



ONENESS

KAPAA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE

April 2024

MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP



Within the HHMH Community, March 2 is widely recognized and celebrated as Hongwanji Day. The history of Hongwanji Temples in Hawaii began when Rev. Soryu Kagahi arrived in Honolulu on March 2, 1889, and established the foundation of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism in Hawaii. This year marks the 135th Anniversary.

Many documents record the living conditions of the early Japanese immigrants in Hawaii. One worker at a plantation in Puunene on Maui said, “In those days, many Japanese people died by disease, and I was asked to bury them in the cemetery after my work. At that time, there were no temples and no ministers. So, I chanted the Shoshinge I had heard as a child.” For the people of the time when there were no temples and no ministers, I believe that the Shoshinge chanted by this lay person must have quietly but surely reverberated through the lands of Hawaii and given peace of mind and courage to the people who left Japan and were living in Hawaii.

At that time, it seemed that there was not yet a strong momentum for overseas propagation at Honzan. Still, when Rev. Kagahi learned about the harsh working and living conditions of Japanese immigrants in Hawaii, he was determined to cross the ocean on his initiative to spread the Light of the Buddha-Dharma.

“Kagahi was deeply touched by the difficulties of these immigrants living in a strange country, knowing neither Hawaiian nor English, lacking the support of a sangha, the sustenance of the dharma. It saddened him to think no priest was there to perform the reassuring Buddhist rituals that provide a spiritual rhythm to the natural flow of life and death. As he reflected on all this Soryu Kagahi made a personal commitment. He must propagate Jodoshinshu in Hawaii!” (From “A Grateful Past, A Promising Future”)

There is no shortage of history when it comes to the Japanese immigrants and Jodo Shinshu in Hawaii. Through the untiring dedication of the successive ministers and lay followers, the

Hongwanji temples steadily took root in Hawaii as ‘abodes of Light and Love’ (described by Bishop Imamura). Those who set foot in the abode of light and love entrusted themselves to the Light of Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha that illuminates all beings equally as if they were his only child, and lived their lives to the fullest in the face of adversity while reciting the Nembutsu, Namo Amida Butsu.

Now, 135 years later, times and living conditions have changed dramatically. However, the Light of Amida Buddha’s Wisdom and Compassion does not change. It always illuminates our hearts and minds, which are clouded by our own egos, and enables us to live a bright life that is embraced by the Light.

The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii will observe the Triple Celebration on September 7 and 8 at the Ala Moana Hotel. I would like to invite everyone to join us in this commemorative event filled with the joy of Nembutsu. In deepest gratitude and appreciation to our Nembutsu predecessors whose names we cannot all mention but dedicated their lives to the growth and expansion of the HHMH and its temples and affiliated organizations, and with a grateful response to Amida Buddha’s tireless calling, I recite Namo Amida Butsu.

Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani, Bishop

CHANGE OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF JODO SHINSHU HONGWANJI-HA

Honzan has announced the members of the new Governing Board of Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha effective on March 11, 2024.

総長	荻野 昭裕	Governor General OGINO Shoyu
総務	日谷 照應	Governor HIDANI Shouou
総務	三好 慶祐	Governor HIDANI Shouou
総務	弘中 貴之	Governor HIRONAKA Takayuki - in charge of International Department
副総務	加藤 尚史	Vice Governor KATO Shoshi - in charge of International Department
副総務	大河内隆之	Vice Governor OKOCHI Ryushi

CONDOLENCES

Mrs. Florence Tomoe Sakae, a member of Makawao Hongwanji Mission, passed away on January 8, 2024. Mrs. Sakae served as the first female temple president (1987-1988) and president of Asoka Club (BWA) for more than 20 years. The Posthumous Title (INGO) of SHO-YO-IN 照曜院, which translates as “The one who illuminated with the light of compassion” in recognition of her life of Nembutsu was conferred by Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani on March 2, 2024.

Mrs. Fujiko Dochin, a member of Kamuela Hongwanji Mission, passed away on January 28, 2024. Mrs. Dochin worked hard and supported her temple for many years in various ways. The Posthumous Title (INGO) of MON-SHIN-IN 聞信院, which translates as “The one who hears and entrusts oneself to Amida’s Universal Vow” in recognition of her life of Nembutsu was conferred by Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani on March 16, 2024.

Rev. Charles Kenko Hasegawa, a retired minister of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, passed away on March 16, 2024, in Stockton, California at the age of 84. Rev. Hasegawa’s funeral service, co-officiated by the Buddhist Churches of America and the Buddhist Church of Stockton, will be held at the Buddhist Church of Stockton on Saturday, April 13, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. Rev. Hasegawa's funeral service will also be livestreamed on the Buddhist Church of Stockton's YouTube channel and can be accessed at the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/@buddhistchurchofstockton9015>

Rev. Hasegawa became a Kaikyoshi Minister in March 1974 and served the following temples:

April 1974 - October 1974	Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission (assistant)
October 1974 - June 1975	Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin
June 1975 - July 1978	Waimea Hongwanji
August 1978 - January 1981	Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin January 1981
- February 1983 1983	Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin February 28, Resigned (transferred to BCA)

Rev. Hasegawa is survived by his wife, Mrs. Noriko Hasegawa (1964 Cottage Court, Stockton, CA 95207), stepmother Mrs. Atsuko Hasegawa, daughters, Eri (Micah) Furuyama and Aki (Brian) Zeck, and son, Jyotis Hasegawa (Britanie Grandinette), and grandchildren Keiden, Naya, and Christian.

Rev. Hasegawa is survived by his wife, Mrs. Noriko Hasegawa (1964 Cottage Court, Stockton, CA 95207), stepmother Mrs. Atsuko Hasegawa, daughters, Eri (Micah) Furuyama and Aki (Brian) Zeck, and son, Jyotis Hasegawa (Britanie Grandinette), and grandchildren Keiden, Naya, and Christian.

IMPORTANT UPDATE: TRIPLE CELEBRATION REGISTRATION

Triple Celebration Early Registration Deadline Extension

We are pleased to inform you that we will extend the Triple Celebration early registration deadline to April 30, 2024.



Please register for the Triple Celebration and let's celebrate this joyous occasion together.

We are offering two types of registration methods.

The first is online registration and payment. Please go to the following link and fill out the registration form: <https://hongwanjihawaii.com/triple-celebration/>

The second is a paper registration form. Please fill out the form and mail it to H.Q. with a check. The early registration deadline is April 30, 2024 and the registration fee is \$250.

The late registration deadline is July 31, 2024 and the registration fee is \$300.

The youth registration deadline is July 31, 2024 and registration fee is \$150 for those 25 years old or younger.

The registration cost includes one breakfast, one lunch banquet, services, workshops, and panel discussion.

We will provide a \$200 subsidy per person for neighbor island participants.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email triple.celebration@honpahi.org or contact H.Q.

NURTURING MIND AND BODY AT BUDDHIST STUDY CENTER SPRING FESTIVAL

On April 6, 2024, the Buddhist Study Center will host our first ever Spring Festival grand re-opening of the BSC to the larger Manoa/Moiliili/McCully/Makiki community. The purpose of this event is to showcase the Hongwanji and BSC offerings to the community and increase awareness of the facility to encourage participation and use. Everyone - students, faculty, community members, and families - is welcome.

The event will kick off at 9:30 a.m. with live entertainment performances in the downstairs Buddhist Study Center parking lot. There will be booths with food, games, and activities hosted by various Hongwanji-affiliated groups. Notable activities include a travelling bookstore by Honpa Hongwanji, Matcha with a Minister talk story teatime with Rev. Bert Sumikawa and Rev. Blayne Nakasone Sakata, flower arranging with Irene Nakamoto, and children's activities by Debbie Kubota and Susan Oshiro. Emi Hashi, the Youth Specialist for Honpa Hongwanji, will also lead a Buddha in Your Pocket mini butsudana craft for students and community members to take home and set up a reflection space of their own. We hope to encourage new members to join the Buddhist Study Center Fellowship Club.

Health and wellness workshops will be held upstairs in the BSC lecture hall. We will start with a workshop on coping skills at 10:00 a.m. by Rev. David Nakamoto. At 11:00 a.m., Lisa Yanagi, who also holds weekly classes at the BSC, will lead a yoga class for interested attendees. At 12:00 p.m., a demonstration on healthful cooking will be taught by Carolyn Uchiyama and Wahiawa Blue Zones. Finally, a bokashi healthy living workshop with Chikako Nago will be held at 1:00 p.m. to promote the sustainable practice of composting. These workshops are centered around our Spring Festival theme of "Nurturing Mind and Body," and are aligned with our Hongwanji Buddhist values of mindfulness, reflection, and interdependence.

We hope that those on Oahu will attend our inaugural event. Attendees will receive a free eco bag and reusable cup (while supplies last). Parking is available at the UH Manoa parking structure (for approximately \$5 per day), or street parking may be available in the area. Attendees are encouraged to walk, bike, or take public transportation if possible. For questions or more information about the event, contact ehashi@honpahi.org.

Hanamatsuri Service

**Sunday, April 7, 2024 @ 9:30 a.m. hosted by Waimea Shingon Mission
At Soto Zen Temple Hall**

This service commemorates the birth of the Buddha. Please save the date.

Pacific Buddhist Academy held its 18th Annual Taiko Festival on Sunday, March 17th at the Moanalua Performing Arts Center. The theme for this year's festival was "Yaramaika," which translates to 'go for it!'

The school's Hyaku Sen Ki Kai performance taiko group, led by Jay Toyofuku, comprises eight players. Among them are three seniors: twins Leilani and Jenny Chang (whose older sister Fern Chang graduated from PBA's performance taiko group in 2022), and Mari Miyasato, who recently returned from a six-week study abroad program at Heian High School in Kyoto, Japan.

This year, PBA alumni returned to perform in a number of pieces on multiple instruments including Zachary Agcaoili '14 and Tani Oshita '23 on taiko drums, Reverend Blayne Nakasone Sakata '14 on the Odaiko and sanshin, and Chihiro Ozawa '23 on the Shime, Odaiko, and Shinobue. Agcaoili Sensei is one of PBA's taiko sensei and Rev. Nakasone Sakata is PBA's school chaplain.

All proceeds from the Taiko Festival support PBA's mission to prepare students for college through academic excellence, enrich their lives with Buddhist values, and develop their courage to nurture peace. If you didn't get a chance to attend the live show, or if you want to relive some of your favorite pieces, a recording of the festival will air on 'Ōlelo Community Media on the dates provided below.



Kapaa Hongwanji Bon Dance

Our Bon Dance will be held on Friday, July 26 - Saturday, July 27, 2024

Attention, all Bon Dance enthusiasts, we need **you** to co-chair and plan this event. Planning must begin in April to coordinate the logistics of food preparation, refrigeration, cooking equipment, and purchasing, etc. The building where the broiled chicken was cooked has a trench which needs to be filled with soil and the sides of the building will need to be enclosed before July. **Volunteers are needed to kokua with this project. Please call me at 808 822-4667 if you are available to assist.**

Mahalo for Your Contributions & Support
February 16-March 18, 2024

Funeral Service

Lou Jyoji Nishida, Sr. - Walter Agena

Memorial Service

In memory of...

Yutaka Oshita - Kay & Clyde Takekuma
Leila & Roy Nishida

Inurnment Service

In memory of...

Makoto & Miyako Hirata - Susan Hirata
Kaoru & Harumi Hirata

In Memory Donations

In memory of....

Toshiko & Junichi Iida - Sally Yokota

Sunday Zoom Services

Ralph Kitashima
Angela Petel
Carol Saiki
Gloria Shimizu
Roberta Yanagawa

Building Fund

Brook Madrone

Membership

Brook Madrone
Clyde & Kay Takekuma

Miscellaneous Donations

Susan Hirata
Clyde & Kay Takekuma
Kristin Yanagawa - Puakea Grill

New Year's Party Donations

Marie Hashimura
Robert & Bernice Hiraoka
Dennis & Sadie Sunada
Carol Saiki
Gloria Shimizu

Pearl Shimizu
Clyde & Kay Takekuma
Tami Takekuma

Hall Rental

Center for Spiritual Living

Minister's Support

Rev. Tomo Hojo
Rev. Mieko Majima
Rev. Shawn Yagi

Volunteer Support

Marie Hashimura
Stanford Iwamoto
Winston Kawamoto
Ralph Kitashima
Haven Kuboyama
Rev. Mieko Majima
Milton Nakamura
Ray Paler
Kaleigh Ramil
Tami Ramil
Carol Saiki
Calvin & Rona Sakai
Gloria Shimizu
Pearl Shimizu
Joan Stingerland
Dennis & Sadie Sunada
Clyde & Kay Takekuma
Erin Takekuma
Keith & Thelma Tsukamoto
Brian Yamamoto

Bon Dance Practice

It's time to get ready for the Bon Dance Season. Pearl Shimizu begun dance practice. Practice is @ 6:00 p.m. on Mondays until our Bon Dance in July. Everyone is welcome! Mahalo Pearl & Gloria!

from the president's corner...

Aloha Everyone! April is a month of regrowth, making old things new again as beautiful flowers begin to bloom. "May it be a great month and bring smiles, joy, good health and happiness to all."

We continue to receive the unwavering support of our dedicated Sangha with their kind, thoughtful and generous contributions to repair and maintain our temple. While repairs are ongoing, we continue to have Sunday, memorial, funeral, other services. We understand the importance of these services to honor your loved ones. We are here to assist you and schedule the services with the kind assistance of Rev. Shawn Yagi and Rev. Tomo Hojo. Everyone is also welcome to join the Sunday Services on Zoom which are provided by Rev. Tomo Hojo and the West Kauai Hongwanji Mission. We view the services at our temple at 9:00 a.m., however, on March 31, the Spring Ohigan service will begin at 9:30 a.m. We are truly grateful to have the opportunity to join the services on Zoom and listen to the Nembutsu Teachings which will guide us in our spiritual journey and everyday life.

Namo Amida Butsu...

Hanamatsuri or Buddha Day - April is a great month when we celebrate Hanamatsuri, which literally means flower festival to commemorate the birth of Siddhartha Gautama, the historical Buddha on April 8 each year. The Kauai Buddhist Council will be observing Hanamatsuri or Buddha Day on Sunday, April 7, 2024 at 9:30 am at the Kauai Soto Zenshuji Temple Hall in Hanapepe. Waimea Shingon Mission will be hosting the service. We welcome all to celebrate this joyous event together. Refreshments will be served after the service.

Eshin-ni and Kakushin-ni Day Service - The Kauai United Hongwanji BWA will be observing Eshin-ni and Kakushin-ni Day Service on Sunday, April 21, 2024 at 9:30 a.m. Lihue Hongwanji Buddhist Women's Association will be hosting the service at their temple. Everyone is welcome to attend. Both women contributed greatly to Shinran Shonin's life. Eshin-ni was the wife of our founder Shinran Shonin. She is revered for her dedication to Shinran during his productive years. Kakushin-ni, his daughter, is known for being her father's caregiver in his final years. She is revered for planting the seeds which later grew into today's Hongwanji.

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Triple Celebration - September 7-8, 2024

The triple celebration steering committee is pleased to inform you that we will extend the Triple Celebration early registration deadline to April 30, 2024.

The registration cost includes one breakfast, one lunch banquet, services, workshops and panel discussion. We will provide a \$200 subsidy per person for neighbor island participants.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email triple.celebration@honpahi.org or contact Rev. Tomo Hojo, chairperson for the event.

Please register for the Triple Celebration and let's celebrate this joyous occasion together!

Kapaa Hongwanji Bon Dance - July 26-27

Bon Dance practice is held on Mondays in the yard from 6:00-7:00 until July 22, 2024.

We need volunteers to assist with Bon Dance planning or we may not be able to prepare food for the event. We have compliance issues with the Dept. of Health guidelines which we need to address. We will be able to have the Hatsubon Service at 6:00 and Dance at 7:30 with only drinks and pre-packaged snacks.

Memorial Service

April				May			
Teru	Oda	33rd	4/4/1992	Masato	Yokotake	50th	5/4/1975
Nancy Yoshie	Masada	3rd	4/12/2022	Tanaka	Hideo	27th	5/7/1998
				Fujita	Hanako	27th	5/8/1998
Masako	Ito	33rd	4/16/1992	Haruko	Nakagawa	33rd	5/17/1992
Toshimi	Kodani	13th	4/24/2012	Shizuo	Hironaka	50th	5/24/1975
Mitsue	Hirata	3rd	4/25/2022	Mitsui	Toshiaki	27th	5/26/1998
				Evelyn	Nakamura	1st	5/28/2023

Minister's Note

Hanamatsuri, also known as Buddha's Birthday or the Flower Festival, is a revered observance in various Buddhist traditions, particularly in Japan, marking the birth of Siddhartha Gautama, the historical Buddha. Celebrated on April 8th, this festival is characterized by the adornment of altars with flowers and the ritualistic bathing of baby Buddha statues, symbolizing purification and renewal. Beyond its religious significance, Hanamatsuri serves as a time for reflection on Buddhist teachings of compassion and mindfulness, fostering community gatherings, and acts of kindness. It's a celebration that embodies the spirit of springtime, renewal, and the timeless wisdom of the Buddha's enlightenment.

Namo Amida Butsu

Temple Cleaning & Flower Arrangement

4/6/2024	Group 1	Mrs. Marie Hashimura - Chair Mr. Milton Nakamura, Mr. Ray Paler Mr. Robert Hiraoka	Ruby Ishida
4/13/2024	Group 2	Mr. Clint Saiki - Chair Mrs. Yasuko Murakami, Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Yanagawa	Joan Slingerland
4/20/2024	Group 3	Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Takekuma - Chair Mr. Stanford Iwamoto, Mrs. Erin Takekuma, Ms. Madison Doo, Mrs. Tami Ramil, Ms. Kaleigh Ramil	Kay Takekuma
4/27/2024	Group 4	Ms. Gloria Shimizu - Chair Mr. Haven Kuboyama, Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Sunada, Mrs. Pat Yamamoto	Rona Sakai
5/4/2024	Group 5	Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Sakai - Chair Ms. Carol Saiki, Brook Madrone	Ruby Ishida
5/11/2024	Group 6	Mr. & Mrs. Keith Tsukamoto - Chair Mr. & Mrs. Brian Yamamoto, Mr. Winston Kawamoto	Joan Slingerland

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



April 2024

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

