

## **Living Well till the End of Life: Have you had the Conversation**

The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii End of Life Committee is pleased to announce a series of small group sessions. Our theme: ***Living Well till the End of Life: Have you had the Conversation.*** Group conversations are an opportunity for participants (limited to 10-12 in each group) to discuss end-of-life issues, share experiences and concerns, and make decisions. The committee has asked Joel Merchant to be facilitator. In a career spanning fifty years in the Islands – teacher, business executive, consultant – Joel experienced with group meetings. Active with the Buddhist Study Center and Hawaii Betsuin since the 1960s, he has completed ~~ing~~ tokudo, and served as Pacific Buddhist Academy chaplain and assistant minister at Jikoen Hongwanji.

There are great benefits in these small group discussions. Participants share concerns and experiences. The small group format is the opportunity for participants to know others, learn, and share stories. Groups respect listening without judgment as members make important decisions. A group gathers once each week for five meetings, which offers time to discuss issues in depth. Groups meet in a safe, comfortable, quiet setting, which encourages reflective conversations about important issues.

The goal of these small groups is to connect people and resources; review advance care planning; discuss family experience with elder care, hospice care, wills and trusts, advanced directives; create opportunities for participation; share responses to articles, books and videos; make choices and decisions about end-of-life issues and aging with dignity.

The first small group meeting schedule: Tuesday, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Annex Temple, May 20, May 27, June 3, June 10, June 17

The second small group meeting schedule: Tuesday, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Annex Temple, June 24, July 1, July 8, July 15, July 22, July 29.

Additional group meetings will be scheduled at a later date.

To register, complete the form below and mail it with your payment for \$25.00 to: Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, 1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817. Make checks payable to Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii (HHMH). Deadline to registration is **May 15** and is based on a first come, first served basis. An End of Life Committee member will contact you confirming your status.

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**REGISTRATION FORM**      Indicate Preference: First Group \_\_\_\_\_ Second Group \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone contact: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Temple affiliation (if any): \_\_\_\_\_

***Mahalo!***