



ONENESS

KAPAA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE

November 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP



“Authentic Individuality”

Today, we witness many sad news of hate, violence, and discrimination. A human criticizes, discriminates, hates, and hurts other human beings. It is truly a tragic thing. We are all different in our appearances, socioeconomic status, race, language, lifestyle, etc. Even family members who live in the same household have different thoughts and viewpoints. But we are all unique and beautiful. We all shine beautifully.

We seem like surfers who try to ride on a massive range of waves: waves of our life’s challenges. Some waves are small, and others are too large for a single person to overcome. Sometimes, we succeed in riding on the waves; sometimes, we are overwhelmed and fail to ride on it. It would be wonderful if we could work together. It would be wonderful if we could freely extend our compassionate hands to those needing help. But it seems like we are all too busy in the pursuit of our own happiness. We are all too busy catching the waves right before us. In the ocean of our lives, we often fail to understand and care for the people around us. Perhaps we are too focused on catching the waves we want and feel that the people around us should not belong in the ocean we enjoy. Driven by such narrow viewpoints, we have no moment of peace. Such viewpoints are the primal cause of hatred and discrimination.

Professor Kenneth Tanaka talked about “authentic individuality.” Buddhism is the teaching to cultivate this authentic individuality. Authentic individuality means that each of us is unique, each of us can contribute to others, and each of us is precious and has dignity. “Oneness” that we talk about in Buddhism does not mean being the same. Say you are an apple; Oneness does not mean that you and others must be pineapple. Oneness means that an apple can exist as an apple, and a pineapple can exist as a pineapple. Apple has its dignity and place, and pineapple has its dignity and place. The Buddhist teaching of oneness teaches us that we are all, no matter who we are, illuminated and embraced by the Buddha’s Wisdom and Compassion just as we are. In that awareness, we become aware of our self-centeredness and limitations and, at the same time, endeavor to cultivate peace and harmony, compassion for self and others, and live with confidence, conviction, and dignity. I understand this as the meaning of “authentic individuality.”

A narrow viewpoint, characterized by limited personal experiences and a strong selfish attachment to oneself, can have far-reaching consequences that lead to hatred and discrimination. Buddhism teaches us the dignity of all lives and that all lives must be affirmed, respected, and appreciated.

Namo Amida Butsu
Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani

OBITUARY NOTICE

Mr. Jay Kunio Hamai, a member of Moiliili Hongwanji Mission, passed away on May 12, 2023. Mr. Hamai served as the Treasurer of Moiliili Hongwanji Mission for close to 45 years. The Ingo of EI-HO-IN 映芳院 which translates as “One who shines brightly with rare fragrance” in recognition of his life of Nembutsu was conferred by Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani on August 31, 2023.

Mrs. Mary Fujitani, wife of retired minister, Rev. Shigeaki Fujitani, passed away on September 4, 2023, at the age of 94 in Honolulu, Hawaii. Her Funeral Service will be held on Saturday, November 25, 2023, in Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin as a private service. Visitation will be held from 2 pm, followed by the funeral service at 3 pm. If you would like to join the service, please RSVP to Mrs. Caryn Okuda carynokuda@gmail.com by November 15, 2023.

NEW YOUTH SPECIALIST



Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii welcomed Emi Hashi as the new Children and Youth Activities Specialist (Youth Specialist).

Emi was a very active participant in the HHMH programs, such as Jr. YBA (Maui & Federation President), YBICSE, BWA Exchange Student, YESS Camp counselor, and BSC Fellowship Club. She is originally from Maui and currently participates in the Aiea Hongwanji Mission’s services and programs.

Her official starting date was Wednesday, October 4, 2023, and her office will be at the Buddhist Study Center (BSC). She works on Mondays and Wednesdays as a part-time employee. As the Youth Specialist, Emi will develop, organize, and direct youth and youth-related activities such as Jr. YBA, YESS Camp, BSC Fellowship Club, Dharma School, and Young Adults. She will assist the operation of the BSC and OBE in matters relating to children, college students, and young adults.

We sincerely hope that this new assignment will be beneficial for the HHMH in propagating the teaching of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, especially to the children and young adults who will bear the future of the HHMH.

MAUI WILDFIRE

The State Ministers Association and the Maui District Minister's Association hosted the Maui Wildfires Memorial Service on September 24, 2023, at Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin. Under the officiation of Bishop Umitani and the HHMH Ministers, the participants of about 400 people (in person and online) placed their hands together in Gassho. Rev. Tomo Hojo, the President of the State Ministers Association, gave the opening message. Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani and Rev. Ai Hironaka delivered Dharma Messages. The service touched all of our hearts. The Nembutsu came out of our mouths naturally during the service. The service is now available to watch on the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii YouTube channel. You can feel it through this recorded video. Please share this video link with your temple members and friends. <https://youtu.be/clyxKab2un0>



The Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha Buddhist Women's Federation of Japan provided financial aid to Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii to be used by Rev. Ai Hironaka to purchase the ministerial robes and supplies that were lost due to the fire. Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani, together with Dr. Warren Tamamoto (Hawaii Kyodan President), Rev. Daido Baba (Executive Assistant to the Bishop), and Mrs. Yoshiko Umitani (Hawaii Federation of BWA Honorary President), joined the Kahului Hongwanji Mission's Sunday Service on October 1, 2023, for the official presentation of robes to Rev. Ai Hironaka.



In the spirit of compassion, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii established the Maui Wildfires Disaster Relief Fund. All donations collected will go to support Lahaina Hongwanji Mission and relief efforts on Maui. If you could help support this effort, we would truly appreciate it.

2023 MINISTER LAY ASSISTANT RETREAT

On October 7 & 8, eleven Minister's Lay Assistants (MLA) from Oahu, Maui, and Hawaii Island gathered at Hawaii Betsuin in Honolulu to participate in various workshops to prepare for helping their ministers with temple services. The retreat offered the opportunity to review and enrich the knowledge of the participants in the rituals and traditions of the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha.

This year, two tracks were offered to nurture those just starting as MLAs and also support Certified MLAs to further hone their skills and knowledge.

New instructors Reverends Hashimoto and Soga led the well-received workshops on altar setup, service order, and chanting. Reverend Kuniyuki provided insights on providing Dharma education and talks. Bishop Umitani reviewed the role of MLAs as part of the Kyodan policy on the Shin Buddhist Ministry in Hawaii. Dr. Dexter Mar discussed opportunities for MLAs beyond worship services to help share the Dharma at our temples.

The 2024 MLA Retreat will be held on October 12-13, 2024. Please mark your calendars and plan to join this group of fellow travelers in learning how to support your ministers and temples.

MINISTER'S RITUAL WORKSHOP

On October 13th, the Ministerial Training Committee held a Ritual Workshop at the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin for Hawaii Kyodan ministers. Rev. Katsuya Kusunoki, Rimban of Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple was the featured trainer. Rev. Kusunoki is a graduate of Gonshikishidōsho and is a recipient of the specialized chanting and ritual certification from Jōdo Shinshū Hongwanji-ha.

The daylong workshop focused on learning aspects of the New *Gohonden Saho* which is a service created for the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth and the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jōdo Shinshū Teaching. *Gohonden* refers to Shinran Shonin's main work *Kyōgyōshinshō (The True Teaching, Practice, and Realization of the Pure Land Way)*. This new style of chanting the *Shōshinge (Hymn of True Entrusting)* will be used at Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii's Triple Celebration commemorating the 850th/800th Anniversaries and Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii's 135th Anniversary in September 2024.

This was a meaningful time of professional development and fellowship for our ministers as they deepened their knowledge and appreciation for the Jōdo Shinshū tradition. We are planning to chant the "New *Gohonden Saho*" at our Triple Celebration next year.



HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

STATE HEADQUARTERS

1727 PALI HIGHWAY HONOLULU, HI 96813 PH: (808) 522-9200 FAX: (808) 522-9209

www.hongwanjihawaii.com

September 19, 2023

To: Temple Presidents
Resident Ministers

Re: **2023-2024 Social Concerns Fund Drive**

The month of November is a special time for reflecting on gratitude. Observing Eitaikyo and celebrating Thanksgiving are opportunities to appreciate the innumerable causes and conditions which sustain our lives and how we are deeply connected to the world around us. It is in this spirit of profound gratitude that we kick-off our Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive.

Your generosity enables the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii with the ability to support worthy organizations and programs making a difference in our community. Your selfless giving also enables us to provide compassionate aid during times of disaster and the ability to skillfully respond to issues affecting our local and world communities.

Through our Social Welfare Fund, we were able to immediately support relief efforts on Maui in the aftermath of devastating wildfires, giving over \$25,000 to various organizations and affected individuals. Your generous support ensures we have the ability to respond quickly when disasters strike.

We continued our advocacy for improving mental health care, addressing homelessness, and alleviating food insecurity in our community by donating to the Samaritan Counseling Center of Hawaii, Spill the Tea Café, Hope Services, and the various food banks on each island. This year, we also awarded several Golden Chain Grants to help nurture Sangha-based compassionate action.

The fund drive will begin November 1, 2023, and run till August 31, 2024. We request that temples submit their collected donations by the end of September 2024. Envelopes have been provided to temples wishing to use them. Extra envelopes are available in limited supply. Please make all checks payable to YOUR TEMPLE. Your temple will then remit one combined check to the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii.

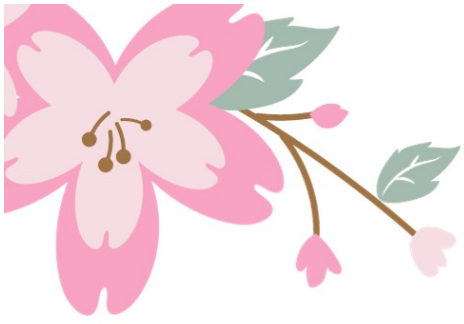
Your support of our Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive is greatly appreciated. Mahalo!

In Gassho,

Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani
Bishop

Dr. Warren Tamamoto
President

Rev. Blayne Higa, Chair
Committee on Social Concerns



SAVE THE DATE

Buddhist Study Center

Spring Festival

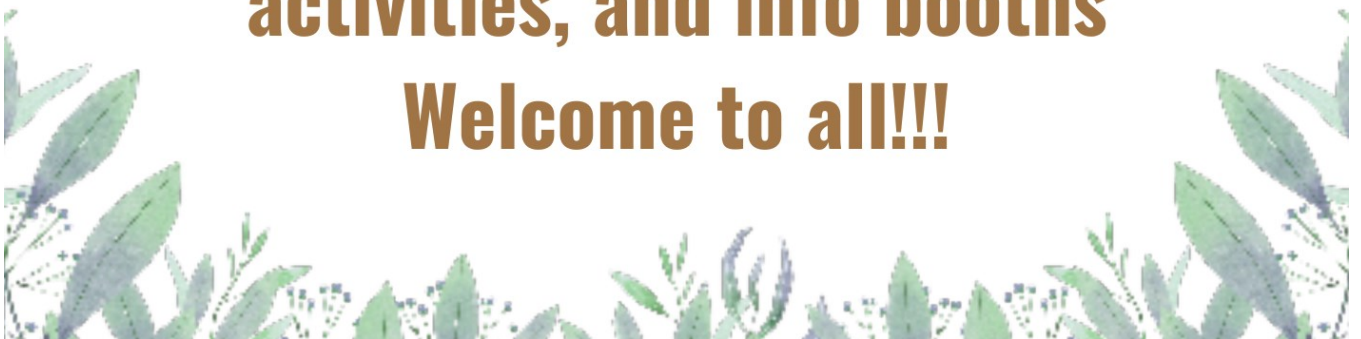
“Nurturing Mind & Body”

APRIL 6, 2024

9:30 - 2:00

**Health and wellness workshops, food
activities, and info booths**

Welcome to all!!!



MAHALO FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS & SUPPORT

September 20—October 17, 2023

In Memory Donations

Seichi & Kimie Osaki, Richard Osaki,
John Grace Foundation - Marian Osaki Joe
Sumiko Kawamoto - Edwin Kawamoto
Alice Yamada - Jessie Muramaru

Temple Building Fund

Ethel Aiko Oda
Jessie Muramaru

Hall Rental

Center for Spiritual Living Kauai

Volunteer Support

Marie Hashimura
David & Ruby Ishida
Stanford Iwamoto
Ralph Kitashima
Rev. Mieko Majima
Milton Nakamura
Ray Paler
Kaleigh Ramil
Rona Sakai
Gloria Shimizu
Joan Slingerland
Clyde & Kay Takekuma

Women's Association

The Kauai United BWA held its annual Fall Conference at Lihue Hongwanji on Sunday, October 22, 2023. The opening service began at 9:00 a.m. with Rev. Shawn Yagi, Rev. Tomo Hojo and Rev. Mieko Majima attended on Zoom from Japan. Rev. Hojo, the Keynote Speaker, prepared an interesting presentation about the BWA World Conference in Japan. The ladies also shared their experiences. Many thanks to the Lihue Hongwanji women for a well planned and enjoyable conference with delicious refreshments.

MAUI WILDFIRE

You will find a large button for Maui Wildfires Disaster Relief near the top of our Donate page: <https://hongwanjihawaii.com/donate/>

QR code for Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund through Paypal



Updates for Maui Wildfires Disaster will be shared on our website at <http://honpahi.link/fire>

Mahalo for your generosity and support during this time of tragedy.

from the president's corner...

Aloha Everyone! We welcome November, a special month to remember and express our heartfelt gratitude for your many contributions and experiences we have shared to enrich our lives with the Nembutsu Teachings. In November we observe the Eitaikyo Service which is a perpetual memorial service. This service is dedicated to our ancestors who ensured that the Buddha Dharma will continue to be shared with future generations. Thanksgiving is also observed to express our gratitude for all the blessings we have received.

Parsonage Repairs - The interior of the parsonage is currently being repaired. We are hoping to have it completed by the second week of November so Rev. Majima will be able to return to her residence. The parsonage living room will temporarily be used to conduct services while the temple is being repaired.

Temple Repairs - The board has approved the repairs of the exterior ceiling between the temple and offices and interior ceiling behind the altar. We will also need to repair and restore the ocean side of the temple which has deteriorated over time from the salt breeze and inclement weather.

25th Anniversary of Lonesome Grave Project - Friday, November 10 at 8:00 a.m. The Kauai United Hongwanji Buddhist Women's Association will once again be placing flowers and greens on the graves at the Kauai Veterans Cemetery in Hanapepe. This project began in 1998 to remember the veterans whose families are no longer able to visit the graves. It is our way to express our gratitude to the veterans for their service and the sacrifices they made to ensure the safety and freedom for all.

Donation of flowers will be appreciated and needed by Thursday, November 9. Please call me at 808.822.4667. *Mahalo!*

Kapaa Interfaith Thanksgiving Service & Luncheon - Thursday, November 23, 2023
The Thanksgiving Service and Luncheon will be held at the All Saint's Episcopal Church. Service will begin at 10:00 a.m. and the luncheon will follow from 11:00 - 1:00 p.m. in the gym. All are welcome to enjoy a Thanksgiving meal together. Kapaa Hongwanji and the Center for Spiritual Living will pack and distribute the meals to be delivered. Deliveries will only be made to the homebound who are unable to drive and attend the luncheon. **We will need volunteers** to package and deliver meals.

Memorial Service

November				December			
Makiemon	Yasue	50th	11/1/1974	Takeo	Sakamoto	13th	12/1/2010
Doris Makie	Kawamura	17th	11/6/2007	Takazo	Soma	17th	12/2/2006
Kiyoto	Uegawa	23rd	11/10/2001	Yutaka	Shintani	27th	12/11/1996
Tama	Yamamoto	33rd	11/10/1991	Charlotte Keiko	Nakamura	17th	12/13/2006
Charles Mitsuru	Saiki	13th	11/11/2011	Elaine Mitsuyo	Morita	13th	12/16/2010
Mitsuo	Wakumoto	1st	11/7/2022	Kathleen Tsuyako	Honjiyo	33rd	12/20/1990
Mitsuko	Higashiyama	1st	11/18/2022	Hisao	Maeda	3rd	12/24/2020
Elsie Akiko	Koigawachi	7th	11/18/2017	Chieko	Miyazaki	33rd	12/25/1990
Kameichi	Sakamoto	13th	11/24/2011	Mamoru	Korenaga	17th	12/29/2006

In Memoriam...

Kapaa Hongwanji Mission extends its deepest sympathy to the families who have suffered from the wildfire, especial those who have lost their loved ones.

Namo Amida Butsu

Services

For any inquiries regarding funerals or memorial services during the repair period, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at 808.822.4667. We understand the importance of honoring your loved ones, and we are happy to assist you.

From Minister's Desk

Thank you again for generous support for the building repairs.

We observe Eitai-kyo Service this month. It means "perpetual" and "reading Sutras".

This service is observed with the hope that a temple will continue perpetually and the Buddha Dharma will be transmitted to future generations. It is dedicated to all those who lived and died as Buddhists in due respect of their contribution to the growth of the local Sangha.

Let us together listen to the Buddha Dharma and reflect ourselves.

Namo Amida Butsu

Temple Cleaning & Flower Arrangement

Date	Group	Cleaning	Flower Arrangement
11/25/2023	Group 1	No cleaning due to the temple repairs.	Rona Sakai
12/2/2023	Group 2		Ruby Ishida
12/9/2023	Group 3		Joan Slingerland
11/4/2023	Group 4		Ruby Ishida
11/11/2023	Group 5		Joan Slingerland
11/18/202	Group 6		Kay Takekuma

KAPAA HONGWANJI MISSION

4-1170 Kuhio Highway

Kapaa, Hawaii 96746

ONENESS

The Newsletter of
Kapaa Hongwanji Mission
Minister: Rev. Mieko Majima
www.kapaahongwanji.org
Phone (808) 822-4667



November 2023

Monthly Memorial Service (Minister only)

November 5, 2023

Lonesome Grave Project

Veterans Cemetery

November 10, 2023

Eitaikyo Services (Minister only)

November 12, 2023

Thanksgiving Day Service

(all Saints)

November 23, 2023

