



1727 Pali Highway
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

GOJI

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NEWSLETTER
of the
Honpa Hongwanji
Hawaii Betsuin

www.hawaiihetsuin.org

2016 Slogan:

Embrace Change:
New Vision
(Create Engagement)

BETSUIN
MINISTERS

Chief Minister
Rev. Toyokazu Hagiio
Ministerial Staff
Rev. Yuika Hasebe
Rev. Arthur Kaufmann
Rev. Satoshi Tomioka
Rev. Joshin Kamuro

New Year's Message From Monshu, OHTANI Kojun

New Year's Greeting

At the beginning of the new year,
I would like to extend my greeting
to you.

On June 6, 2014, receiving the Jodo Shinshu tradition from Monshu Emeritus, I was inaugurated as the Hongwanji Resident Head Priest and Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha 25th Monshu. To commemorate the occasion together with all of you in front of Amida Buddha and the Founder Shinran Shonin, Dento Hokoku Hoyo, or the Commemoration on the Accession of the Jodo Shinshu Tradition will be observed at Hongwanji, Kyoto, Japan from this coming October 1. With this observance as an opportunity, it is my hope that the Jodo Shinshu teaching will spread to as many as possible.

The Jodo Shinshu teaching was set forth by Shinran Shonin nearly eight hundred years ago and it has been carefully transmitted to us today. Be it Shinran Shonin's time or the present day, the Jodo Shinshu teaching remains unchanged and continues to serve as our spiritual foundation. This is because in this world of impermanence we live our lives never knowing when it may end. No one can guarantee that tomorrow I will not be involved in an incident or accident that will bring about the end of my life.

In closing, let us continue our journey along the Nembutsu path by going to the temple to hear more of Amida Buddha's constant working for our benefit. In doing so, throughout this year, let us reflect on our true selves, come to appreciate all the encounters of our everyday lives, and in gratitude, recite the Nembutsu.

Namo Amida Butsu.

January 1, 2016

OHTANI Kojun
Monshu
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha



Hoonko Service Scheduled For January 9 and 10 at the Betsuin

Hawaii Betsuin will observe the annual Hoonko Service on January 9 and 10 to honor our founder, Shinran Shonin on the anniversary of his death. For Jodo Shinshu Buddhists, Hoonko is one of the most important services held during the year. Shinran Shonin was born on May 21, 1173 in Kyoto to his father, Arinori Hino, who was a high court officer and member of the Fujiwara clan, and, his mother Kikkonyo.

During Shinran Shonin's life time, the country was devastated by wars, famine, and natural disasters. At that time, Buddhism was mainly for

monks and higher ranking people. Regular people, who suffered from the wars and famine, had no way to be saved. Shinran Shonin met a master named Honen Shonin. Honen Shonin was teaching the Nembutsu in the city to all who were interested. There was no distinction between young and old, rich and poor, low rank and high rank. Shinran Shonin was deeply moved by Nembutsu teaching and became a leader of the Nembutsu Sangha.

Shinran Shonin's life was not easy. But no matter what hardship he encountered in his life time, he never gave up sharing the teachings. The teachings are a precious treasure that continues to touch us right now, this present day. Please join us for the Hoonko service; a wonderful service of appreciation for the teachings of the Nembutsu shared by Shinran Shonin.

This year's speaker is Bishop Eric Matsumoto of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. Bishop Matsumoto was born in Kona, Hawaii and

graduated Konawaena High School and Intermediate School.

He is also a graduate of the University of Hawaii at

Hilo, majoring in History and Liberal Studies- Japanese Language & Culture. After graduating from UH Hilo, he entered Ryukoku University Graduate School and majored in Shin Buddhist Studies. Bishop Matsumoto was also a recipient of the Crown Prince Akihito Scholarship.

After completing his studies in Japan, Bishop Matsumoto's first assignment was to the Hawaii Betsuin. He has also served at the Honokaa, Kamuela, Kohala, Paauilo Hongwanji temples on the Big Island, and Moiliili Hongwanji Mission in Honolulu. He has served as the Bishop of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii since March 2011.



GOJI

The **GOJI** is a monthly publication of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, Tel. (808) 536-7044. There is no newsletter published for the month of August.

DEADLINE:

Articles must be submitted no later than the 15th of the month prior to publication. Mail (1727 Pali Hwy, Honolulu, HI, 96813), fax (536-0919), or e-mail (hibetsuin@hawaii.rr.com) all items to the **GOJI**. Please include your name and contact information. Original images should be labeled on the reverse side with caption and return information.

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The opinions expressed by individual contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin.



Mark Your Calendars

February 7th
Please support
the
Mini Market!
Donations
Are Needed and
Appreciated!
Shoppers also needed
and appreciated!

Betsuin BWA News

News From President, Florence Wasai

Happy New Year to all of you. We have an exciting year awaiting us, so let's get involved and have a lot of fun. Thank you very much to all of you who have so diligently supported our BWA and helped us in many ways. I full heartedly appreciate all of your kindness and enthusiasm in making the BWA a worthwhile organization. As the saying goes, "If there is any announcement to make, let the men do it. If there is work to be done, the women always do it." Women, the BWA women are the strong backbone of Hawaii Betsuin, so please continue to support us.

We have been getting a lot of help from the men, and we appreciate their energy, thoughtfulness, and their unselfish giving. In the future, in America and Hawaii, we probably will not segregate men and women into organizations. Organizations will be formed to include everyone. Many decades ago, women were primarily housewives and stayed at home while men went to work; therefore, they had more time to spend at their respective temples and helped the ministers. Today, women are employed just as much as men and are equal bread winners in households. Until women retire from their jobs, they are not able to help at the temple as much as they wish; therefore, most of the women in the BWA are above middle age. Luckily, we live a long fruitful life.

The BWA members are resourceful, full of ideas and energy, so let's make year 2016 another great year for all of us. Thank you very much to all of

you, including our youthful, energetic ministers. There are no world conventions to worry about, so let's have fun here at home. It's too bad the ferry is no longer in existence for us to travel to the neighbor islands.

Thank you again.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR YEAR 2016

The calendar of events for year 2016 will be distributed at our first General Membership Meeting on Sunday, January 17, after the 10 am service. Please attend the meeting beginning at 11 a.m. in the Hondo.

BUDDHIST HUMOR

More and more Buddhist humor has been noted. Rev. Nakagawa of Reedley Buddhist Church in Reedley, California included humor in his November issue.

"The owner of an apartment complained. Why couldn't those Buddhist monks vacuum under the bed? A neighbor replied, Because they had no attachment."

The second story was slightly different than the one that I had read previously, so I shall tell you my first version. A man went to a Buddhist temple and saw that all the monks were busily at work. One of them had a hot dog stand where he was grilling nice hot dogs for sale. The man was hungry and the hot dogs smelled so delicious that he went to buy one. He ordered one with everything on it, catsup, mustard, onions, and pickles, and gave the monk a 20 dollar bill. He ate the whole hot dog and even had a cup of coffee. After a while,

Fujiko Motobu

he asked, where's my change? The monk replied, "change comes from within."

RECIPE FOR YOUR TASTE BUDS from Mildred Sakumoto

AMBROSIA

1 15 oz. crushed pineapple (drained);
1 large can fruit cocktail (30 oz. drained);
1 16 oz. small curd cottage cheese;
1 box 3.4 oz. pistachio instant pudding;
1 8 oz. cool whip.
Drain fruits, add cottage cheese, cool whip and pistachio pudding. Mix and refrigerate, and then you can eat. Enjoy.

BWA SANGHA MEMBER, RUTH TOKUMI

Have you ever noticed a BWA member who is always trotting about with a camera in hand and is taking shots at almost every event? Then, soon after you will notice the BWA bulletin board with lots of pictures of various events, carefully displayed. Our talented historian is Ruth Tokumi. She has carefully updated the photo history of the presidents of Fujinkai or now better known as BWA as well as Upasika Society. The pictures of the presidents are carefully posted at the entrance to the dining room. Ruth was a dietician prior to retirement. She says she enjoys taking pictures at all events. She compiles photos into selected events and a history is born. Thank you, Ruth. Keep up the good work. We love the pictures.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Pieper J. Toyama Change, Vision, and Engagement in 2016

We enter 2016 shaped by the theme: EMBRACE CHANGE: NEW VISION, and this vision for the future is to be borne out of our engagement with each other and our communities. Let me share two thoughts on this theme. First, let us be guided by the Jodo Shinshu concept of Ondobo Ondogyo. This perspective of life is based on the idea that we are all fellow travelers. That lay members and ministers are on the same journey. We make our way by supporting each other,

by sharing the joys and burdens of our travels. We engage with each other to set the direction of our journey and how we will travel together. To live the meaning of Ondobo Ondogyo, lay members and ministers must work with each other to set and share a vision of the future. This will mean engagements that are happy and productive as well as engagements that are unhappy and frustrating. Our egos will make sure that our journey together is not perfect. But this is the natural process of engagement that must not deter us from traveling as one Sangha.

Second, as you travel through 2016,

find opportunities to engage in the life of your temple that make sense to you in your life right now. Your engagement may be as simple as attending Sunday services or it may extend to participating in a few temple events. It may even include joining a committee to plan an activity or even serving as a chairperson. Better yet, it may grow to becoming an officer of your temple. Set a vision for yourself for 2016 and embrace the changes that you create.

Namo Amida Butsu
In Gassho

Pieper J. Toyama

New Year's Greetings

Rev. Toyokazu Hagio

Hauoli Makahikihou: A Happy New Year!



A wise old man said that "The Teaching is to talk of hope to people. (I)

The learning is to etch the truth upon mind or heart. (II)"

(I) Faith enriches our mind. (II) Aspire to gain excellent eyes like a Buddha's.

Let's talk about these, this is my raison d'etre.



Rev. Satoshi Tomioka

Hau'oli makahikihou!

Let us walk together, sharing Aloha and Mahalo every day with Buddha's wisdom and compassion. Namu Amida Butsu.

Rev. Yuika Hasebe

Happy New Year!!

I hope everybody has a wonderful beginning of 2016!

I sincerely extend my deep appreciation to all members of Hawaii Betsuin Sangha for supporting and helping me during 2015. It was such a pleasure to work with you, and I am looking forward to working together again in 2016. Guided by Amida Buddha's Wisdom and Compassion, let's together make a warm Buddhist Sangha.



Rev. Joshin Kamuro

Thanks to your help and support, my family and I were able to send off the old year and greet the New Year pleasantly in Hawaii. We would like to express our sincere appreciation for the kind support we have received since we arrived and extend to all of you our New Year's greetings. Let us live together, reciting the Nembutsu in gratitude this year.

Namu Amida Butsu. Joshin, Minako & Yuma Kamuro

BISHOP'S MESSAGE

Namo Amida Butsu & Happy New Year!

As we begin the New Year, let me express my warmest Aloha and Best Wishes to you for a meaningful and peaceful New Year. The new year 2016 is significant in that it is the beginning of "The Commemoration of the Accession of the Jodo Shinshu Tradition" by our 25th Spiritual Leader His Eminence Kojun Ohtani whose vision is outlined in the Proclamation/Letter he issued in June 2014 with the words "The nembutsu teaching that is based on Amida Buddha's Primal Vow remains unchanged, regardless of the changing times and society. However, the methods for transmitting and sharing it needs to evolve and adapt according to social changes. Now is the time for our Hongwanji institution to utilize our collective wisdom and knowledge for considering approaches to convey the Buddha Dharma to our contemporaries today."

In Hawaii, our theme and slogan for 2016 reads "...we create a new vision which will plan for the future, and create engagement with our members and the community." As I reflected, I thought of the Bodhisattva Dharmakara. The Bodhisattva Dharmakara had an aspiration. A new vision, if you will. According to Shinran Shonin, it was a shift from Self Power to Other Power or the attainment of Supreme Enlightenment through the (Buddha's) Other Power of Great Compassion. This new vision was expressed by the 48 Vows, in particular the 18th Vow, and the Pure Land of Enlightenment to which one and all are welcome. Now that the vision was clear, it had to be made real and known to others.

Thus, as we know, the Bodhisattva Dharmakara endeavored to become Amida Buddha or Namo Amida Butsu, an All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion, to share the message of the Nembutsu Teachings. Amida Buddha created engagement with all sentient beings by sending forth the various Buddhas, like Shakyamuni Buddha, to share the message of Great Unconditional Compassion. As we become aware of this Great Compassion, finding ourselves embraced by it, with great joy we join the countless Buddhas of the Universe in praise of the wondrous vision of Bodhisattva Dharmakara/Amida Buddha. His Eminence encourages "jishin kyo ninshin" or to "secure our own entrusting heart to the Dharma, guiding others to the same path."

In a similar fashion, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii must embrace the vision to transform into a 21st Century internationally minded spiritual organization. A Kyodan which is more in sync with today's world and times so that it can better meet the needs of all members and the society-at-large, and interactively with innovation, offer the message of Amida Buddha's All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion to all people, all life, and all existence. For this purpose, various Hawaii Kyodan Committees have been challenged with various tasks to bring about a transformation, but the greatest shift or change which must take



place, first and foremost, is the one that occurs in each of our minds.

As Jodo Shin Buddhists, let us respond to Amida Buddha's Unconditional Compassion by reciting the Nembutsu of Awareness, Joy, and Gratitude, and also endeavor in gratitude to foster a more peaceful and harmonious world beginning with my own self and our own Kyodan/Sangha. Our limitations as bonbu are evident, but may we aspire to be that Kyodan/Sangha that the Dharma describes, and makes the Buddha smile in acknowledgement of our efforts to try to be better. Again, in response to Buddha's benevolence, I, together with our State President Mr. Pieper Toyama, humbly ask for your support and cooperation. May we all go to the Buddha Dharma for guidance! Entrusting in the Buddha of Immeasurable Life and Infinite Light.

In Gassho/Anjali,

Bishop Eric Matsumoto,
Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii



Betsuin Girl Scouts

Honpa Hongwanji Girl Scouts Turkey Trot Volunteers

Girl Scout, Madison Imoto



On November 26th, the Honpa Hongwanji Girl Scouts volunteered to pass out water at the 40th Annual Honolulu Marathon Clinic Turkey Trot. The purpose of this event was to allow the runners to learn to pace themselves and to prepare for the Honolulu Marathon. Additionally, this popular 10-mile race awarded prizes to those who finished closest to their predicted times.

Waking up early to be at Triangle

Park and Kapiolani Park was worth it because it was really inspiring to see all these people come out on Thanksgiving morning to meet their time goals. The money we earned from this event will go towards camp activities and also to purchase camp shirts that will be designed by the Girl Scouts.



Temple Clean Up

Joyce Tamamoto



On November 22, our scouts gathered at our temple bright and early for the annual Temple Cleanup. With their buckets and cloths in tow. Those heavy-duty buckets even looked much larger than some of our Daisy Scouts (K & 1st graders). They joined fellow scouts, family and temple members cleaning the walls and windows of the annex and social hall. This was another successful event to help the sponsor of our Scouting program.





BOY SCOUT TROOP 49

Jacen Kimura's Eagle Scout Service Project

Stacey Kimura

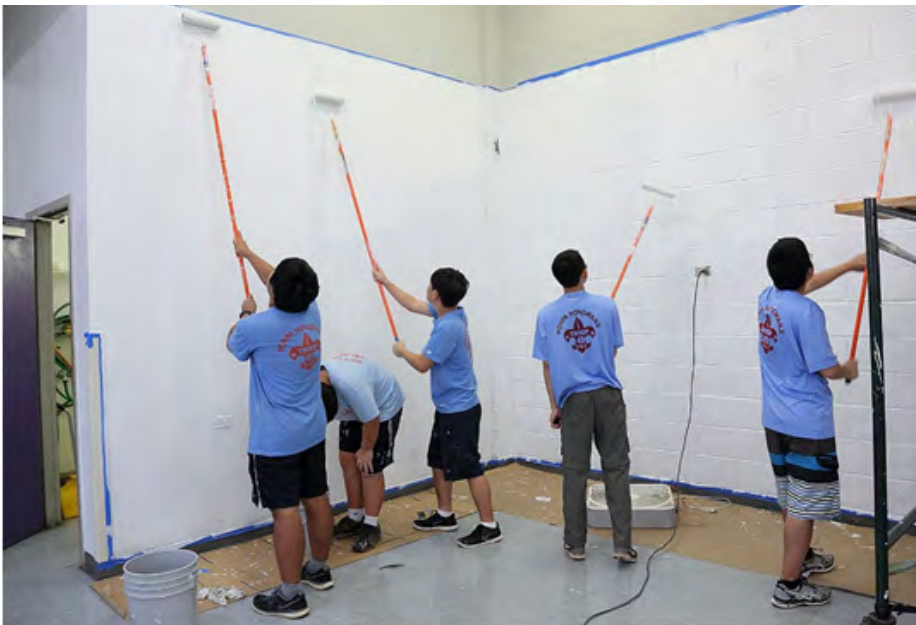
My son, Jacen Kimura, just completed his Eagle Scout Service Project on November 14th at the Hongwanji Mission School Gym. He was very fortunate to have 74 volunteers to help him install 40 acoustical panels in the gym and repaint the gym doors, gym entrance and some of the downstairs doors. The volunteers also added hook hangars in the locker rooms and repainted the safety poles just outside the gym as well as a portion of the interior wall in the gym. Deron Matsuoka from Albert C. Kobayashi, Inc. served as his project coach, Gary McAuliffe from D.L. Adams Associates was his Acoustical Consultant, Amado Sanchez from Group Builders, Inc. donated the acoustical panels, Tusi Tupuola from Painter's Warehouse donated the paint and Jon Morishige from KYM Bento Sushi, and Catering donated lunch for the volunteers. In addition, many of the Troop families donated various tools, supplies and food. A total of about 470 service hours was logged for his project.

The amount of support was truly amazing. Jacen's journey in scouting, like many of the other Troop 49 Scouts, started when he was just 6 years old. He joined Pack 49 as a Tiger Scout and transitioned to Troop 49 when he was 10 years old. My husband and I are so grateful that the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin continues to be the Charter Organization for the Pack and the Troop. As I look back, the value of the man-hours that the adult leaders have spent with Jacen and the other Scouts at their weekly meetings, weekend camps, summer camps and service projects is truly priceless. The trail to the Eagle is not always a nicely paved road and Jacen did meet up with a few obstacles along the way including the fear of the unknown as he transitioned from a Cub Scout to a Boy Scout and tried to balance Scouting with school and sports. We were very fortunate that the adult leaders were able to guide him and



that they gave him the opportunity to grow and mature with the spirit of Scouting in a positive manner. Although he is just a Junior in high school, the self-confidence and the leadership skills that he has gained in this journey will definitely help him in his future.

Thank you current leaders - Scoutmaster, Mark Merriam, and Assistant Scoutmasters Russell Leong, Albert Wong, Keith Kadomoto, Brian Nakagawa, Alan Kubota, Jeff Tomori, Chris Kam, Kurt Kunimune, Eric Ebesu, Lee Ideoka, Dustin Iwasaki, Patrick Lau, Kapena Lum, Trenton Omuro, Wade Shimoda, Scott Sumi, Delbert Tatsuyama and John Zalewski for your continued support of the Boy Scouts of Troop 49.



Hongwanji Radio Programs

JANUARY 2016

KZOO 1210 AM

**Japanese Language
Saturday at 7:30 AM**

- 2 Gomonshu Kojun Ohtani and
Bishop Eric Matsumoto
- 9 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka
- 16 Rev. Hiromi Kawaji
- 23 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
- 30 Rimban Toyokazu Hagio

Betsuin Services

Asaji Service 8 am

- 03 Rev. Toyokazu Hagio
- 10 Hoonko Service
Bishop Eric Matsumoto
- 17 Rev. Joshin Kamuro
- 24 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
- 31 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka

1/1/16 10:00 am

(New Year's Day)

Japanese: Rev. Toyokazu Hagio
English: Bishop Eric Matsumoto

Adult English Services

10:00 AM

- 03 Rev. Arthur Kaufmann
- 10 Hoonko Joint Service
at 9:30am**
- Bishop Eric Matsumoto**
- 17 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka
- 24 Rev. Toyokazu Hagio

Dharma School

9:00 AM

- 03 No Dharma School
- 10 Hoonko Joint Service
at 9:30am**
- Bishop Eric Matsumoto**
- 17 Rev. Arthur Kaufmann
- 24 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
- 31 Dharma School Teacher

In Memoriam



NOVEMBER 2015

The Hawai'i Betsuin extends its deepest sympathy to the families of the following members who recently passed away. May the family members find solace and comfort in the Nembutsu. Namu Amida Butsu

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 3 KUBOTA, George Tadayoshi (97) | 13 YOSHIMURA, Elbert H. (78) |
| 3 TAIRA, Lillian Ayako (91) | 14 KAGAWA, Paul Masato (84) |
| 4 HAYASHIKAWA, Haruyo (92) | 19 IKAWA, Herbert Kenichi (76) |
| 6 MIYASHIRO, Dennis Mitsuo (69) | 20 HIGASHI, Jill Kazue (61) |
| 6 OSHIRO, Scott Shoji (30) | 20 KAWAGUCHI, Aiko (100) |
| 6 TANI, Tomoe Arakawa (85) | 24 EKIMURA, Chisato (Mr.) (97) |
| 7 FUKUNAGA, Ruth Sueko (81) | 25 NISHIOKA, Richard Teruo (83) |
| 10 MIYASHITA, Janet Sachie (83) | 27 OKADA, Fred Masaji (97) |
| | 28 YOSHIMOTO, Lawrence Keiichi (85) |

2016 Memorial Service Schedule

2016 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

2015 – 1 year	2004 – 13 year	1984 – 33 year
2014 – 3 year	2000 – 17 year	1967 – 50 year
2010 – 7 year	1992 – 25 year	1917 – 100 year

Nursing Home Services

- 07 Hale Nani – Rev. Kaufmann
- Hale Ho Aloha – Rev. Hasebe
- 08 Hale Pulama Mau - Rev. Tomioka
- 14 Maluhia – Rev. Hagio
- Liliha – Rev. Kamuro
- 22 Leahi – Rev. Hasebe
- 24 Nuuanu Hale – Rev. Tomioka



The great practice is to say the Name of the Tathagata of un-hindered light. This practice, comprehensively encompassing all practices, is perfect and most rapid in bringing them to fullness. For this reason, it is called "great practice." Saying the Name then breaks through all the ignorance of sentient beings and readily brings all their aspirations to fulfillment. Saying the Name is in itself mindfulness; mindfulness is nembutsu; nembutsu is Namu-amida-buttsu.

-Shinran Shonin