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MARCH 2018 NEWSLETTER of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin www.hawaiibetsuin.org

2018 Slogan: Embrace Change: Harmony (Accept Differences)

BETSUIN MINISTERS

Chief Minister Rev. Toyokazu Hagio

Ministerial Staff Rev. Yuika Hasebe Rev. Arthur Kaufmann Rev. Joshin Kamuro Rev. Sol Kalu

"Pure Land, Not Disneyland" (Dharma Message given by Rev. Sol Kalu at Feb. 11, 2018 10:00 service)

Let's join our hands together in gassho: The Buddha said to Ananda, "In the land of Amitabha each god and human is provided with clothing, meals, flowers, incense, ornaments, silken canopies, Dharma banners, and beautiful sounds. Their mansions, palaces, and pavilions where

they live are proportioned according to the size of their bodies. If they want precious jewels all they have to do is wish for them, and one, two, or even innumerable jewels will appear before them."from the Larger Sutra of Immeasurable Life.

Good morning, welcome, and thank you all for coming to this morning's Sunday service. It has been a busy week for most of us, with the Giseikai just concluded yesterday. I hope everyone is in reasonably good health and living in the joy of the Nembutsu teachings. Coming to the temple every Sunday to listen to the Dharma is the way to keep ourselves absorbed in the teachings, and it is an important part of the process of spiritual awakening and liberation. In our tradition of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, that spiritual awakening, receiving the entrusting mind or shinjin, as experienced and described by our founder Shinran Shonin, is a moment of profound joy and gratitude, for it is that moment of attainment of the entrusting mind that we are grasped, never to be abandoned again, through the Compassionate Vow of Amida Buddha.

I am a convert to Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, and initially, upon my conversion, I had a hard time understanding, let alone believing that such profound joy and feeling of gratitude could be felt when a person fully and totally entrusts himself to Amida Buddha. Shinran used the term *Kan-gi* to describe this feeling. *Kan-gi* is a Japanese word, which can be translated to "joy of relief" or great joy. The sanskrit equivalent of this word is "*pramudita*," which has the meaning of "joyful" with the thought that,



having begun the career of a bodhisattva, a person who had been striving for a spiritual breakthrough will finally be able to attain enlightenment and will also help others to attain enlightenment.

What exactly is this joy that is being described by these words kan-gi and pramudita?

For Shinran, it is the joy of being grasped, of being assured of birth in the Pure Land and Buddhahood, of being free from the bondage of suffering that he was struggling with during his years of difficult practice on Mt. Hiei. Upon his total entrusting to Amida Buddha's Vow, his sufferings brought about by his blind passions were transformed to virtues. Shinran must have felt that tremendous "joy of relief" of never having to worry anymore about the issues of his bonnou or blind passions and his problem with his afterlife, namely his birth in the Pure Land. His joy was such that for the rest of his life, he made great efforts, through his writings and giving of Dharma talks to share his experience and teach people how to attain that same kind of joy that he encountered with his attainment of shinjin. Shinran's life was also marked by his profound gratitude, not only to Amida Buddha but also to the seven masters that influenced much of his thinking, including his main teacher Honen Shonin.

Naturally, as a new convert to Buddhism, I was curious, and at the same time wondered whether it is possible to achieve that same level of joy borne out of the entrusting heart. I tried to recall an event in my life that caused me much profound joy and gratitude by searching the deepest recesses of my memory, and yes, there were several happy moments in my life that I can remember, but those moments were all fleeting and transitory, like the time I graduated from college and received my nursing degree, the time I passed the Philippine nursing licensure examination on the first try, and when I re

Dharma Message continued from page 1

ceived a free boat trip ticket from my parents to attend my mother's hometown summer festival in the central Philippine Islands. These joyous moments never lasted. Once the event was over or after a short period of time, it was back to the same thing. I still did not feel truly happy. I had to face life ahead with more responsibilities and tasks to survive the adult world. I had to find a real job after graduation, earn money and start living independently.

We cannot really compare that feeling of joy and bliss in the Pure Land that is described in the sacred writings to the temporary happy feelings we feel in this world of samsara. That is because most of the time a lot of people equate happiness with having the things that they want, and mostly these are material things. Of course, there are exceptions; we can feel happy over



GOJI

The **GOJI** is a monthly publication of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, Tel. (808) 536-7044. There is no newsletter published for the month of August.

DEADLINE:

Articles must be submitted no later than the 10th of the month prior to publication by e-mail (execdir@hawaiibetsuin. org), mail (1727 Pali Hwy, Honolulu, HI, 96813) or fax (536-0919). Address submissions to the **GOJ1**. Please include your name and contact information. Original images should be labeled on the reverse side with caption and return information.

GOJI STAFF:

Editorial: Jo desMarets; Dianne Ida, Randy Kawamoto, Rev. Yuika Hasebe, Japanese section editor, Production: Stacy Bradshaw, Colleen Kunishige; Joyce Tomita, Circulation: Stacy Bradshaw; Contributing reporters from Hongwanji Mission School, Buddhist Women's Association, Dharma School & Parents, Project Dana, Wednesday Gang and Gals, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Pacific Buddhist Academy, and the Kyodan

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

something that is not material, like the birth of a baby or grandchild, getting married, or getting divorced; yes, sometimes, it's a happy event for some people. But there is one thing in common with both these kinds of happiness - they are all temporary and subject to conditions that have to be met and maintained. We lose property through theft, negligence, natural and man made disasters. The newborn baby that brought so much joy in our lives will not remain as an infant and will grow to adulthood someday and leave the house. The happiness doesn't last for a long time because it is the kind of happiness that is subject to the laws of impermanence. This is called relative happiness. Now, I'm not saying that this kind of happiness is bad, happiness is happiness even if only temporary; it's better than not having any happiness at all, which would indeed be a miserable life. But the problem is that relative happiness and temporary pleasure because of their ephemeral nature, sometimes, become the seeds of future suffering when we become attached to them. There comes craving for more and when the source of that temporary pleasure is gone or changes, both physical and mental suffering follow. There is another type of happiness, which is not subject to impermanence, called Absolute Happiness, and this is the kind that comes about upon the attainment of Buddhahood or birth in the Pure Land.

The Pure Land of Amida Buddha is often described as a Land of Perfect Bliss and Highest Joy, most specifically in the Larger Sutra of Immeasurable Life. In the introductory words to this Dharma message, I mentioned about the Pure Land as a place where gods and men are provided with all creature comforts such as fine food, clothing, fragrant incense, and beautiful music, and one can have anything he wants just by thinking about it, and it would miraculously appear. When I converted to Buddhism and started my very first studies of Pure Land Buddhism, I could not help but compare the Pure Land to the heaven of other religious belief systems. The descriptions are very similar indeed, and some authors of western books on the Pure Land even use the words "Western Paradise" to refer to Amida Buddha's realm. One of the definitions of the word paradise is a place or state of bliss, felicity, or delight, and the Pure Land as described in the Sutra is indeed such a place. Therefore, I thought it is the Buddhist equivalent of heaven, where the souls of righteous people dwell in eternal bliss and tranquility.

However, as I learned more about basic and Pure Land Buddhism, I began to wonder if those descriptions of the Pure Land in the sutras are really what they are. Are there really beautiful colorful flowers, melodious music, fragrances, precious jewelry, and fine food that come on demand in the Pure Land? I don't really know, for I have never been there, but my present understanding of the Pure Land is that those descriptions of beautiful flowers, music, food, jewelry, and so on, are not meant to be taken literally.

To me, birth in the Pure Land is becoming a Buddha, and a Buddha, by definition, is a being who has attained enlightenment and already eliminated all sensuous desires, passions, and material wants. A Buddha, an enlightened being, has only two primary virtues, and those are wisdom and compassion. Buddhas no longer have the need for sensual gratification, no need for food, fine clothing, and jewelry, and so I would say that the Pure Land is not a place to cater to ordinary human wants and desires. It is not a place where one can imagine having everything that he or she would want. It is not a place to have fun and enjoyment like one would experience in an amusement park. It is the Pure Land, not Disneyland.

But why is the Pure Land described as such in the sutras? Perhaps, it is because when the Buddha taught about the Pure Land (O-jodo), he was trying to describe a place to unenlightened people that is beyond ordinary human comprehension, one that cannot be described through ordinary human words, and so the seemingly worldly

Betsuin BWA News and Events

LIFE SEEMS TO BE SO STRESS-FUL:

This year, 2018, at Yale University, Psyc 157, <u>Psychology and the Good Life</u> enrollment came to 1182 students, or nearly one fourth of undergraduates enrolled. This stands as the most popular course in Yale's 316 year history. In 1992 the previous record holder was Psychology and the Law, with 1050 students. Most large lectures do not exceed 600 students.

The course taught by a psychology professor and head of one of Yale's residential colleges, Laurie Santos, tries to teach students how to lead a happier, more satisfying life. She hopes to see good habits, things like students showing more gratitude, less procrastination, increasing social connections, and hopefully changing the school's culture. Students claim to have been living a stressful life and feel that they can learn a few tricks to having a less stressful life through what they can learn in this course and gain happiness.

What we learn in our Jodo Shinshu teachings seem to ideally fit what the professor seems to be teaching. She is stressing the importance of Dharma, individual's duty to fulfill the customs of the law, conformity to one's duty and nature, by showing appreciation and gratitude among ourselves. It is a wonderful feeling to realize that these human natures that we learn in our Buddhist teachings are now being stressed even in the universities

PEN PALS BOND FOR 75 YEARS; STILL GOING STRONG

Eighty-nine year old Mildred Sakumoto has had a pen pal, Darlyne Kellicutt, age 88 from Wisconsin since 1943, making it 75 years of pen pal friendship. Mildred's older brother was in the 100th Battalion, stationed in Wisconsin. One day while bowling he broke his leg and was taken to a local hospital. Kellicutt's father happened to be at the hospital and the two struck up a conversation and became friends.

Mildred's brother Calvin was invited to the newly found friend's home and there he met Darlyne, who asked Calvin if he had any sister. Mildred and Darlyne became pen pals since then, writing to one another. In 1982 Kellicutt's son got a job at a local phone company, enabling Darlyne to make long distance phone calls to Mildred. This started their at least once a month phone calls. Darlyne and her husband visited Hawaii and Mildred a few times: however. Mildred has never been to Wisconsin. The deep rooted friends are still going on strong with at least a once a month phone conversation from Hawaii to Wisconsin and vice versa

Good luck and keep it up, Mildred. You have a very special friend. I lost track of my pen pal from New Jersey after corresponding for about 5 years. That was it. However I often wonder what happened to that person. He was a handsome guy too.

THINGS TO ABIDE BY AS WE GROW OLDER

Having participated in the Martin Luther King walk, Kimiyo Miyose and I learned a lesson which we would like to share with you. Whenever we participate in any excursion, we need to have some rules to abide by. Some of these are:

1) Each BWA member should have a partner. Keep partner informed. Do not wander away. (2) For any out of town traveling, we need to have doctor's permission to travel. (3) If anyone has medications, be sure your partner or leader knows what the meds are and how they are taken. (4) All participants should have a cell phone. Emergency contact person and phone numbers need to be made available. (5) Perhaps age limits for participation needs to be established. or a family member can accompany the BWA member. (6) Have at least \$2.50 in cash for the bus ride. If you have your medicare card it's \$1.00 for bus ride, in other words, have some cash with you at all times.

Fujiko Motobu

DANA DAY CONTRIBUTIONS:

Dana day collections started on February 4th and ended on March 4th. Details will follow in next month's Goji.

TASTE OF HONGWANJI BA-ZAAR: MARCH 25th, 8:30-1:00

BWA ladies, we are going to need lots of help prior to the bazaar, so please have every intention to help. You are the ones who make the event successful. Thank you.

LAUGHTER IS THE BEST MEDICINE

After being married for several years and still no children, the wife decided to see the doctor. After the examination, the doctor told her she has a cyst growing in her womb and if she becomes pregnant it will be a miracle.

When her husband returned home that evening, he found his wife crying and asked what the doctor had told her. She replied, "The doctor said I have a fish growing in my womb and if I become pregnant it will be a mackerel."

INDIAN NAMES: An Indian chief and his son were walking through the meadow when his son asked him how their names were chosen. The chief said, "Well, it is chosen at the time of conception. Your older sister was conceived under some falling stars so she is called Falling Star. Your younger sister was conceived beside a running brook so she is called Running Brook. The chief looked at his son and asked, "You understand now, Broken Rubber?"

CORRECTION: Wendie Yumori made the Peach Barvarian for the recent BWA function. I mistakenly thought that Sharon Yokoyama had donated the dessert, but she gave the family recipe to Wendie Yumori who made the dessert. Thank you to all.

President's Corner: Dexter Mar

Since our installation on January 20th, your Betsuin Board of Directors has met several times to get acquainted with each other and the opportunities of our Centennial year, 2018.

We ended 2017 with Betsuin membership at 862 families & individuals (versus 825 in 2016). Much thanks to our Executive Director, Stacy Bradshaw, for her hard work and commitment to the Betsuin to increase our membership. Let's keep growing!

The main ongoing business is launching our Centennial Building Project. This takes much work with both Facilities and Finance folks. The Facility Master Plan (the list of projected maintenance jobs needed in the next 5 years) has been updated and is a continuing process. If you have concerns, please drop a note, with your name and contact information, at the Betsuin Business Office. Please stay tuned for more information in the coming months.

Using the false Missile Alert as a learning opportunity, the Board is reviewing and sharpening the Emergency Preparedness procedures for the entire Betsuin campus. The scope includes:

- 1. First Aid for fainting
- Instruction for the AED (automated external defibrillator)
- 3. Fire drills
- 4. Tsunami/Hurricane threats

Once procedures are in place, training classes will be offered to learn what to do.

This brief message captures only a few

Spring 2018 Dharma Light Program Is Underway! Schedule For March - July 2018

Start the New Year by keeping your "link bright and strong" through thoughtful study. Most classes for the first half of 2018 will be given at local temples (Wahiawa, Aiea, Pearl City, Puna-Big Island), so this may be more convenient for some of you.

The 44th Annual Summer Session in July will feature Professor Ken Tanaka, noted author of "Ocean", who will teach a weeklong seminar on "Every Day Buddhism". For complete information & pre-registration go to the BSC website, BSChawaii.org. Please mark your calendars and start 2018 on a solid foundation of wisdom and compassion.



of the many subjects the Board deals with each month. Minutes of the meetings are available from the Betsuin Business Office. You are also welcome to attend our Full Board meetings, which occur each month:

Full Board Meetings

(Sundays, a	about 11:30am)
January 28	July 15
February 25	August 19
March 18	September 9
April 8	October 14
May 6	November 11
June 3	December 16

Thank you all for your support and please continue to express your gratitude for the legacy of our beautiful Betsuin temple and 100 years of devoted service to our Sangha.

With hands together in Gassho, 《 Dexter Mar







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descriptions could be a metaphor for the real splendor of the realm of the Buddhas. In order to fully grasp what the Pure Land is, it has to be experienced. The Pure Land is a realm for enlightened beings, not for someone who is still bombu, foolish, mired in delusions. We say in Jodo Shinshu that Amida Buddha saves us as we are, sono mama; yes, but we are not born in the pure land, as we are or sono mama. We will undergo a change, a transition of mind and heart in order to be born in the Pure Land. There are no foolish, unenlightened beings there, for that is no longer the world of samsara.

There is one passage in the Larger Sutra, however, that I can easily understand regarding O-jodo. The translation is this: "In that land, there are no hells, no hungry ghosts or animal realms nor any negative conditions to suffer from." That, to me, is the real state of the Pure Land, a place where suffering and any other forms of human sorrow no longer exist. There is only peace and tranquility, no more

pain or sickness, no old age, no more death, no more rebirth into the world of darkness and delusion. The graphic descriptions of a beautiful place and the implied material rewards aren't so important to me. What is important is that O-jodo is a place where we are finally unburdened by the difficulties of the ordinary mundane human life. We could compare it to our own homes. For example, after a very hard day of stressful work, we always look forward to going home and leaving all our worries at the workplace behind. In our homes, we can sit or lie down, watch TV, eat leisurely without the time limits imposed at work, feel safe, and finally relax or sleep. We wouldn't care if our homes or apartments are not immaculately clean at the moment. What is important is that we feel safe and comfortable in our own homes, and that is what the Pure Land ultimately is, our final spiritual home sweet home. All of this is made possible for us by Amida Buddha's Boundless Compassion, and so, it is important for us to always be mindful of that Compassion and express it through the recitation of the Buddha's name in gratitude and deep joy. The Nembutsu is Amida Buddha calling to us and our response to that call. Let us recite it daily, with fervor and deep conviction.

The concept of O-jodo or the Pure Land is admittedly, not a simple matter to explain. We may have different ideas on what the Pure Land really is; indeed, many may disagree with my concepts of O-jodo, but it really doesn't matter to me. Is the Pure Land a real place somewhere in the West as the sacred texts sav? Is it in the here and now, in this realm where we are living? In our hearts or minds? It's location is not important to me, rather its existence, as a realm of peace, tranquility, and freedom from suffering that matters the most. I am grateful to Amida Buddha for His benevolence and compassion through the Primal Vow that enables us to reach the Land of Ultimate Bliss. Namo Amida Butsu!

Spring O-higan on March 18, 2018; Speaker Will Be Rev. Bert Sumikawa

The Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin cordially invites everyone to its observation of the Spring O-higan on March 18, 2018. The etymology of the word higan is from the other shore of the great gap that divides the world of delusion of ordinary, foolish unenlightened beings from the realm of enlightenment or Nirvana/ The Pure Land.

Outside of the Buddhist religion, the time of the spring higan is also known as the vernal equinox, which is the period of the year when both day and night time are of equal length, and the weather is mild, that is, neither too hot nor too cold. In other words, nature is in harmony during both the spring and autumn equinoxes. In Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, the observance of the O-higan has not only come to mean reflection and practice of the six paramitas of charity, morality, patience, effort, meditation, and wisdom which are the ways of reaching the other shore of enlightenment, but also as an expression of gratitude to Amida Buddha for awakening us to Boundless Wisdom and Compassion that enables us to free ourselves from the bondage of the illusions of our dark, unenlightened minds.

Our speaker for this year's O-higan service on March 18 and talk story session on March 17, 2018 is Rev. Bert Sumikawa. Reverend / Doctor Bert Sumikawa was born in Pearl City Peninsula and lived there until moving to Kailua. He graduated from Iolani School and earned B.S. and D.D.S degrees from Marquette University. He had his Dental residency training at Wisconsin Children's Hospital and returned to Hawaii



and practiced Pediatric Dentistry for 39 years. Rev. Bert Sumikawa received his tokudo ordination in 2007 and kyoshi in 2010 and was assigned to Kailua Hongwanji, Kapolei Buddhist Sangha, Hawaii Betsuin, and Moiliili Hongwanji. Rev. Bert Sumikawa is now retired from the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii but will soon be re-assigned as a retired minister overseeing Kailua Hongwanji and Chaplain at the Pacific Buddhist Academy.



From the Green Team

Call For Green Fair Proposals

A reminder that the Green Team is accepting proposals for the Green Fair, which will be held on Sunday, April 15 after a combined 9:30 a.m. service.

Would your group like to host a green-themed activity at a "booth" (table or tables) in the Social Hall? Do you have an individual craft or project you'd like to display in an eco-showcase area during the fair?

Please let us know by telling David Atcheson, the office, or by emailing greenteaminfo@hawaiibetsuin.org. You may also use an online form at bit.ly/greenbooth18.

Betsuin Facebook Page's Top Posts of 2017!



2017 was the inaugural year for our Betsuin Facebook page. To mark this milestone, here are the top posts of 2017 as measured by how many people saw the posts. (This is known as "Reach" in Facebook.)

Date	Post	Reach
02/02/2017	The Bishop's statement on the executive order on refugees and immigration	977
08/19/2017	Bishop's special message encouraging us to go to the Three Treasures for guidance in troubling times	909
01/02/2017	Rimban Hagio explains the math behind our 108 blind passions	817
06/13/2017	Obon announcement	741
08/29/2017	Remembering and appreciating the beloved scholar Dr. Alfred Bloom	737
10/28/2017	Queen Lili'uokalani special service reminder	674
09/22/2017	The unveiling of two new paintings at a Hawaii Betsuin service attended by Gomonshu Kojun Ohtani	538
09/18/2017	The annual Peace Day Interfaith Service announcement	525
11/13/2017	Happy World Kindness Day!	517

If you are unable to come to the temple and would like to have a minister visit you in your home, please call **Rev. Yuika Hasebe** at 536-7044



to request a home visit. We miss you and do not want to lose contact with you!

\Xi 🗹 Sign Up for the Betsuin Bulletin »

Betsuin E-Bulletin Provides Weekly Reminder Of Temple Happenings

It's Saturday evening and you're asking yourself, "Is tomorrow a special service?" Or, "I wonder who's giving the dharma talk?" If you subscribed to Betsuin's weekly email known as the Betsuin Bulletin, you'd already know the answers.

Kudos to the Betsuin office staff, who have been sending out the Betsuin Bulletin every Friday since September 2015. In addition to a quick rundown of the Sunday service schedule, the email includes a summary list of upcoming events.

If you use email, consider subscribing to the Betsuin Bulletin by visiting hawaiibetsuin.org/email-signup or by providing your email address to the Betsuin office staff.

- David Atcheson

Dharma School News Adventures at the Hawaii Children's Discovery Center

Blowing gigantic bubbles, crossing a rope bridge, solving wooden puzzle games, playing checkers/ Connect 4, pretending to drive The Bus/pilot a Hawaiian Airlines flight/ captain a ship/be a grocery store cashier or car mechanic, learning about the human body (heart and circulation, teeth, bones), exploring a rainbow of cultures through glimpses inside homes from different countries, discovering a rainforest; what a myriad of experiences for our Honolulu Dharma Schools at the Hawaii Children's Discovery Center in Kakaako.



On Sunday, February 11, over 60 keiki and their parents, representing all four Honolulu temples (Betsuin, Jikoen, Kailua and Moiliili) enjoyed perfect weather, onolicious food and fantastic company and activities in Kakaako. Overlooking the beautiful Pacific Ocean, we began the morning with a service conducted by Reverend Arthur Kaufmann. The group then ventured over to the Discovery Center, where everyone had so much fun. It was hard to pull everyone away and back to Kakaako Park when the lunch bentos were delivered.

Eventually everyone made it back to our picnic spot to enjoy a break for lunch. In no time at all, everything went downhill from there... sliding downhill, that is. With plenty of cardboard to go around, young and old alike climbed up the grassy knolls to slide down





the hills on cardboard. Run after run, alone and in tandem, our hill sliders had a blast!

It was a perfect climax to this wonderful event. Everyone sure had FUN, FUN, FUN! We can't wait to do this again. STAY TUNED!



If You Missed Out On The Above Activities, No Worries, There Is More To Come!

Sunday, April 15..... Earth Week Fair Saturday, April 21... Shabu Shabu Night Sunday, April 29..... Eshin-ni & Kakushin-ni Day Sunday, May 6...... Keiki Day - plans are in the making for a district-wide picnic for all ages!

Debbie Kubota

Hongwanji Radio Programs MARCH 2018 KZOO 1210 AM Japanese Language Saturday at 7:30 AM

- 03 Rev. Joshin Kamuro
- 10 Rimban Toyokazu Hagio
- 17 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
- 24 Rev. Hiromi Kawaji
- 31 Rev. Tatsuo Muneto

Betsuin Services

Asaji Service 8:00 AM

- 04 Rev. Joshin Kamuro
- 11 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
- 18 Spring Higan Service Rimban Toyokazu Hagio
- 25 No service Spring Bazaar

Adult English Services 10:00 AM

- 04 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
- 11 Rimban Toyokazu Hagio
- 18 Spring Higan9:30 am Family ServiceRev. Bert Sumikawa

Nicchu Service 1pm

- 04 Rev. Joshin Kamuro
- 11 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
- 18 Rev. Joshin Kamuro
- 25 No service Spring Bazaar

Dharma School Service 9 am

- 04 Rev. Sol Kalu
- 11 Rev. Arthur Kaufmann
- Spring Higan
 9:30 am Family Service
 Rev. Bert Sumikawa
- 25 No service Spring Bazaar

In Memoriam 💰

DECEMBER 2017

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

12/27/2017 ISHII, Sharon Miiki (67)

- 01 YOSHIMURA, Kenichi (93)
- 02 ITAMURA, James Shoichi (78)
- 02 KUWAYE, Ethel F. (90)
- 05 NEKOBA, Yoshio (85)
- 10 MIYAMOTO, Asayo (97)
- 11 NAKAHARA, Elaine Shizue (97)
- 12 HANDA, Patsy Fujie (93)

- 14 HIU, Nancy Taketa (85)
- 16 AKIYAMA, Chisato (97)
- 18 KUJUBU, Sumie (97)
- 20 OKAZAKI, Roy Kaoru (96)
- 22 MOTOYAMA, Iwao (95)
- 23 FUJIOKA, Haruyuki "Charlie" (97)
- 26 HIRANO, Larry Katsuyuki (81)
- 26 HOSHIDE, George Masayoshi (83)
- 27 TAKAMIYA, Helen Yuriko (89)

2018 Memorial Service Schedule 2018 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

2017 – 1 year 2016 – 3 year 2012 – 7 year

2006 – 13 year 2002 – 17 year 1994 – 25 year 1986 – 33 year 1969 – 50 year 1919 – 100 year

Nursing Home Services for MARCH 2018

- 01 Hale Nani Rev. Kamuro Hale Ho Aloha – Rev. Hasebe
- 08 Maluhia cancelled (Ryukoku Seminar at BSC)
 - Liliha cancelled (Ryukoku Seminar at BSC)
- 09 Kuakini cancelled (Ryukoku Seminar at BSC)
- 29 Nuuanu Hale Rev. Kalu
- 30 Leahi Rev. Kaufmann



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