteers or a concurrent yoga and meditation session for quiet reflection.

Chairperson: Praveen Sharma 215.361.0145 pravsharma@hotmail.com
Co-chair: Raju Kalidindi 610.331.4757 raju.email@gmail.com
Co-chair: Rita Sheth 610.275.7472 mynapa@aol.com
Co-chair: Vijay Chakravarthi 610.389.0465 vijaync.bv@gmail.com

Bharatiya Vidyalaya

- Music Students: Lamp lighting and Bhajans.
- Ganga (Kindergarten): The Song of India play.
- Kaveri (Grade 1): Demonstration of traditional outdoor games.
- Narmada (Grade 2): Stories of famous persons from India.
- Yamuna (Grade 3): Exploration of "Paths to Freedom."
- Saraswati (Grade 4): A session on sacred rituals.
- Krishna (Grade 5-6): Presentations on the Ashoka Chakra.
- Sindhu (Grade 7-8): Skits on culture in our daily life.
- Godavari (Grades 9-12): Insights into leadership from the Sunderkand.

Student Spotlight: Assembly Presentations

In our morning assemblies, students shared knowledge and creativity with their peers:

ॐ सह नाववतु - Meaning

ॐ सह नाववतु | Om Saha Naavavatu
May we (teacher and student) learn together.
सह नौ भुनक्तु | Saha Nau Bhunaktu
May we absorb and enjoy our learning.
सह वीर्यं करवावहै | Saha Veeryan Karavaavahai
May we work with great energy and effort.
तेजस्वि नावधीतमस्तु | Tejasvi Naavadheetamastu
May our studies be bright and full of wisdom.
मा विद्विषावहै | Maa Vidvishaavahai
May we not argue or nit-pick while learning.

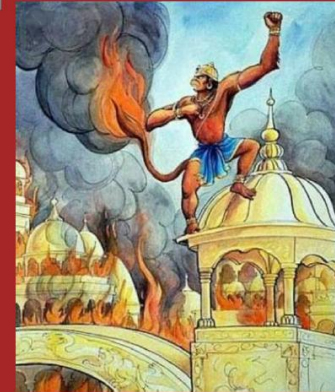


January 4: Amaira Karthikeya (Grade 1) led the Shanti Mantra, explaining how prayer fosters a peaceful mind for learning.

Bharatiya Vidyalaya

Role in the Ramayana

- Jambavanji
- Leap across the ocean
- Burning down Lanka
- Gathering the Vanaras
- Mountain of Herbs



January 11: Devan Kalavadiya (Grade 9) provided a deep dive into the life of Hanuman Ji and his devotion in the Ramayana.

Early Dravidian Split

- ~2500 - 1500 B.C.
- Split into Proto-South-Dravidian and Proto-South-Central Dravidian
- These two language groups developed separately from each other



January 18: Darshit Mangala (Grade 12) presented on the fascinating evolution of Indian languages.



- Meaning of yagna?
- Narrate how to perform large, intricate yagnas
- Commonly performed by kings in ancient times, still happens today



February 1: Ronak Demagu (Grade 10) shared an insightful presentation on the Kalpa Sutras.

Our Ethos: The Value of Knowledge and Time

At Bharatiya Vidyalaya, we are guided by timeless wisdom:

आयुषः क्षण एकोऽपि सर्वरत्नैर्न लभ्यते ।
नीयते स वृथा येन प्रमादः सुमहानहो ॥

*Even a single moment of life cannot be purchased with all the jewels in the world.
To let it pass in vain is a great mistake.*

This commitment to valuing every moment is reflected in our dedication to Vidya Daan (the gift of knowledge). While food provides temporary satisfaction, knowledge provides satisfaction that lasts a lifetime.

Stay Connected

- Volunteers: Supported by over 60 dedicated teaching and non-teaching volunteers.
- Senior Students: 15 students in Grade 9 and above are gaining teaching experience while continuing their studies.
- Library Services: Our library offers a wide selection of books for children and adults to support learning at home.
- WhatsApp Community: Join us for real-time updates:
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/Ex6sOByBMlf4o5SaYiFt9c>

Academic Enrichment Program at Bharatiya Temple

Academic Enrichment Program (AEP) had an exciting and highly productive winter session. It has been wonderful to see students demonstrate strong dedication, enthusiasm, and a growing passion for mathematics.

What sets AEP apart is our focus on **advanced problem-solving and competition readiness**, going beyond the standard school curriculum. Through exposure to national-level contests such as **AMC 8** and the **Pi Math Contest**, students gain valuable experience and confidence to perform on a broader stage.

Quarter Highlights

• National Competitions

Students participated in the AMC 8 and Pi Math Contest with great enthusiasm. These experiences helped build critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and confidence in competitive environments.

• MOEMS Series Completion

We successfully completed the **5-test MOEMS series**, providing consistent practice in logical reasoning and analytical thinking. Students showed steady improvement across all tests.

• Mock MathCounts Experience

We also hosted a **Mock MathCounts session** to give students exposure to this prestigious competition format. This helped students become familiar with contest structure, timing, and problem-solving under pressure.

• Student Growth

Significant progress was observed throughout the session. Students improved in:

- Speed and time management
- Accuracy and problem-solving techniques
- Confidence in tackling challenging questions

Program Impact

Our small-group learning approach and interactive sessions helped students:

- Engage more actively in problem-solving
- Explore multiple solution strategies
- Build confidence and persistence

Academic Enrichment Program at Bharatiya Temple

Spring Session – Now Open

We are excited to continue this momentum into the **Spring Session**, where students will further strengthen their skills through advanced problem-solving strategies, continued competition preparation, and structured practice with feedback.

We encourage families to **register early**, as students are placed in small, focused learning groups to ensure personalized attention. [Registration Link](#)

Acknowledgements & Thanks

We extend our sincere gratitude to the **Bharatiya Temple management** for providing the venue and logistical support, and to the **parents** for their encouragement and support throughout the session.

We also appreciate the dedication of our **AEP instructors and volunteers**, whose thoughtful lesson planning and commitment make this program successful.

A special thank you to **Dr. Raghunath Khetan** for his continued guidance, encouragement, and support. His leadership has played an important role in strengthening the Academic Enrichment Program within our community.

Congratulations to all students who participated in the **Winter Session**—your curiosity, effort, and perseverance made this session a great success.

We look forward to continued growth and many more enriching learning opportunities in the upcoming sessions.

Becoming a Member of BTI / BCC

— BECOME A —
MEMBER

JOIN US

Membership Categories	
Annual Membership	\$100
Life Member	\$1,200
Patron	\$5,000
Grand Patron	\$10,000
Senior Trustee	\$25,000

Benefits of becoming a Trustee, Patron or Life Member

- All mailings including Brochures, newsletters and calendar.
- Complementary Pujas performed at the temple for you and your family member on birthdays.
- Discounted or complimentary admission to selected events.
- One time per calendar year, receive a 20% discounted fee for Hall rental (Max discount of \$100)
- Eligible for Board of Director's position.

All donations to Bharatiya Temple and Bharatiya Cultural Center are tax deductible!

Bharatiya Temple Tax ID: 23-2959416
Bharatiya Cultural Center Tax ID: 76-0706802

For additional information regarding membership and to download application forms, please visit the Temple website.

Puja Request



To schedule a Puja or inquiries pertaining to this, please contact:

Hema Channarasappa
267-396-PUJA (7852)
priest@b-temple.org



If you are requesting specific priests for your puja, this will only be confirmed by Hema Channarasappa and not by the priests themselves. Please keep in mind that:

- All services (except Archana, Abhishekam & Vehicle Puja) must be scheduled in advance.
- All private puja services are charged on an individual puja basis.
- Mileage charges will apply for all outside pujas.

For a complete list of Pujas and prices, please visit the temple website.

Volunteers Needed

The Temple is always in need of help and volunteers! If there is a committee that interests you, please reach out to the respective chairperson. If there is an event that you would like to help in, please refer to the respective flyer and reach out to the contact person(s) listed. If you can only volunteer for a day or even a few hours, it will be greatly appreciated! Please reach out to the contact person for the event based on your availability.



Bharatiya Temple Hall Rental Information

For Hall Rentals or inquiries pertaining to this, please contact:



Dixal Patel
610-291-7493
hall@b-temple.org



Hall Rental	\$600 for 4 hours + \$100/additional hour (Friday evenings, Saturdays, Sundays & Holidays) OR \$400 for 4 hours + \$75/additional hour (weekdays)
Education Room Rental	\$100 for 2 hours + \$50/additional hour (Friday evenings, Saturdays, Sundays & Holidays) OR \$50 for 2 hours + \$25/additional hour (weekdays)
Kitchen Rental	\$75 for warming food. Food cooking is not permitted.
Audio Equipment Rental	<u>Basic Package</u> —\$75 (includes 1 wireless and 2 wired mics, connection for laptop or phone) <u>Enhanced Package</u> —\$250 (includes 1 technician and use of all audio facilities for 4 hours., \$50/hour extra thereafter)
Wedding	\$1,300 for all day—includes access to kitchen and Basic Package for audio equipment rental
Cleaning	\$100—this includes sweeping and mopping only; you still have to pick up trash
Discounts (once/year)	20% or maximum \$100 for Life Members of BTI/BCC (once/year) 20% or maximum \$100 for nonprofit organizations (once/year) 10% or maximum \$100 for annual members of BTI/BCC (once/year)

For additional information or to download the rental agreement, please visit the Temple website.

About BTI / BCC

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 463
Montgomeryville, PA 18936

Physical Address

1612 County Line Road
Chalfont, PA 18914

Phone: 215-997-1181

Email: info@b-temple.org

Priest services:

Hema Channarasappa
267-396-PUJA (7852)
priest@b-temple.org

Hall Rental

Dixal Patel
610-291-7493
hall@b-temple.org

Temple Priests



**Sri. Vishnuji
Parshad Vassyal**



**Sri. Seshasai
Rompicharla**



**Sri. Umamaheshwara
Shivam**



**Sri. Nikul
Prasad Joshi**

Connect with the Community and the Temple

Bharatiya Temple App

You can download this **FREE** app by simply scanning the barcode or by searching "Bharatiya Temple" in iTunes (Apple) or Play Store (Android).

With this app you can easily view upcoming events, view monthly calendar, request hall rental, request priest services, listen to bhajans, post pictures, send a message, etc.

If you choose to receive notification, you will receive real-time information about parking situation at the temple, temple closings due to inclement weather and reminders about special events at the temple.



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