



Mililani Hongwanji

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Dharma Connection

April 2024

The Newsletter of Mililani Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Volume 47 Issue No. 4



April 2024

May 2024

- 6 11:00am Hanamido Flower Decorating
- 7 9:00am BUDDHA DAY (Hanamatsuri) & Dharma School
- 14 9:00am Joint Memorial & Family Dharma Service
- 14 10:15am BWA Monthly Meeting
- 21 9:00am BWA Eshinni & Kakushinni Day Family Dharma Svc & Dharma School
- 27 9:00-2:00 Oahu District Sangha Day (Waianae Hongwanji)
- 28 9:00am Baccalaureate Family Dharma Service & Luncheon

- 5 9:00am Family Dharma Service & Dharma School
- 12 9:00am Joint Memorial & Family Dharma Service
- 12 10:15am BWA Monthly Meeting
- 19 9:00am Shinran's Birthday (Gotan-e) Family Dharma Service & Dharma School
- 26 9:00am Family Dharma Service & Last Day of Dharma School

Temple activities should be posted as soon as possible on the "MASTER CALENDAR" located on the bulletin board for inclusion in the Dharma Connection calendar and for general temple planning.

Minister's Message

Spring O-higan 2024

Mililani Hongwanji Mission observed the spring O-higan religious service on Sunday, March 24, 2024. The O-higan, also known as the equinoxes are observed twice a year, once in the spring and again, in the fall or autumn season. It is the time of the year when daytime and nighttime hours are approximately equal, each roughly being 12 hours long.

In Japanese Buddhism terminology, the word “higan” is a translation of the ancient Sanskrit word “paramita” meaning “arriving on the other shore” or getting across from the world of delusion and suffering to the realm of peace, enlightenment and tranquility, the Other Shore referred to as Nirvana, or the Pure Land in the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist tradition. Buddhism teaches that the mundane, human world, also known as the *saha* realm we now live in is a world of suffering and troubles. In order for us to cross to the other shore of enlightenment, the realm of the Buddhas, the great Chinese patriarch Shan Tao or Zendo Daishi used the parable of the River of Fire and River of Water, in which a traveler, chased by ferocious beasts and bandits were out to kill him. Suddenly faced a great river of both fire and water that is blocking his escape with a very narrow white path in the middle by which he could cross safely to the other side. Beset with fears and doubts that he could fall on either side if he tries to cross the white narrow path, he heard the voices of Shakyamuni Buddha and Amida Buddha, both on his side of the river and across, beckoning him to move forward without fear. The traveler overcame his doubt and with firm trust, crossed the narrow path in between the rivers of fire and water and reached the safety of the other side, the Other Shore of Enlightenment.

This parable teaches us the meaning of Amida Buddha's Vow of salvation to free us from the endless cycle of birth and death. The beasts and bandits in the parable represent our fears and delusions that are always creating doubt in our deluded minds. However Amida's calling voice is ever beckoning us to totally trust and rely on the Primal Vow and without fear and hesitation, move towards Buddhahood, through birth in the Pure Land. It takes a great leap of faith to entrust in Amida Buddha's Primal Vow, as our own fears, hesitation and lack of entrusting due to our blind passions, stand in the way of making the bold attempt to cross over from the shore of delusion to the Other Shore of peace and tranquility, Amida Buddha's realm of Enlightenment. Fearful though the way may be, Amida's Calling Voice and Shakyamuni Buddha's encouragement enable us to cross without fear the narrow white path and reach the Pure Land without peril.

Rev. Sol M. Kalu Biography

Rev. Kalu was born and grew up in the Republic of the Philippines. He received his BS in Nursing there in 1980 and served as a nurse in the U.S. for many years, specializing in dialysis. On a visit to Kyoto, Rev. Kalu encountered the Jodo Shinshu Teachings and eventually followed the call to become a Buddhist minister. He received Tokudo ordination in 2007 and Kyoshi ordination in 2010. After serving two years at Hawaii Betsuin, Rev. Kalu was assigned to Makawao Hongwanji in 2012. His new assignment with Betsuin began in March 2017. Rev. Kalu has a facility for languages, speaks Japanese, and enjoys writing Kanji. He has many interests including snorkeling, martial arts, science, and travel.



Rene's Review



“Building Healthy Sanghas: Sharing Nembutsu Moments!”

Aloha Friends!

MAHALO!

Thank you for your continued support for our myriad of activities and affiliates of Mililani Hongwanji! I have also received overwhelming support from you for our guest speaker, Rev. Blayne Nakasone Sakata, and his Avatar Dharma Message! We were all blown away on his life's lessons! You have shared your enthusiasm also for our new minister Rev. Sol Kalu. Your positive comments include, “I like his Dharma Message,” “His presentations are very interesting,” “First time meeting him, and I was pleasantly surprised at his presentation,” and one person simply said, “Refreshing!”

IT'S BUDDHA'S BIRTHDAY! WE CELEBRATE HANA MATSURI! APRIL 7TH! Please join us!

The Buddha Day “flower festival” is commemorated in spring to celebrate the birth of Siddhartha Gautama, who later became enlightened as Sakyamuni Buddha. He was the manifestation of Amida, the Buddha of Infinite Higher Wisdom and Compassion.

A miniature floral altar of bright flowers, provides the setting of the beautiful Lumbini Garden. The statue of the baby Buddha, with his arm extended, illustrates the merits of Amida Buddha, reaching out to all beings. The pouring of sweet tea on the statue of baby Buddha represents the gentle rain which fell on Lumbini Garden that day.

WHAT'S THE TRIPLE CELEBRATION ALL ABOUT? WHY SHOULD I ATTEND?

Mililani Hongwanji members who attend this historical gathering on September 7 & 8, 2024, at the Ala Moana Hotel, will be a part of appreciating our past and those members whose shoulders we stand upon to continue to build our Hongwanji mission for our kupuna and our treasured keiki. The theme is “Sharing the Joy of Nembutsu Together: Our Living Heart of Gratitude.” The year 2023 marked the **850th Anniversary** of the birth of Shinran Shonin, the founder of the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist tradition, and 2024 will be **the 800th Anniversary** of the establishment of the Jodo Shinshu teaching and the **135th Anniversary** of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. Imagine that, we have the responsibility to support our members and families who will continue to move Jodo Shinshu into a modern world of living with gratitude and building stronger communities. Mililani Hongwanji is offering a special discount for attendees of the convention.. Please join us, register and we will make sure you receive your discount thereafter. Mililani Hongwanji Ohana, please help us make it a success! For more information, please see <https://hongwanjihawaii.com/triple-celebration/>.

OAHU DISTRICT IS MADE UP OF 8 TEMPLES: WAIALUA, WAHIAWA, MILILANI, PEARL CITY, AIEA, WAIPAHU, EWA, AND WAIANAE, and we support each other in many ways. In addition to Bon Dances, Bazaars, Craft Fairs, and Workshops, we will have our traditional **SANGHA DAY, “Linking Our Sanghas in the Countryside!” April 27th -9:00 AM – 2:00 PM!** Sign up for the Mouna Farm Tour, and Innovative Composting Presentation, and mostly for fellowship and fun! June Asato will be collecting names and payment, \$15/\$6 includes bento and trolley shuttle, supplies.

Also, please continue to support our affiliates and service providers: BWA, Judo, Aikido, Kumon, and Mililani Adult Day Care! I look forward to continue receiving your ideas and requests to me at: 808-291-6151 or renemansho@hawaii.rr.com NAMO AMIDA BUTSU.

Please continue to share your ideas and requests to me at 808-291-6151 or renemansho@hawaii.rr.com.

NAMO AMIDA BUTSU,

Rene Mansho, Kyodan President

Summary of March 13, 2024

Mililani Hongwanji Board Meeting

- The Mililani Hongwanji Board of Directors met via ZOOM with a quorum. President Rene Mansho presided.
- Treasurer's Report: (Cliff T) The February 29, 2024 Financial Report was presented. Budget amounts were included as the Board approved the budget at the February meeting. Transferred funds from the checking account to the HHMH Combined Fund for investment was reflected. Replacement of toilet and plumbing services were charged to CIP fund. More information on member's subsidy for attending the Triple Celebration forthcoming (from June A)
- Minister's Report: (Rev. Sol Kalu) Written report submitted. Appreciated the warm welcome reception on March 3. Learning as much as possible how things operate at Mililani Hongwanji.
- President's Report: (Rene M)
 - Welcomed new Temporary Overseeing Minister Rev. Sol Kalu, effective March 1, 2024. Positive responses on his first Dharma Message on March 10.
 - Minister Transition Committee: Final Inspection of Parsonage conducted by Dennis O, Warren H, Dave T, Rev. Fujimoto, major restoration, renovations, and repairs are needed. Thursday Gang and VP for Facilities will come up with a plan to address repairs. Answering all calls made to the temple phone number and have been answering their questions or referring to appropriate people. (Dean S) is drafting an agreement for HOSHA cleaning.
 - Unanimous approval to have Diane Yoza placed on the Board of Directors for 2024.
 - Oahu Lay Association and Oahu District Council meetings: March 18, 2024 via Zoom
- BWA Report: (Lani Y) BWA Bazaar, preparations are coming along fine with lots of food, baked goods, plants, and dry merchandise on sale, be sure to drop by. The 2027, 18th World BWA Convention (in Hawaii) and 2026 State Membership Conference (Oahu United host) are in the planning stages. Upcoming events: Annual BWA Spring Lunch at Gyotaku, 4/14/24, Eshinni-Kakushinni Service with guest speaker Emi Hashi, Ehime-Maru Memorial Cleanup, 4/27/24.
- VP Operations: (Kevin A) No report.
- VP Facilities: (Steve K) Thursday Gang continues to keep facilities and grounds in great shape. Replaced toilet working fine. Concentrating most of their efforts in getting the parsonage ready for a new resident minister.
- VP (Religious Services & Programs): (Ann I) Provided written report. Held a productive meeting with Rev. Sol. Rev. Sol will contact guest speakers as requested by the committee. Logistics and payment to be determined. Hanamido set-up on April 6, 11:00am. Baccalaureate being coordinated by (Jill K). Raised concerns with organization structure and related duties and responsibilities.
- Jr. YBA: (Gay T) Manju Fundraiser a huge success. Funds will be used to subsidize convention fees. Several Oahu United activities were done that brought members closer.
- Other Reports or Topics:
 - Signal Security of Hawaii has been contracted to perform foot patrol security checks twice a night while the parsonage is vacant. They are in blue uniforms with a lighted marked vehicle.
 - Green Hongwanji Initiatives: (Dave T) Looking into possible solar panel installation through a power purchasing agreement (PPA), as an economical way to minimize our carbon footprint and reduce electricity cost.
 - 50th Anniversary Celebration: (Mel H, June A, Susan O) Scheduling a brainstorming meeting and asking for ideas on what the Sangha wants to do.
 - Looking for a few volunteers to open up the temple at 8:00am in preparation for Sunday Service, once a month. Contact (Rene M).
 - Rev. Blayne Nakasone Sakata's Dharma Message on March 3, was well received.
- Important Dates:
 - March 23, 2024 Bazaar
 - April 27, 2024 Sangha Day at Waianae
 - April 28, 2024 Baccalaureate
 - August 16-17, 2024 Bon Dance
 - Sept 7-8, 2024 Triple Celebration
 - Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, April 10, 2024, 7:00pm via ZOOM.



BWA News

The Program Committee, chaired by Vice President Aileen Sato, has been super busy planning and working out the many details for upcoming BWA events in March and April. It takes a village as they say to put together an event, and mahalo to the Program Committee members for their many hours working behind the scenes to deliver these events.



March 23 was the Bazaar with a rummage sale, country store, and plant sale of treasured finds, good eats, and plants – something for everyone! Special mahalo to Nora and Warren Hahn, Diane Yoza, and Aryn Ishikawa for your leadership and to the many BWA volunteers and Mililani Hongwanji affiliates for making this fundraiser a resounding success! The Dharma Connection May issue will cover this event with more detail and photos.

April 14 is the BWA Annual Spring Luncheon at Gyotaku Restaurant in Pearl City. An exciting and fun program is being planned! Lunch is a Japanese menu offering several entree options to select from. Contact Joyce Ogawa or Chris Sato Lightner for registration / car pool sign up. The guest speaker is Ms. Jessica Lani Rich, President and CEO of the Visitor Aloha Society of Hawaii (VASH). She also hosts a weekly television show on Saturday evenings at 9:30pm entitled “Inspire You and Me,” interviewing local citizens who “inspire us.” VASH is a non-profit organization that offers services to Hawaii’s visitors experiencing medical emergency, crime, or other adversity here in Hawaii.

The Eshinni Kakushinni Service will be observed on April 21, with a light lunch to follow. Guest speaker will be Ms. Emi Hashi, Youth Specialist at Honpa Hongwanji.



Eshinni



Kakushinni

Cleaning of the Ehime Maru Memorial at Waterfront Park in Kakaako is scheduled for April 27. Mahalo to co-chairs Debbie Hiyakumoto and Janice Yasunaga for planning this event. Sign up and car pool info will be available at the next BWA meeting (April 14).

The BWA Scholarship application deadline has passed, and the committee is reviewing and interviewing applicants. The scholarship award will be presented at the April 28

Baccalaureate Service and luncheon.

Federation/Oahu United BWA news:

- April 6 is the Spring Festival at the Buddhist Study Center (1436 University Ave). Hours are: 9:30am-2pm. There will be workshops, food, and entertainment. Contact Lani Yamami or June Asato if you have questions.
- Oahu United will be hosting the BWA Membership Conference on March 28-29, 2026 at the Ala Moana Hotel. Workshops are being planned. Claire Tamamoto and Carolyn Uchiyama are co-chairs. Further details are forthcoming as planning continues.
- Hawaii will host the 18th World Convention at the Hawaii Convention Center in 2027. The hotel for Hawaii attendees will be Ala Moana Hotel. Co-chairs of this major event are Claire Tamamoto and Linda Nagai, and they welcome your suggestions and any volunteers.



Future Events:

October 2024 (date to be determined) – CARE Day. Chair is Carrie Kawamoto. CARE Day was established in 2002 at the 12th World Buddhist Women’s Convention. CARE stands for “Compassion and Assistance in Response to Elders.” BWA members will present to day care center participants a watercolor painting activity and a flower arranging activity. See Carrie if you are interested in assisting.



Dharma School

Happy Spring Everyone! We had a very event-filled month of March and are looking forward to a fun April!



Our first activity of March was a field trip to Windward Buddhist Temple (WBT) on March 17th. We went to see Rev. Fujimoto, who was the guest speaker. We also enjoyed a fun activity with the WBT's Dharma School students. Thank you to WBT Dharma School leader Prudence, who also stamped our Honolulu District passports.



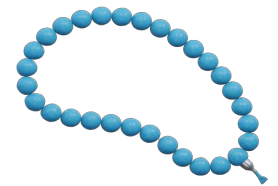
On March 23rd, we participated in the BWA Bazaar. Thank you to our Dharma School families and Rev. Fujimoto, for donating lots of great items for us to sell and thanks also to those who came out to help man our sales table. All the proceeds raised will be used for future Dharma School activities.

Sgt. Rainbow continued with his "Rainbows in Me" lesson on March 24th. Sgt. Rainbow also started a new incentive program, where each student will get to put his/her name the Rainbow bucket each time they participate in a lesson/activity. Then at the end of the school year, five lucky students will be drawn for great prizes including a cool Lego set or giant stuffed animal!

Onenju making/repair was held on March 31st. Students and Sangha members were invited to make a new onenju or possibly fix their broken ones.

Here's what we have planned for April:

- Saturday, April 6th, 11:00am: DS families welcome to assist with the Hanamido decorating
- Sunday, April 7th, 10am: Rainbows In Me lesson
- Sunday, April 21st, 10am: Our Pledge lesson/frame decorating



Please note that we will not be having class on Sunday, April 28th due to the Baccalaureate service and luncheon. Please make your plans to join the Sangha on this special day as we celebrate/honor our 2024 graduates.

If you know a student (preschool to high school) who would like to join our classes, please contact Claire Doi at claire-doi@hawaiiintel.net to be added to our email list to get our meeting agendas. Or please feel to contact us if you have any questions or need more info about our Dharma School sessions.



Jr. YBA Happenings



We hope you all enjoyed your Spring Break! Please be mindful of the upcoming event dates that will be listed in the newsletter.

We've been keeping busy! In addition to our Manju Fundraiser, our United went to an escape room experience at Ala Moana followed by dinner and fellowship. This was a great opportunity to get to know each other better, learn effective ways to communicate, and have fun at the same time! It was a fun and enjoyable team building activity. Everyone participated and received cards at the end that celebrated each person's individual contributions to the game. We were able to complete this within the one hour time limit and it was agreed that we want to try this again.

We also had an 'ohana night which was intended to be for the junior's families to make vision boards together, however, it ended up being a Jr YBA craft night. Aunty Gay gave a short lesson of "SMART" goals: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, Timely. We made vision boards and had a lot of fun cutting out images and words from magazines to create a board of inspiration, goals and things we enjoy.

The Oahu United is hosting the upcoming Spring Federation Meeting in April and we are working with our Federation executive board to secure a date so we can work on the details.

We are also encouraging participation in Sangha Day at Waianae Hongwanji on Saturday, April 27. There is also more information about this in the newsletter. Please register with your family or individually. We can also carpool so please see the carpool list on the Google drive. If you don't have access, please contact Aunty Aryn (contact at the end of article).

Young Enthusiastic Shinshu Seekers (Y.E.S.S.) Camp is May 25-27 and will cost \$30 for registration until April 15th. After that the registration cost will increase but you can still register. YESS Camp is open to youth ages 13-23 and is a great opportunity to bring your friends as well as meet other Buddhist Youth throughout the state. This year's camp will be held at the Buddhist Study Center. See Flyer in newsletter.

Lastly, our 67th Jr. YBA State Convention will be held on June 21-23 in Maui. Registration costs (not including airfare) are expected to be approximately \$280 so we will be looking at using our existing donations and fundraiser monies to subsidize members who wish to attend.

Other activities we will be planning in the upcoming months: Senior Celebration for Dymin Kakazu, Temple visits to attend services at other Oahu District temples, and joint activities with the United of Honolulu and our affiliate clubs (Judo and Aikido).

Save the Dates!

tentatively Sunday April 14: Oahu hosting Federation Meeting

Friday-Sunday, May 25-27: Young Enthusiastic Shinshu Seekers (Y.E.S.S.) Camp

Friday-Sunday, June 21-23: State Convention in Maui



Any youth who are entering 6th grade through 2 years after high school graduation are welcome to join Jr. YBA! You do not need to be a member of a temple so bring your friends! Please contact a Jr. YBA member or Aunty Aryn Ishikawa (advisor) at arynn.m.ishikawa@gmail.com if you'd like more information.

Follow us on Instagram! @jrybaofohu and @hawaiiifedjryba

Oahu District Sangha Day
 “Linking our Sanghas in the Countryside”
 Saturday April 27, 2024 / 9:00am–2:00pm
 At Waianae Hongwanji
 85-762 Old Government Rd., Waianae 96792

Tour of Mouna Farm and Arts & Cultural Village

Hosted by Sooriya Kumar, Hongwanji Living Treasure inductee in 2016. As a master copper-work artisan, teacher, and peace activist, Sooriya founded Mouna in Waianae Valley. It is a non-profit organic produce and flower farm that is also a retreat that serves as creative space for artists and allows connection to nature and promotion of peace and sustainability.



Composting Presentation

Presentation workshop by Chikako Nago of EM Hawaii on how to compost food waste at home and use it for sustainable and healthy gardening. Presentations by district members on their own success stories and best practices. Separate activities for younger kids to be held simultaneously.



Tentative Schedule

8:00am - Registration begins at Waianae Hongwanji

9:00am - Opening Service

10:00am - 11:30am - Activity Period 1

12:00pm - 1:30pm - Activity Period 2

2:00pm - Day ends

Attendees will be separated in two groups due to limited farm access. One group will be on farm tour while other group will be at temple for compost presentation. Groups will switch in the afternoon.

Shuttles will transport people between temple and farm (<1 mile apart)

Sign Up with
June Asato

Registration deadline Sunday April 14

\$15 per person / \$6 for kids age 8 and under

Please compile names and payments by temple:

evanwatarida@gmail.com / (808) 450-6041 for questions

Checks made out to: Oahu Hongwanji Kyodan Rengokai

OK to pay at day of event



in 2027

The steering committee welcomes all individuals who want to be involved in deciding on projects and events to commemorate this once in a lifetime event. Some of us were here 50 years ago (1977) and some of us will be here 50 years from now (2027). We are here together to make plans for the next 50 years and beyond. We will be hosting a Brainstorming session for Big Ideas and Small Ideas for the committees to consider. If you wish to participate, send a message to dharmaconnection@gmail.com with a cc to juneasato2367@gmail.com and mandehayase@gmail.com to get the date and time for the gathering (may be on zoom) so start making a list for you and your family members to share at the meeting which will be sometime in April. We will send you the date, time and link when you respond to this message. We have about 15 people already excited to share and implement projects big and small. Don't be left out.

2024

Bon Dance

August 16 & 17, 2024

Mark your calendars for Mililani
 Hongwanji's Bon Dance.

We are now seeking volunteers for this event.
 Your support is needed and greatly appreciated.
 Look for more information in the coming months.

Co-Chairs:

Cliff Togo, Stanley Sasaki





Sharing Your NEMBUTSU MOMENTS

2024 HONGWANJI SLOGAN
"Sharing Nembutsu Moments"

WHAT IS A "NEMBUTSU MOMENT?"

When you see or hear or experience something so beautiful, touching and profound that it leaves you speechless and all you can say is "Wow!" After that, as one continues to be in awe of that life changing encounter, you continue to say "Wow." This moment is explained in The Collected Works of Shinran, Volume Two as "...the moment of awakening of shinjin (True Entrusting) and saying the nembutsu is a moment both in and out of time."
---Reverend Eric Matsumoto

WE WILL SHARE YOUR EXPERIENCES IN THE KA LEO KAHEA, TEMPLE NEWSLETTERS OR IN A COLLECTION FOR A BOOK.

SUBMIT YOUR EXPERIENCE HERE!

<https://forms.gle/6cVKBwqsqzYg5XrHA>



DEADLINE TO SUBMIT:
AUGUST 31, 2024

??? QUESTIONS ???

Please contact Debbie Kubota
dekub88@gmail.com



Who: All youth aged 13-23
When: May 25-27, 2024
Where: Buddhist Study Center, Oahu, HI
Why: Connect with new friends & learn about Jodo Shinshu Buddhism

YESS CAMP 40

Join us for games, bonding, dancing, community service, and Dharma discussion!

SCAN THE QR CODE TO SIGN UP!!!
DUE DATE: APRIL 15, 2024




Mililani Crafters

Do you crochet or knit or would like to learn how? Do you have unused yarn or fabric that you would like to donate? Would you like to sew lap blankets for cancer patients?

The Mililani Crafters is welcoming participants and/or donations of yarn and fabrics. This group meets on Mondays except on holidays at the Mililani Hongwanji between 9 to 11 a.m. Participants make baby beanies, caps, scarfs, and lap blankets for patients at Kapiolani Medical Center. Hawaii Pacific Health provides the yarn for the baby beanies. Some of the volunteer crafters prefer working at home in a smoke-free and pet hair-free environment. We share new patterns and other craft ideas and enjoy the fellowship.

If you're interested, please join us at Mililani Hongwanji or call Charlene Hayama at (808) 623-4327.



Mililani Hongwanji Invites You To



Fall Risk Identification and Prevention

Saturday, May 25, 2024
1:00—3:00 pm

Joni Kamiya is a home health occupational therapist who teaches kupuna self-assessment of fall risk through captivating public presentations at various churches and senior fairs.

She has worked in mental health, skilled nursing, wheel chair seating and positioning, and assisted living positions and has volunteered as a caregiver educator for the last 15 years. Come and learn how to avoid falls.

Be PROACTIVE and learn how to avoid falls.

For more information contact :

Carrie at (808) 623-8208

Workshop Location :

95-257 Kaloapau St., Mililani HI 96789

No registration required, however parking and seating is limited.



April Memorials

Those who have passed during the month

George Ando
Susumu Ando
Tsuruko Asato
Chad Cortez
Hatsuno Fuji
Flora Fujimoto
Jane Hamamoto
Tsuki Hashimoto
Satsuma Hayashi
Gilbert Hirano
Nancy Hirata
Larry Hiyakumoto
Kona Itagaki
Kenichi Ito
Masanobu Kawahara
Chiyoko Kayatani
Kay Yukiko Kobayashi
Shinichi Mashiba
Mitsuko Masuda
Taka Matsumoto

Carl Mutoke
Hatsue Nakagawa
Anna Nakamura
Yaeko Nakaue
Makoto Nishioaka
Edith Ohara
Susumu Ono
Shigeru Oshita
Sumie Rodero
Donald Sakahara
Beatrice Sato
Noboru Sato
Ronald Minoru Sato
Kazuki Tanioka
Saichi Tanioka
Masayuki Tashima
Sally Tateishi
Hatsue Togashi
Toby Tsunozumi-Shin
Benton Yamanaka
Inao Yoshino
Dianne Yoshizawa

Please call (808) 625-0925

and/or email

dharma.connection@gmail.com if there are corrections or additions to the published list. Families may call the minister to schedule special family memorial services for their loved ones. For 2024, special memorial years are

2023 1st Year	2012 13th Year	1992 33rd year
2022 3rd Year	2008 17th Year	1975 50th year
2018 7th Year	2000 25th year	

Charlene Kihara (Guest Dharma Speaker, April 7th)

- Birth: Born in Honolulu, live one block away from Palolo Higashi Hongwanji
- Education: BA, University of Hawaii, MSW, University of Hawaii with concentration in Gerontology, (Gerontology consortium at Tripler Hospital, Practicum with Adult Protective Services)
- Graduate of Institute of Buddhist Studies (IBS) Kiyoshi Certificate 2022
- Paralegal certificate from University of San Diego
- Jodo Shinshu Correspondence Course 2013
- Tokudo July 2016
- Kyoshi August 2022

Work Experience: Supreme Court, District Court, Family Court, Aloha Nursing, Ohana Health Plan, now retired.

Kaikyoshi Minister at Honpa Hongwanji Betsuin from October 2022 to present.

Volunteer Experience: American Red Cross as a Mental Health specialist, BWA-Federation VP 2022 to 2023, Family Promise, Compassionate Care Committee at Honpa Hongwanji Betsuin

I am a mother of one son, Ryan, who lives in San Diego. He is married with 3 children. I am also a pet parent to Avia, a miniature schnauzer.

Something you don't know about me: I love to watch cooking shows on Food Network. I am interested in healing your body through food.

Hongwanji Day



Mahalo for your DANA

(February 10, 2024 to March 1, 2024)

BWA Dana Day

Diane Yoza

Funeral

Valerie Hirano

For Richard Uchima

General Donation

Mililani Support Group

John K. & Ann Y.M. Ishikawa

James & Karen Nakasone

Lester & Joyce Ogawa

Havi-Hatsu Mairi, Raylie Birthday

IMO Richard Uchima

Memorial Service

Claire Doi

Warren & Nora Hahn

Nicholle & Lynne Hasegawa

Theodine Hirai

Harley & Martha Ishii

John K. & Ann Y.M. Ishikawa

John K. & Ann Y.M. Ishikawa

John K. & Ann Y.M. Ishikawa

Earline Kihara

Corri Lee & Seann Kojima

Carl & Aileen Matsuda

Deanna Sato

Steven & Sadako Shintaku

Richard & Gail Taira

Margaret Tanabe

Margaret Tanabe

Nancy Tanaka

Hiroyoshi & Satoko Terao

Gordon & Lyn Watanabe

Ralph & Janice Yasunaga

Diane Yoza

IMO Norman Doi

IMO Ralph Yasunaga

IMO Paul Tanaka

IMO Edward Hirai

IMO Sammy Sumio

IMO Paul Tanaka

IMO Norman Doi

IMO Ralph Yasunaga

IMO Eyvinn Kihara

IMO Paul Tanaka

IMO Patrick Matsuda

IMO Harold Sato

IMO Mark Shintaku

IMO Joyce Tonouchi

IMO Kakujiro Ginoza

IMO Tokuichi Tanabe

IMO Paul Tanaka

IMO Ayame Terao

IMO Yoshinobu Watanabe

IMO Ralph Yasunaga

IMO Uta Yoza



**Thank you to
all Gojikai
members who
have renewed
your member-
ship for 2024.**



Project Dana

Warren & Nora Hahn

Charles & June Shimata



Photo Gallery



**Mililani Sangha
welcomes
Rev. Sol Kalu**

**Dharma School
students working
diligently on their
class project.**





FYI.....



Mililani Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Overseeing Minister: Rev. Sol Kalu
 Kyodan President: Rene Mansho
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 893308
 Mililani, HI 96789
 Location: 95-257 Kaloapau Street
 Mililani, HI 96789
 Email: dharma.connection@gmail.com
 Phone: (808) 625-0925

Dharma Connection Publication

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1) By mail—US Post Office will deliver to your mailbox.—available by request only!

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2) In your “inbox”—available by subscription only! If you wish to receive the Dharma Connection by email, contact: dharma.connection@gmail.com

3) download a copy from the temple website: mililanihongwanji.org

For additional information check out our Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Mililani-Hongwanji-Buddhist-Temple/114271522485>

2024 Temple Board

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Adult Day Center at Mililani Hongwanji

Aloha! We would like to let everyone know that we are accepting applications for Adult Day Center enrollment. Do you know anyone caring for a loved one that needs respite or help caring for their loved one throughout the day? We are welcoming new clients in our **air-conditioned** facility.

For any interested new applicants, we are offering tuition assistance. Please contact our ADC Director Trece Scott for more information at (808) 561-2147. We are OPEN 5 Days a week Monday thru Fridays from 8am-5pm, and early drop off can be arranged beginning at 7am.

Memorial Services

Mililani Hongwanji conducts memorial services in honor of those who have passed away. The Shotsuki Memorial Service is a general memorial service which are held monthly to remember members and friends who passed away during the month in which the memorial service is held. These services are held primarily for those individuals that do not fall in the yearly service interval cycle.

Nenki Hoyo Memorial Services are memorial services which are held separate from the monthly memorial services in yearly intervals. These separate private services can be held before, on or after the memorial dates. It is a personal opportunity to gather as a family to encounter and listen to the Buddha Dharma and remember your family members and friends who have passed on and through these services, we are able to reflect on all that we have received from them in our daily lives. It also gives families the opportunity to reconnect with members they otherwise would not see during the course of the year.

Monthly Joint Memorial Service

Mililani Hongwanji’s monthly joint memorial service is on the SECOND Sunday of each month. Mililani Hongwanji will continue to publish the names of the members and friends that will be honored in the monthly memorial services.

For families attending the joint memorial service, please sign in on the memorial service tablet on the counter, which will be made available every Sunday leading up the service.

For those who wish to add or remove family members or friends from the published list, please email dharma.connection@gmail.com as soon as possible to ensure proper action.

Minister’s Private Visitation

Are you unable to come to the temple? Please call 808-625-0925 to request a private visit. The minister would love to reach out to you and be the bridge between you, the temple and the Sangha!





EWA HONGWANJI MISSION

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NEWSLETTER

April 2024

Calendar

Apr 24 (Wed) 9:00 am Before service clean-up

28 (Sun) 11:00 am Hanamatsuri Service

Wednesdays 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Weekly hosha and Rev. Fujimoto's office hours

** **Note:** we are having hosha and office hours on Wednesdays beginning March 6

Reverend David's Thoughts

As of this writing, Spring 2024 is an hour old. This year's Spring Equinox is the earliest since 1896. Soon flowers will be in bloom and so it's a wonder that at this time of year, one of the symbols we associate with the birth of Prince Siddhartha, are flowers. It is said that flowers started to rain down and lotus blossoms bloomed under the foot of the Baby Buddha as he took his first 7 steps, and of course the centerpiece of Hanamatsuri is the *Hanamido*, a flower throne in which we pour sweet tea on the Baby Buddha. Flowers bloom in their own way, just like how we live our lives in the Nembutsu. Let us together hear the calling of the Buddha and allow our lives to blossom.

President's Message

Aloha. It looks like we will be having a live Bon Dance on Saturday, June 15, 2024. Please "step up to the plate" and volunteer to make it happen. Thanks in advance. Being retired, getting old, and trying to read a lot, I expected no new life experiences could "open my eyes". But the word "communication" has affected my life these past few months. We need good communication and understanding to reach a common goal. Any difficulties in this process. And our world becomes complicated. Have a good everyday, everybody.

In Gassho,
Craig T. Tsutsumi

Mahalo for your Donations

General

Dale Anzai

Claudia Tokumoto

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