



1727 Pali Highway  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

# GOJI

Vol. 75 No.5



MAY 2020  
NEWSLETTER

of the  
Honpa Hongwanji  
Hawaii Betsuin  
hawaiibetsuin.org

2020 Slogan:  
Building  
Healthy Sanghas:  
Embracing Generosity  
and Openness

BETSUIN  
MINISTERS

Chief Minister  
Rev. Toyokazu Hagio

Ministerial Staff  
Rev. Yuika Hasebe  
Rev. Sol Kalu  
Rev. Shingo Furusawa  
Rev. Masanari Yamagishi

## Welcome Our New Minister, Rev. Masanari Yamagishi

Hawaii Betsuin has a new associate minister! Reverend Masanari Yamagishi, most recently the resident minister of Buddhist Church of Lodi in California, has just begun a four-month assignment at Hawaii Betsuin

Reverend Yamagishi's home town is Takaoka, Japan, a coastal city of Toyama Prefecture on Honshu Island. He is the third son in a temple family (no sisters), and his eldest brother now serves as head minister of the home temple. "Yamagishi" literally means mountain seashore — fitting for Takaoka and Hawaii both, where mountains meet the sea!



After receiving Tokudo ordination at age 18, Rev. Yamagishi enrolled in Ryukoku University, graduating in 2001. For a time after graduation, he worked in Japan at a company that provides benefits for public school teachers. He then joined Hon

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## BWA Sewing Masks for Our Community

Members of the Betsuin BWA have been busy sewing masks for various health and caregiving organizations in the Honolulu area. By this time, it's likely that the BWA crew has donated over 1,000 masks and will continue to sew until the crisis is over! This collage of the our mask-making activities was made by Ruth Tokumi!



## President's Message from Dexter Mar

### Building Healthy Sanghas – Resilience

In 1889, just as the first Hongwanji minister arrived in the Sandwich Isles, an influenza pandemic began in Central Asia. In 1900, just as the newly built Hongwanji Honolulu temple was about to open, a bubonic plague outbreak led to the Great Honolulu Chinatown Fire and the emergency use of the new temple as a temporary shelter. In 1918, just after the grand opening of the stunningly beautiful Pali Highway Betsuin temple, the epic Spanish flu pandemic began. In 1956, two years after Betsuin's major main building expansion, the Asian flu pandemic started. Today, we again face a deadly virus and again we will recover

and live gratefully as we have for 130 years.

We often hear folks say "I can't believe it! I've never seen it this bad!" Historically, most events HAVE happened before, it's just that some haven't remembered and learned the lessons of past events.

Those who learn the lessons, act diligently, and survive, will recover and move on with our precious lives. Your Betsuin Board leadership has continued business and spiritual operations. We are paying our bills and payroll, with-

out interruptions or layoffs. We are applying for federal support funds and working on recovery options for postponed/cancelled fundraising events. The Hongwanji Mission School continues via a "remote learning" program.



We are confident that the Betsuin will end the year on budget and back in full operation.

Please stay well, stay safe and until we meet again. Namo Amida Butsu!

## Staying Connected While Staying Home

Here are a few ways to stay connected to Hawaii Betsuin and the dharma in the time of coronavirus.

- **By phone or email.** Phone numbers and email addresses for the ministers, temple office, and executive director were included in a recent letter to the Betsuin ohana. The temple office may be reached at (808) 536-7044 or [office@hawaiiibetsuin.org](mailto:office@hawaiiibetsuin.org).
- **Communications preferences survey.** The same mailing included a form for you to fill out and return. You may also fill it out at [bit.ly/hhnb-contact](http://bit.ly/hhnb-contact).
- **Online Sunday Services** by the State Ministers Association. Visit the HHMH YouTube Channel, [youtube.com/honpahongwanjimissionofhawaii](https://youtube.com/honpahongwanjimissionofhawaii) for Sunday 10 a.m. premieres, plus past services on demand.
- **The Betsuin website.** Visit [hawaiiibetsuin.org](http://hawaiiibetsuin.org) for occasional updates, audio dharma talks (Dharma menu), and short messages from our ministers.
- **The Friday "Betsuin Bulletin" email.** Sign up at [hawaiiibetsuin.org/email-signup](http://hawaiiibetsuin.org/email-signup) or on the communications preferences survey. - David Atcheson



# 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 10th of the month prior to publication by e-mail ([execdir@hawaiiibetsuin.org](mailto:execdir@hawaiiibetsuin.org)), mail (1727 Pali Hwy, Honolulu, HI, 96813) or fax (536-0919). Address submissions to the **GOJI**. Please include your name and contact information. Original images should be labeled on the reverse side with caption and return information.

#### GOJI STAFF:

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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.



## Let's Stay In Touch!

Phone: (808) 536-7044

Email: [execdir@hawaiiibetsuin.org](mailto:execdir@hawaiiibetsuin.org)

Internet: [hawaiiibetsuin.org](http://hawaiiibetsuin.org)

Face Book and YouTube



## BWA News and Events

**NO ACTIVITIES FOR BWA IN MAY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.** Mother's Day, Sunday May 10; Shinran Shonin's Hoonko (birthday) service usually held on May 16 -17; Memorial Day, Monday, May 25. BWA activities are suspended, as are all Betsuin services, activities, and programs due to ongoing Covid -19 health concerns.

**WHY DON'T YOU MAKE A GARDEN?** For the Garden of your daily living, do this: **PLANT THREE ROWS OF PEAS:** 1) Peace of mind 2) Peace of heart 3) Peace of soul. **PLANT YOUR ROWS OF SQUASH:** 1) Squash gossip 2) Squash

**HUMOR TO HELP YOU WITH YOUR ENGLISH:** Today's lesson is on SIMILES. Simile is a comparison of two different things often using connected words as like or as. Similes are often used in poetry. Let us look at the word MEN. 1) Men are like blenders---you need one but you're never sure why. 2) Men are like high heels---easy to walk on once you get the hang of it. 3) Men are like horoscopes, astrological forecast---they always tell you what to do and they are always wrong. 4) Men's brains are like the prison system---not enough cells. 5) Men are like lava lamps---fun to look at, but not very bright. 6) Men are like linoleum---lay them right once and you can walk all over them for the next 20 years. 7) Men are like commercials---you can't believe a word they say, and 8) Men are like Government bonds---they take so long to mature. I hope you learned your lesson on similes.

## Welcome Continued From Page 1

gwanji's International Ministers Orientation Program (IMOP), a three-month program that includes three months in Berkeley, CA at the Jodo Shinshu Center. Yamagishi-sensei's assignment to Buddhist Church of Lodi as resident minister began in 2018. His responsibilities also included supervising Walnut Grove Buddhist Church.

When asked about his hobbies, Yamagishi-sensei said "I love watching horse racing," noting that he also likes riding horses and would like to ride in Hawaii. His other interests

## Fujiko Motobu

indifference 3) Squash grumbling 4) Squash selfishness. **PLANT FOUR ROWS OF LETTUCE** 1) Lettuce be faithful 2) Lettuce be kind 3) Lettuce be gallant 4) Lettuce really love one another. **NO GARDEN IS WITHOUT TURNIPS** 1) Turnip for meetings 2) Turnip for service 3) Turnip to help one another. **TO CONCLUDE OUR GARDEN, WE MUST HAVE THYME** 1) Thyme for each other 2) Thyme for family 3) Thyme for friends. **WATER FREELY WITH PATIENCE AND CULTIVATE WITH LOVE. THERE IS MUCH FRUIT IN YOUR GARDEN BECAUSE YOU REAP WHAT YOU SOW.**

## Assistance Available: A Few Key Resources

With the array of challenges that come with a pandemic and related stay-at-home orders, you may find the following "one stop shopping" community resources helpful.

- **Information:** For coronavirus-related updates about Hawaii Betsuin with links to updates from Hongwanji HQ and government agencies, visit [hawaiibetsuin.org/covid19](http://hawaiibetsuin.org/covid19).
- **Food resources:** Hawaii's Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) has compiled an extensive list of food resources (food banks, food delivery services, farm link programs) organized by county. Find the "Hawaii Food Resources" PDF file linked prominently at [hawaiiadrc.org](http://hawaiiadrc.org). Or call the ADRC at (808) 643-2372.
- **211 hotline:** Aloha United Way 211 is "Hawaii's only comprehensive, statewide community information and referral service." For personalized help connecting to services or getting answers to your questions about COVID-19, you can call 211, email [info211@auw.org](mailto:info211@auw.org), text (877) 275-6569. There's even an online chat option and searchable database at [auw211.org](http://auw211.org).

David Atcheson



include snorkeling, reading books, and watching movies.

As a Shin minister in Hawaii, Rev. Yamagishi hopes to communicate well with many members, considering it "one of the most important responsibilities as a minister." He would like to give the best dharma talks he can.

If you would like to reach out to Rev. Yamagishi, he would welcome your communication. He may be reached by email at [myamagishi@honpahi.org](mailto:myamagishi@honpahi.org).

## Be Safe! Wash Your Hands!



## Radio Programs MAY 2020

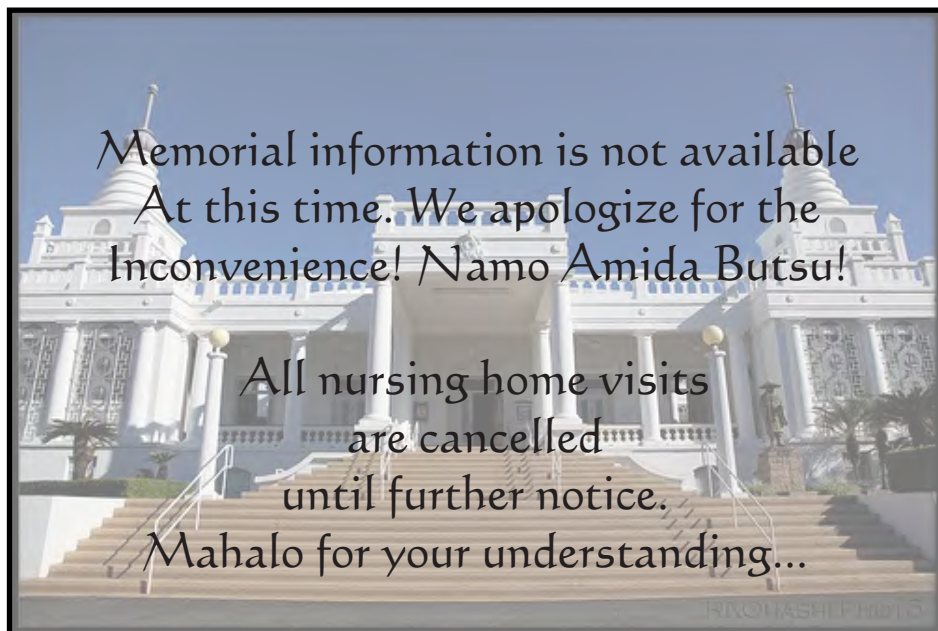
**KZOO 1210 AM**  
**Japanese Language**  
**Saturday at 7:30 AM**

02 Rev. Shawn Yagi  
09 Rev. Daido Baba  
16 Rev. Tomo Hojo  
23 Rev. Ryoso Toshima  
30 Rimban Toyokazu Hagio

All Betsuin  
services and  
activities at the  
temple are  
**CANCELLED**  
**UNTIL**  
**MAY 15, 2020!**

The 10 am  
English-language services  
are primiered on YouTube  
10 am Sunday mornings.

Go to the website  
**[hawaiiibetsuin.org](http://hawaiiibetsuin.org)**  
for a link



## Recipe from the BWA

RECIPE: TUNA TOFU BAKE (from the kitchen of Irene Ida)

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| 20 oz. firm tofu, drained                                  | ½ cup mayonnaise |
| 1 can water packed tuna, drained                           | 2 eggs, beaten   |
| ½ cup water chestnuts, chopped                             | 2 T. shoyu       |
| ¾ cup green onion  | 1 tsp. sugar     |
| ½ cup carrots, grated                                      | ½ tsp. salt      |
|  | parsley          |
| 1-4 oz. can mushrooms (stems and pieces) or 4 oz. shiitake |                  |

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Combine ingredients and put into 8x8 baking pan. Bake for 35 minutes. Garnish with parsley.

### 2020 Memorial Service Schedule

2020 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

|                |                 |                  |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 2019: 1st year | 2008: 13th year | 1988: 33th year  |
| 2018: 3rd year | 2004: 17th year | 1971: 50th year  |
| 2014: 7th year | 1996: 25th year | 1921: 100th year |



The great practice is to say the Name of the Tathagata of unhindered 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 Namo-amida-butsu.

-Shinran Shonin