



Core Documents of ZCLA

- **ZCLA Mission, Vision, Core Values and Core Practices**
- **Personal Practice Mandala**
 - **ZCLA Mandala**

OUR MISSION

is to know the Self, maintain the precepts and serve others. We provide the teaching, training, and transmission of Zen Buddhism.

OUR VISION

is an enlightened world free of suffering, in which all beings live in harmony, everyone has enough, deep wisdom is realized and compassion flows unhindered.

CORE VALUES AND CORE PRACTICES

OUR FOUNDATIONAL (DHARMA) VALUES

We take responsibility for creating a strong foundation to protect the Dharma.

Specifically, we will:

1. take care of our buildings and grounds
2. provide safety and security
3. maintain financial stability
4. nurture close and healthy relationships within the sangha

We will:

- a) be disciplined and orderly according to established guidelines for community living
 - b) extend ourselves to all others politely and with respect
 - c) handle difficulties with calm and perseverance
 - d) address conflicts with balance and evenness
 - e) act to support one another physically and emotionally, especially in times of need
5. maintain a healthy and effective organization

We will:

- a) freely disseminate and receive information regarding the operations of the Center
- b) employ sound management practices in our day-to-day operations
- c) recognize the traditions of our lineage
- d) create training paths and liturgy
- e) practice environmental responsibility

OUR FOCUS (SANGHA) VALUES

We contribute to the peace of the world by striving to fulfill our mission and vision.

Specifically, we will:

1. take responsibility that everyone is treated equally
2. use our unique gifts and skills in the service of others
3. help to create a climate of mutual trust and confidence in which all can speak and listen from the heart
4. honor diversity and actively welcome all people, regardless of age, ethnicity, gender, physical and mental ability, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socio-economic background
5. interface with other religious traditions
6. be open to and foster innovations in forms and styles of practice
7. expand our expression through ceremony, arts, media and ritual
8. laugh at our own imperfections
9. make amends and learn from our mistakes
10. practice generosity
11. practice non-attachment
12. seek simplicity
13. develop policies and practices that promote environmental stewardship
14. practice collective responsibility and shared stewardship
15. seek collective wisdom
16. give and receive feedback
17. create beauty

OUR VISION (BUDDHA) VALUES:

We pursue the Enlightened Way and promote global harmony.

Specifically, we will:

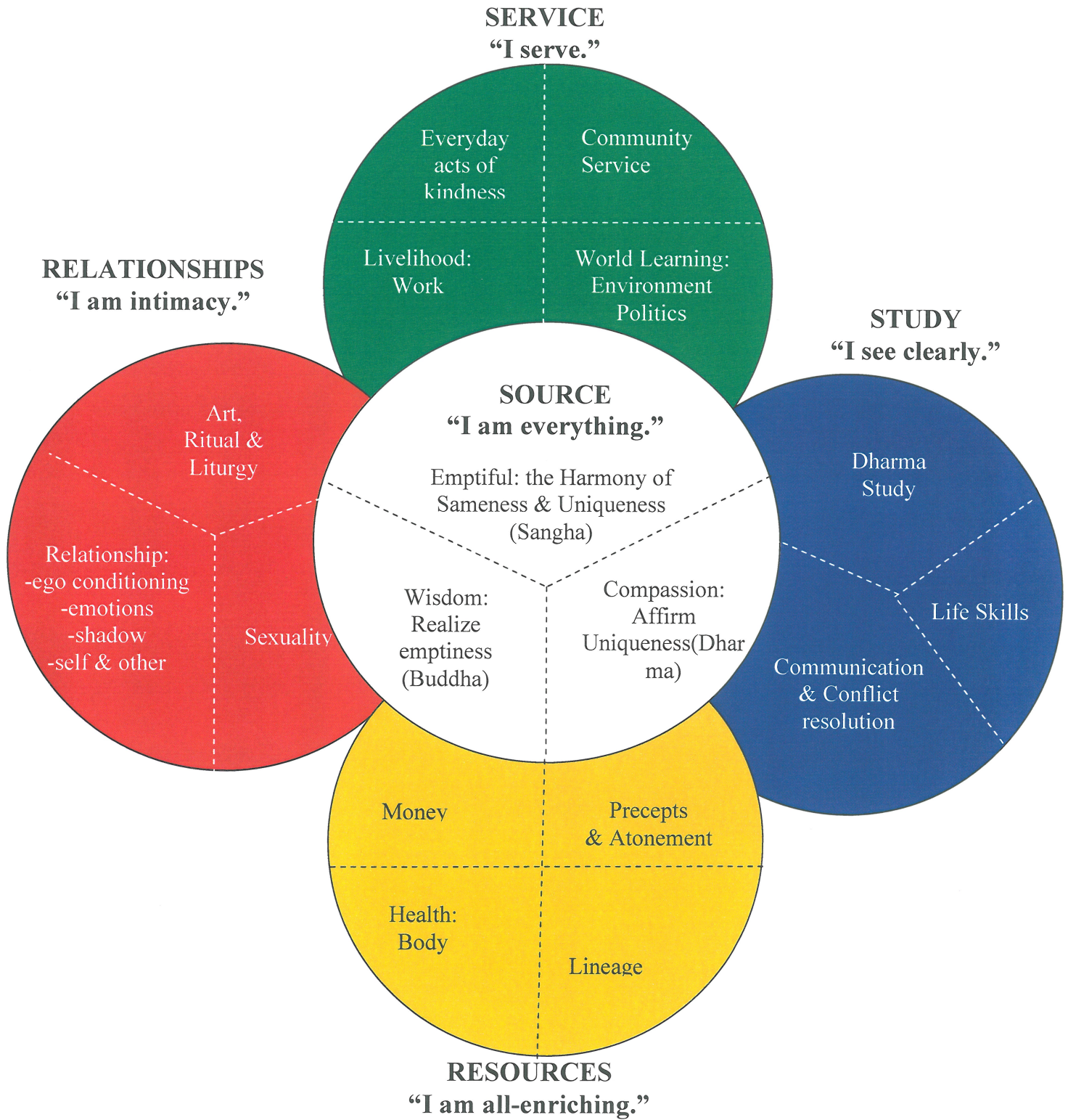
1. practice zazen
2. maintain the precepts
3. serve others
4. live the truth of interconnectedness
5. care for and nurture the natural world and all its creatures
6. fulfill the Four Great Bodhisattva Vows

CORE PRACTICES

We are committed to the core practices of the Five Spheres of Awakening:

- Atonement: taking responsibility for our own cause and effect.
- Collective Awakening and Wisdom: seeing and acting from the co-arising of life all together.
- Council: listening and speaking from the heart.
- Fushinzamu: working together on common project.
- Guiding Questions: developing questions that keep the energetic field open to the wholeness of a situation and direct inquiry.
- Koans: inquiring into the nature of life.
- Precepts: abstaining from evil, cultivating good, and acting for the benefit of others.
- Ritual: practicing liturgy and ceremony.
- Shadow Awareness Practice: reclaiming our individual and collective projections and repressed energies in service of wholeness.
- Shared Stewardship: consciously co-creating with one another a sangha culture of openness, creativity, and service.
- Sociocratic Voting Practice: collective decision-making by consent (holding the space and trusting in the process by which a decision is reached that everyone can support). [See Attachment A: Sociocratic Voting]
- Study and Scholarship: continuous learning and unlearning.
- Three Tenets: not knowing, bearing witness, and liberating action (actions that serves the whole).
- Zazen: appreciating life as is.

THE PERSONAL PRACTICE MANDALA



The Circle of Life of the ZCLA Organization

