



ONENESS

KAPAA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE

February 2024

Farewell Message from the Departing Minister

Dear Dharma friends,

As I stand at the threshold of a new chapter in my life, bidding farewell to my role as the resident minister of Kapaa Hongwanji Mission, I find my heart brimming with profound gratitude. It has been an extraordinary honor and privilege to serve alongside such an exceptional community of dedicated and talented individuals. Your unwavering support, tireless efforts, and unwavering commitment have not only been the backbone of our shared achievements but have also woven a tapestry of meaningful connections that I will forever cherish.

Our journey together has been marked by countless moments, both in times of jubilant celebration and in the face of adversity, that have left an indelible mark on my heart. I have learned as much from each of you as I hope I have been able to contribute. As I take this step into the future, please understand that my thoughts and well wishes will always be intimately tied to you and this remarkable community.

I carry with me a profound sense of belief that Kapaa Hongwanji Mission will not only continue to thrive but will also continue to make a positive and lasting impact on the lives of those it touches. I eagerly look forward to hearing about the ongoing success and growth of this community that I hold so dear.

May your endeavors always be blessed by the Buddha, and may each of you find abundant happiness and fulfillment on your respective life journeys. Just as the light of wisdom and compassion has illuminated my path during my tenure as your minister, I trust that it will continue to guide your way.

As I prepare to embark on new adventures, I want to extend my deepest appreciation for entrusting me with the opportunity to serve, and for the cherished memories we've collectively created. These memories are precious treasures that I carry with me into the next chapter of my life.

With the warmest of regards and my sincerest best wishes to all of you, please know that I am forever grateful for the privilege of having been part of this remarkable community."

I hope this extended version captures the depth of your appreciation and best wishes as you bid farewell.

In gassho,
Mieko Majima

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Reverend Mieko Majima, the Resident Minister of Kapaa Hongwanji Mission, will resign from Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii as of December 31, 2023, and transfer her ministry to the Buddhist Churches of America. Rev. Majima has been serving Hawaii Kyodan as a Kaikyoshi Minister since March 2015. After Rev. Majima's departure, the Ministers of the Kauai District Ministers Association, chaired by Rev. Shawn Yagi, will oversee the Kapaa Hongwanji Mission during the absence of their Resident Minister.

Reverend Charlene Kihara received the letter from the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha on October 24, 2023, officially appointing her as a Kaikyoshi Minister of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii.

Reverend Charlene Kihara, an Intern Kaikyoshi Minister currently serving at Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin and the Headquarters, will be assigned to Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin as its Associate Minister as of January 1, 2024.

Ministers of the Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin will be assigned to oversee Honohina-Papaaloa Hongwanji Mission, Honomu Hongwanji Mission, and Papaikou Hongwanji Mission as of January 1, 2024. Reverend Kazunori Takahashi, the current Rimban of Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin, in collaboration and teamwork with Rev. Joshin Kamuro, temple presidents, and Hilo Betsuin staff, is responsible for making the necessary arrangements and providing service and guidance to the Hamakua Temples. Accordingly, ministers of the Hawaii District Ministers Association will be relieved from their responsibilities of overseeing the Hamakua Temples as of December 31, 2023.

Reverend Bert Sumikawa, a minister who currently serves at Moiliili Hongwanji Mission as a Retired Kaikyoshi Minister (Part-Time), will be relieved from his current assignment at Moiliili Hongwanji Mission as of February 29, 2024. Rev. Sumikawa will continue to guide the Kailua Hongwanji Mission (Windward Buddhist Temple), where Rev. Barbara Brennan serves as a Kaikyoshi-ho under the mentorship of Rev. Sumikawa.

Reverend David Fujimoto, the Resident Minister of Mililani Hongwanji Mission and the Oversee Minister of Ewa Hongwanji Mission, will be assigned to Moiliili Hongwanji Mission as its Resident Minister as of March 1, 2024. Rev. Fujimoto will continue to serve Ewa Hongwanji Mission as its Oversee Minister.

Ms. Emi Hashi currently serves as the Children and Youth Activities Specialist and works at the Buddhist Study Center (BSC). Her working shift will change from January 2024. She will work on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

TOKUDO

The English Tokudo Shurai (training) was held from December 6-16, 2023, at the Nishiyama Betsuin in Kyoto, Japan. Participants were ten from BCA and one from Hawaii who was Linda Nagai from Kona Hongwanji. Below is her sharing of Tokudo Experience. Congratulations, Linda

My Tokudo Experience by Linda Nagai, Kona Hongwanji
Trying to memorize sutras and various recitations, and then having memorization requirements change at the last minute was very stressful. However, I realized that I was actually living the teachings. The teaching of impermanence, nothing remains the same and our suffering is due to the fact that we cannot accept change. It was then that I was able to accept the many changes that came along with my Tokudo journey.



December 3, was the beginning of the final leg of my Tokudo journey. We arrived in Japan and for 2 days received orientation and training at the Hongwanji International Center, as well as receiving the remainder of the items we would need when we went to the Nishiyama training center for Tokudo. On December 6, all of our electronics were put aside, and for 10 days we had no outside contact, which I do have to admit was quite refreshing, and peaceful. Our day began with a wake up to music at 5:30 a.m., followed by chores, and morning service, (some of which we had to lead), classes, and meals. Our day normally ended at 9:00 p.m. and lights were out at 11:00 p.m. Yes, it was quite rigorous.

We were able to visit Shoren-in Temple where Shinran Shonin was ordained, and Mt. Hiei where Shinran Shonin studied for 20 years. However, the highlight of Tokudo for me was the actual ordination. Not that I was receiving my Tokudo, but ordination itself. We were ordained in the evening in candle lights, depicting Shinran Shonin's ordination.

65 Aspirants from Japan, BCA, and yes me from Hawaii arrived at Honzan in the late afternoon. We assembled in Goeido (Founder's Hall) the building that enshrines Shinran Shonin, and in front Shinran Shonin's image we received our Tokudo ordination. It was a beautiful ritual very serene, and peaceful, as Gomonsu came by and taped each aspirant on the head, followed by all 65 aspirants reciting the New Ryogemon. Reciting the words of the Gomonsu which echoed through Goeido, taking the Jodo Shinshu teachings from Amida's compassion to how to live each moment of our lives, a feeling that I cannot describe and will never forget.

My journey towards Tokudo was worth every step. And as I took each step, I could feel Amida guiding me through the many people who helped me along this path. And as I watched the beautiful white snow fall in Hiroshima after Tokudo, I could feel Amida's embrace, realizing that Amida's all encompassing Wisdom and compassion, will continue to guide me as I continue to walk the Nembutsu path. With deep gratitude and palms together, I recite the Buddha's name "Namo Amida Butsu."

2024 LIVING TREASURES OF HAWAII

The Living Treasures of Hawai`i Committee has selected five outstanding awardees for 2024 from a large pool of highly qualified nominees.

The awardees for 2024 are:

Julian Ako, retired Teacher and Administrator, Kamehameha Schools; Hawaiian music composer and musicologist, leader in the indigenization of curriculum, promoter of international studies and relations, and regenerative tourism

Douglas Chong, Leader in the Hawai`i Chinese Community, member of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, historian of Chinese in Hawai`i, retired University of Hawai`i Professor

Sarah Keahi, leader of the Hawaiian musical renaissance and reviver of Hawaiian language and education; long-time instructor and mentor at Kamehameha Schools

Davianna Pomaika`i McGregor, Professor Emeritus, Ethnic Studies Department; Director Oral History Center, University of Hawai`i; one of the primary leaders of the Protect Kaho`olawe `Ohana; author of seminal book, "Na Kua `Aina: Living Hawaiian Culture.

Ricardo "Rick" Trimillos, Professor Emeritus, Ethnomusicology, University of Hawai`i, perpetuator of Hawai`i's cultural, music, and artistic traditions, international consultant on ethnomusicology.

The Living Treasures Awards luncheon is scheduled to be held on Saturday, February 10, 2024 at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, March 10 - **6th Virtual Dharma School Gathering** - Open to All Ages

Theme: Sharing Nembutsu Moments - "The Golden Chain of Love"

Guest Speaker: D. Trinidad Hunt, granddaughter of Reverend Dorothy Hunt, author of The Golden Chain of Love and numerous gathas

8:45 - 9:45 am - Dharma School Teachers Meeting (with D. Trinidad Hunt, speaker)

10:00 - 10:30 am - Service with D. Trinidad Hunt, speaker

10:30 - 11:30 am - Breakout Rooms - Adult Breakout Room (D. Trinidad Hunt - speaker)

11:30 am - 12 pm - Dharma School Students share breakout room creations

12:00 pm - Pau

Kauai Hongwanji Council Nembutsu Seminar

Buddhism and Contemporary Music

Sunday, February 18, 2024, 10:00 am (HST)

Zoom & Lihue Hongwanji Mission

Guest Speaker: Reverend Satoshi Ka'imipono Tomioka



Music is an integral part of our lives and can provide us with profound meaning as we navigate through life. Traditional Buddhist songs or *gathas* are composed to praise the virtues of the Buddha, but we can also find the essence of Buddhism in contemporary songs. In this seminar, we will learn about the Buddha's teachings by listening to these songs, with the hope of finding comfort in Amida Buddha's vigorous compassion and eye-opening wisdom.

Rev. Satoshi Ka'imipono Tomioka was born in Shimane, southern part of Japan. He majored in Intercultural Communication at Ryukoku University and received M.A literature Shin Buddhism. His first assignment was at Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin in Honolulu (2013-2017) and currently he is a resident minister of Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple on the Big Island and overseeing Pahala and Naalehu Hongwanji. He has married to Haruka and they have 2 cats, Kinako and Kuromame. He enjoys playing the ukulele and watching movies.

Registration Fee: Free (Registration Required)

Donations can be made to the Kauai Hongwanji Council. Please make a check payable to Kauai Hongwanji Council and send it to Kapaa Hongwanji Mission 4-1170 Kuhio Highway, Kapaa, HI 96746.

The maximum capacity is 100 people, first come, first served. We will email you a Zoom link three days prior to the seminar.

Click below to register!

“Registration Deadline: February 11, 2024”

<https://forms.gle/HVVa9sXCCRq4ZrSc7>



When you complete the seminar registration, you will receive an automatic confirmation email from Google forms.

For further information, please contact:

Kapaa Hongwanji at 822-4667, West Kauai Hongwanji at 335-3195 or Lihue Hongwanji at 245-6262.

2022 KAUAI HONGWANJI COUNCIL NEMBUTSU SEMINAR

Kauai Hongwanji Council will host a Nembutsu seminar in February 2024.

Date & Time: Sunday, February 18th, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.(HST)

Guest Speaker: Rev. Satoshi Kamimipono Tomioka, resident minister of Puna Hongwanji.

Topic: Buddhism and Contemporary Music

Place: Lihue Hongwanji Mission and Zoom

Free Registration: <https://forms.gle/HVVa9sXCCRq4ZrSc7>

Registration Deadline: Sunday, February 11th, 2024

HONOLULU HONGWANJI COUNCIL EVENTS

Two Events with George Takei on Sunday, February 18, 2024

Actor, author, and civil rights activist **George Takei** will be visiting Honpa Hongwanji Hawai'i Bestuin on Sunday, February 18, 2024. He is best known for his role as Hikaru Sulu in the Star Trek series and as a vocal civil rights advocate for the LGBTQIA+ community, ethnic minorities, and the injustice of internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. A lifelong Buddhist, he and husband Brad Altman were the first civil union to occur at Nishi Hongwanji in Los Angeles. He will be speaking on Sunday, February 18, at 9.30 am in the Honpa Hongwanji Hondo on the topic, "What Buddhism Means to Me" (free admission), and at a fundraiser at 5.00 pm on the topic, "Reflections on Day of Remembrance". There is a reception to follow with food and entertainment at the Pacific Buddhist Academy. All proceeds will go to social justice initiatives at the temple and other nonprofit organizations. Please use the QR code on the flyer to register or contact Jon Matsuoka at jmatsuoka@hawaiibetsuin.org or 808-536-7044.

IMPORTANT UPDATE: TRIPLE CELEBRATION BUDDHIST EDUCATION SERIES



Please use this new link for the Buddhist Education Series registration. The link in the November Headquarters Update doesn't work now.

Here is the new link: <https://forms.gle/fDZmLGBZuW1AHata8>

The QR code for registration in the December Ka Leo Kahea is broken.
Please use above mentioned new QR code for registration.

Mahalo for Your Contributions & Support

December 21, 2023 - January 20, 2024

Funeral Service

in loving memory of the late...

Alice Yamada - Bonnie Peel and
Virginia Yamada

Memorial Service

In memory of the late...

Mitsuko Higashiyama
Leila & Roy Nishida,
Kay & Clyde Takekuma
Erin Takekuma,
Tami Takekuma
Kameichi Sakamoto
Mae Sakamoto
Fumiyo & Howard Nagaoka
Lois N. Hamada

In Memory of

Kent Shimizu - Pearl Shimizu
Toshie Shimizu - Gloria Shimizu
Kari Shimizu, Pearl Shimizu
Takamatsu & Masano Takahashi -
Kenneth Takahashi
Evelyn Nakamura - Ken & Michelle
Nakamura
Nancy & Harris Masada -
Yvonne Masada
Harris & Nancy Masada

New Year's Eve & Day Service

Angela Petel
Regina Kawamoto
Winston Kawamoto
Brook Madrone
Ray Paler
Gloria Shimizu
Pearl Shimizu
Roberta Yanagawa

Hall Rental

Center for Spiritual Living

Columbarium Donations

Melvin Matsumura
Evelyn Nagamine

Building Fund Donations

Wanda Costa
Hiroko Oshima
Haven Kuboyama
Mae Sakamoto
Dennis Sunada

Membership

Josephine Dodo
Amy Isobe
Neil Kakimoto
Ralph Kitashima
Haven Kuboyama
Teri Murata
Hiroko Oshima
Carol Saiki
Mae Sakamoto
Dennis Sunada
Tami Takekuma
Lyndsay Tsukamoto
Thelma Tsukamoto
Roberta Yanagawa

Volunteer Support

Marie Hashimura
Stanford Iwamoto
Ralph Kitashima
Haven Kuboyama
Rev. Mieko Majima
Milton Nakamura
Kaleigh Ramil
Tami Ramil
Carol Saiki
Calvin & Rona Sakai
Gloria Shimizu
Pearl Shimizu
Joan Slingerland
Clyde & Kay Takekuma
Erin Takekuma

Miscellaneous Donations

Dawn Murata Attorney at Law
Ben Owen - Owen Environmental
Karl Miyake Appraisal



Social Concerns

Barbara Tsunehiro
Honpa Hongwanji Social Concerns Committee
- for the Interfaith Thanksgiving Luncheon

Announcements

Membership Renewal

We will be sending out the 2024 membership renewal forms soon.

112 Legislative Assembly

February 9-10, 2024 (In person or Zoom)

from the president's corner...

Aloha Everyone! It's February and love is in the air. Whether it's smiles, flowers or chocolates, expressing your love and appreciation is a wonderful way to celebrate not only on Valentines Day but everyday and remembering to recite the Nembutsu in gratitude. Namo Amida Butsu...

In Buddhism we listen to the teachings of wisdom and compassion and being able to realize the suffering of others and helping them to overcome their suffering. We go through life experiencing all kinds of suffering. We do not just notice that others are suffering, but try to help them alleviate the suffering so they will be able to live a grateful and fulfilling life.

Due to our temple being closed for safety concerns during construction, we realize that you may be suffering as some have mentioned. We are very sorry to cause any hardship or inconvenience to you and your family. As the saying goes, there's no place like home meaning your home temple. The other concern is that we do not have a resident minister. We will do our best to provide the services for you. Gratefully, Rev. Tomo Hojo and the West Kauai Hongwanji Mission have kindly invited us to join their Sunday Services. We will be able to view their hybrid services on Zoom. You are welcome to view the services at the parsonage on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. If you prefer to view it from home, we will send you the link. For bedside, memorial, funeral, inurnment, weddings and other services, we are in the process of finalizing an agreement with Lihue and West Kauai Hongwanji Mission to have their ministers officiate our services. Please call 808 822-4667 to schedule a service. We will be happy to assist you with questions, concerns, services and other needs.

2024 Honpa Hongwanji Calendars

The calendars are still available at the temple. Please call to let me know if you would be able to pick it up at the temple or need to have it delivered.

**Bon Dance Meeting - Monday, January 22 at 6:00 p.m. at the Garden Island Mortuary
Kauai Buddhist Council Meeting to follow at 7:00 p.m.**

Kauai Hongwanji Council Meeting - Wednesday, January 24 at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom.
If anyone is intersted please let me know. We will be meeting at the temple office.

Kauai Hongwanji Council Seminar - "Buddhism & Contemporary Music"

Sunday, February 18, 2024 at Lihue Hongwanji Mission @ 10:00 a.m. In person or Zoom
Refreshments will be served before the seminar at 9:00 a.m. Please register.

Memorial Service

February				March			
Manzo	Mori	50th	2/1/1975	Margaret Mikayo	Yata	33rd	3/1/1992
Tsuruko	Torii	50th	2/1/1975	Kaeko	Wakumoto	13th	3/3/2012
Asayo	Ishida	50th	2/5/1975	Matsuno Shimomura	Togikawa	13th	3/5/2012
Usaburo	Tamura	50th	2/11/1975	Yutaka	Oshita	33rd	3/11/1992
Asako	Mitusi	13th	2/14/2012	Clyde Takeshi	Ishida	1st	3/14/2023
Narimatsu	Asano	27th	2/18/1998	Masue	Nishimitsu	50th	3/14/1975
Nakamura	Shizue	27th	2/19/1998	Sally	Okamoto	3rd	3/19/2022
Masuda	Masumi	27th	2/23/1998	Minoru	Yoshii	23rd	3/22/2002
Joseph Tetsuo	Nakamura	50th	2/23/1975				
Mamoru	Kubota	23rd	2/26/2002				

Minister's Memo

February is indeed an important month in the history of Buddhism. It is traditionally believed that the Parinirvana, the passing away of Buddha, occurred on the 15th of February. This day holds special significance for Buddhists as it marks the final nirvana of Buddha. It is a time for reflection, meditation, and paying homage to his teachings. Many Buddhist temples and communities observe this day with special ceremonies and events. February serves as a month to remember this significant event in the life of Buddha for Buddhists around the world.

Namo Amida Butsu

Temple Cleaning & Flower Arrangement

2/24/2024	Group 1	Mrs. Marie Hashimura - Chair Mr. Milton Nakamura, Mr. Ray Paler Mr. Robert Hiraoka	Rona Sakai
3/2/2024	Group 2	Mr. Clint Saiki - Chair Mrs. Yasuko Murakami, Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Yanagawa	Ruby Ishida
3/9/2024	Group 3	Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Takekuma - Chair Mr. Stanford Iwamoto, Mrs. Erin Takekuma, Ms. Madison Doo, Mrs. Tami Ramil, Ms. Kaleigh Ramil	Joan Slingerland
2/3/2024	Group 4	Ms. Gloria Shimizu - Chair Mr. Haven Kuboyama, Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Sunada, Mrs. Pat Yamamoto	Ruby Ishida
2/10/2024	Group 5	Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Sakai - Chair Ms. Carol Saiki, Ms. Brook Madrone	Joan Slingerland
2/17/2024	Group 6	Mr. & Mrs. Keith Tsukamoto - Chair Mr. & Mrs. Brian Yamamoto, Mr. Winston Kawamoto	Kay Takekuma

KAPAA HONGWANJI MISSION

4-1170 Kuhio Highway

Kapaa, Hawaii 96746

«SIR» «FIRST» «LAST»

«STREET»

«CITY» «STATE»«ZIP»

ONENESS

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



February 2024

Temple is closed for the renovation.

For any inquiries regarding funerals or memorial services during the renovation 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.

Namo Amida Butsu

