



1727 Pali Highway
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

GOJI

Vol. 78 No. 11



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

2023 Slogan:

"Building Healthy
Sanghas: Sharing Joy
Together"

BETSUIN
MINISTERS

Chief Minister

Rev. Yuika Hasebe

Ministerial Staff

Rev. Shingo Furusawa

Rev. Blayne

Nakasone Sakata

Rev. Charlene Kihara

Hawaii Buddhist Council Bodhi Day Service Scheduled for December 3; Betsuin Bodhi Day will be December 10

Hawaii Buddhist Council (HBC) to observe Bodhi Day in-person at Nichiren Mission of Hawaii, 33 Pulelehua Way, on December 3, 2023. at 9:30 am

Bodhi Day is essential to all Buddhist traditions worldwide and is considered the day that Shakyamuni Buddha attained enlightenment while sitting under a Bodhi Tree. On that day, he awakened to the ultimate truth of suffering: that suffering is caused by desire. To end suffering, Shakyamuni Buddha taught the Four Noble Truths. So, after many years of subjecting his body to extreme deprivation practices of meditation, he came to the realization of awakening, and his teachings continue to lead us to the true life of peace and happiness.

Please join the HBC in its observance of Bodhi Day on December 3, 2023, in person starting at 9:30 AM. The speaker will be Bishop Myokei Caine-Barrett, and her topic will be "Buddhism and Women." Bishop Caine-Barrett, who is the Bishop of the Myokenji Temple in Houston Texas, is the Bishop of the Nichiren Shu Buddhist Order of North America. She is the first woman and Westerner to hold this position.

Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin will observe its own Bodhi Day service on December 10, 2023, at 9:30 am. It will be a hybrid service, in person and via Zoom. Our guest speakers for this service will be the Honolulu Junior Young Buddhist Association (YBA).

To receive the Zoom link for the Bodhi Day service, please get in touch with the Betsuin office at (808) 536-7044 or go to the Hawaii Betsuin website (hawaiibetsuin.org).

Happy Bodhi Day!



Dharma Message: "What state of mind do you want?" Rev. Blayne Nakasone Sakata

"What state of mind do you want? Even if you attain the state of mind you want, it will change again. Do not depend on the mind which keeps changing."

This passage comes from a book entitled, *Zuiken's Shinshu Dharma-pada*, translated by Zuio Hisao Inagaki. In contemplating about what to write for this month's Goji, I started with what does December mean to us? For the month of December, there are two major events, right? Christmas (even though we are Buddhist), and there is New Year's. During New Year's time a lot of people start to reflect on the past year and make New Year's resolutions. Have you made yours yet? I have not, but that is because as a traveler on this Nembutsu path, I questioned whether

we need New Year's resolutions. I found that the excerpt from Zuiken H. Inagaki answers this question for me.

These words by Zuiken H. Inagaki made me reflect on the idea of New Year's resolutions. It reminded me that yes, my mind is always changing. What I think I want now will not necessarily be the same a few months from now nor even a few days later.

Our minds could change from one second to the next. An example of a resolution is "I will be a nicer person to others." But if I think about previous years, during the new year's my family would go shopping. I'm not sure who else goes new year's shopping, but it is very crowded. During those times, I would think to myself, "there are so many people who are in my way." I would get frustrated, so there goes the resolution to be a kinder person.

Our minds shift and change constantly. In contrast, Zuiken Inagaki mentioned

that the mind of Amida Buddha never changes. It is the mind that decided many eons ago to save all beings without any reservation.

This great compassion and wisdom comes to us in the form of the Name, Namo Amida Butsu.



So when it comes to New Year's resolutions, as my mind changes from one instant to the next, I choose to rely on Amida's mind. In reciting the Nembutsu we are able to awaken to what has been done for us to live this life to the fullest. And rather than committing to change once a year, I am empowered with the Nembutsu as my guide to better myself everyday. In doing so, I hope to continue to share the dharma with you all as we walk this Nembutsu path together with an attitude of gratitude.



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@hawaiiibetsuin.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*; 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.*

DECEMBER 2023

Speakers Schedule

- 3 HBC Bodhi Day Service
Nichiren Mission of Hawaii,
33 Pulelehua Way
No Betsuin Service
- 10 9:30 AM
Betsuin Bodhi Day Service
Honolulu Jr. YBA
- 17 9:30 AM
Mary Foster
Commemoration Service
Special Speaker
- 24 9:30 AM Rev. Kihara
- 31 New Year's Eve Service
11:00 PM
English: Rev. Hasebe
Japanese: Rev. Furusawa
No morning service

Welcome to Our New Business Manager, Jenny Wakumoto!

We are pleased to introduce our new Business Manager Jenny Wakumoto who started working on November 20th. Jenny



was born and raised in Pearl City and was involved in the Pearl City Hongwanji YBA growing up. Upon graduating from Pearl City High School, she moved to Los Angeles to attend Loyola Marymount College where she received a Bachelors and an MBA degree in Marketing. After college she spent over 25 years working in the field of advertising as a media planner and director. She decided to return home to the islands to be closer to her family and friends. We are very happy she is back and a part of our office team.

Have No Fear: Investigating the Abhaya Mudra

In recent years, visitors accessing the columbarium on the makai side of the temple have passed a bronze statue of the Buddha with arms raised halfway, elbows bent, and palms facing forward. Have you seen this statue and wondered what the symbolic hand gesture, or mudra, means? Until very recently, I had not given the statue much thought. I saw it simply as an aesthetically pleasing artwork appropriate for a Buddhist temple.

One recent Friday evening, several Boy Scout Troop 49 scouts and dads helped move everything out of the Ministers' Waiting Room to prepare for replacement of the carpet. Among the last items we moved was the palms-forward Buddha statue. The statue's modest size belies how heavy it is. After placing skids under the pedestal, two scouts pulled on straps tied to the skids, slowly backing up as the statue began to glide across the carpet. The Buddha's expression was one of equanimity that, together with the hand gesture, conveyed "everything is OK" and maybe a little of, "keep backing up boys, you're doing fine." (A one-minute video is available — scan the QR code or visit hnhb.link/aok)

I wanted to know more about the statue and the significance of the mudra. My sources were Reverend Tatsuo Muneto, various web pages, and even ChatGPT. Reverend Muneto noted that the statue was likely an art object from Southeast Asia and guessed that it had been purchased around the time of the construction of the new columbarium in the late 1970s. (Prior to that, the columbarium was where the lounge is now.)

Web sources indicate the hand gesture is the fear-dispelling Abhaya Mudra. Here is how ChatGPT put it: "The ges-

ture is a symbol of peace, protection, and the dispelling of fear. It conveys the message that the Buddha is approachable, and those who follow the path of dharma (righteousness) need not fear anything. The Abhaya Mudra is a gesture of compassion, calmness, and the absence of threat." Frequently, the mudra features only the right hand up, but does sometimes appear in a "double Abhaya Mudra," particularly in Thailand.

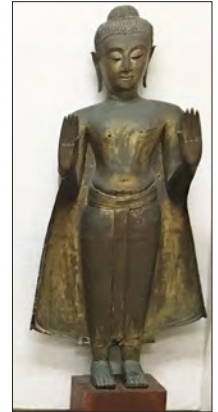
The meaning of the mudra ties in naturally with modern times. Holding both hands up to show they are empty is of course a way of showing one means no harm and that others should not be fearful. There's also a tie-in one can make with climate change. One story about the Buddha relates how he used the Abhaya Mu-



dra to prevent a rising river from submerging a hermit village where he was staying for the night.

Now when I see the statue, I will be reminded to face the perils and uncertainties of climate change without fear and to act in ways that protect others and myself. I will also recall that Friday evening moving furniture with the scouts, a fine example of the can-do spirit of our affiliated groups and mutual support within our temple sangha.

— David Atcheson, Interim Business Manager. Your additional knowledge or insights about the statue are welcome! datcheson@hawaiibetsuin.org



End-of-Year Fund Drive is Underway

Greetings to Honpa Hongwanji Hawai'i Betsuin members, affiliates, and friends. The End-of-Year Fund Drive is off to a great start. As of the December 2023 Goji press time, we've received \$68,000 in donations, including receipts turned in from Give Aloha donations. Our goal for this drive is to reach \$100,000, so we still have a ways to go. We are deeply grateful to those of you who have donated in large and smaller amounts. We know that giving is from the heart and based on whatever you are able to provide. Every donation will go a long way in helping us sustain and grow the viability of Hawai'i Betsuin.

For your convenience, we will include here a copy of the response form that went out with our end-of-year letter. Thank you again.

— Jon Matsuoka, Executive Director

2023 Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin End of Year Fund Drive *Thank You!*

Donation: ☐ \$100 ☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000 ☐ Other: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please make checks payable to Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin (or simply HHHB).

☐ I am interested in making a stock donation. Please contact me with information.

☐ If the temple acknowledges gifts in the *Goji*, I wish my donation to be "Anonymous."

Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, 1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813

BWA News and Events

Fujiko Motobu

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 03 HBC Bodhi Day Service at Nichiren Mission of Hawaii

Dec. 10 Hawaii Betsuin Bodhi Day Service

Dec. 17 Mary Foster Commemorative Service

Dec. 17 BWA Year End Gathering: reservations required

Dec. 24 BWA Refreshments - Team #3

Dec. 23 BWA Trolley Ride: reservations required (5:30 PM)

Dec. 31 Hawaii Betsuin New Year's Eve Service (11:00 PM)

Next Executive Board meeting: January 13, 2024 in the Lounge

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNED? It is already December, and soon year 2023 will be of the past. What did you accomplish in the year 2023? What did you learn about Amida Buddha and Shinran Shonin that enlightened you? I was born to a Jodo Shinshu family and went to Hilo Hongwanji from birth until World War II started on December 7, 1941 when I was 12 years old. Church-going stopped then for there were no ministers available, for they were taken in as prisoners, accused of being Japanese spies or agents of some sort. This was all because they were Japanese and looked Japanese, who were our enemies. I did not attend any church services during the crucial years, therefore, I never really understood what Jodo Shinshu Buddhism was all about.

Two years after the war ended and Japan had lost, I was already off to college on the mainland; therefore, I did not go to any Buddhist temples. I visited many Christian churches with my college classmates. I went to Lutheran, Protestant, Catholic, Methodist, and other Christian churches. After returning to Hawaii and becoming serious about my religion, Jodo Shinshu, I realized

that all religions basically teach the same thing, to be honest, good, kind, compassionate people. Christians believe in God and Buddhists believe in Amida. The similarities are plentiful.

The most satisfying thing that I discovered in Buddhism happened in my old age, probably in my eighties when I became serious about Jodo Shinshu teachings. Shinran Shonin said that all we human beings need to do is to recite the Nembutsu, "Namo Amida Butsu," and upon our death, we immediately go to Ojodo and will be reborn into Bodhisattvas. "All bad ones will be saved. Therefore, all good ones will be saved." There are millions of invisible Buddhas among us. Whenever we think of someone, that means they are right here with us. We are never alone.

Religion is difficult to comprehend. For ministers Jodo Shinshu teachings are part of their daily living; therefore, it is part of them. However, to us, the ordinary people, we do not quite understand the teachings so easily. The teachings must

be explained to us in many different ways in order for us to understand. Although we are adults, perhaps usage of children's language, simple vocabulary, will be

easier to understand. Simple vocabulary ought to be used by the ministers. Jodo Shinshu is a religion for the living and not for the dead. It is not a religion based on funerals. We honor the deceased by remembering them through services for 49 days, one year, three years, etc., so I thought that our religion was for the dead. How wrong I was. I am happy that I realized my error even at this old age, for now I can truly appreciate Shinran Shonin's teachings and appreciate Amida Buddha. I do hope others are not as confused as I was for all these years. Listen carefully to the ministers and don't be afraid to ask questions.



YEAR 2023 WAS A VERY DIFFICULT AND TRYING YEAR FOR ALL OF YOU, BUT YOU SURVIVED. In March, 2020 the first epidemic of the corona virus appeared and things went into a whirlwind chaos. Temple services closed on Sundays, and people had to be very careful about their health. One after the other vaccines and sickness appeared and we had to be very cautious. Unfortunately, many of our friends passed away during the three years when we were kept in isolation. Many of us could not even attend their funerals because they were limited in the number of people who could assemble at the temple. Being unable to interact in person made those three years something that we do not want to see happen again. Personal interaction, in seeing one another person to person is a very important aspect in living.

continued on page 5

The Boy Scouts Pre-Sale Kadomatsu Pick Up December 17th



in the
Annex
Social
Hall
9:00 am
to
12:00 pm

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 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

Fujiko continued from page 4

ing. Otherwise, for the elders dementia sets in. Lack of personal communication is a very sad thing.

BE KIND TO THE ELDERS WHO ARE DEAF: Until you become old and deaf, you do not realize how miserable life can be in losing your ability to hear easily. Others get impatient with you because you don't respond quickly or correctly. But how can a deaf person respond when you cannot hear? No one chooses to become handicapped. It is a very sad and unfortunate time in life, especially for the old people. Someday you too will become old and lose your hearing or sight abilities as well as balance in walking. Hopefully we do not develop dementia along with all of the handicaps. If we live a long life, it ought to be quality living; therefore, the young ones must help to make life better and happier for the elders. Do not criticize and scold the old ones. With the recitation of the Nembutsu, "Namo Amida Butsu," let us make life a happy one for all. **SMILE, AND KEEP A HAPPY FACE FOR OTHERS TO ENJOY.**

HUMOR:

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."

We're Collecting Aloha Shirts

The Betsuin BWA continues to collect aloha shirts for distribution to our military serving overseas. Please contact Jo desMarets (purpleldy2@aol.com) to donate aloha shirts or for more information!

Search for "Hawaiian Shirts for Deployed Soldiers" on Facebook to see photos of our heroes receiving their Aloha Shirts while serving in remote locations around the world!



"Hawaiian Shirts for Deployed Soldiers"

Message from Jon Matsuoka, Executive Director

With generous support from Jimmy Toyama of Mindful Hawai'i, I have been attending regular sessions of Islands of Sanity led by Margaret Wheatley. She has authored multiple books on mindfulness and through her writings has recently promoted the concepts of Mindful Warriorship, Refugio – beloved communities of humanitarianism and hope, and the power of ancient wisdom and story.

There are about 120 persons nationwide who are enrolled. Participation is East Coast centric which accounts for having to wake up and be ready by 4 am Hawai'i time to attend the online sessions. Margaret has coined the term, "Mindful Warrior" which broadly means awakening consciousness to become an activist for peace. Her work is extremely timely and pertinent given our global state driven by greed and disparity, social conflict and warfare, and climate disruption. She often frames these matters in terms of Eastern and Buddhist philosophy; once again demonstrating the relevance and utility of what we at Honpa Hongwanji know best, but are oft challenged to put

into context.

Attending workshops on the continent never fail to reinforce my appreciation of the trove of wisdom we have in Hawai'i. Dr. Davianna McGregor first coined the term, Cultural Kipuka, which is tantamount to Wheatley's Refugio, referring to rural Hawaiian communities that stemmed the tide of westernization. These vestibules of indigenous culture were critical to the Hawaiian renaissance and continued advancement. Auntie Puanani Burgess has spent her life promoting the notion of Beloved Community, referring to sanctuaries of compassion. Like nature preserves, sacred places are islands of sanity within a world gone awry, where we draw on the wisdom of ancestors to perpetuate benevolence and justice. From my vantage, Hawai'i is a global thought leader, the founder of many original ideas and practices.

Dr. George Tanabe has long talked about the diaspora of Buddhism as it went from India to China to Japan and finally to Hawai'i. As it moved

from place to place it took on the qualities of the people and cultures that adopted it. But, as he states, when it moved from Japan to Hawai'i well over a hundred years ago, it basically stayed the same. This despite the fact we live in one of the most culturally and intellectually dynamic places in the world.

Given our state of affairs and pending membership crisis, the time is now to implement strategies to diversify congregations and rebrand Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. Hawai'i and the continent are brimming with profound new ideas and practices that we must be open to trying to stay viable. As Nana Veary and countless sages from bygone have compellingly stated, "Change We Must."



Project Dana Public Presentations

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

9:30 am to 11:30 am

Zoom and in person at the Hawaii Betsuin: "Help with Medicare Covered Care or Services: Resolving Issues and Problems through Immediate Advocacy"; Speakers: Bryan Fischer & Gina Westphal, Livanta LLC

Saturday, December 9, 2023

9:30 am to 11:30 am

Zoom and in person at Waipahu Hongwanji Temple: "ID Theft 101"; speaker: Randy Lawrence, Identity Theft Resource Center
For More Information, contact Maria Morales, Program Coordinator
(808) 945-3736 or
cgsg@projectdana.org

Fundraiser for Hawaii Betsuin:

Hiromi Peterson, Master Calligrapher and 2023 Living Treasures 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"

Dharma School News

Debbie Kubota

We have had a couple months filled with interesting classes and activities. On Sunday, October 22, our Dharma School students made their own onen-jus. We were very fortunate to have Mrs. Miki Saito, a Dharma School parent, lead this activity with our stu-



dents. Everyone was so happy to choose their own beads and to be able to make their own colorful onenjus for use during our temple services and activities.

The Betsuin held an LGBTQ+ Service on Sunday, October 29 with Dr. Benjamin Bruch as the guest speaker. To convey the message of acceptance and diversity for our Dharma School class, Alan Kubota read a story, "The Pigs' Picnic," by Keiko Kazsa. It was a delightful story about Mr. Pig, who tries to change his appearance with features

from other animals (lion's mane, zebra's stripes, fox's tail), thinking that he would look more attractive to Miss Pig. With all of the various animals' features, he looked hideous and actually scared Miss Pig. Miss Pig preferred to have Mr. Pig just the way he was. The moral of the story is that Mr. Pig was just fine, just as he was. To emphasize this point, the students made folding stands with reflective paper to show an imperfect reflection of themselves, with a quote on the opposite side, "You are perfect...just as you are."



On Sunday, November 5, Thanh and Shally Giang led a lesson on Gratitude. They started the session with a video, "The Lion and the Mouse," a story by Aesop showing that no matter how small you are, you can still help a greater creature.

The students made origami stars and chose cloth pouches (lovingly handmade by Shally) to store their stars. The students' assignment was to be reminded each day to show gratitude by taking the stars out of the pouch and have each star represent someone or something that they are grateful for. Many thanks to the Giangs for this fun and meaningful activity!



For our Thanksgiving project on Sunday, November 12, the students decorated table cards with "Words of Thanksgiving" on one side and cut out tree trunks and branches to put on the other side of the card. Then they added fall leaves with things they are thankful for written on each leaf. The students were thankful for family, friends, food, shelter, home, electronics, TV.

Our Dharma School ohana came together on November 19 to clean up the Temple Annex. It's nice to be able to work together to make sure that our temple is spick and span and nice and clean for the new year.

We have many more fun activities planned in 2024, with Sunday morning Dharma School activities and Saturday evening gatherings on a monthly basis. Please join us for fellowship, food and fun! Bring your children, grandchildren, neighbors and friends.



"B" Is for Busy; BWA Bounces Back from the Pandemic... A Photo Montage!

We... supported the LGBTQIA community Pride Parade...



...collected items from the Family Promise Wish List....



...helped serve refreshments after our dear friend, and member's, service...



...sewed Holiday Honu for Family Promise keiki...

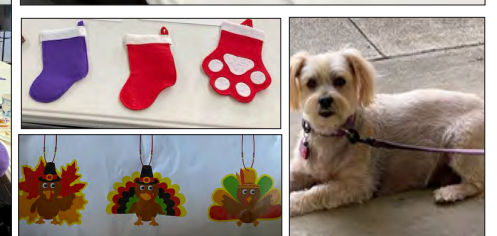


...participated in the Temple cleanup...



...revived the ailing lotus pond...

And, We Had Fun Doing Holiday Craft Projects after November's Sunday Services!



Headquarters Connections

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

TRIPLE CELEBRATION BUDDHIST EDUCATION SERIES

From Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii's *Headquarters Update*, November 2023

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Triple Celebration Committee has organized a Triple Celebration Buddhist Education Series to be held online throughout the year of 2024.

Topics in the education series align with the structure of the *Kyogyoshinsho*, a work written by Shinran Shonin in 1224 that was the basis for establishing the Jodo Shinshu Tradition. The *Kyogyoshinsho* shows the way of attaining enlightenment (sho) through reciting the Name of Amida Buddha (gyo) caused by entrusting heart (shin) which is taught in the Larger Sutra (Kyo).

The education series will consist of 4 main topics:

1. The Significance of the establishment of Jodo Shinshu Tradition
2. Essence of Kyogyoshinsho
3. Transmission of Jodo Shinshu from the past to present
4. The world is waiting for Buddhism and Shinran Shonin

The first two sessions are on Saturday, January 13 & Saturday, January 20 from 10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. (Hawaii Standard Time). The featured speaker will be Dr. David Matsumoto of the Institute of Buddhist Studies, Berkeley. His lectures are "What is Mahayana Buddhism?" and "What is Pure Land Buddhism?"

The series will continue in February with two lectures, and then from March through August there will be one session per month. Please see the attached flyer for more details.

HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII
TRIPLE CELEBRATION
ONLINE BUDDHIST EDUCATION SERIES

Session	Topic	Date	Time	Speaker
1	What is Mahayana Buddhism?	JANUARY 13	10 AM	DR. DAVID MATSUMOTO
2	What is Pure Land Buddhism?	JANUARY 20	10 AM	DR. MATSUMOTO
3	Development of Jodo Shinshu in Japan and Hawaii Part 1	FEBRUARY 3	2 PM	PROF. MITSUYA DAKE
4	Development of Jodo Shinshu in Japan and Hawaii Part 2	FEBRUARY 17	2 PM	PROF. DAKE
5	Significance of establishment of Jodo Shinshu Tradition	MARCH 16	2 PM	PROF. EISHO NASU
6	Kyogyoshinsho: Teaching	APRIL 13	10 AM	REV. MUTSUMI WONDRA
7	Kyogyoshinsho: Practice	MAY 18	10 AM	REV. YUKI SUGAHARA
8	Kyogyoshinsho: Entrusting Heart	JUNE 22	10 AM	REV. KIYONOBU KUWAHARA
9	Kyogyoshinsho: Realization	JULY 20	10 AM	REV. HENRY ADAMS
10	The world is waiting for Buddhism and Shinran Shonin: Joy of the Nembutsu	AUGUST 24	2 PM	REV. GENE SEKIYA

Scan to register **September 7 & 8**

850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth
800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching
135th Anniversary of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

More information about individual sessions, including specific session flyers, is available on the Buddhist Study Center website.

Organizers hope the series will help participants relate the teachings to their lives, bring the Buddha's wisdom to social issues, and inspire individual temples to hold Buddhism classes. The overarching goal is transforming people's lives guided by Amida Buddha's Primal Vow.

The sessions will be delivered online via Zoom. To receive the Zoom link, please register using this link: <https://forms.gle/FDZmLGBZuW1AHata8>



Scan to register...

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

Please see <https://hongwanjihawaii.com/news/newsletter/> for complete Newsletters. Namo Amida Butsu.

Radio Programs
KZOO (1210 AM)

Japanese Language,
SATURDAY AT 7:30 AM
DECEMBER 2023

12/02....Rev. Ryoso Toshima
12/09....Rev. Yuki Sugahara
(Rimban, Buddhist
Church of Sacramento)
12/16....Rev. Daido Baba
12/23....Rev. Joshin Kamuro
12/30....Rev. Shingo Furusawa

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.

Services are open to in-person attendees and a Zoom option continues to be available for the 9:30 a.m. English-language Family Services. The 8 a.m. Japanese language services continue in person only.

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

In Memoriam



OCTOBER 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

JULY 2023

03 FUJINO, Gilbert Yukio (87)
04 NOMURA, Esther Sumiko (88)
05 AKAMUNE, Janet Tsurue (90)
08 OBA, Michiko (99)
09 MARS, Miyoko (88)
11 MATSUMOTO, Stanley Kazuo (79)
18 SHIMODA, Evelyn Tsugie (100)
19 YAMAMOTO, Randall Yoshito (65)
24 MIYAMOTO, Ruby Sachie (78)

OCTOBER 2023

07/14 NAGAISHI, William Makoto (90)
08/03 OKAMURA, Dorothy Takako (90)
08/22 SHIMADA, Chisato Hida (90)
09/13 TAJIMA, Akiko Kaminaka (91)
09/29 SUMIDA, Robert Kazuo (93)
10/05 OKI, Nancy Natsuko (96)
10/07 SHIMOZONO, Betty Misao (98)
10/13 MORIMOTO, Florence Junko (85)

Schedule of Monthly Nursing Home Services

Leahi Hospital

Service every 2nd Tuesday at 10:00 AM

Hale O Meleana

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

Hale Ho Aloha

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

Maluhia Hospital

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

2023 Memorial Service Schedule

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

2022: 1st year

2021: 3rd year

2017: 7th year

2011: 13th year

2007: 17th year

1999: 25th year

1991: 33th year

1974: 50th 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