



1727 Pali Highway
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

GOJI

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NOVEMBER 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. Joshin Kamuro
Rev. Sol Kalu
Rev. Shingo Furusawa

Hawaii Betsuin Observes Eitaikyo Service On November 11, 2018

The Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin cordially invites everyone to its Eitaikyo service on November 11, 2018. Also known as the Sangha Memorial Service the Eitaikyo is one of the 6 major services observed in the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji Buddhist tradition.

Eitaikyo is the abridgement of the Japanese word eitai-dokkyo meaning the perpetual chanting of the sutras in memory of the deceased. One of its important meanings is the continuation and appreciation of the Nembutsu teachings through remembering our departed loved ones and ancestors who have handed the Nembutsu teachings to us, through the continuing recitation of the sutras as an expression of gratitude in their honor. Not only is the Eitaikyo for remembering those who have preceded us in the path towards Buddhahood and the Pure Land, it is also a service to remind us, the living followers of the Pure Land way to contribute towards the maintenance of the temples we belong to so that these temples can continue to spread and pass on the Nembutsu teachings for eternity. Let us therefore, in the observance of the Eitaikyo, reflect on its meaning and our role as Jodo Shinshu Buddhists in the continuation of this perpetual observance honoring our deceased loved ones, for generations to come.



Guest Speaker: Rev. Kazunori Takahashi

Rev. Kazunori Takahashi is currently assigned to the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Headquarters as the Executive Assistant to the Bishop. He was born in Nagato City, Yamaguchi, Japan Joshoji (Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha).

Rev. Takahashi attended Ryukoku University Graduate School in Kyoto and received his M.A. in Buddhist Studies. He also has a B.A. in Buddhist Studies from Ryukoku University. He was ordained on March 30, 2005 as a Kyoshi (Higher ordination) and on February 27, 2003 he received Tokudo (Buddhist ordination).

Rev. Takahashi has served at the Lihue Hongwanji Mission, the Kapaa Hongwanji Mission and the Hilo Betsuin after completing orientation at Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Headquarters. He has also served as an instructor with the Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course. Sensei's hobbies are traveling, photography and reading.

The Betsuin office
will be closed
Monday
November 12th
in observance of
Veteran's Day



Dharma Message: "Namo Amida Butsu Is the Calling Voice from Amida Buddha"

Rev. Shingo Furusawa

In our daily lives, we often say "Namo Amida Butsu." "Namo" means to entrust, and "Amida Butsu" means Amida Buddha. Master Shinran revealed that Namo Amida Butsu is a calling voice of Amida, saying "I will definitely liberate you from any sufferings, so please entrust yourself in me."

At the Sunday Services, we often chant "Gassho To Amida." It reveals the Master's teachings as follows: When I call Amida's Name, It is Amida calling me. Buddha's voice, my voice are one. (Jodo Shinshu Service Book page 123)

You may think, "Saying Namo Amida Butsu is my voice; it is hard for me to think that it is the Buddha's calling." To

explain this statement, I would like to share a story that one school principal wrote. She was a principal of a school for physically handicapped. At the school, a graduation ceremony was held every year. The ceremony was held at the gym, which had a stage on which the principal stood. When the principal called their names, the students went up to the stage and received their diplomas from the principal, but at the school, many students were handicapped, so many of them could not go to the principal. In these cases, she went down from the stage and went to the students to give them their diplomas.

During a certain year, there was one handicapped student who the principal assumed would not be able to go up to the stage. However, the student went up to the stage and went to the principal. She was so surprised. When giving the diploma, she noticed that he kept muttering something to himself. He was saying, "It is all right, it is all right." She was impressed from the bottom of her heart. It was because his teachers and classmates often said those words to him. This student was very timid. For example, when attending swimming class, he was afraid to enter the pool, but his teachers and friends said, "It is all right! Do not be afraid! Come on!" Through the encouragement from the teachers and classmates, he could try anything.

At the graduation ceremony, he muttered the words to himself, "It is all right" and he was able to go up to the stage and get his diploma. It meant that the words "It is all right" was love itself from his teachers and friends. Their love reached him, and the words gave him energy to try to walk to get his diploma.

Please think that Namo Amida Butsu is also like this. It is Amida Buddha's great compassion itself. When we say, "Namo Amida Butsu," it is the testimony that the Buddha's compassion reaches us. When reciting it, we can always listen to Amida's calling "No matter what happens in your life, do not worry! It is all right! I am always with you," and the calling voice gives us the energy to survive our lives.



In Gassho.



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@hawaii.betsuin.org), mail (1727 Pali Hwy, Honolulu, HI, 96813) or fax (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.

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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.

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!

Betsuin BWA News and Events

BWA ACTIVITIES FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 4: BWA Membership meeting #4 will be held at 11:00 am in the Hondo, right after the 10 am service. Election of officers for years 2019 and 2020 (2-year term) will be held. Flyers for the year end party will be distributed and sign up for temple clean up will take place. Open house of the two BWA rooms, Lotus and Eshin-ni will be held. It is a very important day for the BWA members, so please attend.

Sunday, November 11 is Eitaikyo Service day and BWA Mini Market will be opened. Eitaikyo service is a very important service for all of us Jodo Shinshu followers. It is a day when we remember all the past deceased members and we honor them at this special service. MINI MARKET which was established as the brainchild of Florence Wasai is a way for all of us to purchase goods or donate goods, and the profit always goes for good benefit for our members as well as to the Hawaii Betsuin. The BWA members never spend their hard-earned money foolishly for personal pleasures in eating and drinking. For the mini market, please bring your own bags for all purchases. If bags are provided it will cost you fifteen cents for each bag.

Saturday, Nov. 17, BWA executive board meeting at 10:00 am in the Dining room.

BWA YEAR-END PARTY MAY BE HELD IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Menu will be Hawaiian luau style so plan on attending. Details will follow at the general membership meeting on Nov. 11th. VP Dianne Ida is chair and planning this party. We can anticipate a lot of food and a lot of fun.

FAMILY PROMISE FOR 2019

Hawaii Betsuin will be responsible on the following dates at Hongwanji Mission School campus. March 17-24 (Friday Dinner 3/22; Sat. Bkfst/Dinner 3/23; Sun. Bkfs 3/24 May 26-June 2 (Fri., Dinner 5/31; Sat. Bkfst/Dinner 6/1; Sun Bkfst 6/2

Jikoen Hongwanji social hall: August 11-18 (Fri. Dinner 8/16; Sat Bkfst/Dinner 8/17; Sun. Bkfst 8/18

BWA needs help so if you are willing to prepare breakfast or dinner, please sign up with Sharyn Sekine. Get hold of your friend and work together. Have your husband help you. They are very handy men and as they get older, they get more useful around the house and kitchen.

TEMPLE CLEANUP NOVEMBER 18

The young energetic youths, the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts are remarkable in cleaning up the temple. In the past few years I have noticed that by ten o'clock the jobs are all done by the young people. We really appreciate the leaders and the youngsters who do such excellent jobs in helping us clean the temple grounds. A great big Mahalo to you all. The BWA ladies really appreciate

Fujiko Motobu

ate you all. Thank you. The BWA will have specified place to cleanup.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR BWA TO SERVE 2 YEARS 2019 AND 2020:

Election of BWA officers will take place at the general membership meeting on November 4. The results will be published in the December issue.

THE VALUE OF A SMILE

It costs nothing, but creates much. It enriches those who receive, without impoverishing those who give. It happens in a flash and the memory of it lasts forever. None are so rich they can get along without it, and none so poor but are richer for its benefits. It creates happiness in the home, fosters good will in a business, and is the countersign of friends. It is rest to the weary, daylight to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and nature's best antidote for trouble. It cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, or stolen, for it is something that is no earthly good to anybody till it is given away. And if in the last-minute rush of the day some of our colleagues should be too tired to give a smile, may we ask you to leave one of yours? For nobody needs a smile so much as those who have none left to give." Contributed by Terry Fujioka. She read it in the Reader's Digest, author unknown.

YEAR-END EXAMINATION FOR BWA MEMBERS:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. How do you get holy water? | You boil the Hell out of it. |
| 2. What do you call cheese that isn't yours? | Nacho cheese |
| 3. Where did the dog with a broken tail go? | Tailor shop |
| 4. What has 4 wheels and flies? | Garbage truck |
| 5. What do you get from a pampered cow? | Spoiled milk |
| 6. Why do gorillas have big nostrils? | Because they have big fingers. |
| 7. What kind of coffee was served on the Titanic? | Sanka |
| 8. What is the most slipperiest country? | Greece |

How did you do? Did you pass with flying colors? I bet you flunked.

President's Message From Dexter Mar

Your Betsuin Board has decided to commit to a crucial, major fundraising campaign with the assistance of professional consultants, The Shain Group (TSG).

The goal is \$4.4 Million in 3 years. These funds will support renovation and repairs of our iconic Betsuin temple into our Second Century; as well as increase funds for operations, programs and events. Specific projects are currently under review and will be described in later issues of the GOJI.

TSG will help us find new funding sources such as private foundations and public grants-in-aid, as well as better organizing ongoing member support.

Behind the scenes work in 2018 will precede open activity in 2019. Please stay tuned for more exciting news! Some other items of interest are:

Facilities Issues

1. Lounge: Rug replacement and painting has been approved.
2. Campus-wide security audit and plan in progress.
3. Water pipe repair in parking lot near Rimban's home fixed.

Emergency Preparedness

A first aid guide ("What To Do When Someone Suddenly Loses Consciousness") is now available at the Betsuin Business Office.

Volunteers Needed!

The Betsuin needs your support at events, in the offices, and around the grounds.

If interested in helping, please come by the Business Office, speak with Executive Director, Stacy Bradshaw and get a Volunteer brochure.



Come Join Us!

This brief message captures only a few 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, 11:30am)

November 11

December 16

Thank you all for your support of our volunteer Board of Directors; 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
Dexter Mar



Happy
Thanksgiving



The Dana Ohana 2018 team walked to end Alzheimer's on Sept. 8th. Do you recognize some of the team members? Together with well-wishers, we raised \$3,115 to fight Alzheimer's Disease. Mahalo to the walkers and supporters. See you next year !

Choralfest 2018 A Resounding Success!

The seventh Choralfest of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii was held at Hawaii Betsuin on the weekend of September 29-30. This culmination of two years or more of preparation by the Kyodan Music Committee and its Gatha Translation Subcommittee had been anticipated with a great deal of eagerness and a little bit of trepidation by choir members and non-members alike, who were linked by their love of choral singing and Buddhist music.

Ms. Nola Nahulu, acclaimed choral director and Honpa Hongwanji Living Treasure, reined in the 106 voices of participants from Hawaii, as well as from Washington State, with a firm hand and a lovely sense of humor that soon had the singers relaxed, but striving to give Ms. Nahulu everything that she asked for, and, even to the untrained ears of the participants, sounding a lot better than when the afternoon began.



ful operatic and popular pieces, to the delight of all...

When alarm clocks went off in hotel rooms and homes across Oahu the following morning, the singers began to gear up for a Sunday service they would probably long remember. Once again fueled by a generous breakfast at the Betsuin, the singers took their seats in the temple for final warm-ups and bracing words from Ms. Nahulu. Then, the temple bell began to ring...



After opening remarks and a very special rendition of

The hours-long rehearsal sessions on Saturday were fueled not only by inspiring music and laughter, but also by the generous contributions of food and snacks provided by choir members and dharma friends. When dinnertime arrived, everyone was much more confident of their singing, and ready for some relaxation. A bountiful dinner was followed by entertainment by pianist Ms. Jennifer Taira accompanying Ms. Laurie Ruben as she sang a number of beauti-

the Shoshin-Ge sutra by the ministers, which sounded very appropriate for a music service, it was time for the choir to take their places. In the expectant hush of the hall, Ms. Nahulu raised her hand and the temple was filled with the elegant sounds of the piano played by Mr. Francis Okano, the Choralfest Choir's amazing accompanist for the weekend. As the first words left the singers' mouths, their

hearts began brimming with the joy of singing as one, presenting the dharma so melodiously and harmoniously. By the time the last of the five songs presented that day began, hearts and tears were overflowing.

All too soon, Choralfest 2018 was over, but the music still echoes in the hearts and minds of the participants, and, we hope, in those of the

congregation. The event ended with a fabulous lunch, of course, and then everyone was on their way home—taking with them lessons and songs well learned over the two days. Everyone had worked very hard, but Choralfest 2018 would not have been quite the success it was without the help of the BWA members and other choir supporters, and Betsuin and Kyodan office staff and ministers who all gave so much of their time and energy in preparing for this event, setting up the temple and social hall, and preparing and serving the nutritious offerings.

If you were unable to attend this year's Choralfest, videos of the musical presentations will soon be available on the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii website (hongwanjihawaii.com).



Reflections on the Honpa Hongwanji Joint Conference

The Honpa Hongwanji Joint Conference was held on September 1, 2 and 3, 2018 at the Ala Moana Hotel in Honolulu. The annual conventions of the Buddhist Women's Association and the Federation of Honpa Hongwanji Lay Associations were separately convened during the Labor Day weekend. Lieutenant Governor Doug Chin gave an informative and humorous presentation pertaining to leading other states in suing President Trump for banning travel from Muslim-majority nations into the U.S. based on discrimination while he was the State's Attorney General. He also participated in an open dialogue with Bishop Eric Matsumoto. And workshops and musical activities

were offered to participants on a variety of practical and thought-provoking topics to continue developing a dynamic Sangha.

Lois Toyama and a creative group of planners executed the best Hongwanji event in the more than 40 years of my involvement in Hawaii Kyodan. I am particularly impressed and grateful for the Jr.YBA members for their participation. These young people furnished their youthful energy that contributed to this successful convention.

Personally, this Joint Conference demonstrated that our Hongwanji Sangha is alive and committed in establishing

Alan Goto

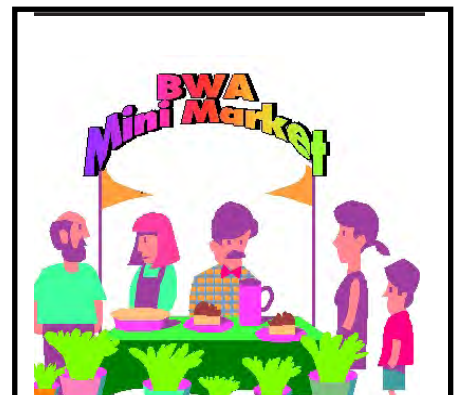
meaningful relationships with everyone in our community. We have the energy and resources to "grow" the influence of Jodo Shin Buddhism throughout Hawaii and the world.

This event was an experience of JOY IN THE NEMBUTSU and JOY IN WALKING THE PATH TOGETHER. I participated in workshops that enriched my intellect and deeply touched my spiritual consciousness. And the closing service with all participants in the Hawaii Betsuin Hondo was a "chicken skin" event. It was an opportunity to experience an awareness of the Buddha, Dharma and Sangha with all my senses -- sight, smell, sound and touch. I am truly aware that I am an ordinary human being -- alive and truly grateful for being embraced by universal wisdom and compassion, never to be abandoned. Namu Amida Butsu.

Helpful Guidelines For Communicating With Family and Friends With Alzheimer's

Alzheimer's Communication

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Never Argue .
Instead Agree . | 6. Never say "I Told You."
Instead Repeat . |
| 2. Never Reason .
Instead Divert . | 7. Never say "You Can't."
Instead say what they Can Do . |
| 3. Never Shame .
Instead Distract . | 8. Never Demand .
Instead Ask . |
| 4. Never Lecture .
Instead Reassure . | 9. Never Condescend .
Instead Encourage . |
| 5. Never say
" Remember ."
Instead Reminisce . | 10. Never Force .
Instead Reinforce . |



BWA Mini Market
Nov. 11, 2018
Donations Needed
and Appreciated!

Dharma School News



Friday, September 21 Peace Day Interfaith Celebration

Betsuin and Moiliili Dharma school students, families and teachers came together to sing the song, "Peace is a Seed," which was perfect to depict the theme of the event, Cultivating Peace. The lyrics are a poem written by Megan Sakata, alumna of Pacific Buddhist Academy. Her poem was the ninth grade winner of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Peace Poetry Contest in the spring of 2014. The music accompaniment was composed by Debbie Kubota. During their performance, Cameron Kubota played the guitar to accompany the group. Betsuin students made origami cranes with peace messages and many of them held their cranes during the song.

Following their song, the Dharma School families and teachers excused themselves to go to the Social Hall for food, fun/games and fellowship.

Saturday, October 13 - 100th Anniversary Celebration, Children's Chigo Parade & Dharma School Taiko



Most of them were patient as they were dressed in the traditional girls' and boys' ceremonial outfits and had their makeup (two black dots on their foreheads, a streak of white face paint on their noses, and red lips) applied.

To keep them occupied during all the dressing and makeup activities, they were entertained by watching the movie, My Neighbor Totoro. At 9 am, the beautifully dressed children were lined up by height to march in the parade behind the ministers—walking down the Annex Temple stairs and across the walkway toward



From early in the morning, the Annex Temple was filled with the hustle and bustle of all the preparations for the Chigo parade. There were 27 children that participated in this event.

Debbie Kubota

the main temple, stopping to honor the statue of Shinran Shonin before gathering on the stairs of the Hondo to take a formal photo. The children and families then offered incense at the front of the Hondo. What a wonderful occasion for all!

Following the service, a performance by our Dharma School Taiko group, under the direction of Jovie Yoshioka, kicked off the program for the luncheon in the Social Hall. They played three original compositions—Takane (their very first original composition), Yoro-kobi, and Laulima. The highlight of their performance was during Takane, when several of the group's members danced while wearing face masks of Rinban Hagio and the Betsuin reverends. During the last part of that piece, the group members led Rinban and the reverends up to the front to dance next to their masked counterparts. It was fun to see all of them dancing to the taiko beat, in joyous celebration of this momentous event!

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

- 03 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
 10 Rimban Toyokazu Hagio
 17 Rev. Tatsuo Muneto
 24 Rev. Ryoso Toshima

Betsuin Services

Asaji Service 8:00 AM

- 04 Rev. Shingo Furusawa
 11 Eitaikyo Service
 Rev. Kazunori Takahashi
 18 No Service
 Temple Clean-up
 25 Rimban Toyokazu Hagio

Adult English Services
10:00 AM

- 04 Rev. Sol Kalu
 11 TBA
 18 No Service
 Temple Clean-up
 25 Rev. Sol Kalu

Nicchu Service 1:00 PM

- 04 Rev. Yuika Hasebe
 11 Rev. Joshin Kamuro
 18 No Service
 Temple Clean-up
 25 Rimban Toyokazu Hagio

Dharma School 9:00 AM

- 04 Rimban Toyokazu Hagio
 11 Eitaikyo Service
 Rev. Kazunori Takahashi
 18 No Service
 Temple Clean-up
 25 Rev. Yuika Hasebe

Everyone Welcomed!



In Memoriam



SEPTEMBER 2018

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

8/26/2018 TAKAHAMA, Akira (94)

SEPTEMBER 2018

- 03 MORIMOTO, Miriam Kiyoe (95)
 06 YONESHIGE, Carol Hatsuko (69)
 07 ISHIDA, Mildred Haruko (102)
 15 HIROMOTO, Dennis Isamu (78)
 15 MATSUMOTO, Harue Ikeda (103)
 16 TANAKA, Leila Chiyako (64)
 17 MUKAI, Isao (74)
 17 YONEMOTO, Haruo (97)

Nursing Home Services
NOVEMBER 2018

- 01 Hale Nani – Rev. Kamuro
 Hale Ho Aloha – Rev. Hasebe
 08 Maluhia – Rimban Hagio
 Liliha – Rev. Kalu
 09 Kuakini – Rev. Furusawa
 22 Nuuanu Hale Cancelled (Thanksgiving Holiday)
 23 Leahi Cancelled (Family Day Holiday)

2018 Memorial Service Schedule

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

2017 – 1 year	2006 – 13 year	1986 – 33 year
2016 – 3 year	2002 – 17 year	1969 – 50 year
2012 – 7 year	1994 – 25 year	1919 – 100 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