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Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

GOJI

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APRIL 2022
NEWSLETTER
of the
Honpa Hongwanji
Hawaii Betsuin
hawaiibetsuin.org

2022 Slogan:

“Building Healthy
Sanghas: Connecting
with Others”

BETSUIN
MINISTERS

Chief Minister
Rev. Tatsuo Muneto

Fuku-Rimban
Rev. Yuika Hasebe

Ministerial Staff
Rev. Sol Kalu
Rev. Shingo Furusawa

HBC Hanamatsuri Scheduled for April 3; Hawaii Betsuin to Observe on April 10

Buddha Day or Hanamatsuri, a special day observed in countries predominantly Buddhist or with large Buddhist followers is the day the historical Buddha Siddhartha Gautama was born in Lumbini Garden, in ancient Nepal, around 2,500 years ago. Known as Kanbutsu-e or Hanamatsuri in Japan, the holiday is observed by pouring sweet tea on small statues of the baby Buddha decorated with flowers to symbolize the sweet rain that was said to have fallen on the day the Buddha was born. It is a celebration of the Buddha's birthday and also a time to reflect on his teachings and what it means to be Buddhist.



Hawaii Buddhist Council will observe Buddha Day Hanamatsuri and Memorial Service for the victims of COVID-19 on April 3, 2022 at 9:30am via Zoom. The speaker for the service will be Dr. Glenda Nogami Streufert, former manager of the Kauai Civil Defense Agency. The theme is: “Adapting & Responding to Uncertain Situations - Interaction with Others.” There will be no regular 9:00am and 10:00am services for that day.

Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin will observe its own Buddha Day/ Hanamatsuri Service on Sunday, April 10, 2022 at 9:30am via zoom. The guest speaker for this service will be Ms. Nannette Ganotisi, MAEd, NBCT, minister's lay assistant of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin. The title of the Dharma message is: “Buddha Day 2022,” the historical birth of the founder of Buddhism, Siddhartha Gautama, in Lumbini Garden.



Ms. Nannette Ganotisi has been teaching with the Hawaii Department of Education since 2003. She was also a 5th Grade teacher at Hongwanji Mission School in 2001 and has been married to Mr. Joel Ganotisi since 2001. She belongs to a loving family that enjoys spending time together on fun family adventures such as going to the beach and traveling.

Dharma Message: GASSHO: "Oneness with Amida"

There is one thing that we miss at our Online Sunday English Service at the temple. It is to join our palms together in Gassho in front of the beautiful 350-year-old statue of Amida Buddha in the altar. I look forward to the time when the members can gather for Sunday services in person to appreciate the simple act of doing Gassho.

In Jodo Shinshu, Gassho represents our spiritual oneness with the boundless compassion of Amida Buddha. It is not to ask the Buddha to direct the virtue of compassion to liberate each of us, an imperfect being, from the suffering and pain of everyday living.



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 (goji@hawaiibetsuin.org), mail (1727 Pali Hwy, Honolulu, HI, 96813) or fax (808-536-0919). 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:

Editorial: Jo desMarets; Dianne Ida, Randy Kawamoto, Rev. Shingo Furusawa, Japanese section editor Production: Colleen Kunishige, David Atcheson; Circulation: Colleen Kunishige, Elmer Cagoan; Contributing reporters from Hongwanji Mission School, Buddhist Women's Association, Dharma School & Parents, Project Dana, Wednesday Gang and Gals, Green Team, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Pacific Buddhist Academy, Betsuin Board and Social Concerns, and the Kyodan.

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

In a YouTube video, Rev. Ken Yamada of Berkely Higashi Hongwanji says that Gassho signifies interconnectedness and union of opposites. He states:

"We place together our right and left hand, which are opposite. It represents as well, you and me, light and darkness, ignorance and wisdom, life and death...."

Then, we can say that the right palm signifies the great compassion of Amida Buddha and the left palm stands for each of us. When the two palms are joined together, our realization is that our lives have been completely embraced by Amida. The term Gassho then means "Oneness with Amida." This temple etiquette of Gassho, in Jodo Shinshu, is followed by a spontaneous saying of the Name of Amida, "Namo-amida-butsu" several times.

The Larger Sutra states that when Amida Buddha was in the rank of Bodhisattva called Dharmakara, he saw numerous sufferings and sorrows among people in his country. He made vows to liberate all from sufferings. After many years of contemplation and practices, the vows were fulfilled.

One of those vows was to become the Name, "Namo-amida-butsu" and the Name would resound around the whole universe. This vow was fulfilled by Dharmakara, and he became Amida, the Buddha of Infinite Light and Immeasurable Life. Ever since that time, Amida has been calling us through the Name, "Namo-amida-butsu" from the Pure Land.

Our saying of the Name-that-calls testifies that each of us has heard and acknowledged Amida's vow and

Rev. Tatsuo Muneto

it became the entrusting heart (shinjin). Thus, a saying of "Namo-amida-butsu" expresses our deep gratitude to Amida for the great compassion fulfilled, and it appears through our lips while bowing gently.



This profound meaning of Gassho is sung in the beautiful Gatha entitled With These Hands written by Mieko Takamiya of Lihue Hongwanji more than 50 years ago. While she was doing the dishes one evening, she realized that her hands are constantly used for various acts. Then Mieko remembered that these hands are joined together in Jodo Shin services at temples and homes in thanksgiving, our oneness with Amida.

I close my Dharma message, quoting the two verses of "With These Hands":

"With these hands just a part of me, I work and play and feel. These hands are busy as can be, yet sometimes they are still. In Gassho, trustingly, to say I'm one with Amida.

These hands oft raised in hate and rage, are awful sights indeed. Yet these hands held out encourage and comfort those in need. These hands humbly joined together, say "Thank you Amida."

Namo-amida-butsu,
Namo-amida-butsu.....

Message from the Executive Director, Jon Matsuoka



Having been at this position for only a brief period I am still getting the hang of things. I am extremely grateful to staff and board members for taking time to orient me to Betsuin's culture and the responsibilities to be assumed. They have been incredibly gracious and patient. The consistent message I have received is that change is needed at the Betsuin. At the very least something needs to be done to counter the gradual decline in membership. This is definitely not a novel concern. In a 2008 manuscript on the future of Buddhism in Hawai'i, former Bishop Yosemori stated serious concerns about the dwindling significance of not only Betsuin but the Honpa Hongwanji across the islands. He expressed an urgent need to draw in younger people to sustain congregations. I believe recruiting youth is one of two ways to restore viability. Another way is through public relations and outreach to Hawai'i's diverse communities. Heretofore, the Betsuin has primarily been a Japanese American institution. Over time demographics shifted as people aged and children moved away. Economic changes meant younger generations who stayed in Hawai'i were more focused on earning a living wage and chose to spend precious spare time in activities outside the temple. The challenge to draw in younger generations and diversify membership is huge but certainly achievable. And it can be done while honoring the legacy of those who came before. People today are searching for spiritual grounding and Buddhism offers a relevant and comprehensible way to navigate through the tangle of today's world. It is on us to be open-minded and creative in order to ensure that our prescriptions for peace and good living exist well into the future.

Aloha,
Jon K. Matsuoka

Thoughts On Peace and Being Peaceful

The problems of this world are so gigantic that some are paralyzed by their own uncertainty. Courage and wisdom are needed to reach out above this sense of helplessness. Desire for vengeance against deeds of hatred offers no solution. An eye for an eye makes the world blind. If we wish to choose the other path, we will have to search for ways to break the spiral of animosity. To fight evil one must also recognize one's own responsibility. The values for which we stand must be expressed in the way we think of, and how we deal with, our fellow humans.

Beatrix, Queen of the Netherlands

In-person Sunday Services Welcome Back Starting April 10!

Are you ready to return to temple for Sunday services?? The Hawaii Betsuin Buddha Day Services on April 10 (Japanese language at 8 a.m. and family English-language service at 9:30 a.m.) have been selected as our reopening services. The 9:30 a.m. service will also be presented via Zoom, so joining remotely is still an option.

Other special services coming up include 4/17 Earth Day Service and 5/8 Mother's Day and Eshinni & Kakushinni Day Service. The plan is for these to be "hybrid" (in-person and via Zoom) as well.

Please note that for now we are maintaining an indoor masking requirement. We continue to provide convenient hand sanitizing stations and encourage their use. Please also note we are not starting up refreshments in the Social Hall just yet. Your feedback is welcome as we once again reopen step by step!

While not required, for these early reopening services, we welcome your RSVP to office@hawaiibetsuin.org or (808) 536-7044 so we have a better sense of how many attendees to expect.

Some (most?) of you may be wondering about Bon Dance this year. What we can say is that plans are taking shape for an in-person Bon Dance on the evenings of June 24 and 25. The hours and the food may be scaled back from a typical pre-COVID Bon Dance, but we suggest preparing your yukata and Bon Dance towels! (By the way, we have plenty Bon Dance towels for sale in the Betsuin office.) - Betsuin Office Staff

BWA News and Events

BWA – Events and Activities

April 2. Sat. Hosha: light housekeeping in the Hondo.

Thank you to our volunteers.

April 9, Sat. Hanamido decoration: Thank you to our volunteers.

April 13, Wed. Family Promise of Hawaii Ohana Meals:

Thank you to our volunteers.

April 17, Sun. General Membership Meeting #2, 11: 30 a.m.

Meet Jon Matsuoka, Hawaii Betsuin's New Executive Director.
Business Meeting.

April 23 & 24, Sat & Sun. State BWA Conference on Zoom:

Friendly reminder to those who registered.

May 7, Sat. Hosha: light housekeeping in the Hondo, 8:30 a.m.

Help needed.

May 8, Sun., 9:30 a.m. Eshinni/Kakushinni Day and Mother's Day:

Combined, hybrid Sunday service with Dharma School.

Speaker, Charlene Kihara;

Collection for Betsuin youth organizations

Thank you for renewing your membership!

BWA MEMBERS WAY OF LIFE: Our members are truly dedicated Jodo Shinshu followers and they are very dedicated people. One of my friends told me her experience and it was interesting so I suggested that she share it with all of you. Luckily she agreed, so here goes.

FROM A MEMBER: "One day I noticed that there was a tiny black pimple on my belly, about three inches away from my navel. I decided to squeeze it out and tried squeezing it, but no matter how hard I tried nothing came out. It was irritating so I decided to go and see a doctor and went to a clinic near my home. At the clinic a young doctor tried to squeeze it but to no avail, even his touch didn't move the pimple. He gave me some medication to apply on the pimple as well as some capsules to take internally. I followed his instructions but nothing happened, so I decided to

go and see my dermatologist, and made an appointment to see him.

"The dermatologist looked at my pimple stomach and gave me two alternatives. One was that he could squeeze the pimple out for now

Fujiko Motobu

and that it may return later. The second choice was that he could remove the fat surrounding the root of the pimple through surgery. By removing the fat, there was no after effect of the pimple returning again. I opted for the surgery. It was truly a samurai's 'Hara Kiri.' It was for me to 'Seppuku' for my 'Hara Kiri.' Do you understand the historic replica of this event that I had to go through in my mind?



"It was not an easy decision, but I did not want the pimple back. Fortunately, I made the right decision, for now my belly is free. It is a place only for my navel or 'Hayso,' but not for you to see. NAMO AMIDA BUTSU." The end.

Thank you for the nice personal story. You may remain anonymous. You are a brave Samurai.

continued on page 5



Eshinni



Kakushinni

Eshinni / Kakushinni Day Mother's Day service Sunday May 8

Combined service with Dharma School
via Zoom and in-person

starting at 9:30 a.m.

Please mark your calendar!

Collection for Betsuin Youth Services
(Donations may, also, be made on line)

BWA continued from page 4

KNOWLEDGE IN BUDDHISM:

Did you know that the statues of the Buddha are not there to be worshipped? They are symbols of enlightenment. They represent the highest ideals of perfect wisdom and compassion.

The incense distributes its sweet smell, transcending its shape and color. This symbolizes the transcending of our ego or selfishness to unite with all others.

The flowers symbolize impermanence, they are beautiful in the morning, but fade in the heat of the day. All things change, as well as life itself, and therefore we should be fully appreciated in this eternal now. The candlelight symbolizes wisdom, the light through which we understand

truth. For Buddhists, wisdom is realized through direct experience only.

Gassho means to put our hands together in front of our heart, which symbolizes the unity of one with the Buddha, and is the highest form of respect. The beads of the nenju (ojuzu) are not prayer beads but a symbol of harmony and unity. This is when you unite with Buddha by putting your hands together and reciting, Namo Amida Butsu. Buddhism emphasizes the following: Truth, Meditation, Enlightenment and Universal Life, rather than Prayer, Salvation, individual soul or God. Buddha is our teacher and Heaven and Hell are conditions created by us here on earth now, and not places that

we go after death. By reciting the Nembutsu we will all go to Nirvana immediately upon death.

NOW FOR SOME HUMOR: A story about an 84-year-old woman. The local news station was interviewing an 84 year old woman who had just gotten married, for the fourth time. The interviewer asked her questions about her marrying again at 84, and then about her new husband, and what he did. "He's a funeral director," she said.

"Interesting," the newsman thought and then asked her if she wouldn't mind telling about her former husbands and what they did for a living. She paused for a few moments. After a short time, a smile came to her face and explained that she first married a banker when she was in her 20's, then a circus ringmaster when she was in her 40's, later on to a preacher, and now at age 84, to a funeral director.

The interviewer looked at her, quite astonished, married four men with such diverse careers.

"Easy, son," she smiled. "I married one for the money, two for the show, three to get ready, and four to go!" Women, no matter how old they are, they have brains to think up interesting things. Right??

Membership Renewal Letters Go Out

Hawaii Betsuin mailed out membership renewal letters for 2022 in mid-March. Your membership dues are an important source of income for the temple in addition to conferring privileges and benefits. If you have not already renewed for 2022, we invite you to do so soon. Thank you!

For Goji readers who did not receive a letter but would like to join or renew, please visit hawaiihetsuin.org/membership and use the provided form, or fill out a form at our business office. Or simply:

1. Choose the appropriate membership type.
 - Family - \$400 (Two adult members plus dependent children under 18)
 - Individual - \$200
 - Youth Individual - \$50 (for those under 30 years old; Goji by email)
 - Youth Family - \$100 (if both primary members are under 30; includes dependent children; Goji by email)
2. On a piece of paper, indicate membership type and provide primary member names, address, phone number(s), and email addresses (if available).
3. Return the information with a check made out to "HHHB" to: Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, 1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813. Mahalo!

Headquarters Connections

'Headquarters Updates' and 'Ka Leo Kāhea' (The Calling Voice) newsletters are available at [News & Announcements – Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii](#)

What's the Buddhist Role of Interdependence in Hunger?

By Bishop Eric Matsumoto



On December 11, 2021, the Bay Area Buddhist Association sponsored a panel on Buddhism and United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (UN-SDG) #2, Zero Hunger. Following the main speaker, Venerable Dr. Bikkhu Bodhi, panelists included Rev. Konjin Godwin, Rev. Noriaki Ito, and Bishop Eric Matsumoto.

As identified by 193 countries, the 17 UN-SDGs envision a society in which no one is left behind. These 17 goals include poverty and hunger, inequality, environmental conservation, and the realization of a peaceful society. As Bishop says, "It is an opportune time, as Honzan (Headquarters in Kyoto) is also emphasizing the United Nations SDGs."

Sharing his thoughts as a panelist, Bishop observed that Buddhist teachings of interdependence allow us to see issues as interrelated and interconnected, so we need to look at causes of hunger, not merely symptoms of being hungry. For example, "Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man how to fish and you feed him for a lifetime" makes this point.

We must also consider "hidden hunger," the lack of proper nutrition that includes fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as the quantity of food. In fact, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii helps to support a certain farm with periodic Social Concerns Committee donations. We also support food banks throughout the Islands, and many of our temples, organizations, and affiliates have food programs and participate with other community organizations in helping those in need.



Another way to approach Zero Hunger is perhaps found in the Japanese word "mottainai," which popularly means "not to waste." We must reduce food waste because it is "mottainai" to waste precious food. More deeply, consider that nothing can strictly be called ours. What we receive comes to us due to a combination of causes and conditions, is ours only temporarily, and therefore must not be used selfishly or for unworthy purposes.

Finally, we must begin now. Action takes time to make an impact. We must transition from self-centered thinking to more inclusive concerns for others. We must go beyond even our human-centered thinking to a global perspective. One priority is the education of younger generations. People are a problem, but people are also the solution! Let us be guided by Buddhist concepts and perspectives based on Enlightened Wisdom and Compassion. In gassho.

*Compiled from Ka Leo Kāhea, second edition, by Hawaii Betsuin Board member Steve Lohse.
For Bishop's complete remarks, see [News & Announcements - Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii](#).*



Open Invitation to All...

“Connecting With Others”

2022
Hongwanji
Slogan

**State Dharma School Gathering
Sunday, May 1, 2022**



A Commission on Buddhist Education (CBE) Project of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

9:30 AM: Service –
*Dharma Message by Rev.
David Fujimoto of Mililani
Hongwanji Mission*

10:00 AM: Breakout
Rooms
*DS Sessions: Jr. YBA
Moderators
Adult Session: Rev. David
Fujimoto – “The Pale Blue
Dot” discussion*

10:50 AM: DS
Families/Adult Sessions
End

11:00 AM: DS
Teachers/Educators
Gathering Session Begins

12:00 PM: End



RSVP Deadline is April 16.
Click on the following link to
register:

<http://honpahi.link/ds050122>

Any Questions?

Contact: **Debbie Kubota**
at dekub88@gmail.com

Gathering Zoom Link will
be emailed to participants
by Friday, **April 29**.

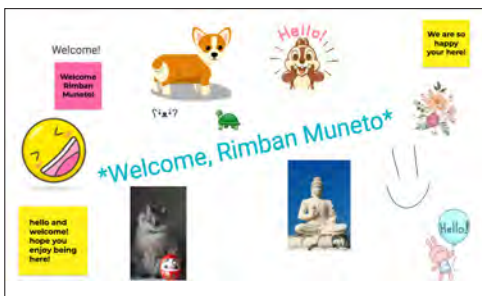
Dharma School News

Debbie Kubota



Hawaii Betsuin Virtual services and Dharma School activities are held on Sundays at 9:00 am via Zoom. All Honolulu Dharma School families are always invited to attend. We have had participants from Hawaii Betsuin and Jikoen Hongwanji in attendance on a regular basis.

Dharma School students from Hawaii Betsuin and Jikoen Hongwanji have stepped up to emcee our services and read aspirations. Many thanks to Hawaii Betsuin students Kainoa and Kenji Brennan, Keiden and Naya Furuyama, Shaun and Kendrick Inake; and Jikoen Hongwanji students Reina and Serene Ogata.



On February 13th, Reverend Sol Kalu's message was about Valentine's Day and for our Dharma School activity we played Valentine's Day Bingo, with a few very happy winners.

On February 20th, Rimban Tatsuo Muneto gave a very nice Dharma School message, sharing about himself and growing up in Hiroshima. He shared an experience in which someone who used to bully him ended up saving his life when he was in the water and could not get to safety on his own. It was the perfect story of interdependence and interconnectedness. For our Dharma School activity, our students decorated white boards to welcome the Rimban back to the Hawaii Betsuin.

On February 27th, Debbie Kubota was the Dharma speaker and shared a video about the life of Amida Buddha. For our Dharma School activity, we gave the families the Do-It-Yourself Home Altar Kits which are available at the Kyodan Bookstore. Everyone decorated their altars together during our session. It was great to see all the creativity!

On March 6, Reverend Yuika Hasebe talked about the Golden Chain of Love. She shared that a true friend will always be there. Since it can be very difficult to find a friend, she recommended that we should try to be a friend. For our Dharma School activity, we shared a read-aloud book, "Whoever You Are," by Mem Fox. Our students shared their thoughts about how we are all connected and how we are all the same.

Virtual Statewide Dharma School Gathering on Sunday, May 1

Please join us for our virtual Statewide Dharma School Gathering and Dharma Educators session on Sunday, May 1 from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm. Our theme is "Connecting with Others," which is our 2022 Hongwanji slogan. Our guest speaker will be Reverend David Fujimoto. After the Service, Dharma School and Adult Breakout room sessions, we will have a Dharma School Teachers/Educators session.

The deadline to register is April 16
The link to register is:
<http://honpahi.link/ds050122>

HOW ARE WE ALL CONNECTED?
HOW ARE WE ALL THE SAME?

We all get hurt in the same way.
We have the same laughs.
We all have hearts.
We are all the same inside.
We all have hopes and dreams.
We all have feelings.
We all have generosity.
We all have smiles and we all can make friends.
We all want to live in a world of peace.
We all have passion.

Scouting News



Boy Scout Troop 49

The month of February had some exciting things occur and many activities. Despite COVID-19 protocols still in place, the Troop actively participated in weekly in-person meetings, an Eagle Project, a weekend camp and welcomed the Arrow of Light Cub Scouts into the Troop. Here are some of the highlights.

On February 6th, the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Cub Scouts held a virtual Scout Sunday event in which the different scouts got to be honored for their various successes in their scouting career. As such we along with the Girl Scouts provided the temple a gift of a 10X10 pop up tent that included a custom screened logo.

The following week, the Troop held their semi-annual troop elections, in which scouts got to vote for their new Senior Patrol Leader for the upcoming 6 month term. Life Scout Colby Fujino was elected to lead the troop and at his side will be his Assistant Senior Patrol Leaders Star Scout Caden Matsumoto and Star Scout Dylan Uchino. This new leadership team along with other team members will be leading the Troop from March through September. Thank you to outgoing Senior Patrol Leader Noah Zane and his team, Life Scout Vincent Saito and Life Scout Caden Fujino for a job well done and raising the bar for the next leadership team. A complete list of the incoming leadership team is listed below.

On February 12th, current

Senior Patrol Leader Noah Zane, Troop 49 Scouts and volunteers installed a paver stone walkway and built wood benches as part of Noah's Eagle Service Project. The beneficiary was our own Hongwanji Mission School (HMS). A seventy-four square foot area, located just outside the tunnel by the Temple's lower parking lot, used to be a dirty, muddy area, and is now a clean safe place for students to wait for pickup after Noah's project installed a paver stone walkway. The second part of the project was to build and paint four wood gym benches. Many of the benches in the HMS gym are worn and splintering and these new benches give the students and visitors a comfortable, sturdy place to rest while using the gym. Noah wanted to acknowledge Lowe's Iwilei who donated almost \$1500 worth of supplies and materials for the project. He also wanted to thank Mrs. Teddi Yagi of HMS and Mr. David Atchenson of the Betsuin for their support through this project. Last but not least, Noah extends a huge "Thank You" for the hard-working Scout Leaders and volunteers who came out that day. Without the support of the many volunteers, Scouts would not be able

Sean Furuta

to do service projects that benefit the community.

February 19th through February 22nd, Troop 49 participated in a weekend camp at Malaekahana Beach Campgrounds. Scouts engaged in activities such as an Iron Chef cooking competition, First Aid races, and knot tying games. They also had fun fishing, swimming and learning how to catch, clean and cook samoan crabs. The scouts also participated in a beach cleanup as part of a service project. This was a great opportunity where the scouts could get to step away from their normal lives and live the "outdoor lifestyle".

On February 25th, Troop 49 welcomed the Pack 49 Arrow of Light scouts into the Troop. Selected Boy Scouts participated in the bridging ceremony where the Cub Scout neckerchief was retired and the new Troop 49 neckerchief was placed onto the four new Boy Scouts. To welcome the new scouts, the Troop engaged in fun activities where the new scouts could participate and enjoy the company of the older boys! Looking forward to working with the new scouts and getting them involved.



Scouting News



Girl Scout News and Events

Bronze Project Beach Clean-Up

Ellie Wong,
Junior Troop 185

For my Bronze project, my partner Kacie and I did a beach clean-up at Sandy Beach because we realized that Hawaii's beaches are not as clean as they should be. We also learned that a lot of our trash ends up in our oceans. Additionally, marine animals such as turtles, mistake the trash as food or get tangled up in the trash and suffer. Besides, no one likes to play on a beach that is polluted with trash. In response we partnered with Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii to host a beach clean-up. I realized how much of our plastic

trash ends up in the ocean and as a result we should all use less plastic. My partner and I worked together by meeting virtually on zoom and emailing each other. We had no money to buy supplies for the beach clean-up, so we recycled cans to earn money and asked for donations. We recruited scouts and their families, along with friends to help us clean Sandy Beach.

I used my leadership skills by sending out emails and promoting the beach clean-up by making a slideshow to present at the leaders' meeting. On the day of the beach clean-up Kacie and I, and over 50 volunteers collected 70 pounds of trash! I hope our beach clean-up inspires others to keep Hawaii's beaches clean. By doing this everyone including marine life benefited from a clean beach.



Betsuin DIALOGUE Project Meeting APRIL 10, 2022

All Welcomed!

"Dialogue... is the collective compassion for the common good. It is meeting with meaning, participation and purpose, speech in the service of others... we might not get the correct answers, but we get closer to asking the right questions..."

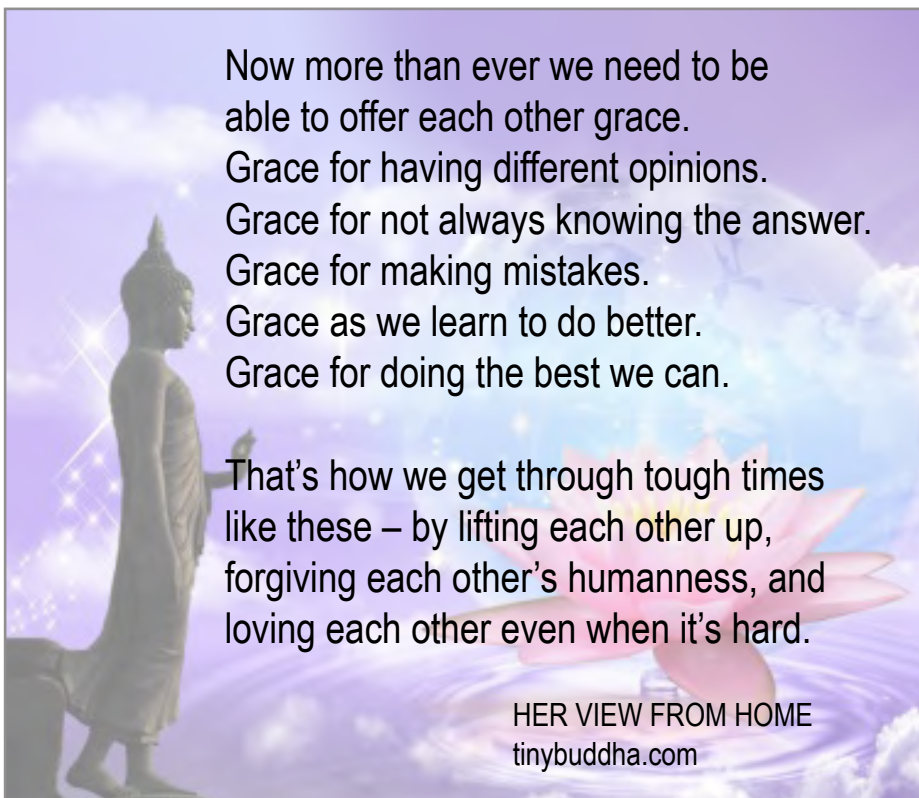
— from 'What If' by Amanda Gorman, 2019

If you are interested in exploring social concerns with others through a Buddhist lens, then the Hawaii Betsuin DIALOGUE Project is for you! The next DIALOGUE is Thursday, May 12, 2022. The topic will be Social Transformation. From a social engagement perspective, What is ONE social issue that concerns you most, and how might the Hawaii Betsuin Social Concerns Committee do something (anything) about it? Please see hawaii.betsuin.org/dialogue to register to receive participation info and brief readings, to suggest future DIALOGUE topics, or to ask questions. DIALOGUE is a project of Hawaii Betsuin's Social Concerns Committee.

Now more than ever we need to be
able to offer each other grace.
Grace for having different opinions.
Grace for not always knowing the answer.
Grace for making mistakes.
Grace as we learn to do better.
Grace for doing the best we can.

That's how we get through tough times
like these – by lifting each other up,
forgiving each other's humanness, and
loving each other even when it's hard.

HER VIEW FROM HOME
tinybuddha.com



Earth Day Happenings at Hawaii Betsuin

April 22 is Earth Day, and April is Earth Month. Here are some thematic events at Hawaii Betsuin!

4/16: “Our Interdependent Lives: Food Waste and Sustainability” (Zoom)

On Saturday, April 16, 10 a.m. HST, Buddhist Churches of America and Honpa Hongwaji Mission of Hawaii team up to present an educational Zoom event on food waste reduction. Speaking from Hawaii Betsuin on composting with worms will be

Mindy

Jaffe, co-founder and coordinator of Windward Zero Waste School Hui and the owner of Waikiki Worm Company.



Speaking from Seattle will be Ron Hamakawa, a manager in food and nutrition services, about how Seattle Betsuin went 100% compostable for their major Bon Odori event. An opening and closing by Shin Buddhist ministers Rev. Blayne Higa and Rev. Don Castro will help make the connection to the dharma. Event duration is estimated at 1 hr. & 45 minutes, including Q&A.

Please register to receive the Zoom link and options to attend in person at Hawaii Betsuin.

Registration link:

<http://honpahi.link/foodwaste>

Jointly sponsored by Buddhist Churches of America's Social Welfare Committee and Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii's Committee on Social Concerns



4/15-4/17: Trees, Please!

Hawaii Betsuin's Social Concerns/ Green Team plans to offer native trees and plants for Betsuin pickup free to Betsuin families on April 15, 16, and 17 as part of our Earth Day celebrations in April. We will offer

three categories of hardy, easy-care plants – native trees, native shrubs/groundcover, and non-native (non-invasive!) useful plants. Adopt a native plant free for home planting or for gifting – consider giving a native tree as a birthday present! Coming soon – we are creating a webpage with pictures and descriptions, so you can browse and sign up to reserve your free plant. Plant a tree, raise a kid, save a planet! If you are interested in adopting a free plant for Earth Day or in helping with the care and handling during distribution, please



Delivering the adult message will be **Kamuela Enos** of the UH Office of Indigenous Innovation and **Miwa Tamanaha**, Artist-in-Residence in Community Building at Hawai'i Impact Ready. (Kamuela and Miwa are a married couple.)

contact Steve Lohse via email at lohse@hawaii.edu.

4/17: Combined Earth Day

Service (hybrid Zoom & in person) On Sunday, April 17, 9:30 a.m. HST our 6th annual Earth Day Service, a combined Zoom and in-person service with Dharma School and adults.

Dennis

Sekine will do a Kamishibai-style reading of a children's story about reuse for the keiki message.



Please join us at the temple or via Zoom! As usual, details will be sent via the Betsuin Bulletin email (sign up at <https://hawaiiibetsuin.org/email-signup/>) and at hawaiiibetsuin.org.



LONOMEA TREE

DESCRIPTION: Stunning trees up to 45 ft. tall with dark, pale green leaves up to a foot long and three to four inches wide.

DISTRIBUTION: This endemic tree is found only on the western side of Kaua'i and both the Wai'anae and Ko'olau mountains on O'ahu in dry to mesic forests.

CULTURAL USES: The black and naturally glossy seeds of Lonomaea were often strung into lei.



In Memoriam



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

Radio Programs APRIL 2022 KZOO 1210 AM Japanese Language Saturday at 7:30 AM

02....Rev. Shingo Furusawa
09....Rev. Daido Baba
16....Rev. Shinji Kawagoe
23....Rev. Tatsuo Muneto
30....Rev. Yuika Hasebe

NOTICE:

The Betsuin is scheduling in-person funerals and memorial services with a limited number of in-person attendees. Other service options are available. Please call the Betsuin office at (808) 536-7044 for current information and to plan for your family's needs.

Information Regarding Sunday Services

The 9 a.m. Dharma School service and the 10 a.m. English service continue for now on Zoom. For speakers of Japanese, emailed messages are available -- please contact the office.

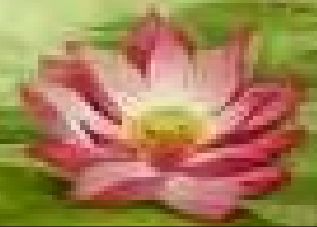
For current information on Betsuin services, including Zoom connection details, see the online calendar at hawaiibetsuin.org. You may also check the Betsuin Bulletin sent by email on Fridays (subscribe at hawaiibetsuin.org/email-signup/). Or, call the office. Recorded services are available on the Hawaii Betsuin YouTube channel, with "premieres" on Sundays at 11 a.m. (some exceptions).

09/04/2020	TOMITA, Melvin Mitsuo (87)
02/21/2021	OGI, Sachiko (95)
03/06/2021	MATSUYAMA, Ned Nobuo (90)
01/27/2022	INASAKI, Morris Akio (64)
01/28/2022	SUGAWA, Natsuyo (99)

FEBRUARY 2022

02	KAWANO, Ethel Fujikawa (98)
03	ASATO, Kazuo (94)
08	ASATO, Mildred Kiyoko (96)
08	WILSON, Xuan Thi (84)
12	ONO, Alfred Kiyoshi (92)
18	MATSAUNO, Hiromu (92)
21	KAWAUCHI, James Tsukasa (95)
22	HISANO, James Yasuo (76)
24	NOMURA, Howard Etsuo (95)
26	OTSUJI, Masayuki (89)
27	YANAGI, Nancy Yoshiko (91)

**Nursing Home Services
are cancelled until
further notice.**



2022 Memorial Service Schedule

2022 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

2021: 1st year	2010: 13th year	1990: 33th year
2020: 3rd year	2006: 17th year	1973: 50th year
2016: 7th year	1998: 25th year	1923: 100th year



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 Namo-amida-butsu.

-Shinran Shonin