



ONENESS

KAPAA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE

January 2021

New Year's Greeting

Happy New Year, everyone! At the beginning of this New Year, I would like to extend my best regards to you all.

Throughout the last year, the world suffered from the pandemic of COVID-19, which brought tremendous hardship to many people, and we still are not able to see when normalcy would return to our world. On this occasion, I would like to offer my deepest condolences to those who fell victim to the disease and express my sympathies to those who are currently undergoing treatment.

Meanwhile in the US, the media has widely reported systematic discrimination against African-Americans, social unrest and division among the general public brought on by the presidential election. It concerns me that many people have been left isolated in the midst of hardship.

'Dependent origination' is a universal truth that Buddha Sakyamuni presented. This fundamental Buddhist principle expresses that every thing, matter, and phenomenon arises from various causes and conditions. None of us lives by ourselves. We are living while being interconnected and mutually supported by one another. Considering the reality of a divided society, it is important that everyone deeply reflects on the principle of Dependent Origination that represents the true state of the world.

Even though having been introduced to the truth by Buddha Sakyamuni, ordinary people like us are still not able to accept it as it is. Therefore, to guide us to cope with the suffering caused by our own ignorance, Shinran Shonin clarifies Amida Buddha's compassion that always embraces us all. When the world is facing this unimaginable crisis, it is crucial that each of us experiences Amida Buddha's great compassion ourselves, and live each day to the utmost, having that joy and sensation in our hearts as the basis of our life.

I have been told that in this difficult time and situation, many of your sangha have been adopting new measures for sharing the Jodo Shinshu teaching that had not been previously considered. I find such efforts truly reassuring. It is my hope that your temples will continue serving as your spiritual home, and therefore, I sincerely ask for your understanding and



cooperation to allow them to be so. With my heartfelt appreciation for each one of you, I would like to conclude my new year's greeting.

January 1, 2021

OHTANI Kojun

Nurtured by Amida Buddha's Light of Wisdom and Compassion



Our Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Theme & Slogan for 2021 is “Building Healthy Sanghas: Nurturing Empathy and Respect.” It is a timely slogan especially as we begin a new year. When we take a moment to reflect on the situation of our nation and our society with the Coronavirus Pandemic, racial discrimination and even the climatic changes that are occurring on a global scale, it is not hard to see what our world needs is more respect and empathy.

The Larger Sutra provides wise counsel *“People in the world...should truly respect and love each other, refraining from hatred and envy. They should share things with others, refraining from greed and miserliness.*

They should always be friendly in speech and expression, refraining from quarrel and dispute.” Unfortunately, it laments, *“...people in the world...do not believe that performing good deeds brings good results, or that seeking the Way leads them to attaining it.”*

However, all is not lost in that the Great Compassionate Light of Amida Buddha illuminates, nurtures and unconditionally embraces the spiritually foolish being who cannot completely break free from blind passions and attain enlightenment on one's own. In the Larger Sutra it says *“Sentient beings who encounter this light have the three defilements swept away, and they become soft and gentle in body and mind. They leap and dance with joy, and the good mind arises in them. When those suffering pain and travail in the three evil realms see this light, they all find respite and become free of afflictions. After their lives have ended, they will all gain emancipation.”* Thus, I believe, the late Jodo Shinshu Scholar Rev. Jitsuen Kakehashi was able to say, *“When we look at the world with an ordinary mind, it is distinctly divided into things we love and things we hate, but with the mind of the Tathagata, we are made to know that everyone is equally the Tathagata's indispensably important child. From that standpoint, we realize that we are all brothers and sisters and fellow human beings. Then slowly but steadily, we come to reflect on our self-centered thoughts, reject our blind passions and make efforts to see things and live our lives in a way that can be approved by the Tathagata.”* In this way, thanks to the Working of Other Power, we begin to slowly live in a new awareness and are assured the attainment of Enlightenment at the end of this finite life with our birth in the Pure Land.

His Eminence Gomonshu Kojun Ohtani says, *“By listening to the Primal Vow and how it was established by Amida Tathagata, we are enabled to become conscious of our own ignorance*

and self-oriented inclinations, and through such awareness, we naturally become gentle in word and deed in our efforts of minimizing our egoistic way of thinking.” “Even though our efforts may pale in comparison to the Buddha’s Compassion, we are at least guided in the proper direction by the Buddha Dharma.” Let us take to heart his words.

To conclude, I would like to share His Eminence’s “Our Pledge.” The original was written in Japanese and his expressed wish was that it be translated by each locale in a way that would resonate with the people of that region. Thus, this is Hawaii’s Version (which can also be sung as it has also been put to music by BJ Soriano). In a few short verses, it captures the essence of a healthy Hongwanji Sangha which recites the Nembutsu in awareness, joy and gratitude of Great Wisdom and Compassion, and emphasizes respect and empathy.

Our Pledge

Reaching out to others,
I will share a smile and gentle words.
Just like the Buddha, who always calls out with Aloha.

Breaking away from my greed, anger and ignorance,
I will try to live in peace and harmony.
Just like the Buddha, who shares tranquility and kindness with all.

Moving forward from self-centeredness,
I will share a life of joy and sorrow with others.
Just like the Buddha, whose caring heart always embraces us.

Realizing that I live because of others,
I will strive to live life to the fullest with an attitude of gratitude.
Just like the Buddha, who promises to embrace us all.

Thank you, Happy New Year and Namō Amida Butsu.

In gassho/anjali,
Eric Matsumoto, Bishop

Hoonko Service

January 24, 2021 @ 9:00 am



We will be observing the Hoonko service on Sunday, January 24, at 9:00 am. “Hoon” (hou-on) means return of gratitude and “ko” means gathering. We will recite Shinran Shonin’s Hymn, the Shoshinge at the temple and read the life of Shinran Shonin. Please make a reservation if you are going to attend. An envelope is enclosed for your contribution.

Namō Amida Butsu

President's New Year's Message

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii



Happy New Year! Akemashite Omedetou Gozaimasu! Hauoli Makahiki Hou!

I hope that you and your loved ones are healthy and in good spirits as we enter the New Year. The year 2020 was a year to remember, mostly from the effect that the COVID-19 pandemic had on all of us. We experienced lockdowns, isolation from family and friends, and job loss or insecurity. And most difficult of all, some of us lost family or friends to the COVID-19 pandemic.

If you have kept up with the news, you know that there is a very good chance that 2 or 3 pharmaceutical companies will have vaccines available for the Coronavirus before the end of this year. The good news is that the first two vaccines appear to be very effective in preventing COVID-19 disease. Also, you can be sure that the FDA is looking very carefully at the safety profile for each vaccine. As vaccine availability increases, there is good reason to believe that we may be looking at an optimistic scenario of returning to a more “normal” lifestyle by the summer or fall of next 2021. Let’s hope that the vaccines continue to show effectiveness with a good safety profile and that enough people will step up and get vaccinated!

Through the difficult times caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, our collective Sangha responded by sewing masks for others, helping with daily chores such as shopping or cleaning, sharing meals, delivering produce, and by calling or messaging others. Ministers shared the Dharma through YouTube, Facebook and other electronic media. Small in-person services were held as permitted by law in spite of the risk to our ministers’ health.

Our actions through this pandemic confirms that our Sangha is vibrant, caring and compassionate. Although we were separated physically, we connected with others through individual and collective acts of kindness.

As we look forward to the New Year of 2021, let us reflect upon what we are grateful for-life, family, friends and a supportive community. Let us wake up each morning grateful for Amida Buddha’s Compassion, which surrounds each one of us.

*“Happiness does not depend on what you have or who you are;
it solely relies on what you think.” - Buddha*

With Gassho,
Warren Tamamoto MD
President, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

from the president's corner...

Happy New Year!

As we bid aloha to 2020, we reflect on the past year and express our gratitude to all for helping to overcome the hardships we faced. Your commitment to persevere with selfless giving, compassion and generosity are sincerely appreciated.

We thank our Sangha and Friends for your dedication and support. We couldn't have done it without you. A Sangha that works together in harmony will endure with warm smiles, kind words, thoughtful actions and gratitude. Let us contribute our efforts to make 2021 a healthy, happy and bright New Year. Namō Amida Bustu..

We will begin the new year with the installation of the 2021 Board of Directors who will make every effort to sustain the temple during this challenging time. The following are the officers who were elected at the Board Meeting on December 9, 2020. President, Roberta Yanagawa, Vice-President, Clyde Takekuma, Secretary, Stanford Iwamoto, Treasurer, Milton Nakamura, Asst. Treasurer, Gloria Shimizu, Auditors, Clint Saiki, Lane Sunada, and we welcome a new Director, Ralph Kitashima. We hope you will give us your seal of approval and continued support.

The Board meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Please let us know if you have concerns, suggestions to improve, or fundraising ideas you would like to share.

We need to rent or lease the social hall to increase our revenue. If you know of anyone who may be interested, please have them call me at 822-4667.

We will continue the Family Services on the second Sunday of each month at 9:00 a.m. Seating is available with physical distancing, masks must be worn and hands sanitized upon entering the hondo. On the fourth Sunday, Rev. Majima welcomes you to chant "Shoshinge" at 9:00 a.m. Please call the temple to reserve a seat.

We hope you will join us for these services and the major services throughout the year. Let us continue to work on building a healthy Sangha by observing the services together to listen to the Dharma which will guide us on our personal spiritual journey.

The 2021 KHM Membership renewal letters will be sent out soon. Please update your contact information with your email address if you have one. You will be able to receive the updated temple information faster than the postal service.

We appreciated your support in 2020 and look forward to your continued participation and support in 2021.

Mahalo for Your Contribution and Support
November 19-December 21

Memorial Service

In memory of ...
Asayo Wakumoto -
Kikuno Wakumoto
Clarence and Hanako
Ishida - Charlene Qui-
nonnes
Tadashi Hashimoto -
Gloria Shimizu
Yasutaro Saiki - Carol
Saiki

Eitaikyo Service

Josephine Dodo
Nancy Masada
Gloria Shimizu

Membership

Jim Jung
Neal Kakimoto
Francis Nishizawa
Evelyn Nakamura
Hidemi Okamoto
Ralph Shintani
Blanche Stockle
Patricia Yamamoto
Glenn Yagihara

Refreshments

Marie Hashimura
Carol Saiki
Gloria Shimizu
Pearl Shimizu
Dennis & Sadie Sunada

Columbarium

Linda Naea
Alice Yamada

Fundraising Donations

Hester Haraguchi
Melvin Matsumura
Wailua Meat Co.
Marcia Ota
Rona Sakai
Gloria Shimizu
Dennis Sunada
Roy Taogoshi
Pam Watanabe

Donations

Laura Asari
Cathy Asari-Wada
Sharon Contrades
Honpa Hongwanji Mission
-Cares Grant
Ralph Kitashima
Phil O'Rourke
Bonnie Peel
Glenn & Violet Yagihara
Virginia Yamada
Reuben Yoshida

Social Concerns

Laura Asari
Kathleen Yamamoto

**General Clean-up
Volunteers**

Marie Hashimura
Stanford Iwamoto
Haven Kuboyama
Milton Nakamura
Francis Nishizawa
Carol Saiki
Calvin & Rona Sakai
Gloria Shimizu
Pearl Shimizu
Joan Slingerland
Dennis & Sadie Sunada
Clyde & Kay Takekuma
Kathleen Yamamoto

Volunteer Support

Stanford Iwamoto
Winston Kawamoto
Haven Kuboyama
Milton Nakamura
Carol Saiki
Gloria Shimizu
Pearl Shimizu
Calvin & Rona Sakai
Joan Slingerland
Clyde & Kay Takekuma
Keith & Thelma Tsukamoto
Alison Yamamoto
Brian & Wendy Yamamoto
Sidney Yanagawa



SPECIAL SESSION OF LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

The Special Session of the Legislative Assembly was held on November 21, 2020 online via Zoom. This session was held to discuss the resolutions below. As a result of the voting, both resolutions were adopted.

1. Resolution 2020-03: Resolution to Amend Hawaii Kyodan Bylaws to allow electronic meetings
2. Amend the 2020 Hawaii Kyodan Budget, Resolution 2020-01

HEALTH CARE HEROES MAHALO VIDEO

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL5p2UQ0W-gN5sjQAQfeIHck0UAXLmO2Vb>

Wednesdays 12:00pm "Health Care Treasures" and Essential Workers

Memorial Service

JANUARY

Kimiyo	Wada	23rd	1/4/1999
Kikuyo	Fukuda	23rd	1/8/1999
Miyuki	Maehata	3rd	1/10/2019
Misao	Watanabe	33rd	1/13/1989
Haru	Osaki	33rd	1/13/1989
Satoru	Nakae	33rd	1/22/1989
Take Nakamura	Fujita	33rd	1/29/1989
Hatsue	Tasaka	3rd	1/30/2019

February

Yasuko	Watanabe	3rd	2/2/2019
Saeko	Kakimoto	3rd	2/9/2019
Kenzo	Kawamoto	1st	2/9/2020
Hiroko	Wakumoto	1st	2/14/2020
Chusuke	Gushiken	50th	2/15/1972
Ruth M.	Oshita	33rd	2/16/1989
Mitsuyo	Morita	17th	2/18/2005
Miyako Tamura	Takenaka	13th	2/19/2009
Emiri	Murakami	33rd	2/21/1989
Zenichi	Muraoka	17th	2/22/2005
Yuka	Seshiki	50th	2/23/1972
Masao	Kawamoto	23rd	2/23/1999
Shizuno	Hiranaka	17th	2/25/2005
Ichino	Fujita	27th	2/26/1995

In Memoriam...

Mr. Hisao Maeda

6/12/1932 - 12/24/2020

Kapaa Hongwanji Mission extends its deepest sympathy to families who have recently lost their loved ones.

Namo Amida Butsu.

From Minister's Desk

Wishing you and your family a wonderful New Year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for kind and generous support throughout last year.

We observe new year's service on January 3 at 9:00 am. Although we cannot offer refreshments, it will be truly joyous gathering to start our new year.

Please contact us if you are planning to have a private service or visiting the gravesite at 808.822.4667. Thank you again for your kind support to keep our temple alive. Namu Amida Butsu



Temple Cleaning & Flower Arrangement

1/2/2021	Group 1	Mrs. Marie Hashimura - Chair Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hiraoka, Mr. Milton Nakamura, Mr. Ray Paler	Ruby Ishida
1/9/2021	Group 2	Mr. Francis Nishizawa - Chair Mrs. Yasuko Murakami, Mr. Clint Saiki, Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Yanagawa	Joan Slingerland
1/16/2021	Group 3	Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Takekuma - Chair Mr. Stanford Iwamoto, Mrs. Erin Takekuma, Ms. Madison Doo, Mrs. Tami Ramil, Ms. Taryn Ramil	Kay Takekuma
1/23/2021	Group 4	Ms. Gloria Shimizu - Chair Mr. Haven Kuboyama, Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Sunada, Mrs. Pat Yamamoto	Rona Sakai
1/30/2021	Group 5	Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Sakai - Chair Mr. Leslie Tada, Ms. Carol Saiki	Roberta Yanagawa

KAPAA HONGWANJI MISSION

4-1170 Kuhio Highway

Kapaa, Hawaii 96746



ONENESS

The Newsletter of
Kapaa Hongwanji Mission
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Phone (808) 822-4667
Email: mail@kapaahongwanji.org

January
New Years' Service
KHM, January 3, 2021 9:00 am

January Family Service
KHM, January 10, 2021 9:00 am

Hoonko Service
KHM, January 24, 2021 9:00 am

