



1727 Pali Highway
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

GOJI

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JUNE 2023
NEWSLETTER

of the
Honpa Hongwanji
Hawai'i Betsuin
hawaiibetsuin.org

2023 Slogan:

"Building Healthy
Sanghas: Sharing Joy
Together"

BETSUIN
MINISTERS

Acting Chief Minister

Rev. Yuika Hasebe

Ministerial Staff

Rev. Sol Kalu

Rev. Shingo Furusawa

Rev. Charlene Kihara

Obon... Obon...It's Festival Time

The month of June, for most Buddhist temples in Hawaii, marks the beginning of arguably, the most anticipated and happiest event on the Buddhist calendar, the Obon season with temple bon dances held at almost all Japanese Buddhist temples statewide. Obon is an annual event remembering one's ancestors and other departed loved ones in the belief that their spirits temporarily return to the world of the living in order to again be among surviving family members.

The word "Obon" is an abbreviation of "Urabon" from the Sanskrit Ullambana, which means hanging upside down, the unbearable pain and suffering both physical and spiritual when one is hung upside down. Its origin is the story of Shakyamuni Buddha's disciple Mokuren Sonja's effort to relieve his mother's suffering in the world of hungry spirits where she was reborn after death. His joy with the positive results of his efforts to free his mother, with the Buddha's help, is said to be the origin of the traditional bon dance now held in Buddhist temples during the Obon season.

Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin celebrates its Obon season with the Betsuin Bon Dance on June 23-24, 2023 from 6 p.m. – 10:30 pm. The event is open to the public and everyone is cordially invited to join Hawaii Betsuin's annual Bon Dance festivities.

Message from Wayne Yoshioka

Aloha Betsuin Ohana! This is Wayne Yoshioka.

Betsuin President Alan Tomita submitted a letter of resignation at the Betsuin Board of Directors (BOD) meeting this past Sunday, May 29. Alan is resigning to take care of personal health issues. He is not in imminent danger, but he needs to reduce his work load.

Per the Betsuin By-Laws, I, as First Vice President, have assumed the position of President for the balance of Alan's term which ends in January 2024. The Betsuin BOD has confirmed Jackie Furuta as the new First Vice President. The current President-elect, Cindy Alm, will automatically become Betsuin President in January 2024.

Prior to January 2024, there is a scheduled election of Board of Directors. Those elected then will take office in January 2024.

During his term as President, Alan has been instrumental in reinforcing the importance of taking care of and nurturing our Betsuin Ohana. I will strive to continue that focus as I serve out the remainder of Alan's term.

Another priority for Alan was to increase the openness and level of communication within and outside of the Betsuin. I am also committed to continue his efforts in that area.

Alan has a long history of selfless giving to the Betsuin and other Hongwanji entities. We will all miss his daily presence and look forward to the time when he can resume his current level of involvement. Please join me in thanking Alan for all

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Dharma Message: "Birth, Old Age, Sickness and Death" Rev. Sol Kalu



One of the basic teachings of Buddhism is that change is inevitable in all of us, because, as compounded beings, meaning one made up of various aggregates and matter, we are subject to the laws of impermanence just like any other compounded matter in the universe. We are born, we grow old, get sick and eventually die, that is the cycle of life that is universally true for all of us. The Buddha identified birth, aging, sickness and death as the 4 initial forms of dukkha or suffering. Why is birth suffering? We come to this world from our mother's womb crying, as if in protest of being awakened from the comfort and safety of our mother's body that held us for 9 months. Aging

is suffering. We grown old and with age comes myriad forms of suffering, not only physical like diminishing faculties of sight and hearing, bodily pains, serious, life threatening illnesses but also the emotional suffering of losing independence, being separated from children or spouse through deaths, loneliness and despair. Illness is suffering. With aging also comes a weakening body which makes us prone to illness and ultimately, the body just totally wears out leading to the most universally disliked suffering of all and that is the suffering of death. Death is the most fearsome of all, because it is the exact opposite of our present condition which is, being alive. As yet unenlightened beings, we do not know what really lies beyond this realm that we have known since we were born. Buddhism speaks of the endless cycle of birth and death as samsaric existence

where we are born, we die, born again and die again and goes on and on, until enlightenment or the state of nirvana is reached. And in our Pure Land Buddhist tradition, birth in the Pure Land of Amida is what breaks that cycle of birth and death. We have heard of the Pure Land countless of times from many different ministers and religious figures, through the years we have been listening to the Buddha's teachings and yet, we wonder, how many of us have completely accepted the reality of the Pure Land and entrusted ourselves to the workings of the Buddha's Vow to liberate us from the endless rounds of birth and death that the unenlightened person is trapped in? This complete and total entrusting is crucial in eliminating the doubts and fears of death and the afterlife but because our blind passions or bonnou have such a strong hold on us, it is not easy. We can't let go of our attachments to things so easily. It is the inability to let go of attachments that create doubt in the Buddha's Primal Vow and the person who has received shinjin or the true mind of the Buddha is the person who has not the slightest uncertainty in the Primal Vow of Amida and the existence of the Pure Land. People of shinjin are really exceptional people.

So, does that mean that we who cannot let go of our attachments and entrust ourselves completely are hopeless and beyond salvation? No, on the contrary, all the more reason that the Buddha will not abandon us, for that is the meaning of boundless compassion, a compassion that is unconditional, without any strings attached. The

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GOJI

The **GOJI** is a monthly publication of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawai'i Betsuin, Tel. (808) 536-7044.

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.

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

GOJI STAFF:

Editorial: *Jo desMarets; Dianne Ida, Randy Kawamoto, Rev. Shingo Furusawa, Japanese section editor* Production: *Colleen Kunishige, David Atcheson*; Circulation: *Colleen Kunishige, Elmer Cagaoan*; 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.*

JUNE 2023

Speakers Schedule

- 4 8AM No Service
9AM-9:30AM Short Service
(followed by Food and Fun Fest)
10AM No service
- 11 Regular Service
8AM Furusawa
9AM No DS
10AM Hasebe
- 18 Father's Day and
Juneteenth Service
8AM Rev. Hasebe
9AM No DS
10AM TBS
Short Msg: Rev. Furusawa
- 25 No Service (Day after
Bon Dance - clean up)

President's Message:

Letter from Alan Tomita, Hawaii Betsuin Board President

Hi
I'm sorry to say that this is my last letter to you as temple president. There are situations that I'm dealing with that are affecting my health. So after careful consideration of everything, my conscience tells me that I need to step aside. What made this decision easier is that the First Vice-President, Wayne Yoshioka, is more than capable to take over as per our bylaws.

Wayne presently heads our Hongwanji Mission School. Over the last decade, under his leadership the school has met the goals of the school's founders

by producing not only well-educated students but students with strong moral character. In last year's 8th grade graduating class of 21, 13 are now attending Punahou, Mid Pacific and Iolani, 5 are attending Pacific Buddhist Academy and 3 have gone to the mainland for their high school education. The best thing about this is that this was achieved with a tuition that is less than half of what the top 3 schools mentioned above charges. Also, Wayne has had HMS take over many of the school's repair, maintenance and upgrade construction costs that previously had been paid

for by the Betsuin's budget.

So, I leave you in good hands. However, your continued support, both financially and by your personal involvement, will be needed for the temple to survive. I humbly request that everyone do all they can in this matter.

So, please continue to support the temple and hope the rest of the year will be happy and fruitful for everyone.

In Gassho,
Alan



Message from the Executive Director: Jon K. Matsuoka

Our Strategic Planning consultant Cristina Moon, from Chozen-ji Temple, has been working consistently since February to finalize a report. The report condenses and summarizes the Board retreat discussion into major themes, and uses the themes to frame and guide current and future activities. Ideas that emerged from this planning effort are similar to those from planning events in previous years; however, we want to ensure that this plan, to the extent possible, is implemented.

A weekend of discussion content boiled down to four major themes:

1. Diversify the Hawai'i Betsuin Community – propagate through greater representation of ethnicities, age groups, and sexual orientation;
2. Diversity Hawai'i Betsuin's income streams;
3. Make Hawai'i Betsuin and Jodo Shinshu Buddhism relevant to people of today; and
4. Create structural change within Hawai'i

Betsuin leadership, by-laws, and operations.

While it is early in the implementation process, there are several ongoing and new initiatives that correspond with the strategic planning themes.

Per Theme 1, we are building a relationship with the Native Hawaiian community. Hasebe-sensei and I have attended Hawaiian sponsored interfaith events including commemorations of Queen Lili'uokalani's birthday and the overthrow of the Hawaiian Kingdom. Representatives from several Honpa Hongwanji temples (Moili'ili, Windward, Jikoen) and Hawaiian leaders have come together with Hawai'i Betsuin to discuss ways to consistently honor Mary Mikahala Foster, benefactress of Honpa Hongwanji, and ways to generate interest in Buddhism within the Hawaiian community.

With support from Cameron Miyamoto, UH LGBTQIA+ Center Director, we are considering ways to engage in outreach and support of this commu-

nity. The Commission on Buddhist Education recently sponsored a panel discussion to bring light to the issues and challenges faced by LGBTQIA+ individuals, and we are in the process of organizing ongoing discussions.

As a matter of succession planning and leadership development, we continue to explore ways to draw younger cohorts to diversify the Betsuin Board of Directors and general membership.

Per Theme 2, we are happy to report that the Spring Bazaar netted approximately \$9,000, but the value of the event went far beyond the profits. The event brought temple members and the community-at-large back to the Hawai'i Betsuin campus to restore a sense of pre-Covid cohesion. In partnership with Glen Furukawa, Adult Day Care is scheduled to begin at Hawai'i Betsuin in July, 2023. We will disseminate more detailed information at the time approaches. The Fukurimban residence, which has been vacant for a long time,



BWA News and Events

Fujiko Motobu

JUNE ACTIVITIES

- June 4 Food and Fun Fest at the Betsuin 9AM - 2PM (No 10AM service)
- June 10 Executive Board meeting at 9AM (location to be determined)
- June 18 Father's Day service
- June 22 Preparation for Bontique (Help Needed) contact Liane Wong
- June 23 and 24 Bon Dance, Bontique, Kimono dressing and photo booth (Help Needed)

SHINRAN SHONIN

As the years went by, almost all of Shinran Shonin's friends passed away. Shinran's youngest daughter, Kakushin-ni, felt ill at ease about her old father and went to the capital of Kyoto to take care of him. Since then, in spite of old age, he devoted himself incessantly to write religious books and good tidings for his followers.

In mid-winter of the second year of Kocho, 1262, Shinran ended up in bed due to illness. After that he constantly uttered the name of Amida. On January 16, 1263 he passed away into the Pure Land of Bliss in his 90th year with the following words on his lips: "When you alone call on the blessed Name, think you are accompanied by another. When you two call on the blessed Name, think there are three altogether. I, Shinran, am always among you." The next morning, Shinran's fellow believers mourned his departure and solemnly cremated his remains. Soon after, Kakushinni, supported by Shinran's disciples, erected a mausoleum and also a temple at Nishi-Yoshimizu, which was called Ohtani Honbyo, the cradle of the present Hongwanji Temple. From the Honbyo the teachings of Shinran Shonin spread all over Japan, even finding its way overseas. Today, more than ten million followers of the teaching never cease to praise the virtues of Shinran Shonin.

HEALTH INFORMATION THAT MAY SAVE YOUR LIFE

About five years ago, in 2018, Mayo Clinic came out with information that may save our lives or the lives of our loved ones. How many folks do you know who say they don't drink anything before going to bed because they will have to get up during the night? A cardiac doctor was asked why people need to urinate so much at night time. His answer was, "gravity holds water in the lower part of your body when you are upright. When you lie down and the lower body is level with the kidneys, it is then that the kidneys remove the water because it is easier."

There are correct times to drink water. Drinking water at a certain time maximizes its effectiveness on the body. Two glasses of water after waking up helps activate the internal organs. One glass of water 30 minutes before a meal helps digestion. One glass of water before taking a bath helps lower blood pressure. One glass of water before going to bed helps avoid stroke or heart attack. Water at bedtime will also help prevent night time leg cramps. Drinking water adds up to seven times, which means seven cups per day. You may also take other drinking options. Just remember to take in the necessary amount of

water per day to stay healthy.

HUMOR OF THE DAY

Reporter: Can you give us some health tips for reaching the age of 101?



Hattie, who turned 101 just recently replied: For better digestion I drink beer. In case of appetite loss I drink white wine. For low blood pressure I drink Red Wine. In the case of high blood pressure I drink scotch. And when I have a cold I drink Schnapps.

The reporter then asked: When do you drink water? Hattie replied: I've never been that sick to drink water.

BWA Mini Market Makes Successful Return

Congratulations to Florence Waisai and her team, Liane, Ruby, Lillian, and Shirly who reopened the BWA Mini Market after a three year hiatus due to the pandemic. Thanks to the generous donations of food items, craft items, flowers and more from our Mini Market supporters, it was a fun and successful morning! See you again in the Fall!



BWA Receives Mahalo Message From “Hawaiian Shirts” Recipient!

For the past year, the Betsuin BWA has participated in a program based in Easley, SC collecting and sending aloha shirts to soldiers stationed in remote areas overseas. To date, we have shipped approximately twenty five boxes of aloha shirts to the coordinator in SC, Gwen Pollard. Check their website **Hawaiian Shirts for Deployed Soldiers** for more information as to how and why Gwen started the program eight years ago. To date, the mainland group has sent nearly 40,000 shirts overseas. The Betsuin office recently received the following message on Face Book from a soldier who received one of the aloha shirts from our last shipment:

“Thank you for the Hawaiian shirts (sic) your Buddhist Women’s Association sent to us. On this day, Saturday May 20th, our location was filled with color and happiness at our location in Southwest Asia as we here are observing Pacific Island and Asian

appreciation month.

*Mohalo! (sic)
Martin Mendoza”*



Make the Betsuin Part of Your Legacy

Through tax strategies you can leave real estate properties and IRA Roth accounts, required distribution amounts, and stocks to the temple, and:

- Increase rental income without the challenges of management
- Avoid any or significantly decrease taxes on the donation
- Secure lifetime income
- Ensure that your children and heirs are taken care of

Planned Giving experts are now working with Hawai'i Betsuin to support our long-term sustainability while making sure that your financial needs and those of your descendants are met.

For more information please contact:
Jon Matsuoka, Executive Director,
Hawai'i Betsuin
808-536-7044
jmatsuoka@hawaiibetsuin.org

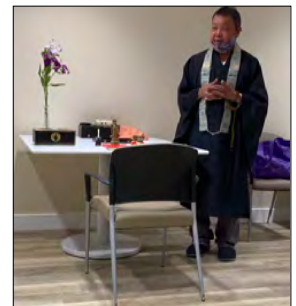
Betsuin BWA Has Busy Schedule! Encouraging Return to In Person Services and Activities for those Who Can!

The Betsui BWA has been busy since the temple reopened to in person services. Our hope is that our sangha members will be encouraged to return to the temple to participate in activities being offered through the BWA. For more information, please contact Jo desMarets or any BWA member. We welcome your participation!

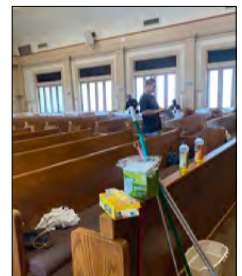
We have resumed providing volunteers to Project Dana to assist Betsuin ministers with on site nursing home visits. The photo is Rev. Sol Kalu at Hale O Meleana nursing home in Liliha; Sensei was accompanied by Jo desMarets.



On select holidays, we set up a photo booth for the sangha to have fun taking photos. This was Mother's Day; our next photo booth will be on Father's Day in the social hall.



The BWA supports the Betsuin by participating in Hosha activities once a month for six months; May 2023 was our last Hosha assignment for this year. Other Betsuin groups will participate for the remainder of the year.



It has become a tradition for the Betsuin BWA to make boutonnieres for Mother's Day. We usually have about fifteen, or so, members who participate. However, this year many of our usual boutonnieres makers were in Japan for the World Convention. This small, but mighty, group managed to make three boxes of beautiful orchid creations for the sangha!

Dharma School News

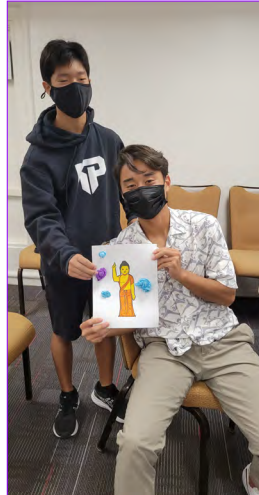
April services were all “combined” at 9:30 am. It was great to have our services in the Main Temple for a nice change. On Sunday, April 16, we had a combined service in the Main Temple. Reverend Charlene Kihara shared a Dharma Message about a gathering of birds and compassion. For our Dharma School activity, we had a belated Buddha Day activity, in which tissue paper flowers decorated a picture of the Baby Buddha. It was fun to see the different creative ways the students decorated the Baby Buddha.

We honored Lady Eshinni (wife of our founder, Shinran Shonin) and Lady Kakushinni (their youngest daughter) on Sunday, April 30. Dharma School families joined the Betsuin Choir for an opening song, “This



Debbie Kubota

Day of Peace,” composed by Teresa Jennings. It was a beautiful rendition, sung in a round. We enjoyed a wonderful Dharma Message by Sensei Takako Hashimoto from Wahiawa Hongwanji.



Following the service, we all went down to the Social Hall and played a modified bingo game, Eshinni-Kakushinni-O, which was created and conducted by Jovie Yoshioka. Participants had fun putting markers on their cards as they learned some interesting facts about these two wonderful women. Everyone had fun and got some small prizes, win or lose.

We had a regular 9:00 am Dharma School Service on Sunday, May 7. Jovie was our emcee and Chris Leu read the aspiration. Acting Rimban Hasebe's Dharma Message focused on Right Livelihood and she shared a story about being honest and telling the truth when she was a child. She accidentally mixed up beach sand that her Dad had separated into different jars, but was too scared to tell him. She finally confessed, and realized that facing her fears was much better than trying to hold the truth inside. After the service, Dharma School started with a read-aloud book, “A Little Spot of Honesty: A Story about Trust and Integrity,” by Diane Alber. After the story, the students were given different scenarios and were asked to share what they would do. Examples of the scenarios were: You spilled a drink over and no one saw. You accidentally dropped your Dad's phone and it cracked. You got 100% on your math test but you copied your friend's answers. You didn't want to go to school so you pretended to be sick. It was great to hear the students' responses and they amazed us with their ability to know how to respond honestly and with integrity to all of the scenarios that were presented.

May 28th is our last day of Dharma School for this 2022-2023 school year. It's been great to be back in person again.

On June 4, we will be joining in the Food and Fun Fest “Ooddles of Noodles” at the Betsuin as the temple comes together for fun, games and food! We anticipate a good turn out and hope to see you there!

Our 2023-2024 Dharma School year will kick off at the end of August. We welcome former and new Dharma School families to join us for fun activities and events the coming year!

Kristine Uyeno from KHON Interviewed Alan Goto

Kristine Uyeno from KHON interviewed Alan Goto for her morning Kupuna series. The topic of discussion was on why and how seniors like Alan devote so much of their time to the temple. Alan shared his long association with Hawai'i Betsuin, how he became affiliated, what motivates him, and how he draws meaning from his involvement in temple life. He also discussed the challenges facing Honpa Hongwanji and Hawai'i Betsuin related to declining membership and how we must strive to find new ways to sustain the temple. Jon Matsuoka, Executive Director, described the significance of volunteers like Alan in terms of connecting legacy and new directions.



Scouting News Girl Scout News and Events

Honpa Girl Scouts Awards Ceremony Calleigh Sakai, Senior Troop 415

We were fortunate enough to be able to have held the Girl Scout awards ceremony in person this year, being our first in four years. At the awards ceremony, it was exciting to have been able to commemorate all of the scouts and leaders together for all of the hard work they have done and accomplished throughout the year. We were grateful to have been joined by four special guests, Mr. Alan Tomita (President of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin), Mr. Jon Matsuoka (Executive Director of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin), Mrs. Shari Chang (Chief Executive Officer, Girl Scouts Council of Hawaii), and Mr. Tyler Dos Santos-Tam (Honolulu City Councilman). We also celebrated those that have bridged to their next level in scouting. Bridging is where the bridging scouts and leaders say goodbye to their current troop and then cross the bridge to be welcomed by their new troop. Before we began the awards ceremony, we had fun reminiscing as we decorated the bridge that the bridging scouts and leaders walked over as they moved to their next level of scouting. There was a flag ceremony where a couple of scouts from each troop participated to lead the presentation of colors. It made it memorable that it was the first authentic awards ceremony with the bridge and flag ceremony for many of the younger scouts. It was exciting to celebrate Anya Kinoshita, currently a Junior, who had received the highest award a Junior Girl Scout can achieve, which is the Bronze Award. It was presented by Honolulu City Councilman Tyler Dos Santos-Tam and was also signed by all nine of the Honolulu City Councilman. This awards ceremony was only possible with the help of the leaders, IT (intertroop), parents, and scouts that were a part of planning, setting up, and breaking down. We are excited and eager for future events to come.



Executive Director Message continued from page 3

has been rented out to a temple member. In June, Hiromi Peterson, Living Treasure and master calligrapher, will offer her artistic services to families who wish to have their surnames and Buddhist concepts drawn in kanji. She has generously offered her service as a fundraiser for the temple.

Per Theme 3, we celebrated a wonderful Earth Day service that featured talks by Koki Atcheson (culture and native plants), a shakuhachi flute number by Katsumi Takemoto, and Paul Arinaga, author of "Going Native, a Guide to Growing Native Hawaiian Plants." Consistent with this theme the Buddhist Women's Association went to great lengths to prepare delicious refreshments using canoe-plant ingredients (e.g., coconut, taro, banana, breadfruit). Several new people and those who haven't been to service in a while were in attendance. At the end of April, we hosted Dr. Fred Luskin of Stanford University who talked on the "Science of Forgiveness." About 70 people from Hawai'i's Buddhist and Mindfulness community attended his talk in the Annex Temple. Hawai'i Betsuin will be hosting a four-day conference featuring Dr. Luskin and several other nationally and locally prominent thought leaders in February, 2024.

Per Theme 4, Board leadership is currently in transition but when things settle, we plan to engage in board training. Most non-profit boards undergo periodic training to reorient members to roles, protocol and boundaries, communication, and best practices.

Change and transition are never easy, especially for institutions built on long and rich legacies. Issues and conflicts arise that people may not associate with change. But change and impermanence are integral to a Buddhist worldview. The purpose of planning is to facilitate the transitional process and take us to places of greater viability.

Headquarters Connections

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

Bishop Matsumoto gives Senate "Moment of Contemplation" on April 24



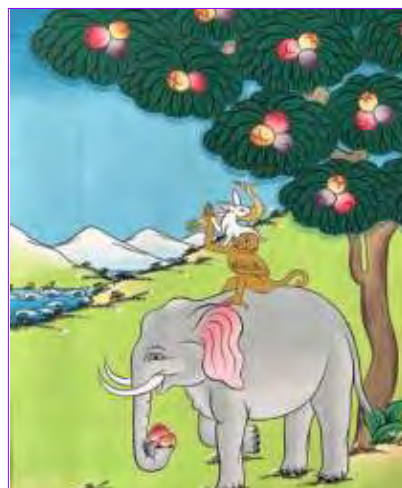
On April 24, 2023, Bishop Eric Matsumoto gave the "Moment of Contemplation" on the floor of the Hawaii State Senate. Per Senate rules, these offerings are limited to 90 seconds and may not mention any specific deity or religion. Bishop used the moment to relate the story of "The Four Harmonious Friends," a favorite of the Bhutanese people. Here is the complete text of his remarks.

Aloha Kākou.

In the presence of All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion, let us pause to reflect and aspire. More than ever, it is quite apparent that what our world really needs is more balance, harmony and respect. I would like to share a story entitled "The Four Harmonious Friends" which though of ancient origin is still quite pertinent for us of modern times. It centers around 4 animal friends, an elephant, monkey, rabbit, and bird and their relationship to a large fruit-bearing tree.

The bird planted the seed, it was watered by the rabbit, fertilized by the monkey and protected by the elephant. Though the animals were quite different from each other through their combined cooperative efforts, the seed grew into a large tree which provided much sustenance and protection for not only the 4 friends, but many others too. The story emphasizes the virtues of friendship, unity, selflessness, cooperation, caring for the environment, and mutual respect.

Today, in you, our elected leaders, we entrust the future of our community and State and even matters connected to the world. May your deliberations and decisions be both wise and compassionate, benefiting not one, but all. May All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion nurture and motivate you, ad infinitum. Thank you.



"The Four Harmonious Friends"

See <https://hongwanjihawaii.com/moment-of-contemplation> for this article.
'Headquarters Connections' is curated by Steve Lohse and Cindy Alm.

Message cont. from page 1

that he's done and wishing him well as he tends to his health.

I am always willing to hear your thoughts, suggestions, and complaints. At this time, please contact me through the Betsuin office, (808) 536-7044, or via email at wyoshioka@hawaiiibetsuin.org.

My priority is the well-being of our Betsuin Ohana. Please help me as I strive to continue what Alan Tomita has initiated.

In Gassho,
Wayne Yoshioka
Thank you. A hui hou,

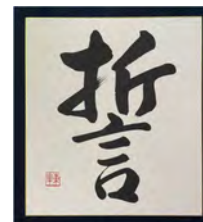
Fundraiser for Hawaii Betsuin:

Hiroimi Peterson, Master Calligrapher and 2023 Living Treasure of Hawai'i honoree, has offered to create works of Japanese calligraphy (such as family names) as a way to raise funds for Hawai'i Betsuin.

Makes a great gift and family keepsake for younger generations. There are several different size and shape options.

Fee for a standard artwork on 12x10" sheet is \$60

For more information please contact
Jon Matsuoka
jmatsuoka@hawaiiibetsuin.org
(808) 536-7044



Chikau
"To pledge or vow"

Dharma Message continued from page 2

Primal Vow is not for those who are really good, the genuinely good person does not need the Buddha's help, but for those who are incapable of doing any good and who sincerely desire for salvation, the power of the Vow works even stronger.

But despite all the sufferings inherent in our world of delusion and imperfection, it is possible to find meaning and happiness even if only temporarily. The key to finding joy is to create serenity in our lives.

Serenity comes with letting go of our attachment to things and the freeing of ourselves from the anxieties and worries of death and the afterlife, through the attainment of the entrusting mind or shinjin. With shinjin, salvation is assured. The receiving of shinjin from Amida Buddha occupied such a central importance in traditional Jodo Shinshu teaching that, the second founder of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, Rennyo Shonin, called it "gosho no ichidaiji" meaning the important matter of the afterlife. The purpose of our religious life in Jodo Shinshu Buddhism is to receive that entrusting mind or shinjin.

Fundraiser for Hawaii Betsuin!

Professional photos by

STUDIO fx3
PHOTOGRAPHY DIGITAL

All proceeds donated
to the Hawaii Betsuin!
Fri. & Sat., June 23 & 24
5:30 to 9:00 pm

kimonos & assistance dressing
provided at no charge



by the
Betsuin
BWA



Requesting Donations of Baked Goods

Donations of baked goods and snacks are requested to sell at the Sudhana / HMS Bon Dance snack tent! Items should be...

1. Individually packaged
2. Priced by \$1 increments
3. Dropped off at the Betsuin office June 22-24

Mahalo!



BSC's 49th Annual Summer Session: June 5-9, 2023

The Buddhist Study Center (BSC) is pleased to offer its 49th Annual Summer Study Session in person and online, June 5-9, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (HST). The featured speaker is Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji, minister of Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church.

The theme is: "Shinran's Challenge: A Shin Buddhist in the 21st Century." As the American Buddhism movement develops, there is a growing challenge to sustain the teaching brought to us by Shinran Shonin. Let us delve during this weeklong session into these suggestions and themes to have a better understanding of being a Shin Buddhist in the 21st Century.

For more information and to register, visit <http://hnhb.link/bscss23>.

Betsuin Bon Dance Is Back - Live!



*Yukata and Happi Coats recommended attire; Everyone welcomed to participate

June 23 & 24

6:30 to 10:30 PM
short service at 6:00 PM

by the yagura
Professional Photographer
available for photos in
the social hall!

Bontique In the Social
Everyone Welcomed!

Radio Programs JUNE 2023

Japanese Language,
SATURDAY AT 7:30 AM

03...Rev. Daido Baba
10...Rev. Masanari Yamagishi
17....Rev. Ryoso Toshima
24... Rev. Shingo Furusawa

June Speakers (Please see page 2)

Information Regarding Sunday Services

Attendee limits for in-person funerals and memorial services are now based on room capacity and families' comfort levels. 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.

The 10 a.m. English-language services (as well as the occasional 9:30 a.m. combined services) are now open to in-person attendees. A Zoom option continues to be available. Also, the 8 a.m. in-person Japanese language services have resumed. The Betsuin Dharma School resumed on September 11, 2022..

Many past services are available for replay on the Hawai'i Betsuin YouTube channel. For current information on Betsuin services, including Zoom connection details, see the online calendar at hawaiibetsuin.org. You JUNE also check the Betsuin Bulletin sent by email on Fridays (subscribe at hawaiibetsuin.org/email-signup/). Or, you can call the Betsuin office at (808) 536-7044.

In Memoriam



APRIL 2023

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

2/18/2023 KAWASAKI, Elizabeth Hiroko (91)

4/1/2023 NAGANO, Lynda Fusako (94)

4/9/2023 KAKUDA, Lillian Yoshie (96)

4/9/2023 KARIYA, Marjorie Miyuki (101)

4/10/2023 KUBOTA, Misae (100)

4/12/2023 KAWATA, Emiko (97)

4/18/2023 INAO, Howard Tadashi (100)

4/18/2023 YIP, Jayzen Akio (3 mon)

4/20/2023 YAMAMOTO, Elaine Toyoko (96)

4/22/2023 KIMURA, Mitsue (101)

Monthly Nursing Home Services

Hale O Meleana

Service Every 2nd Friday at 10:30 A.M.

STARTING JUNE!

Hale Ho Aloha

Service on Tuesday, JUNE 16 at 10:00 A.M.

Maluhia

Service Every 3rd Wed at 10:00 A.M.

2023 Memorial Service Schedule

2023 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

2022: 1st year	2011: 13th year	1991: 33th year
2021: 3rd year	2007: 17th year	1974: 50th year
2017: 7th year	1999: 25th year	1924: 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