



1727 Pali Highway
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

GOJI

Vol. 78 No. 07



JULY 2023
NEWSLETTER
of the
Honpa Hongwanji
Hawai'i Betsuin
hawaiibetsuin.org

**NO AUGUST 2023
ISSUE**

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

Betsuin Pulls Together for a Successful Bon Dance 2023! Mahalo to All for your Support!

This year 2023 our Bon Dance got off to a slow start. We pulled the committees together and did some brainstorming. With all of the bumps, bruises, tears and laughter our 2023 Bon Dance was a great success. Our preliminary net total is \$32,000.00. Our accounting department is still working on the finances for the Bon Dance.

This 2023 Bon Dance is dedicated to an individual who has led the way for Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin for over 40 years, including co-chairing this bon dance. He has given his blood, sweat, tears and the shirt off his back for our temple. Many of the organizations and events that we have today are because of this individual's kind heart and generous soul. Wherever his life and adventure takes him and his wife Joyce we wish them all the luck and success and good health. The 2023 Bon Dance is dedicated to Mr. Alan Tomita. A treasure that will last in our hearts and minds forever. Someone that I am very proud to know as working with him on committees and as a dear friend.

From the bottom of our hearts we are so very grateful to everyone, no matter how small, or how big, your responsibilities or duties were. Everyone's support is much appreciated and will not be forgotten.

A never ending thank you to the Girl and Boy Scouts of Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin! Without their endless giving from the heart and commitment to the temple we would not have been able to accomplish this Bon Dance.

A special thank you to electrician Bob Yamamoto.

Thank you to the following:

Alan Tomita	Charlyne Tom	Alan Kubota
Joyce Tomita	Albert Wong	Debbie Kubota
Kevin Teshima	Liane Wong	Teddi Yagi
Camille Teshima	Colleen Kunishige	Dave Randall
Elwin Suzuki	Reid Yamamoto	Hongwanji Mission School
Cecilia Suzuki	Melvyn Kawahara	John Toguchi
Jan Nishihira	Ashleigh Ito	Ralston Nagata
Jackie Furuta	Jon Matsuoka	Irene Nohara
Brad Fujino	Dave Atcheson	Greg Kano
Yui Tanaka	Jo desMarets	Dennis Sekine
Dawn Kakuni	Jovie Yoshioka	Billy V
Eric Osaki	Wayne Yoshioka	Elmer Cagaoan
Dexter Mar	Rimban Yuika Hasebe	Thanh Giang

To All of the **Girl Scouts** and their Families / To All of the **Boy Scouts** and their Families / To All of the **Cub Scouts** and their Families and, the **PBA taiko**, mahalo for your help.

I appologize if I missed anyone. But just know that we are very grateful to everyone who helped in this 2023 Bon Dance.

With Deepest Gratitude,
Wendy Harman
2023 Bon Dance Co-Chair

President's Message from Wayne Yoshioka

Aloha kakou!

I would like to congratulate Alan Tomita and Wendy Harman on a successful Bon Dance. Even though it rained a little, everyone seemed to have a great time. The food was good, and it was nice to see old friends. Thank you to the Temple members and staff, Scouts, BWA, Dharma School, and HMS and PBA taiko that helped to make this Bon Dance a success.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank the Wednesday Gang for their years of service helping to maintain the Betsuin grounds. Citing the age of their members, they recently retired. We wish them a relaxing and well-deserved rest. Consequently, we are looking for those

who would be able to pick up the baton to help continue their legacy of keeping up the Betsuin campus. Please let the Betsuin office know if you are willing to help.

In a similar vein, our Sudhana organization is scaling back its activities. They have and will continue to provide a strong foundation of our Sangha. We owe them much for all their help over the years. One of their activities is the cleaning of the main Hondo that occurs every month. Another is providing and staffing refreshments for one Betsuin Sunday service a month. As they scale back activities, we are looking for help in both activities. If you are able to help, please contact the Betsuin office at (808) 536-7044 and ask for Ashleigh.

Even though I am familiar with the help our members provide to the Betsuin, I continue to be amazed and impressed by their commitment and generosity. It is this participation that defines our Sangha.

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

Thank you all for your support and for being part of our Betsuin family.

In Gassho,
Wayne Y. Yoshioka



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:

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JULY 2023 Speakers Schedule

2

Bon Service
8:00 AM Rev. Hasebe
10:00 AM Rev.. Brennan

9

8:00 AM Rev. Furusawa
10:00 AM Rev. Kalu

16

8:00 AM TBD
10:00 AM Rev. Kihara

23

8:00 AM Rev. Hasebe
10:00 AM Rev. Furusawa

30

8:00 AM Rev. Furusawa
10: 00 AM Wayne Yoshioka

9:00 AM Dharma School
services to resume in August

BWA Book Talk



Family Stories from the Plantation and Beyond

Hongwanji member
and author,
Pieper Toyama,
will share his experiences as
a local boy growing up on the
Big Island!

August 20
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
in the lounge

*sponsored by the
Betsuin BWA
Everyone Invited!

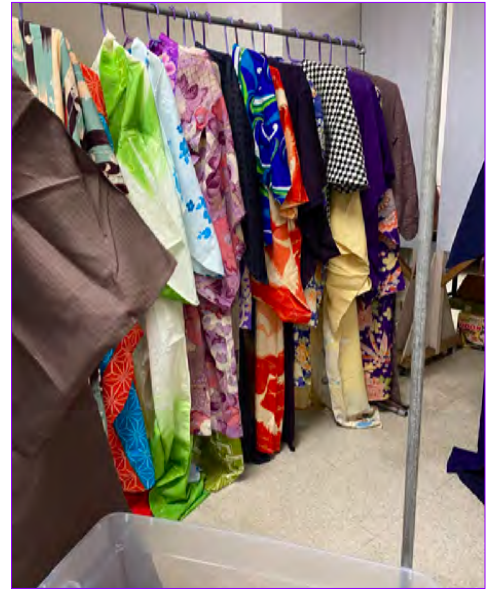
BWA Bontique Returns for the Betsuin Bon Dance: Keiki Games and Kimono Dressing for Photos are, again, a Big Success!

Wendie Yumori

The joyful return of Hawaii Betsuin's Bon Dance festivities on Friday, June 23, and Saturday, June 24, also marked the happy return of BWA activities in the social hall: The Bontique, which shoppers love, Games for keiki, and free Kimono Dressing services for folks ordering studio photo portraits.

BWA 2nd V.P., Liane Wong, led the way in organizing the BWA effort. She asked volunteers to price items in advance, and the day before Bon Dance, many volunteers gathered in the social hall to set up the racks and tables to display the Japanese and Asian items for the Bontique sale. On the racks were colorful Japanese kimono, cotton yukata, and happi coats and on the Bontique tables were unique decorative items, Japanese accessories, lovely dishware, etc. On Friday night, a teenage girl, found a beautiful art scroll and called out to her mother, "Look at this!" Very likely, many Bontique patrons found items that evoked "Look at this!" feelings.

In the Games area, keiki had fun playing the Go Fish game and the exciting Wheel of Chances game. This year, the 2023 Cherry Blossom Court helped with games Friday night and boys and girls were delighted to receive prizes in the court's royal glow.



Kimono at bargain prices of \$5 each!



Cherry Blossom Queen helping with Keiki Games



Dressed for kimono photos with assistance from the BWA!

In the Kimono Dressing area by the stage, the dressing expertise of Mrs. Hideko Watanabe (Urasenke Foundation of Hawai'i) was much-appreciated. She came with her students both nights to dress folks for the camera. Long-time volunteer dresser, Miki Saito, and her daughter, Cora, also guided keiki, teens, and adults warmly through the kimono-dressing process.

Everyone smiled to see the magical transformations! (See photo)



Happy shoppers at the Bontique!

BWA's lively areas of activity in the social hall were very successful and surely contributed to the success of Hawaii Betsuin's Bon Dance event. As it turned out, BWA's Bontique had its best year ever! Jo desMarets, stated in her words of thanks, "Mahalo to all of our supporters who worked endless hours setting up and cleaning up, and a special shout out to Liane Wong with her husband Albert Wong for spear-heading this project. We couldn't have done it without everyone's help."



BWA News and Events

Fujiko Motobu

July 15 (Sat.) BWA Field Trip; location to be set; details are forthcoming
 July 16 (Sun.) 3rd BWA General Membership Meeting; 11:00 AM in the Hondo; activity to follow: making stuffed honu toys for our holiday project giving toys to the keiki in Family Promise.
 July 22 (Sat.) Executive Board Meeting at 9:00 AM in the lounge
 July 23 (Sun.) Provide and serve refreshments for 10:00 AM service
 AUGUST TBD 11:30 TO 1:30 In the lounge Pieper Toyama will discuss his recent book, Family Stories from the Plantation and Beyond.

JULY AND AUGUST OBON MONTHS

Every seventh month of the year, Japan celebrates Obon. It is one of their biggest holiday seasons. What is Obon? It is time to remember and show gratitude for those who have passed before us. Families who celebrate Obon usually gather in their hometowns, visit the family graves, and attend festivals. But, not all families follow the same customs.

The true history of bon dance origins is not clear, but it has over a 500-year history in Buddhist traditions. The legend is that long ago a disciple of Buddha had a vision of his dead mother. She was trapped in a place of Hungry Ghosts. It was certainly not a place for her to be. He made offerings of food and drinks and freed his mother from the hell. When she was released, he was overjoyed and danced, and that was the beginning of the Bon Dance.

After cancelling their bon dance celebrations for three years, many temples, including the Hawaii Betsuin, are once again, holding Bon dances! It's a joyous time, so please join in with your yukata, kimono, or happi coat and dance up a storm! Many of our friends and relatives have passed away during the three years the bon dances were cancelled, so let's join in the festivities, now, and let's recite the Nembutsu, "Namo Amida Butsu", in gratitude!

HEALTH ISSUES: WAYS THAT CAN HELP PREVENT LUNG DISEASE

1. Don't smoke. If there are children, give up your smoking.
2. Avoid lung health hazards. Protect yourself from harmful air pollution, both indoors and outdoors. Don't let anyone smoke in your home.
3. Know the warning signs of lung disease. Frequent cough, chest pain, shortness of breath, wheezing, excessive phlegm or blood when coughing and chronic fatigue.
4. Know the symptoms of asthma. Some signs may be shortness of breath, wheezing, tightness in the chest and frequent coughing when exercising.
5. Get your flu shot. It is recommended for anyone over six months of age to get the flu shot.
6. Prevent air pollution. Drive less, conserve electricity and avoid burning wood and trash.
7. Get involved. Join in the fight for healthy air.
8. Test your home for radon. Radon is colorless, odorless gas which causes lung cancer.
9. Teach your children to grow up smoke free.
10. Encourage exercise for the family. Eat right and keep your home free of respiratory irritants.

HUMOR:

LEXOPHILE is a word used to describe those that have a love for words. For example, you can tune a piano but you cannot tuna fish.
 ...When fish are in schools, they sometimes take debate.
 ...Thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.
 ...When the smog lifts in Los Angeles, U.C.L.A.
 ...The batteries were given out free of charge,
 ...A dentist and a manicurist married. They fought tooth and nail.
 ...A will is a dead giveaway.
 ...With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
 ...A boiled egg is hard to beat.
 ...When you've seen one shopping Center you've seen a mall.
 ...The police were called to the day care center where a three year old was resisting a rest.
 ...Did you hear about the guy whose whole left side was cut off? He's all right now.
 ...A bicycle can't stand alone, it is two tired.



Our Apologies!

2023 Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Membership - Please clip

3

Name(s): _____ Address: _____

Phone number(s): _____ Email address(es): _____

Apologies! A membership renewal form mailed recently says 2022 instead of 2023. Please just cross off the 2 and write in a 3. We'll correct it for the reminder letter! Sorry for any confusion.

Subscription ☐ Please or renewer

Oops! Our recent mailing regarding membership renewals had a typo, but not to worry! If you have already sent it in, your membership will be credited for 2023. Mahalo for your understanding! If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the business office.

Candlelight Evening: Sutra Chanting and Quiet Sitting

Thursday, July 27, 2023

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Hawaii Betsuin's Main Temple (hondo)

Schedule

- 6:45 p.m. Doors open
- 7:00 p.m. Temple lights off & sutra chanting
- 7:20 p.m. Refreshments in the Lounge
- 8:00 p.m. Session concludes



Note: You are welcome to bring a yoga mat or a cushion if you prefer to sit on floor. Please refrain from laying down during the program.
The temple will remain open until 8:00PM.

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

Last Stretch for the 2022-2023 Social Concerns Fund Drive

Hawaii Betsuin members and friends have so far contributed \$4890 via the temple to the current statewide Social Concerns Fund Drive. Mahalo for your donations! You make it possible for Hongwanji Hawaii's Committee on Social Concerns (CSC) to support food banks and other vital community services, fund innovative temple social concerns programs, and contribute to disaster/war relief efforts. As a reference point, last year's collection was \$7,225. The current collection period runs through August, so if you have not yet contributed and would like to, you still have time. You may make a check out to HHHB with "HHMH Social Concerns" in the memo line and mail or drop it off to 1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813. You may also donate online at <http://honpahi.link/scdon>

In gassho,
David Atcheson, CSC member

HOW TO PLANT YOUR GARDEN OF LIFE

Shared by
Hanayo Shimbukuro
with Fujiko Motobu



PLANT 3 ROWS OF PEAS.

1. Peace of mind
2. Peace of heart
3. Peace of soul

PLANT 4 ROWS OF SQUASH.

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness

PLANT 4 ROWS OF LETTUCE.

1. Lettuce be faithful
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient
4. Lettuce really love one another

NO GARDEN IS COMPLETE WITHOUT TURNIPS

1. Turnip for meetings
2. Turnip for service
3. Turnip to help one another

TO CONCLUDE OUR GARDEN YOU MUST HAVE THYME

1. Thyme for Buddha
2. Thyme for each other
3. Thyme for family
4. Thyme for friends

WATER FREELY WITH PATIENCE
AND CULTIVATE WITH LOVE.

Dharma School News

The month of May came around so quickly, and our Dharma School year rapidly came to a close. We had a combined Mother's Day Service on Sunday, May 14, with Nannette Ganotisi and her daughter, Rose, as our speakers in the main temple. Dharma School students worked on handmade cards for their mothers and grandmothers and gave them goodies in cloth bags, lovingly sewn by one of our Dharma School parents, Mrs. Shally Giang.

Shinran Shonin's birthday was observed on Sunday, May 21, with Reverend Tatsuo Muneto delivering the Dharma message at our combined service. The Dharma School students and families were dismissed early and went down to the Social Hall to play Shinran-O (designed by Jovie Yoshioka), a bingo game with facts about Shinran and his life in each of the bingo card squares. What a great way for everyone to have fun and learn about Shinran.

Our last Dharma School service was on



Debbie Kubota

Sunday, May 28. Talin Giang was our emcee and Chris Leu read the aspiration. The Dharma Message was given by Debbie Kubota, who shared a read-aloud book, "The Magic of Me - My Magical Choices," written by Becky Cummings and illustrated by Zuzana Svobodova. The book was a perfect culmination of the Dharma School lessons on the Eightfold Path, about always making the right choices. You can't always control what will happen, but you can always decide how you respond to it. When you choose positive actions, you feel happier and build lifelong healthy habits. Our Dharma School activity was making mini-obutsudans for the students to have during the summer.

On Sunday June 4, Hawaii Betsuin had a Food and Fun Fest. Reverend Hasebe started the day with a



service and a very nice Dharma message. For team building and to get to know each other, everyone divided up into groups based on their Native-American Zodiac signs (Otter, Wolf, Falcon, Beaver, etc.). The group activity was to create something out of newspaper and masking tape which represented summer. Everyone showed such creativity! We had canoe paddling, bon dance, baseball, a variety of hats, the sun shining on all, shave ice, surfboard, fishing, among other fun things. We also recognized Caden Matsumoto, for his graduation from Pacific Buddhist Academy and wished him well as he moves to his next chapter, going to Pacific University in Oregon and playing on their soccer team. We also recognized and showed our appreciation to Bishop Eric and Mrs. Tamayo Matsumoto for their 12 years of dedication to the Hongwanji, and to Acting Rimban Yuika Hasebe for her wonderful support of our Dharma School. Downstairs in the Social Hall, we filled our tummies with Oodles of Noodles, prepared by the BWA members and Dharma School leaders. We feasted on somen salad, soba noodles, macaroni salad, pad thai and fried noodles. There was more fun to be had with Tanomoshi Moshi (many thanks to the Ganotisis for coordinating this and providing all of the prizes), table games and puzzles, ball and bean bag toss games, corn hole and pickleball in the Annex Social Hall. What a great way to end our Dharma School year and kick off the summer!

We wish everyone a fantastic and safe summer! Our 2023-2024 Dharma School year will kick off in mid-September. We welcome former and new Dharma School families to join us for fun activities and events in the coming year!

Scouting News Girl Scout News and Events

Daisy Year End Activity

Erin Uemura,
Daisy Troop Leader



In May 2023, the Daisies and parents of Troop 844 celebrated the completion of their year of scouting with the annual tradition of having a lunch party at Clay Café. Everyone was asked to select a ceramic plate, bowl, or cup to paint. They also enjoyed delicious smoothies, pretty cupcakes, and hefty Oh My Grill plate lunches of their choice. They were also surprised with a special appearance by Assistant Leader



Auntie Angela, who had left at the end of 2022 to return to family in Australia and travel in Japan!

This event was made possible through the hard work of each Daisy earlier in the year. The adorable Daisies sold almost 2,000 boxes of Girl Scout cookies individually and together at cookie booth sales. These kindergarteners and first graders learned salesmanship and dedication as they sold their entire stock of cookies to customers who could not say no when sweetly asked "Would you like to buy some Girl Scout cookies?" As their community service project, a portion of their proceeds was also donated to Paws of Hawaii, a shelter for animals. Each scout selected and donated items from the shelter's wish list.

We wish all the best to the bridging scouts who will become Brownies next year, and we look forward to spending another year with our returning Daisies!

If you know someone who would like to become a Girl Scout, please let us know! Registration will be held in August.

Coming
September 1- 30

give aloha

For Hawaii Betsuin, USE CODE 78500

Foodland's Community Matching Program

CHARITABLE PLANNED GIVING STRATEGIES

Saturday 12PM July 22nd

FREE SEMINAR

YOUR GENEROUS Donation To Charity

Turn Your Real Estate Into A SECURE INCOME STREAM

- SUPPORT FAVORITE CHARITIES
- CHARITABLE TAX DEDUCTIONS & BYPASS CAPITAL GAINS
- SECURE LIFETIME INCOME
- INCREASE RENTAL INCOME WITHOUT THE HEADACHE

CALL TO REGISTER +1 808-725-2000

The Learning Center Stadium Mall 4510 Salt Lake Blvd. (Near the Ice Palace)




Kay M. Mukaigawa
President & Principal Broker
RB-15914
Engel & Völkers Honolulu


Troy Wada
Principal Wealth Advisor
INPAC Wealth Solutions

ENGEL & VÖLKERS   

Please Join the
Monthly,
1st Saturday
8:30 AM,
Temple Clean Up
from July to the
End of the Year

We would like to express our deepest appreciation to Hawaii Betsuin's Sudhana Fellowship for their long, selfless, and sincere devotion to Hawaii Betsuin. They made the annual Father's Day breakfasts, provided monthly refreshments, and cooked for temple cleanup, Bon Dance, and New Year's Eve.

They were also part of the HO-SHA monthly temple cleaning. Cleaning is always a very important aspect of practice in Buddhism, and for many years Sudhana Fellowship and the BWA members devoted their time to clean the temple every month. Hawaii Betsuin has been kept beautiful and clean because of their selfless effort, working to show appreciation for the Dharma. Through cleaning, we cultivate our mind peacefully and express our appreciation to Amida Buddha. Due to the Sudhana Fellowship disbanding, we need the general congregation to join the cleaning effort. Everyone's help and support is greatly appreciated. No reservation or commitment is necessary. Please come and join whenever you would like to start the day with a fresh feeling. Members work from 8:30-10:00 AM on the first Saturday of the month.

Fundraiser for Hawaii Betsuin:

Hiromi 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.

The calligraphy 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
jatsuoka@hawaiibetsuin.org
(808) 536-7044





Chikau
"To pledge or vow"

SPONSORED BY THE HONOLULU & OAHU HONGWANJI COUNCILS
& THE OFFICE OF BUDDHIST EDUCATION

DIVERSITY & ACCEPTANCE IN BUDDHA'S VOW

NEMBUTSU SEMINAR
SATURDAY, AUGUST 12 - 9:00 - 11:30 AM (HST)
BUDDHIST STUDY CENTER IN-PERSON
OR VIA ZOOM

REV. KO'E A. UMEZU
WEST LOS ANGELES
BUDDHIST TEMPLE

SEMINAR DESCRIPTION

Join us to reflect on what diversity and acceptance means within The Fundamental Vow of Amida Buddha (Hon-gan). The seminar will feature a screening of "A Profound Silence" which was produced by Gardena Buddhist Church Ichi-Mi, followed by a group discussion.

AGENDA:


* 9:00am	Welcome/Opening by emcee (5 min)
* 9:05-9:50am	Rev. Umezu's presentation/Ichi-Mi project & video (45 min)
* 9:50-10:20am	Video: "A Profound Silence" (30 min)
* 10:20-10:30am	Break (10 min)
* 10:30-11:00am	Breakout Group Discussion (30 min)
* 11:00-11:25am	Q&A and "Breakout Group lead share group's discussion highlight (25 min)
* 11:25am	Closing/Mahalo (5 min)
* 11:30am	Seminar concludes

REV. KO'E A. UMEZU

Rev. Ko'e A. Umezu is an assistant minister and Community Outreach Coordinator at the West Los Angeles Buddhist Temple. She currently resides in Torrance, CA, with her spouse, Marie Miyashiro. Rev. Umezu and Marie are co-presidents of Ichi-Mi, an organization of Jōdo Shinshū Buddhists dedicated to providing a safe space for LGBTQ+ identifying people within the Sangha, their family members, and allies, in order to create conditions for everyone to safely hear the Nembutsu teaching.

DONATIONS ARE WELCOME!

Donations will be given to the **Ichi-Mi Project**. Check payable to **Gardena Buddhist Church** (include Ichi-Mi project in memo line) and mail to: Gardena Buddhist Church
1517 W. 166th St, Gardena, CA 90247

 **QUESTIONS? CALL MILILANI HONGWANJI OFFICE (808) 625-0925**

REGISTRATION IS FREE! / REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SATURDAY, AUGUST 5

Online Registration Link | <https://forms.gle/N9nCqL14xpvioUf8>
OR Fill out the form below

NAME: _____ TEMPLE/AFFILIATION: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ PHONE (MOBILE): _____

I WILL ATTEND ☐ IN - PERSON ☐ ONLINE VIA ZOOM

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS SEMINAR? MY TEMPLE (EMAIL OR NEWSLETTER) /
TEMPLE OR OTHER WEBSITE / SOCIAL MEDIA / OTHER

CIRCLE ONE ABOVE OR IF OTHER, PLEASE INDICATE HERE: _____

MAIL TO: MILILANI HONGWANJI,
ATTN: NEMBUTSU SEMINAR, P.O. BOX 893308, MILILANI, HI 96789



Headquarters Connections

'Headquarters Update' and 'Ka Leo Kāhea' (The Calling Voice) newsletters are available at <http://hongwanjihawaii.com/news/>

"Go forth...for the good of the many..."

Bishop Eric Matsumoto

Benediction for Pacific Buddhist Academy's Class of 2023 Commencement Exercises

Today, as Pacific Buddhist Academy's Commencement Exercises for the Class of 2023 draws to a close, in the presence of Amida Buddha, All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion, let us reflect.

As we congratulate our Graduates, we hope that some of the universal Teachings and Virtues of the Buddha will guide our Graduates for the rest of their life. The most fundamental Teaching or Truth that the Historic Buddha, 2600 years ago, became aware of is that all life, all existence is interconnected and interrelated and nothing exists in total isolation by itself as depicted by the beautiful metaphor of Indra's Jeweled Net, meaning we should mutually respect, care and appreciate one another.

A virtue of an Enlightened Person is that the Buddha's very existence benefits both the Buddha and also everyone (and everything) else. It is not that one does something for oneself and does something else for someone else, but whatever one does brings benefit to (both) self and others, together, simultaneously. May our Graduates live their life and continue their endeavors guided by this virtue of the Buddha.

We hope our Graduates will be guided and inspired by Enlightened Wisdom and Compassion for more peace and harmony in the world. I would like to share the exhortation of the Historic Buddha to the monks and nuns of Ancient India to our Graduates (as they go forward themselves). The Buddha said "Go forth...for the good of the many, for the happiness of the many, out of compassion for the world, for the welfare, the good and the happiness of gods and people."

To slowly conclude, may we express our gratitude to one and all. Let us express our gratitude to each other. As we thank our Graduates for their endeavors, let us all express gratitude to all others who played a part in our lives.

Finally, to conclude this Benediction, for those who wish to join me, please join me in gassho/anjali, a gesture of reverence and respect in Buddhism, to recite Namo Amida Butsu, The Buddha's Name That I Call in Gratitude in response to Namo Amida Butsu, The Buddha's Name Which Calls Me to Entrust.

Namo Amida Butsu, Namo Amida Butsu, Namo Amida Butsu / Entrusting in All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion.
See Headquarters Update Newsletter – May 2023 for this article.

'Headquarters Connections' is curated by Steve Lohse and Cindy Alm.

Ed. Note: Please join with us in expressing gratitude for Eric Matsumoto's years of service as Bishop of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, wishing him all the best, and looking forward to working with him for years to come, wherever he serves. Please also join us in welcoming Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani as the new HHMH Bishop. Namo Amida Butsu.

Remember Your Loved Ones: Obon Memorial Lanterns Now Available



Order forms have gone out by US Mail for Obon memorial lanterns. This Hawaii Bet-suin program allows you to memorialize your departed loved ones with lanterns displayed in the hondo during Bon season. Ribbons with loved ones' names are attached to the lanterns, which are available in three sizes. Donations made when ordering lanterns are an important source of income for the temple. We invite you to participate!



Need to download and print an order form or prefer to order online? Please visit <http://hhhb.link/bonlanterns>. Forms are also available at the Hawaii Bet-suin business office. In Gassho

Radio Programs JULY 2023

Japanese Language,
SATURDAY AT 7:30 AM

7/1...Rev. Shinkai Murakami
7/8...Rev. Ryoso Toshima
7/15...Rev. Ryuta Furumoto
7/22...Rev. Shingo Furusawa
7/29...TBD

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 returns in August 2023.

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 hawaiiibetsuin.org. You may also check the Betsuin Bulletin sent by email on Fridays (subscribe at hawaiiibetsuin.org/email-signup/). Or, you can call the Betsuin office at (808) 536-7044.

In Memoriam



MAY 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

11/24/2021	SATO, William Yoshiaki (92)
06/04/2022	NAKAMOTO, Edna Junko (97)
03/05/2023	NOJIRI, Wayne Thomas (73)
03/31/2023	AKAHOSHI, Misuye (101)
04/04/2023	OKUMURA, Gail Akemi (84)

MAY 2023

05/01/2023	NISHIZAWA, Doris Fumie (98)
05/09/2023	SODETANI, Eugene Takeo (87)
05/20/2023	URADA, June Hiroko (65)
05/22/2023	NAKATA, Joanne Shigeko (77)
05/25/2023	NAGATA, Edward Takeo (87)

Monthly Nursing Home Services

Hale O Meleana

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

STARTING JULY!

Hale Ho Aloha

Service on Tuesday, JULY 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