



# ONENESS

**KAPAA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE**

September 2021

## BISHOP'S CORNER



### 15th Anniversary of "Peace Day" in Hawaii

#### Ring your Bell for Peace Day 2021

Bishop Eric Matsumoto

*"Congratulations, Hawaii Federation of Jr. YBAs!" This year marks the 15th Anniversary of "Peace Day" in Hawaii. In 2007, through your insight and endeavor Hawaii became the first state to officially recognize the significance of having a day dedicated for world peace. As your Resolution stated "...there is a need to encourage peace throughout the world and mankind has struggled with conflict through the ages;...there is escalating terrorism and a disregard for human life and a need to understand cultural differences with compassion and tolerance;...it is the responsibility of every nation and every individual to be an active link in promoting wisdom and compassion;... world religions have no one significant date that allows all people to come together to honor what they believe in;...promoting a "Peace Day" designates a day that all world religions and cultures can join together in mutual respect;...the United Nations has already chosen September 21st as the World Peace Day;...Now Therefore, Be It Resolved, that a "Peace Day" in Hawai'i coincide with the United Nations and be observed to promote worldwide peace for all people..."*

In one month, September 21st will be upon us. I would like to encourage especially the Members of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii which is primarily the temples, to participate in this year's "Ring your Bell for Peace Day" 2021. Of course, we also cordially invite others associated with the temples like schools, preschools, Japanese language schools, adult day care, martial and cultural art groups, and other programs and projects to also join us. Further, we would be greatly appreciative of other community entities like the Interfaith Community such the Catholic Church and other Buddhist Denominations to join us once again. Unfortunately, due to the recent surge in cases, we will not be able to gather in large numbers again, but like last year, we want to reach out and be connected to each other including the global world audience, virtually. Please go to the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii webpage at <https://hongwanjihawaii.com> for more information on how to view and/or register to participate for the bell ringing. Last year, we had over 200 participants with people ringing bells from their homes, temples and churches, schools, outdoor spaces and other places, but this year is kind of

special in that it is the 15th Anniversary of Peace Day in Hawaii. How wonderful it would be if we could have 500 participants this year!

As it is a commemorative year, let us further reflect, more deeply. As humankind, generally speaking, we have been quick to resort to violence, weapons, and war to solve our problems and differences and it is long overdue that we need a new perspective and new alternatives to address the ailments which often lead to war and unnecessary violence. We need to change our way of thinking from the old “Divide and Conquer” and “Us versus Them” mentality which often involved force to find new ways in which we can peacefully with mutual respect co-exist with each other. However, there is an internal battle which must be overcome before we can truly address the external battles. The internal battle which must happen is that I need to confront with my own ego as expressed by the Buddhist saying “To conquer oneself is a greater victory than to conquer thousands in battle.” This ego could be my individual ego as a person, my ethnic ego as part of a certain race, my cultural ego as a member of a certain society or cultural sphere, my national ego as identified by my citizenship to a particular country, my religious ego as a member of a specific religion and even my human ego as a member of the human race (and in the future maybe even beyond as space exploration and ventures become more a part of our lives). The beginnings of peace start with myself becoming aware of my own, often, selfish, self-centered and judgmental ego being guided and inspired by a nurturing All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion. We need to be guided by a Great Wisdom and touched by a Great Compassion that does not exclude anyone or anything. A Great Wisdom which dispels ignorance and enables us to understand the equality and preciousness of one and all thereby dismantling or at minimum weakening the barriers of discrimination which divide us. A Great Compassion which aspires for the peace, happiness and well-being of all life, all existence.

(To be continued in the 2021 September issue of Bishop’s Corner)

## **2<sup>ND</sup> STATE DHARMA SCHOOL GATHERING**

We will be having a 2<sup>nd</sup> State Dharma School gathering on Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. Please encourage everyone to register for this event by SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2<sup>nd</sup> using the following link : Registration: <https://forms.gle/Koy9KtWq868UzbLo7>  
The Zoom Link for this gathering will be emailed to participants by Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup>  
Here’s the detailed info:

Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Dharma Talk: Rev. Satoshi Tomioka (Puna Hongwanji Mission)

Adult Breakout Room Speaker: Rev. Kerry Kiyohara (Makawao Hongwanji Mission)

Dharma School Breakout Rooms by age/grade

Dharma School Teachers/ Educators Gathering Session Guest Speaker: Mr. Pieper Toyama

Platform: Zoom

Memo: Open Invitation to All

## **MINISTERIAL ASSIGNMENTS**

Reverend Kevin Kuniyuki, the director of the Buddhist Study Center and Director of the Office of Buddhist Education, will retire from Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii as of September 30, 2021. Prior to becoming a minister, Rev. Kuniyuki as a lay person served as Papaikou Hongwanji temple president. Rev. Kuniyuki became a minister in May, 1996 and has served at Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, Four Temple Council (Honomu, Honohina, Papaaloo and Papaikou Hongwanji temples), Wahiawa Hongwanji, Waialua Hongwanji and the former Kahuku Hongwanji before assuming the Directorships for BSC and OBE. He has also served in the role of Bishop's Chief Advisor since 2011. Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii would like to express our deepest appreciation and gratitude to Rev. Kevin Kuniyuki for his dedication and effort of spreading the Buddha-Dharma to our members and community. Due to the current situation brought on by the Pandemic, effective October 1, 2021, under the direction of the Office of the Bishop serving as Interim Director, the HQ Staff will assume the responsibilities and tasks of the OBE and BSC Director until further notice. However, Rev. Kuniyuki will be assisting in certain specific areas as a volunteer. Thank you Rev. Kuniyuki and congratulations on your retirement.

## **Pacific Buddhist Academy Chaplain News**

As of August 1, 2021, Rev. Daido Baba has been appointed as the new PBA Chaplain. He succeeds Rev. Sol Kalu who was appointed as Interim Chaplain from March 16, 2021, to July 31, 2021. The primary role of the Chaplain is to oversee the weekly Friday Services at PBA by working together with permanent Faculty member of the school, assisting with international communications with Japan, help with the planning of certain portions of the international summer exchange program, the execution of the annual Baccalaureate Service and participating in the Commencement Exercises for Graduates each year. PBA is the only overseas school belonging to the Ryukoku Sogo Gakuen, the largest private educational system in Japan, which is affiliated with the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji Denomination. Thank you, Rev. Kalu and Welcome Rev. Baba.

## **Joint Celebration of the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth and the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching**

The year 2023 will mark the 850th anniversary of Shinran Shonin's birth and 2024 will be the 800th anniversary of the establishment of the Jodo Shinshu teaching. To commemorate these occasions, we will be having the joint celebratory observance in 2023.

The slogan and the logo for the Joint Celebration were announced from Honzan.

Slogan: Life of Nembutsu enables us to appreciate every encounter



### **Explanation of the slogan**

Shinran Shonin, the Jodo Shinshu founder, expresses his joy of encountering Amida Buddha's wish of saving every living being as, "rejoice at the conditions from the distant past that have brought it about." Amida Buddha pledges in the Primal Vow that "I accept every one of you

just as you are, and never abandon you,” and the Buddha’s salvific working reaches each one of us in the form of the Buddha’s Name, Namo Amida Butsu. Our appreciative recitation of the Name that constantly calls out to us is described as nembutsu. Therefore, the ‘Life of Nembutsu’ signifies the way of living that enables us to always be consciously aware of Amida Buddha’s compassion in our daily lives. Shinran Shonin is the one who clarified that every one of us is the object of the Buddha’s Vow and recipient of its benevolence.

Without Shinran Shonin, we would not be able to understand the Buddha’s true intent. Therefore, it is only natural that we celebrate his birth, as well as his clarification of the teaching through writings, and 2023 is considered as the year that marks the 850th anniversary of his birth and 800th anniversary of his establishment of the teaching.

In that significant year, we would like to renew our appreciation for being already included in the tradition that has been cherished by our forebears for many years. Furthermore, considering Amida Buddha’s compassion that always embraces us and manifests itself as our own nembutsu, we are overwhelmed by joy and gratitude for encountering the teaching that does not exclude anyone and naturally wish to share it with others.

### **Significance of the logo**

The logo represents the light of lamp that symbolizes Shinran Shonin’s life. The light reaches many people, saving them, and in turn the teaching is then shared by many others. The logo is also a stylized lotus flower as well as people sitting around Shinran Shonin who all place their palms together.

***\*You may find the logo and use it from the Hongwanji International Center website: <[https://international.hongwanji.or.jp/html/850800\\_Joint\\_Celebration.html](https://international.hongwanji.or.jp/html/850800_Joint_Celebration.html)>***

As announced by the Office of the Bishop at the May 8, 2021, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Board of Directors meeting, “...in 2 years, 2023 our Denomination will be commemorating the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin’s Birth and the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching, and it is also the year of the BWA’s World Convention in Kyoto. Thus, the Office of the Bishop has asked the ministers to spearhead the planning of the Observance and will be discussing with SMA Chair Rev. Hasebe the formation of a committee and possible plans.” The Office of the Bishop would like to announce that Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani has been appointed as General Chair for the Commemoration in Hawaii for this Joint Celebration.

***\*\*Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii will form a State Committee to plan a special tour to attend the service in Honzan and announce you soon.***

## NEW STATEWIDE NEWSLETTER

We anticipate publishing a statewide newsletter for the Hawaii Kyodan with the first issue in late October 2021. The name for our newsletter will be *Ka Leo Kāhea* (The Calling Voice), a reference to our Shin Buddhist teaching that reminds us of “Namo Amida Butsu” which is the voice/sound of Amida calling to us and at the same time, it is our voice calling to Amida in response to Amida’s calling voice. The use of the Hawaiian term is intentional-it recognizes our connection to our Hawaiian host culture while providing a thoughtful reminder of our connection with the Buddha.

This newsletter will inform us and connect us with every member of our statewide Sangha. Through this connection, temples and districts will learn from and help each other, thus strengthening our organization. Portions of this newsletter will contain content that becomes a “calling voice” that connects readers to the Buddha’s “Calling Voice”.

Bishop Eric Matsumoto, President Tamamoto and the newsletter team invite submissions to the *Ka Leo Kāhea*. Our “readership” will be our Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Sangha (approximately 4,200 members). Articles should be 500-1000 words in length. A photo or photos to accompany the article will enhance the presentation. Articles should be submitted via email to [newsletter@honpahi.org](mailto:newsletter@honpahi.org) and the deadline for submission to the October issue is Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>.

If you have any questions, please send an email to [newsletter@honpahi.org](mailto:newsletter@honpahi.org) or to Dr. Warren Tamamoto at [wtamamoto1951@gmail.com](mailto:wtamamoto1951@gmail.com).

The type of articles we are looking for include:

- Past temple/district/BWA news events
- Upcoming temple/district/BWA events
- Temples' Involvement with the Community
- Community Service Efforts
- Youth Activities/Dharma School Activities/Profiles of Outstanding Temple Youth
- Memories of Hongwanji Events of Historical Interest
- Profiles of Special/Interesting Members
- Members' Personal Encounters with the Dharma/Nembutsu Moments
- Opinions, Suggestions, Ideas for the Improving Hawaii Kyodan
- Dharma Poems
- New Temple Projects/Initiatives
- Dharma Messages from Ministers

### CONDOLENCE

Mr. Richard Hanano, a member of Kamuela Hongwanji Mission, passed away at the age of 95 on July 23, 2021. Mr. Hanano was instrumental in building Kamuela Hongwanji and served many years as a board of director for Kamuela Hongwanji Mission. The Ingo (Posthumous Title) of CHOU-SEI-IN長生院 which means “One who attained a long and fulfilling life” was conferred by Bishop Eric Matsumoto on August 5, 2021.

## **2021 MAUI HONGWANJI COUNCIL NEMBUTSU SEMINAR**

Date & Time: Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. and  
Sunday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m. to 12 noon  
Place: Wailuku Hongwanji Mission  
Guest Lecturer: Rev. Ken Fujimoto, Minister Emeritus, Buddhist Churches of America  
Topic: "SHIKARASHIMU," Shinran's World of Nembutsu  
(A Perspective of Other Power)  
Fee: \$15 - Two Days or \$10 - One Day (include lunches)

## **HAWAII DISTRICT NEMBUTSU SEMINAR 2021**

Hawaii District Ministers Association will host an online Nembutsu seminar in October 2021.

Date & Time: Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (HST)  
Place: Zoom  
Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Carmela Javellana Hirano, Integrative Psychiatrist and Minister's Assistant of  
Salt Lake Buddhist Temple.  
Topic: Path of Resilience, Path of Nembutsu  
Fee: Free

## **MONTHLY ONLINE SEMINARS BY HAWAII DISTRICT MINISTERS ASSOCIATION**

The September online seminar will be given by Rev. Shinji Kawagoe of Papaikou Hongwanji Mission on Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup>, at 10 - 11:30 a.m. The topic is "How should Buddhist temple exist as a part of community." Registration is required.

registration link (<https://forms.gle/bQToK62Pi6J2UoD78>).

If you already have registered before, no registration is required. If you have any questions, please contact [hawaii.kyogakkai@gmail.com](mailto:hawaii.kyogakkai@gmail.com)

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Ring Your Bell for PEACE DAY**

Dates: Tuesday, September 21, 2021  
Times: 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. (HST)  
Platform: Zoom  
Register: <http://www.hongwanjihawaii.com/peaceday2021>

For questions, contact Rene Mansho, HHMH Peace Day Committee Chairperson, phone: 808-291-6151, / [renemansho@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:renemansho@hawaii.rr.com)  
For more detail, please check the July HQ Update.

## **YESS CAMP 39**

We're very excited to announce "YESS Camp 39¾"!

Camp will be held virtually on October 23-24, 2021! Registration is online at [yesscamp.com](http://yesscamp.com). Early registration ends 8/22/21, and late registration ends 9/12/21, so sign up early!

Early registration price is \$10 for one day or \$15 for both days. We also have a special for early registration. So please help us spread the word! We look forward to a magical, fun, enlightening camp!

For questions/more information, please contact [yesscamp@honpahi.org](mailto:yesscamp@honpahi.org)

Mahalo for Your Contributions & Support  
July 19 - August 17, 2021

**Memorial Service**

*In memory of the late Hanae Mitsuma*  
The Haraguchi Family

**Inurnment Service - Columbarium**

*In memory of the late Stanley Sogawa*  
Karolyn Kaneshiro

**In memory of ...**

*The late Toshiko Iida - Jennie Nomi*  
*The late Eichi & Toshiko Sadanaga - Karen Goo*  
*The late Susumu & Fumiye Nakamura -*  
*Roy, Calvin, and Carolyn Nakamura*  
*The late Stanley Sogawa - Karolyn Kaneshiro*

**Sunday Service**

Jim Jung  
Ralph Kitashima  
Yoshiko Dimples Kano  
Carol Saiki  
Gloria Shimizu  
Roberta Yanagawa

**Obon (Choba)**

Hidemi & Sally Okamoto  
Calvin & Rona Sakai  
Bryan & Tanya Tanaka  
Reuben Yoshida

**Food Sale Donation**

Kathleen Yamamoto

**Temple Donations**

Sharon Contrades  
Ralph Kitashima  
Lorna Nishimitsu

**Hall Rental**

Lighthouse Outreach Center  
Maha Methods

**Volunteer Support**

Madison Doo  
Marie Hashimura  
David & Ruby Ishida  
Stanford Iwamoto  
Jim Jung  
Ralph Kitashima  
Haven Kuboyama  
Rev. Mieko Majima  
Milton Nakamura  
Francis Nishizawa  
Calvin & Rona Sakai  
Tami Ramil  
Taryn Ramil  
Carol Saiki  
Gloria Shimizu  
Pearl Shimizu  
Joan Slingerland  
Dennis & Sadie Sunada  
Lane Sunada  
Clyde & Kay Takekuma  
Erin Takekuma  
Keith & Thelma Tsukamoto  
Brian & Wendy Yamamoto  
Winston Kawamoto  
Sidney Yanagawa



**YOUNG BUDDHIST LEADERS SEMINAR REPORT**

On July 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, the Buddhist Study Center sponsored the first Young Buddhist Leaders Seminar. The two-day event was designed to develop leaders for the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii and related activities, such as YESS Camp.

The first day focused on activities at both the community level and temple level. In the morning we were very fortunate to have Cyndi Osajima, and Dr. Wayne Iwaoka, join us to talk about Leadership, and Project Dana. The second day focused on activities and exercises centralized around personal growth and leadership development. Dwight Matsuo led the group on a "manifestation meditation," a visualization exercise about your personal goals, and focusing on positive energy to help you achieve them.

A BIG mahalo to the Buddhist Study Center for sponsoring and supporting this event, and to the committee that helped put it all together and make it a fun and worthwhile event! Last but not least, a big mahalo to ALL the participants, for participating and sharing your knowledge and experiences! We hope to do this again in the future.

Chair, Jake Chang

## from the president's corner...

*Aloha Everyone! Now that summer is over, we welcome the cooler fall season which begins in September. We hope this newsletter finds all of you happy, well, and safe. The pandemic continues to be of great concern as the number of cases on the islands have increased tremendously. Let's continue to be safe, find creative ways to make our lives meaningful and share the Nembutsu teachings which will help us to understand the choices one makes during the pandemic. Namo Amida Butsu . . .*

We had many opportunities to listen to ten Hawaii Kyodan Ministers who participated in the Dharmathon on August 23-27. They shared their messages of Building Healthy Sanghas: Nurturing Empathy and Respect. We thank the ministers for sharing their views, which helped us to better understand and move in a positive direction to build a healthy sangha. It was also nice to connect with the Dharma in the comfort of our homes, when many are unable to come to the temple for services. You may still view the Dharmathon recordings which are available on the Buddhist Study Center You Tube channel.

### **Peace Day Hawaii is on September 21, 2021.**

Let's Ring Our Bells for Peace Day. We encourage our members, friends, families, and organizations to join us. Guest appearance by JAKE SHIMABUKURO 2021 Ambassador for Peace Day.

Please register in advance:<https://hongwanjihawaii.com/peaceday2021>

## United Jr. YBA of Kauai

The Jr. YBA met on August 27 to discuss their plans for September. They will continue to collect aluminum cans, plastic and glass beer bottles for recycling. If you would like to donate items to be recycled please let us know. Thank you to our members who have previously donated their cans and bottles.

This year we were able to raise funds to donate \$300 to the Ronald McDonald House which is the charity chosen by the Federation of Jr. YBAs. The Ronald McDonald House provides compassionate care to families around the world. It is a home away from home that provides comfort, support and resources to families who travel far from home for medical care their child needs.

## Women's Association

The Kauai United Hongwanji BWA will be having the annual Fall Conference on October 10, 2021. The virtual conference will be hosted by the West Kauai Hongwanji BWA and held on Zoom. The conference begins at 9:00 a.m. with a service and Dharma talk by Rev. Tomo Hojo. You are welcome to join us at the temple to view the service. The Keynote Speaker for the conference is Dr. Warren Tamamoto, HHMH Hawaii Kyodan President. The general membership meeting and installation will follow.



## Memorial Service

### September

Genkichi	Wada	50th	9/4/1972
Fumiyo	Nagaoka	17th	9/4/2005
Fusae	Ohara	7th	9/4/2015
Tazuyo	Hasegawa	27th	9/7/1995
Lloyd Jeffrey	Mallan	7th	9/22/2015

### October

Edward	Tada	3rd	10/10/2019
Chieko	Ota	7th	10/17/2015
Hazel Mitsuko	Yanagida	1st	10/19/2020

### *In Memory of our Dharma friend*

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

Namo Amida Butsu.



## Minister's Library

All things are in constant flux. This teaching of impermanence taught by the Buddha is a universal truth transcending space and time. Shinran's teaching on the other hand, is a result of a complete and thorough reflection of the self that normally goes against this truth revealed to us by the Buddha.

If one is truly living according to the absolute truth that transcends space and time, then no matter where that person may be in the world, he/she can live relying on that spiritual foundation. But for those of us who have not renounce this world and live within general society, it is near impossible to break free from egocentric thinking.

Shinran is the person who shows us how we can live our lives despite our egocentric tendencies. Although we might not be able to completely eradicate our blind passions, within the embracing light of Amida Buddha we can live each moment of our lives with true meaning.

Namo Amida Butsu

- from "Moving Forward Just as You Are" -

## Temple Cleaning & Flower Arrangement

Group 4	9/4/2021	Ms. Gloria Shimizu - Chair Mr. Haven Kuboyama, Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Sunada, Mrs. Pat Yamamoto	Ruby Ishida
Group 5	9/11/2021	Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Sakai - Chair Ms. Carol Saiki	Joan Slingerland
Group 6	9/18/2021	Mr. & Mrs. Keith Tsukamoto - Chair Mr. & Mrs. Brian Yamamoto, Mr. Winston Kawamoto	Kay Takekuma
Group 1	9/25/2021	Mrs. Marie Hashimura - Chair Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hiraoka, Mr. Milton Nakamura, Mr. Ray Paler	Rona Sakai
Group 2	10/2/2021	Mr. Francis Nishizawa - Chair Mrs. Yasuko Murakami, Mr. Clint Saiki, Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Yanagawa	Ruby Ishida
Group 3	10/9/2021	Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Takekuma - Chair Mr. Stanford Iwamoto, Mrs. Erin Takekuma, Ms. Madison Doo, Mrs. Tami Ramil, Ms. Taryn Ramil	Joan Slingerland

KAPAA HONGWANJI MISSION


4-1170 Kuhio Highway

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## ONENESS

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

**Monthly Memorial Service**   
Sunday, September 5, 2021 @ 9:00 a.m.

**Ohigan Service**  
Sunday, September 12, 2021 @ 9:00 a.m.

**Family Service**  
Sunday, September 15, 2021 @ 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday, September 22, 2021 @ 9:00 a.m.