



*Mililani Hongwanji*  
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# Dharma Connection

August 2023

The Newsletter of Mililani Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Volume 46 Issue No. 8

## Obon, Obon, It's Festival Day!



# August 2023

# September 2023

- 6 9:00am Family Dharma Service
- 13 9:00am Joint Memorial & Obon Family Dharma Service
- 13 10:15am BWA Meeting
- 18 8:00am Bon Dance Set Up & Decorate
- 18 6:30pm Lantern Parade
- 18-19 7:00 pm **BON DANCE**
- 20 8:00am Clean Up Day (No Service)
- 27 9:00am Family Dharma Service & Dharma School Rally Day

- 3 9:00am Family Dharma Service and Dharma School
- 10 9:00am Joint Memorial & Family Dharma Service
- 10 10:15am BWA Meeting
- 17 9:00am Ohigan Family Dharma Service & Dharma School
- 24 9:00am Family Dharma Service & Dharma School



# Minister's Message



## The Dancing for Joy is in the End Result

Have you ever asked yourself, “Why do I dance during Bon Dance?” It seems like a weird question to ask oneself but go ahead and reflect on that. Is it because you grew up doing it? Is it because your friends do it? Perhaps it’s a “cool” thing to do. Or “I JUST WANT TO DANCE!”

Before starting the service up on the yagura on bon dance night, I look out at everyone around the yagura and all around me. I wonder “Why are you guys here?” Bon, from the religious perspective has an interesting background that often times is unknown to those who come to the Bon Dances, so it is a wonder that there is an attitude of “Hurry up and get off, so that we can dance!”

The story of one of the Buddha’s closest disciples, Moggallāna is one that we hear time after time this time of year, at Bon. One of Moggallāna’s power was to be able to speak to the spirits in the unhappy destinations and explain to their loved ones why they were there and how to help them. It all came too personal for Moggallāna, as he saw his mother in one of those unhappy destinations, however, was unable to help his mother. With the help of the Buddha, Moggallāna was able to help save his mother, and with that he danced for joy. What if that was YOUR mother?

Wouldn’t you do anything to save her from spending the rest of eternity in an unhappy destination?



Many of the songs that we dance to, immortalizes the achievements, perseverance, and hardships that our ancestors went through, as many songs are written and have dance movements portraying working in the plantation or in the coal mines, such as the beloved Tanko Bushi, Ashimiji Bushi, and, Fukushima Ondo.

So the end result really is, the dancing for joy is a result of those who have come before us, and acknowledges their contribution to our lives through their hardships, pain and suffering, and their perseverance and more importantly, the karmic conditions that led to their birth into this world.

So when you enter the ring, ask yourself that question once again, “Why do I dance during Bon Dance?” Remember those who have come before you and think about all the things they did in their lives so that we have the opportunity to live life today. Then and only then does it give meaning and purpose to the “Dance of Joy.”



**Rev. David Fujimoto**

# President's Corner

Greetings Mililani Sangha,

It's Bon Dance month and the committees are getting things ready with your help. We have a lot of new things and are expecting big crowds so be sure to come out and help. Details at temple and elsewhere in this newsletter.

With new Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani on board since July 1, we are awaiting more on his vision for Hawaii Kyodan in the months ahead. We also welcome Rev. Eric and Tamayo Matsumoto to our district as resident miniter at Aiea Hongwanji.

The Mililani Town Senior Fair will be held at Rec Center V on Saturday, September 9 and Mililani Hongwanji and Project Dana will be participating. Drop by our tables when you come to this popular event and see if you can help cover some of the shifts when we firm up our program for the day.

The State Lay Association will be having its Annual State Convention in Kona on September 15-16. There will be interesting programs and official business for you to participate in. See June Asato or Rene Mansho if you are interested in attending. Online zoom option is also available. Mililani is allotted 3 delegates and unlimited observers.

In the next few months we will be setting up our calendar of events for 2024 and the years to follow. Not too far in the future is our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Mililani Hongwanji in 2027. Let's celebrate this milestone event with all who have made our Sangha what it is today. Start thinking about how we should celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Mililani Hongwanji?



June Asato

## Bishop's Transitional Remarks

Dear Hawaii Kyodan Board of Directors, Ministers and Temple Presidents and Headquarters Staff,

On my first day, after the completion of tenure as the 16th Bishop of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to one and all. Although this Note of Appreciation is addressed and being sent to the current Ministers and Temple Presidents including Board of Directors and Headquarters Staff, I would like this message of gratitude to include all previous and past Ministers and Temple Presidents, Board of Directors, Headquarters Staff, and Hongwanji Sangha Members of the past 12 years to also be included as the recipients of my appreciation. If it were not for your support, understanding and cooperation for the past 12 years, I would not have been able to function as your Bishop. It was an honor to represent all of you at various events and occasions both within and outside of the organization. Please know that your dedication and commitment in response to the Buddha-Dharma is crucial and essential for our organization, the Hongwanji Sangha, to thrive and continue what it does for the sake of all. Again, I want to thank the thousands without whose support I would not have been able to complete my tenure.

Last, but not least, please lend your full support to Bishop Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani, our new Bishop as he assumes the Office of the Bishop, today, as the 17th Bishop of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. Namo Amida Butsu/Entrusting in All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion and thank you!



In gassho,  
Eric Matsumoto,  
Former Bishop  
July 1, 2023

Dear Fellow Ministers and Dharma Friends,

I hope this email finds you well within the Compassionate Light of Amida Buddha.

It is with immense joy and a sense of humble responsibility that I write to you as the 17th Bishop of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. While I am fully aware that I have much to learn and that the responsibilities of this role are significant, I am also filled with an unwavering enthusiasm to serve alongside each and every one of you.

As we continue this shared Nembutsu journey, I want to, first of all, express my gratitude for the dedication and commitment you have put into the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. Thank you very much. I am humbled to be surrounded by such inspiring colleagues and dharma friends, and I eagerly anticipate the opportunity to collaborate with you to share the joy of the Nembutsu teaching with people in our community.

Please know that my door is always open, and I am here to support you in any way that I can. Whether it is guidance, encouragement, or simply a listening ear, I am committed to fostering an environment where we can grow together as a Sangha.

Once again, it is an honor to serve you as your Bishop. May the Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha guide us all.

In Gassho,  
July 1, 2023  
Toshiyuki Umitani  
Bishop, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of  
Hawaii





## Summary of July 12, 2023 Kyodan Board Meeting

- The Mililani Hongwanji Board of Directors met via ZOOM with a quorum. President June Asato presided.
- Treasurer's Report: (Cliff) Distributed the monthly financial report as of June 30, 2023. At mid-year, Actual Expenditures were 44% of Budget and Actual Income was 60% of Budget. Judo Club tuition received. Income from Kumon and ADC continues to provide a major source of funding for the Kyodan. The Bon Dance is expected to bring in additional revenues in August. Premium for Temple Insurance in process for payment.
- Minister's Report: (Rev. Fujimoto) Don't forget to turn off AC, set alarm and lock doors upon leaving. During absence, Rev. Matsumoto will be available. Also attended MHS Gala and Bishop's Aloha Luncheon.
- President's Report: (June) Attended MHS Gala event and Bishop Matsumoto's Aloha Luncheon. Need to start planning (chair needed) for 2024 Sangha Day as Mililani will be host. Green Hongwanji initiatives need to be pursued, more people should bring reusable ware for refreshments. Let June know if you are interested in attending the State Lay Convention in Kona, everyone is encouraged to attend.
- Facilities: (Steven) AED supplies on replacement schedule online, need to have AED placed in strategic location for Bon Dance, good to have more people familiar with use of AED, RING office security system in place, will look into problem with door handle/lock condition.
- Operations: (Kevin) Insurance payment for roof damages still pending, Nominations Committee will start search for potential Board members.
- Religious Activities & Programs: (Brandon) PA speakers delivered and tested by Brandon. OK. Cost charged to CIP funds. Big Dharma School Rally Day planned on August 27. MCs in line for future services. Keirokai planning in progress.
- BWA: (Diane) Requested & got approval to hold a Bazaar in March 2024 after many years of not having one. Warren and Nora Hahn will co-chair the event. Aryn will spearhead another Zippy's Fundraiser beginning September. Members are busy preparing for Bon Country Store and helping with other temple setup for the big event.
- Jr. YBA: (Ty) Successful Jr YBA State Convention hosted by Oahu United. Membership has grown quite a bit since last year. Helping with various temple Bon Dances, will be selling soft drinks at Mililani's Bon Dance.
- Bon Dance: (Cliff) Various committees are progressing well and will be having a general meeting on Wednesday, August 2, 7:00 to tie up any loose ends. Donations to Silent Auction and Country Store are welcome. No facilities use during the week of Bon. Yagura to be painted for added protection. Help needed on July 29th 8:00am to set up Yagura and electrical wiring.
- Approved Actions: To review Mililani/Ewa shared cost for Reverend's salary & benefits package. Next Board ZOOM meeting on August 9, 7:00 pm.



# BWA News



O-Bon, O-Bon, it's festival time! Yes, the event of the summer is nearly here! Please attend, one and all! And while here, don't forget that the Country Store will again be offering various kinds of foods, especially baked goods and other favorites. Small craft items, hapi coats, kimonos, and small plants will also be sold. If you are a BWA member and would like to help in any way, please contact Diane Yoza.

We had a guest, Crystal King, at our recent BWA meeting. She mentioned that her children have been attending the Dharma School sessions, and have been enjoying the activities the school offers. We welcomed her, and hope she becomes a regular attendee.

As our sources of flowers for the temple are limited, Rev. Fujimoto suggested that we look at what Mililani Florist might offer. Instead of discarding flowers that they cannot use, they are offering them to religious organizations. They will drop flowers off at the temple, and, in addition, will donate flowers for our yagura upon availability.

Our BWA is currently receiving nominations for our next slate of officers. We would like all members to consider an office, regardless of experience. Your participation is crucial to the perpetuation of the organization, and is an excellent way to work with others and contribute to the temple. Please contact Theo Hirai or Diane Yoza.



Arynn Ishikawa will again be chairing our Zippy's Fundraiser in September. Thanks to everyone, It proved to be a successful fundraiser in the past, and we look forward to your support once again. Members will be asked to give Arynn their ticket requests at our next meeting.

See you all at O-Bon!!

## Help Decorate Our Yagura



We will be decorating the yagura on Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am. Looking for flowers and greenery to make our yagura look awesome! Will also need about 5-6 able bodied people who can help hang the yagura skirt. Questions? Contact Arynn at (808) 271-8254 or email: [arynn.m.ishikawa@gmail.com](mailto:arynn.m.ishikawa@gmail.com)

**Thank you so much for your generous donations and time!**

## Keirokai 2023

The Keirokai committee is making an early call for members of Mililani Hongwanji who will be 80 years of age during this 2023 calendar year. We would like to recognize these individuals for their hard work and contributions to our community.



The Keirokai Recognition Program will be held on Sunday, November 5, 2023, where we celebrate, honor, and show our gratitude to our Keirosha honorees.

If you know of a member who has reached or will be 80 years old this year, please contact Reverend David Fujimoto, by phone at (808)625-0925 or email: [dfujimoto@honpahi.org](mailto:dfujimoto@honpahi.org)





# Dharma School

The month of August is filled with lots of activities—Bon Dance on the 18th and 19th, the end of summer and start of the new school year, and lastly Rally Day on the 27th!



The summer flew by but not without some fun activities. The June 25th Lego Challenge was a great success! There was a total of 31 people in attendance including 18 Lego Challengers/Builders, ages 4-1/2 to 15 years old and 2 adults (Grandmas) along with 7 volunteers and 6 "cheerleading" spectators. See the accompanying Lego article in this newsletter.

Our 2nd annual Youth Bon Dance event was held on Sunday, July 30th. Our special thanks to dance instructors

Myra Fujino, Joyce Nishioka and Brandon Hee for leading the class. It really got everyone ready and excited for bon dance. We'll have photos to share in next month's newsletter.

Speaking of bon dance, we encourage everyone to attend this community event on August 18th and 19th. Please come by the temple and view our 2023 Oahu District poster contest winners. Many of our own Dharma School students placed in this year's competition with their wonderful creations around the theme "Sharing Joy Together."

And lastly, we'll be kicking off the 2023-2024 Dharma School year with our annual Rally Day, which is always a great way to get together, sign up/register for Dharma School and have fun together. This year's Rally Day will be on Sunday, August 27th at 10:00am (but we invite all to come to Sunday service first at 9:00am). It will be a special one thanks to the hard work and planning of our Dharma School teacher Ann Ishikawa and is being called "Sharing Joy Together" with FOOD!

Rally Day will focus on "Sharing the Joy" of making and eating food together with your friends and family. There will be two "Make and Eat" stations—at the Oshizushi station, you will use wooden molds to "press" rice into shapes and decorate with nori and the Manju station, where you will make and bake everyone's favorite flaky pastry.

The last station, where all our Sangha are invited to participate, is the Somen Nagashi station. At this station, you will be able to catch somen noodles flowing down a bamboo trough in cool water. Sit and slowly slurp the noodles while contemplating/concentrating on the gentle flow of the water and somen while feeling the Joy of the Nembutsu and reciting Namo Amida Butsu! We hope to see all of our Dharma School families at our Rally Day and please feel free to invite your friends, family, and neighbors to join us.

Our school year will consist of lessons about the Buddha's and Shinran Shonin's teachings, shared in an interesting and fun way. If you know a student (preschool to high school), in Mililani, Hawaii, or even on the mainland, who would like to join in on our next school year beginning in September, please contact Claire Doi at [clairedoi@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:clairedoi@hawaiiantel.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.





**LEGOLAND AT MILILANI HONGWANJI  
DHARMA SCHOOL SUMMER ADVENTURE PROGRAM 2023  
"SHARING JOY TOGETHER" LEGO CHALLENGE**

**Submitted by Grandma Susan Koito and Brennan & Dayton Uehara**



Did you know that LEGO is an abbreviation of Danish words, "leg godt" which means "play well". Have you ever built a Lego skyscraper? A Lego car or animal?

Dharma School students, families, and teachers participated in the "Lego Challenge" activity on Sunday, June 25. It was a perfect time and place to use your imagination and show off your Lego creations. The event was really fun because you could be adventurous and instructions were not required to create your pieces.

We were asked to bring a favorite Lego project from home to share. \*One memorable sharing was by Erin Wakahiro as she showed her Lego Orchid piece: "Orchids make me Happy because my Mom always gives me orchids on my Birthday."\* After sharing our "happy pieces," we all "played well" and had an enjoyable time building more Lego creations. Before going home, students were given Daiso Petite Block kits, chips, and cupcakes shared by the Tanaka family. Wade couldn't wait to eat his cupcake! Thank you Dharma School teachers for a fun morning!! We definitely shared joy together at Mililani's Legoland.

\* \* by aunty ann



**DHARMA  
SCHOOL RALLY DAY** **10AM  
SUNDAY  
AUGUST 27TH**  
REGISTER FOR THE NEW  
DHARMA SCHOOL YEAR!!!

**"SHARING JOY TOGETHER" WITH FOOD**

FEATURING ONO "MAKE & EAT" STATIONS:

- OSHIZUSHI (MOLDED SUSHI)
- MANJU
- SOMEN NAGASHI (SOMEN FLOATING IN BAMBOO)

*SEE DS NEWS FOR MORE INFO...*



## *August Memorials*

**Those who have passed during the month.**

Jerry Akasaki	Tomoko Nakaji
Hyokichi Ando	Nora Nakamura
Naka Ando	Kazuo Nishimoto
Kame Fukuda	Charles Nishioka
Eleanor Hashimoto	Masao Obata
Eileen Hayase	Vivian Oishi
Natsuyo Hayase	Richard Okada
Momono Hayashida	Itsuno Ota
Harry Hirotsu	Jason Sato
Sadoo Honda	Bertha Sen
James Iwai	Kichiji Soyejima
Joy Kamiya	Masami Tanabe
Ayako Katakura	Seiichi Tanabe
Kayono Koike	Senichi Tanisue
Horace Kushimi	Ayako Tsugawa
Tomoyo Matsumiya	Toshiyuki Yamamoto
Kikuyo Matsushige	Albert Yoshii
Shiho Morishige	Kiku Yoshino

Please call the minister at (808) 625-0925 and/or email [dharm.connection@gmail.com](mailto:dharm.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 2023, special memorial years are observed for loved ones who passed away in:

2022 1st Year	2011 13th Year	1991 33rd year
2021 3rd Year	2007 17th Year	1974 50th year
2017 7th Year	1999 25th year	

3RD QUARTER 2023

## **ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY CLEAN UP**

**SATURDAY,  
AUGUST 26, 2023  
8:00AM**

Please see sign up sheet  
on the temple's bulletin  
board. Or email  
[tylerkoshiro@gmail.com](mailto:tylerkoshiro@gmail.com)  
if you can attend!







# Jr. YBA Happenings

We'd like to report that we had a successful summer convention! Our co-chairs Ty Wakahiro and Chad Okawa did an amazing job with our planning and execution of convention. A few convention highlights:

- Live auction on Friday night with the money collected being donated to Ohana Arts for their Japan production of Peace On Your Wings. We gave Ohana Arts \$340 from the auction and other donations. We also got the opportunity to sing Ichigo Ichie with the Ohana Arts cast to close our convention. What a treat!
- Kumu Keola Kālani, Aunty Kehaulani Lum and three Kanaka (Hawaiian) Cultural Practitioners from Hale Hāola Kanaka Cultural institute shared their mo'olelo (stories) and experiences as stewards of Loko I'a Pā'aiau, the fishponds that grace the shores of Pearl Harbor, as well as the cultural exchange with the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community in Seattle Washington
- Visiting Ka Papa Lo'i 'o Kānewai, the taro patch off the Mānoa Stream where we got to get dirty and clear weeds from the lo'i farm and learn about the irrigation system and history of the farm.
- Taiko Workshop with Jay Sensei from Pacific Buddhist Academy
- Model United Winner – Maui United who will also be hosting next year's convention in 2024
- Outstanding Juniors recognition chosen by the United Advisors. Ty and Courtney Uyehara were the recipients of the award this year.
- Passed 2 resolutions of recognition for our outgoing Bishop, Reverend Eric Matsumoto, and Kerrie (Wong) Tom, for the work she did with the BSC and supporting the Federation of Jr. YBAs.
- Passed a resolution to increase the age range for our youth organization; open to students entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade through 2 years after high school graduation
- Passed a resolution to have more collaboration with Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) youth and foster communication and connection with other young Buddhists.

Again, thank you for all your support and generous donations to help us with our convention. We truly appreciate everything you do for the Jr. YBA.

Ty Wakahiro, our United President, won the Overall Immigration History Award (sponsored by the Lombardi Family) for National History Day (NHD) for his project about Jikoen Hongwanji and Hawai'i's Okinawan Community. Check out his website: <https://site.nhd.org/15001164/home> He was able to go to Washington D.C. for NHD Nationals in June and was invited to be the guest speaker at Jikoen Hongwanji on July 9<sup>th</sup> where he shared his project with their sangha. We are so proud of the work Ty did to represent Hawai'i and the Hongwanji!

Our United was able to attend outgoing Bishop Eric's Aloha Luncheon and our Jr. YBA Federation President, Chad Okawa, read and presented the resolution to Reverend Eric. It was a very nice program with a many words of appreciation and a compilation of photos shared in a video. We were also able to get a photo with special guests, former Governor David Ige and former Mayor Kirk Caldwell.

As we start the new YBA year, we want to remind you that you do not need to be a temple member to join Jr. YBA and that it is open for students entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade through students up to 2 years after graduation from High School. Please contact Jr. YBA advisor Aunty Aryn Ishikawa at [arynn.m.ishikawa@gmail.com](mailto:arynn.m.ishikawa@gmail.com) if you'd like more information.

You can also follow us on Instagram! @jrybaofahu and @hawaiiifedjryba



From L-R: Aunty Claire, Dymin Kakazu, Aunty Aryn, Diandra Thomson, Rev Soga, Darius Thomson, Kana Suzuki, Arie Yamasaki, Chad Okawa, Ty Wakahiro, Aunty Gay





# FYI...



## *Mililani Hongwanji Buddhist Temple*

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 Kyodan Pres: June Asato  
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3) download a copy from the temple website: [mililanihongwanji.org](http://mililanihongwanji.org)

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

### **2023 Temple Board**

President-June Asato  
 VP Fac.-Stephen Koito  
 VP Oper.-Kevin Asato  
 VP Rel. Svc./Programs-Brandon Hee  
 Secretary-Roger Babcock  
 Treasurer-Clifford Togo  
 Auditors-Brad Wakahiro  
 Ann Ishikawa  
 BWA Rep.-Diane Yoza  
 Imm. Past Pres.-Dean Sakamoto  
 Directors-Dennis Oshita  
 Rene Mansho  
 Gay Tanaka  
 Janice Yasunaga  
 Advisors-Melvin Hayase  
 Masami Nishimoto  
 Minister-Rev. David Fujimoto

## **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 let Rev. Fujimoto know as soon as possible to ensure proper action.

## **Minister's Private Visitation**

Are you unable to come to the temple? Please call Rev. David Fujimoto at 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!





# Mililani Hongwanji



## BON DANCE

August 18 & 19, 2023, Friday & Saturday

### August 18, Friday

5:30 p.m. Food Trucks, Country Store, Craft Fair & Silent Auction Opens

6:30 p.m. Lantern Parade

6:55 p.m. Opening Ceremony

7:00 p.m.

to Bon Dance

10:00 p.m.

**Country Store**



### August 19, Saturday

5:30 p.m. Food Trucks, Country Store, Craft Fair & Silent Auction Opens

6:55 p.m. Opening Ceremony

7:00 p.m.

to

10:00 p.m.

Bon Dance

**Silent Auction**

August 13th, Sunday:  
9:00 a.m. Obon Service  
Hatsubon Service Arranged

Mililani Hongwanji, 95-257 Kaloapau St.  
Next to Mililani Rec. Ctr. III, No Pets Allowed.  
For more info call 625-0925 or  
[www.mililanihongwanji.org](http://www.mililanihongwanji.org)

Bon Dance Practice:  
Aug 1, 8, 14, 15, 16  
(7:00 - 9:00 p.m.)  
Subject to Change

## SILENT AUCTION

The Silent Auction Committee is blessed to have soooo many unique and unusual items to share - from a Godzilla 500 piece puzzle to gift certificates at various hotels and restaurants to many pieces of Japanese artifacts.

Also, given from the heart are the healthy happy plants donated by Jan and Scott Yamauchi that all of you look forward to every year. Please consider a donation of goods or services to the Mililani Hongwanji.

You can plan to bring the item(s) in on Thursday, August 17th from 5 to 8 p.m. or call or text Charjean Watanabe at 808.223.6077 or email [chari-jean@aol.com](mailto:chari-jean@aol.com). We're looking forward to your generous gesture!

In Gassho,  
Charjean Watanabe 808-223-6077 [chari-jean@aol.com](mailto:chari-jean@aol.com).

## BON Country Store

We have been eagerly anticipating the month of August and now it is upon us! Bon Dance is here and we are very excited! The Country Store is ready to sell your generous donations of baked goods of cookies, brownies, cakes, energy bars, mochi, pizzelles, banana bread, popcorn, your favorite recipes for sekihan, boiled peanuts, tsukemono, takuan, trail mixes, party mixes, jams, and jellies and many other scrumptious assortments of goodies! We are also accepting homegrown plants and vegetables!

Craft items such as scrubbies, dishcloths, and handmade pieces designed by our members and friends are welcome and always enjoyed by all! If you have any happi coats, yukatas, or kimonos that are not in use, we would be very happy to help sell them! Please price items in dollar amounts before bringing your items. We will be located in the temple building alongside the Silent Auction, the same location as last year!

The Drop off Times are:

Thursday, August 17, 5:00 – 7:00 PM

Friday, August 18, 4:00 – 5:00 PM

Saturday, August 19, 4:00 – 5:00 PM

Please sign up on the church bulletin board. If you have any questions you can call Diane Yoza at (808)342-1629 or email [diane.yoza@gmail.com](mailto:diane.yoza@gmail.com) or Claire Doi at (808)372-2198.



# Mahalo for your DANA

(June 15, 2023 to July 13, 2023)

## Funeral

Anonymous  
Isaac Nakamoto

For Isamu Matsumoto  
For Edna J Nakamoto



## General Donation

Mililani Crafters  
Mililani Hongwanji Bon Dancercise Class  
June Asato  
Patrick & Susan Oshiro  
Patrick & Susan Oshiro /Tyler Oshiro  
Tomeo Yoshizawa

**Bon Dance CHOBA Donors Receive a Free Towel.**

## General Donation(Bon Dance)

Terry & Patricia Matsumoto

## Joint Memorial Service

Michie Ando  
June Asato  
Twila Castellucci  
Harley & Martha Ishii  
Mamoru & Ethel Kawahara  
Sylvia Koike  
Carl & Aileen Matsuda  
Amy Nakamura  
Margaret Tanabe  
Margaret Tanabe  
Hiroyoshi & Satoko Terao  
Gordon & Lyn Watanabe

IMO Yutaka Nishihara  
IMO Hisao Miyasaki & Nancy Higa  
IMO Henry Meyer  
IMO Jerald Sumida  
IMO Hinayo Kawahara  
IMO K Koike  
IMO Shigeto Matsuda  
IMO Toshio Miyamoto  
IMO Hisaye Nomura  
IMO Chiyoko Nomura, Katsuji Nomura, Kuraichi Nomura  
IMO Jiro Sugita  
IMO Ukichi Sakutori



**In Deep Gratitude.  
Namo Amida Butsu  
Namo Amida Butsu  
Namo Amida Butsu**

## Memorial Service

June Asato  
Janis Kinmore  
Warren & Jane Miyasaki

7th Year Service for Robert Asato  
IMO Jane Nakauchi  
7<sup>th</sup> Year Memorial for Robert Asato



## Social Concerns(HQ)

Stanley & Carol Sasaki

***Gojikai members, MAHALO for your membership dues for 2023.  
Please submit your pledge donations if you haven't done so.  
In Gassho***



# Photo Gallery



**Bishop Eric Matsumoto's Aloha Luncheon**

SPONSORED BY THE HONOLULU & OAHU HONGWANJI COUNCILS  
& THE OFFICE OF BUDDHIST EDUCATION

## DIVERSITY & ACCEPTANCE IN BUDDHA'S VOW

NEMBUTSU SEMINAR  
SATURDAY, AUGUST 12 - 9:00 - 11:30 AM (HST)  
BUDDHIST STUDY CENTER IN-PERSON  
OR VIA ZOOM




**REV. KO'E A. UMEZU**  
WEST LOS ANGELES  
BUDDHIST TEMPLE

### SEMINAR DESCRIPTION

Join us to reflect on what diversity and acceptance means within The Fundamental Vow of Amida Buddha (Hon-gan). The seminar will feature a screening of "A Profound Silence" which was produced by Gardena Buddhist Church Ichi-Mi, followed by a group discussion.

### AGENDA:

- 9:00am Welcome/Opening by emcee (5 min)
- 9:05-9:50am Rev. Umezu's presentation/Ichi-Mi project & video (45 min)
- 9:50-10:20am Video: "A Profound Silence" (30 min)
- 10:20-10:30am Break (10 min)
- 10:30-11:00am Breakout Group Discussion (30 min)
- 11:00-11:25am Q&A and \*Breakout Group lead share group's discussion highlight (25 min)
- 11:25am Closing/Mahalo (5 min)
- 11:30am Seminar concludes

### REV. KO'E A. UMEZU

Rev. Ko'e A. Umezu is an assistant minister and Community Outreach Coordinator at the West Los Angeles Buddhist Temple. She currently resides in Torrance, CA, with her spouse, Marie Miyashiro. Rev. Umezu and Marie are co-presidents of Ichi-Mi, an organization of Jodo Shinshu Buddhists dedicated to providing a safe space for LGBTQ+ identifying people within the Sangha, their family members, and allies, in order to create conditions for everyone to safely hear the Nembutsu teaching.

### DONATIONS ARE WELCOME!

Donations will be given to the **Ichi-Mi Project**. Check payable to **Gardena Buddhist Church** (include Ichi-Mi project in memo line) and mail to: Gardena Buddhist Church  
1517 W. 166th St, Gardena, CA 90247

**QUESTIONS? CALL MILILANI HONGWANJI OFFICE (808) 625-0925**

**REGISTRATION IS FREE! / REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SATURDAY, AUGUST 5**

Online Registration Link | <https://forms.gle/N9nCqL14xpvioUf8>  
OR Fill out the form below

\*\*\*\*\*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ TEMPLE/AFFILIATION: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE (MOBILE): \_\_\_\_\_

I WILL ATTEND ☐ IN - PERSON ☐ ONLINE VIA ZOOM

HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS SEMINAR? MY TEMPLE (EMAIL OR NEWSLETTER) / TEMPLE OR OTHER WEBSITE / SOCIAL MEDIA / OTHER

CIRCLE ONE ABOVE OR IF OTHER, PLEASE INDICATE HERE: \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL TO: MILILANI HONGWANJI,  
ATTN: NEMBUTSU SEMINAR, P.O. BOX 893308, MILILANI, HI 96789



**LEGO CREATORS and CREATIONS**







# EWA HONGWANJI MISSION

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Ewa Beach, HI 96706

phone: (808) 681-5222

email: EwaHM1901@gmail.com



## NEWSLETTER

August 2023

### Calendar

Aug	24 (Thu)	9:00 am	Before service clean-up
	27 (Sun)	11:00 am	Monthly Service

### President's Message

Aloha! The rail is here! The rail is here! On Friday, June 30th, Rev. David, his parents, Pam Sakuma, and I took advantage of the free ride day on Skyline. Besides the bumpy starts and stops, the 45 minute round trip was very smooth, cool, and scenic. I hope they can build it to Ala Moana Center and to UH Manoa. I hope the rail goes around the island. I remember my dad saying he won't be around to ride it. I was hoping my mom would be able to? But she passed on. Now I hope a new stadium is built before I go? Somebody messed up my retirement plans. On to the swap meets for now. You noticed that I have used the word hope a lot. We can do a lot of hoping. But we are also able to put that hope to action. Have a good everyday, everybody.

In Gassho,  
Craig T. Tsutsumi

### 2023 Obon Fundraiser

by Ewa Hongwanji Mission 2023 Fundraiser Committee

Ewa Hongwanji Mission's June 17th OBon fundraiser was a great success. We thank all those who purchased fundraiser items and made generous donations to Ewa Hongwanji Mission.

We also thank the many volunteers who came out to help set up the tents and sort and package the pre-purchase orders. Volunteers included young and old alike – all working together to keep things running smoothly as cars pulled in to pick up their purchases.

We sold out on our delicious Tamura's bentos; the Shiro's Saimin fried noodles were also a big seller; the Andagi Guy generously came with his crew and made many bags of andagi – always a popular item; Bon dance towels were also available for a donation.

Many families donated to have a remembrance of their family and friends displayed from Japanese lanterns. The colorful lanterns and fluttering tags lent a festive air to the fundraiser – along with recorded music provided by Reverend David Fujimoto.

Again – the Ewa Hongwanji Mission 2023 Fundraiser Committee thanks all those who purchased food and made donations. To the volunteers – we could not have done it without you!

## Mahalo for your Donations

### Ofuse

Abe, Jean ~ In memory of James Abe, C.J. Abe, and Izumihara

Date, Brian ~ In memory of Harold Date

### Obon Memorial Service

Abe, Jean

Iwata, Caran

Nagamine, Glenn

Tamura, Lillian

Wakimura, Rae

Wakimura, Ruth

Yamamoto, Amy

Yoshioka, Arnold

### Obon Fundraiser

Abe, Jean

Alexander, Pamela

Anzai, Dale A.

Bayes, Pearl

Date, Brian

Gushi, Sheryl

Haida, Christine

Hara, Kozo

Hashiba, Alison

Hee, Brandon

Hishinuma, Faith

Ikeda, Harumi

Itamoto, Raynette

Itamoto, Wilton

Iwata, Caran

Joyce, Aaron

Kato, Ken

Kurizaki, Jayne

Maeda, Gary

Mitsuyasu, Bo

MitsuyasuGaper, Carmen

Morishige, Susan

Murakami, Milie

Nakata, Gary

Nohara, Myra

Ogawa, Joyce/Lester

Okamoto, Rev. Jay

Okamoto, Sumi

Oshiro, Lianne

Sasaki, Stan

Sato, Lem

Soga, Rev. Jeffrey

Suguitan, Cathy

Sumida, Wilma

Tadaki, Craig

Tagashira, Gail

Tamura, Miles

Tokumoto, Claudia

Tsurumaki, Gary

Ujimori, Guy

Wakimura, Ruth

Wond, Lisa

Yamamoto, Amy

Yamashiro, Jill

Yasui, Shoso

Yoshioka, Arnold

Yoshioka, Darlene

Rev. David Fujimoto's office hours at Ewa Hongwanji ~ Thursdays 9:00 am-11:00 am.

You may also contact him at 808-625-0925 (Mililani Hongwanji Office) or leave a message on Ewa Hongwanji's voicemail at 808-681-5222.

Keep informed of what's happening at Ewa Hongwanji - <https://bit.ly/3bKGt2f>