



# ONENESS

## KAPAA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE

October 2021

### Message on “Gratitude for the Jodo Shinshu Teaching”

This year we will once again have the opportunity to observe the Commemorative Service of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching together. This service’s name, ‘Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching,’ refers to Shinran Shonin’s systematical presentation of the Jodo Shinshu teaching through his main writing, *Kyōgyōshinshō*, or *The True Teaching, Practice, and Realization of the Pure Land Way*. In this work, he clarified how Amida Buddha’s compassionate working, or Other Power, reaches and guides each of us. This annual observance is a great opportunity for us to deepen our gratitude for the teaching.

The founder of Buddhism, Sakyamuni Buddha revealed the reality of this world as “everything is changing” and “all things are without self.” However, ordinary beings like us are not able to accept this reality, and that is why we struggle constantly. Typical examples are the four difficulties expounded by Sakyamuni Buddha, that is, birth, aging, illness, and death. We, who possess blind passions of greed, anger, and ignorance, cannot escape from suffering until the moment that life ends. Shinran Shonin used the expression ‘foolish beings filled with blind passions’ to describe us, those who are not able to accept this reality. Amida Tathagata wishes to save us, who are drowning in the darkness of blind passions, and continues to work with compassion in the Nembutsu, “Namo Amida Butsu.” As Shinran Shonin wrote in a hymn,

Karmic evil is from the beginning without real form;  
It is the result of delusional thought and  
invertedness. (*Hymns of the Dharma-Age*, Verse 107)

The compassion of the Tathagata is grounded in true reality, which begins to work prior to human cognition, and thus embraces all life equally and takes it as it is without abandoning anyone.

Shinran Shonin described his understanding in another verse as “attaining Buddhahood through the nembutsu is the true essence of the Pure Land way.”

Since shinjin [entrusting heart] arises from the Vow,  
We attain Buddhahood through the nembutsu by the [Vow's] spontaneous working.  
The spontaneous working is itself the fulfilled land;  
Our realization of supreme nirvana is beyond doubt.  
(*Hymn of the Pure Land Masters*, Verse 82)

Jodo Shinshu is the teaching that we will attain enlightenment beyond form and become buddhas in the “Pure Land of naturalness” through shinjin alone. In shinjin we accept without doubt the heart of Amida Tathagata’s Vow of “Namo Amida Butsu” - “Entrust yourself to me. I will liberate you just as you are”

When we are touched by this warm compassion and learn of Amida Tathagata’s wish for our life, we are empowered to live at ease, share joy and sadness with people, and a world of mutual respect and support opens up. With ease and joy, Shinran Shonin walked the path of gratitude for being saved by Tathagata’s compassion. Aspiring to learn from his way of living and transmit his teaching to the next generations, I would like to express the essentials of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching in the following passage.

### **Gratitude for the Jodo Shinshu Teaching**

Namo Amida Butsu.

“Entrust yourself to me.

I will liberate you just as you are.” This is the calling voice of Amida.

My blind passions are embraced in the Buddha’s awakening,

So the Buddha calls to me “I will liberate you just as you are.”

Gratefully responding to the Buddha’s call,

I find that I am already on the path that leads to the Pure Land.

And the Nembutsu flows freely from my thankful heart.

Living with the Dharma as my guide

Softens my rigid heart and mind.

Gratitude for the gift of life I have received

Frees me from becoming lost in greed and anger,

And allows me to share a warm smile and speak gentle words.

Sharing in the joy and sadness of others,

I shall strive to live each day to its fullest.

In 2023 we are going to conduct a Joint Celebration of the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin’s Birth and 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching. In gratefulness for the birth of Shinran Shonin and his expounding of the teachings of Jodo Shinshu, let’s recite “Gratitude for the Jodo Shinshu Teaching” together, work together, and live a life of Nembutsu together to spread his teaching. As for “Our Pledge,” delivered in my Dharma message at the 2018 Perpetual Memorial and Autumn Service, it is my hope that it will continue to be recited by everyone on various occasions, particularly by young people and those who are not familiar with Buddhism or Jodo Shinshu, and that it will lead to closer connections with the teaching.

April 15, 2021

OHTANI Kojun Monshu

Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha



**15th Anniversary of “Peace Day” in Hawaii  
Ring Your Bell for Peace Day 2021  
Bishop Eric Matsumoto**

*(Continued from Bishop’s Corner for Headquarters Update August 2021)*

*To guide and inspire us, let us reflect on some insightful sayings. “Victory creates hatred. Defeat creates suffering. The wise desire neither victory nor defeat...Anger creates anger...He who kills will be killed. He who wins will be defeated...Revenge can only be overcome by abandoning revenge...The wise seek neither victory nor defeat.” (Attributed to Sakyamuni Buddha) “Although it is societies that make war, each society is made up of individuals. If individuals learn to live together with one another in peace and harmony, the society will be in peace and harmony. Individuals are like the nucleus and society is like the atoms. The molding of our character takes place as individuals. However, an individual cannot separate from the rest of the individuals. All have to live together. Human beings are social animals and they are always drawn to the society of other human beings. Individuals influence other individuals.” “The first step toward bringing peace to the whole world is looking at our mind very closely and thoroughly. Watch your body and speech mindfully. Look at them every moment, every day.” “Before you talk, see whether you are going to say something that will hurt your listener. See whether your speech will bring harmony and peace, or disharmony and suffering.” “Cultivate peace within yourself first, and then share it with others.” (Bhante Henepola Gunaratana) “To prevent war, to prevent the next crisis, we must begin right now. When a war or crisis has begun, it is already too late.” “If we nourish mindfulness every day and water the seeds of peace in ourselves and those around us, we have a good chance to prevent the next war and to defuse the next crisis.” “We have to listen to everyone, especially those we consider our enemies. When we show our capacity of listening and understanding, the other person will also listen to us...This is the beginning of healing.” (The Venerable Thich Nhat Hahn) “In people who have long heard the Buddha’s Name and said the nembutsu, surely there are signs of rejecting the evil of this world and signs of their desire to cast off evil in themselves.” (Shinran Shonin) “At present there are people who are losing their lives in wars around the world. However, outstanding the reason, there is simply no justification for taking the life of another. Another’s way of life or way of thinking may be fundamentally different than our own, but that is no reason to take a life. Life is precious.” (Monshu Emeritus Koshin Ohtani) “How should we live?” “Everything in this world exists based on interdependency. When we are not aware of this, we tend to think...that our own perspective is the only one that is right and justified. This is what causes conflicts to arise.” “In wars, international disputes, and terrorism, people become absolutely convinced that they are the only ones who are righteous and justified. As a result, they will go as far as to kill people in order to prove this point. When we arm ourselves and attack others, the peace that might be attained from it will never last long. How then, do we attain (the) peace that we*

*seek in the world today” “...it is necessary that we first treat others with the same care and respect that we would show ourselves. Other people’s lives are just as precious and irreplaceable as our own. We are all living interconnected with each other in some way or another.” “When we become conscious that this is not just an issue that we should think about on a national level but also on a more basic and intimate one, we can begin to build a world of peace from the ground up.” (Gomonshu Kojun Ohtani)*

*As I deeply reflect, I find that I am limited and imperfect with my reality being “Easier said than done,” but we can still aspire. Ideals are important to hold in our hearts and minds even if not immediately and perfectly attainable. Let us each in our own way respond to that we are grateful for in our life with the aspiration for the peace and well-being of one and all! Please visit the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii webpage at <https://hongwanjihawaii.com> to view the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual “Ring Your Bell for Peace Day.” Thank you and Namō Amida Butsu.*

## **22nd Annual Bloom-Futaba Memorial Lectures**

This is a learning opportunity founded by Rev. Dr. Alfred Bloom and Mrs. Dorothy Bloom, and sponsored by Hawaii Betsuin. The lecturer, Chenxing Han, will be in Honolulu, and depending on Covid precautions will participate in a HYBRID (both live, in-person and on computer virtually) program.

Date & Time: Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (HST).

Place: Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii & Zoom

Guest Lecturer: Chenxing Han, Author of “Be the Refuge:  
Raising the Voices of Asian American Buddhists”

Topic: BE THE REFUGE:  
Challenges and Aspirations of Young Adult Asian American Buddhists

Fee: Free

Registration: <https://forms.gle/kjSAZ3bCugc29ih97> (For reminders, updates, and Zoom link)

### **YOUTUBE CHANNEL PROGRAM**

The 58th Lay Convention Keynote Address by Rick Stambul, “Shin Buddhism: A Response to Anti-Asian Racism and Hate in 21st Century America” is available to watch on the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii (HHMH) YouTube channel. (<https://youtu.be/QzjU7e8a60A>)

Also, the Summer Dharmathon video is available to watch on the BSC Hawaii YouTube channel. The Summer Dharmathon was the new BSC program which two ministers of Hawaii Kyodan gave their Dharma message each day (5 days) with 2021 theme and slogan: Building Healthy Sanghas: Nurturing Empathy and Respect. (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUWzJg0lcuY5tdIGef9O9HQ>)

## 2021 FALL NEMBUTSU SEMINAR (HONOLULU & OAHU HONGWANJI COUNCIL)

Honolulu & Oahu Hongwanji Councils and Office of Buddhist Education will sponsor an online Nembutsu seminar in November 2021.

Date & Time: Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. (HST)  
Guest Speaker: Rev. Matt Hamasaki, Buddhist Church of Sacramento  
Topic: MINDFULNESS in Today's World  
(Focusing on: LGBTQIA+, Stop AAPI Hate & Black Lives Matter)  
Free Registration: <https://forms.gle/4JeU6LnFnfXjyuu5>  
Registration Deadline: Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup>

## MONTHLY ONLINE SEMINARS BY HAWAII DISTRICT MINISTERS ASSOCIATION

Since July 2021, the Hawaii District Ministers Association created a monthly online seminar. Here is their October information.

Date & Time: Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (HST)  
Guest Lecturer: Rev. Blayne Higa, Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple  
Topic: "Embracing our Shadow:  
Shin Buddhist Wisdom for When Life Gets Difficult"

Registration is required. Please go to the 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)>

## SAVE THE DATE: UPCOMING EVENTS

### 2<sup>nd</sup> State Dharma School Gathering

Date: Sunday, October 17, 2021

Time: 9:30 a.m. Dharma School Service  
Dharma Talk: Rev. Satoshi Tomioka (Puna Hongwanji Mission)  
10:00 a.m. Breakout Room Sessions  
Adult Breakout Room Speaker: Rev. Kerry Kiyohara  
(Makawao Hongwanji Mission)  
Dharma School Breakout Rooms by age/grade  
10:50 a.m. Dharma School Students and Families are excused.  
11:00 a.m. Dharma School Teachers/ Educators Gathering Session (Open to all)  
Guest Speaker: Mr. Pieper Toyama  
12:00 p.m. Done

Platform: Zoom

Registration: <https://forms.gle/Koy9KtWq868UzbLo7>

Memo: Open Invitation to All

## **HAWAII DISTRICT NEMBUTSU SEMINAR 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

## **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)

## **CANCELLED - 2021 MINISTER'S LAY ASSISTANT RETREAT**

The Buddhist Study Center (BSC) and Ministerial Training Committee (MTC) will cancel the 2021 Minister's Lay Assistant Retreat scheduled for October 15-17, 2021. The retreat was cancelled due to the increasing COVID-19 cases and the C&C of Honolulu gathering restrictions.

If you have any questions, please call the BSC Office: (808) 973-6555

### ***Announcement***

***\*Next HQ update will be distributed in November, due to having a new Hawaii Kyodan statewide newsletter in October. The 2022 Hawaii Kyodan master calendar will be distributed with November HQ update. We will share the master calendar with ministers and temple presidents earlier. Thank you for your understanding. Please looking forward to seeing the new statewide newsletter, Ka Leo Kāhea (The Calling Voice).***

Mahalo for Your Contributions & Support  
August 18-September 21, 2021

**Funeral Service**

*In memory of the late...*

Glenn Shimazu - James, Suanne, & Caleb Shimazu

**Memorial Service**

*In memory of the late...*

Fumiyo Nagaoka - Lois Hamada

*Correction:*

*In memory of the late Hanae Niitsuma*

The Haraguchi Family

**Inurnment Service**

*In memory of the late...*

Pedro & Umeno Takiguchi Munoz

Joan Slingerland

**Ohigan Service**

Mildri Cifuentes

Jim Jung

Karma Klein

Carol Saiki

Gloria Shimizu

Roberta Yanagawa

Rev. Mieko Majima

**Sunday Services**

Mildri Cifuentes

Jim Jung

Yoshiko Dimples Kano

Ralph Kitashima

Karma Klein

Carol Saiki

Gloria Shimizu

Roberta Yanagawa

Rev. Mieko Majima

**Choba**

Katherine Matayoshi

Itsue Okada

**Hall Rental**

Maha Methods

**Temple Donations**

Sharon Contrades

Ralph Kitashima

Suanne Shimazu Keohohou

Joan Slingerland

Reuben Yoshida

**Membership**

Evelyn Nakamura

**Volunteer Support**

Madison Doo

Marie Hashimura

Stanford Iwamoto

Jim Jung

Ralph Kitashima

Haven Kuboyama

Rev. Mieko Majima

Milton Nakamura

Francis Nishizawa

Ray Paler

Tami Ramil

Taryn Ramil

Carol Saiki

Calvin & Rona Sakai

Gloria Shimizu

Pearl Shimizu

Joan Slingerland

Dennis & Sadie Sunada

Lane Sunada

Clyde & Kay Takekuma

Erin Takekuma

Keith & Thelma Tsukamoto

Alison Yamamoto

Brian & Wendy Yamamoto

Winston Kawamoto

Sidney Yanagawa



**Buddhist Community Gathering (Zoom)**

October 16, 2021 1:00 pm–3:00 pm pacific time

Speakers: Rev. Duncan Williams, Rev. Myokei Caine-Barrett, Rev. Blayne Higa

**REGISTRATION : FREE**

Register : <https://forms.gle/D6BWTmcJ3Z92corz5>

**KANSHA (Zoom)**

October 24, 2021 10:00 am–1:00 pm pacific time

Speaker: Rev. Harry Bridge

Registration: \$20 (Deadline: October 10, 2021)

Contact: [buddhist@wbtemple.org](mailto:buddhist@wbtemple.org) | Phone 831-724-7860



## from the president's corner...

*ALOHA Everyone! The days are quickly flying by. October is here! We hope you are all doing well and finding ways to keep yourselves happy and engaged in some fun activities while we continue to contain the spread of the virus. The Delta variant continues to limit our temple services and activities, however, there are many virtual services and seminars available for your viewing. You may visit the Honpa Hongwanji website and YouTube to find something that interests you. Please take advantage of the services and seminars to listen to the Dharma Messages shared by our ministers. During this difficult time, it is a wonderful opportunity to be connected to the Nembutsu Teachings. As we recite the Golden Chain of Love, let us remember to practice these words in our daily life. Namo Amida Butsu . . .*

The State Dharma School Gathering will be held on October 17 at 9:30 a.m. This is another opportunity to participate in the virtual service and listen to the Dharma Message presented by Rev. Satoshi Tomioka of Puna Hongwanji Mission. You are invited to view the service portion of this gathering at the temple. Taryn Ramil will be one of the M.C.s representing the Kauai United Jr. YBA.

There will be a new statewide newsletter for the Hawaii Kyodan with the first issue in late October 2021. 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. Due to privacy concerns which was brought to our attention, we will be sending our members a letter of consent to share your mailing information and receive the newsletter.

### Women's Association

The annual Kauai United Hongwanji BWA Fall Conference will be held virtually on Sunday, October 24 at 9:00 a.m. The theme of the conference is "Nurturing Empathy and Respect." The West Kauai Hongwanji Women's Association will be hosting the conference. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Warren Tamamoto, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Kyodan President.

Everyone is welcome to attend and view the short service from 9:00-9:30 at the temple. BWA members will remain for General Membership meeting and rest of the conference.

### United Jr. YBA

Madison Doo and Taryn Ramil participated in the "Ring Your Bell for Peace Day" event which was held on September 21. This year the juniors were in school during the event so they were video taped prior to the event.

**Membership Drive** to recruit new members. Please let us know if you have children or grandchildren ages 13-18 yrs. who would be interested in joining the Jr. YBA. We have lots of fun doing service projects, assisting with temple events, attending the annual Jr. YBA convention and meeting new friends.



## Memorial Service

### 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.

### November

Yukiyo	Togikawa	33rd	11/8/1989
Kikuji	Ota	23rd	11/20/1999
Hideko	Koigawachi	13th	11/20/2009
Kenichi	Tasaka	27th	11/25/1995
Ume Nakamura	Oshita	27th	11/28/1995

Namo Amida Butsu.



### Minister's Library

In this world nothing is fixed and unchanging, contrary to what we might normally think. Without regard to how we may wish things to be the world is undergoing constant change, and as the Buddha clarifies, suffering involves anything that does not go our way. This undeniable truth causes suffering because of our inclination to want things to remain unchanged.

We should strive not to be attached to the idea of always needing to have control so that things go the way we want them to. The spiritual enlightenment of eradicating blind passions might be an almost impossible goal to reach, but not being attached to blind passions is essentially the same thing.

Namo Amida Butsu

- from "Moving Forward Just as You Are" -

### Temple Cleaning & Flower Arrangement

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,	Joan Slingerland
Group 4	10/16/2021	Ms. Gloria Shimizu - Chair Mr. Haven Kuboyama, Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Sunada, Mrs. Pat Yamamoto	Kay Takekuma
Group 5	10/23/2021	Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Sakai - Chair Ms. Carol Saiki	Rona Sakai
Group 6	10/30/2021	Mr. & Mrs. Keith Tsukamoto - Chair Mr. & Mrs. Brian Yamamoto, Mr. Winston Kawamoto	Roberta Yanagawa
Group 1	11/6/2021	Mrs. Marie Hashimura - Chair Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hiraoka, Mr. Milton Nakamura, Mr. Ray Paler	Ruby Ishida

KAPAA HONGWANJI MISSION

4-1170 Kuhio Highway

Kapaa, Hawaii 96746



# ONENESS

The Newsletter of  
Kapaa Hongwanji Mission  
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Email: [mail@kapaahongwanji.org](mailto:mail@kapaahongwanji.org)

**Monthly Memorial Service**  
Sunday, October 3 @ 9:00 a.m.



**Family Service**  
Sunday, October 10 @ 9:00 a.m.

**Special Services**  
Sunday, October 17 @ 9:00 a.m. (Dharma School)  
Sunday, October 24 @ 9:00 a.m. (BWA)

**No Service**  
Sunday, October 31