



*Mililani Hongwanji*  
P.O. Box 893308  
Mililani Town, HI 96789

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Permit No. 2  
Wahiawa, HI 96786



# Dharma Connection

December 2023

The Newsletter of Mililani Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Volume 46 Issue No. 12



## December 2023

## January 2024

- 3 9:00am Family Dharma Service & Dharma School
- 3 9:30am Hawaii Buddhist Council (HBC) Bodhi Day Service, Nichiren Mission
- 6 6:00pm BWA Annual Membership Dinner Meeting
- 10 9:00am Joint Memorial & Family Dharma Service followed by General Membership Meeting
- 17 9:00am Annual Temple Clean-Up (No Service & Dharma School)
- 24 9:00am Family Dharma Service (No Dharma School)
- 31 9:00am New Year's Eve Family Dharma Service (No Dharma School)

- 1 10:00am New Year Day Service
- 7 9:00am Family Dharma Service & Dharma School (Guest Speaker: Ty Wakahiro)
- 14 9:00am Joint Memorial & Family Dharma Service & Installation of Officers
- 14 10:15am BWA Monthly Meeting
- 21 9:00am Family Dharma Service & Dharma School
- 28 9:00am Ho'onko (Shinran Shonin's Memorial) Family Dharma Service & Dharma School



# Minister's Message



## You Stand Beautifully Above the Muddy Water

A friend and I recently visited a craft fair to which alongside the walking path, was a small little tub with a beautiful purple lotus blossom was growing. It was little, and just sticking out of the water. I was reminded of a meditation verse in which the ending goes something like this.

Your lotus bud begins to grow on top of your stem. It expands and grows larger and larger, finally bursting into full bloom. A lotus flower. You stand beautifully above the muddy water, not dirtied by the mud from which you grow. You are fragrant and beautiful.

Everyone who saw you marveled at your beauty! Your determination to grow out of the muddy pond reminds them of the Buddha and his journey towards Enlightenment. The Buddha, like a lotus, is determined to grow out of the muddy surroundings, that is the defilements and sufferings of life. He has done all that is to be done and he is showing us that we can all do it too. We may have defilements, but we all have the potential of growing out of our defilements and achieving wisdom, like the Buddha.

You are a beautiful lotus flower, and your role is to remind people to rise above their defilements and sufferings, just as you are arising above the muddy water and not dirtied by the mud from which you grow.



In December, we observe Bodhi Day, the day Prince *Siddhārtha Gautama* became enlightened and became known as *Śākyamuni* Buddha. When I think of the life of *Śākyamuni* Buddha, I often think of a lotus blossom. The Buddha was able to overcome the muddy waters of the defiled mind and achieve enlightenment, this beautiful flower that has its foundations in the muddy water.

In our lives, we are constantly embattled with the muddy waters of our mind. I want this, I want that, me, me, me. However, the Nembutsu Teachings remind us that out of that muddy water, we can rise above and blossom into a beautiful flower.

As we head to the end of the year, let us remember all that we overcame and how much we have risen above the muddy waters. We are several years out of the pandemic now and still getting use to a new “norm”. Buddhism teaches us that nothing lasts forever, and we need to change with the times. Next year, we will be celebrating the 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Establishment of the *Jōdo Shinshū* Teachings. Here in Hawai'i, we will be having a celebration as a part of our triple celebration, as we celebrate the 800<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Shinran *Shōnin*, the 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Establishment of the *Jōdo Shinshū* Teachings, and the 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i. As we head into this momentous year, let us continue to rise above the muddy waters and be that beautiful lotus blossom.



Rev. David Fujimoto

Happy New Year's from my family to yours!

# *President's Corner*

Greetings Mililani Sangha,

As we enter the last month of this calendar year, we should take time to reflect on the things we are grateful for. I am filled with joy and gratitude to enter the last month of my third round of serving as president of Mililani Hongwanji. It has been joyful to again celebrate many of our traditional events and start new traditions as we opened up our temple and got to greet and enjoy fellowship with all. I am grateful to have had the sangha bring enthusiasm and kindness as they came to temple to worship, play and volunteer to keep our spiritual home cheerful, welcoming and safe.

Please find time to join us for our Annual Membership Meeting after service on Sunday, December 10. There will be big announcements on the future of Mililani Hongwanji and Hawaii Kyodan. The election of 10 or more directors and 2 advisors will be conducted, and these directors will elect the officers of Mililani Hongwanji for 2024. This is your opportunity to hear from your Kyodan Board on the "State of the Kyodan" as well as bring up suggestions for the new Board to consider.

Our aging buildings need our attention. The Thursday Gang and other menehunes have done such a wonderful job but we need all users to come out on December 17 for the BIG temple clean-up day. Bring your buckets and rags and show up ready to clean. There are tasks for all-- children, youth and kupuna. Let's go HOSHA!! There will be no service that day.

Triple Celebration year will kick off in January 2024 and the Big Event will be on September 7 and 8 in person. Watch for more news for special events all year for this Triple Celebration.

The 2024 Legislative Assembly (Giseikai) which is the annual meeting of our Statewide Hawaii Kyodan will be held at the Hawaii Betsuin on February 9 and 10. Mililani will probably have 3 voting delegates to be selected by the Board, and any number of observers. There is no cost to zoom observers so sangha members are encouraged to see if you can prepare to be a leader in sharing the dharma statewide as part of the leadership team at Mililani Hongwanji. Registration is required by the end of December so see me if you wish to participate.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your president. Our great year has been due to the participation of the sangha in taking care of each other and of supporting the mission of Mililani Hongwanji. Enjoy the holidays and stay safe and well.



**June Asato**



## Summary of November 8, 2023

### Kyodan Board Meeting

- The Mililani Hongwanji Board of Directors met via ZOOM with a quorum. President June Asato presided. Minutes of previous month's meeting was approved.
- Treasurer's Report: (Cliff) Reviewed the October 31, 2023 financial reports. Highlighted important or large expenditures and receipts. Report reflected the fourth and final HHMH Assessment for 2023. Kyodan assessments are determined by membership numbers and comprise a portion of the operating budget for HHMH. Also noted the cumulative amount of donations received thus far for the 50th Anniversary celebration in 2027. Operating Income is at 101% of Budget and Expenses at 83% of Budget. 2024 Gojikai Pledge Letters and HHMH Social Concerns Fund Drive Letters will be mailed out later in November.
- Finance Committee: (Dennis O, Stan, Cliff) Currently reviewing/updating assessment of Mililani resident minister's shared cost with Ewa Hongwanji. Proposal to the Board postponed.
- Minister's Report: (Rev. Fujimoto) Attended Homeless Town Hall meeting hosted by Council member Augie Tulba, participated in UHM Coming Out Fair with the Commission on Buddhist Education, will be attending triple celebration rituals workshop, spoke at the Rose of Remembrance memorial on Oct. 27th, St. Francis Hospital.
- President's Report: (June) Attended Bon Evaluation Meeting, Cliff and Stan will co-chair 2024 Bon Dance again, Bell Ringing for Peace Day, Ohana Day at Fishpond, MHS Quarterly meeting with Rev. Fujimoto, and met with Service Committee to set up service schedule for 2024. Upcoming events, Oahu Lay and Oahu District Council Meeting, Dec. 11 via Zoom, members are encouraged to attend. Giseikai - Legislative Assembly Feb. 8-10, 2024. Veteran's Day Parade event, BSC Spring Fest, Dec 13th BOD dinner meeting in person. General Membership Annual Meeting, Sunday December 10th after service.
- New/Unfinished Business:
  - Kokua Maui - coordinated by HHMH Headquarters, more info later
  - 50th Anniversary of Mililani Hongwanji, Committee members and ideas being sought
  - Green Hongwanji update: David Thomson coordinator, proposed quarterly Plant Share days
  - Calendar of Events for 2024 discussed
- VP Operations: (Kevin) Member rental of temple building went smoothly.
- VP Facilities: (Steve K) Adult Daycare Center is wanting more space for expansion. Annual Church Clean Up Day scheduled for December 17.
- VP Programs: (Brandon) No Report.
- BWA: (Diane) Oct 28, fifteen members attended Annual OUBWA conference at Waipahu, workshop on bokashi and bento lunch after service. Joyce O, Twila C, and Diane Y were installed as officers for 2024. Annual Mililani Pot Luck Dinner Dec. 6th.
- Dharma School: Participated in Keirokai Recognition program and Oahu District Halloween activity.
- Jr. YBA: (Gay) Oahu Jr. YBA will have their fundraising Manju bake sale at Mililani in 2024, date TBD. (Feb 18th)
- Next Dinner Board Meeting In-person on December 13th, 6:15 pm





## Mililani Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

A Jodo Shinshu Buddhist temple affiliated with the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii  
- website under construction -

### Website Update

Hello Everyone!

As our temple website gets updated, we are including photos of temple activities and members. Photos that include temple members show visitors to the website a little slice of activities at Mililani Hongwanji. We hope this will attract new members and help us become more present in the community. However, if you see a photo with yourself on the website, and would like it taken off the website, please let us know.

If you have some amazing photos of Mililani Hongwanji activities and members that you would like to see on our temple website, then feel free to send them to us as well! We would really appreciate some candid/ action photographs that will help bring the website to life.

For any requests, questions, submissions, our email addresses are listed below:

Ty Wakahiro - [tw.taiko9@gmail.com](mailto:tw.taiko9@gmail.com), Dean Sakamoto - [muchyakuchya@gmail.com](mailto:muchyakuchya@gmail.com)

In Gassho,  
Ty Wakahiro & Dean Sakamoto

**A big MAHALO** to the volunteers who helped with the last Adopt-A-Highway clean-up for the year on Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>. The trash was no match for our fabulous crew of regulars—Cliff T, Gay T, Lester O, Mas N, Miles U, Stan S, Stephen K, Warren H and Zoey T.

We are most grateful for ALL who participated in the clean ups this year! The Adopt-A-Highway program is a great opportunity to help beautify our community and spent a Saturday morning with members of our Sangha.

Be on the lookout for the 2024 quarterly clean up schedule that typically occurs in February, May, August, and November.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at [tylerkoshiro@gmail.com](mailto:tylerkoshiro@gmail.com).



### Annual Temple Clean Up - December 17, 2023

All members and users of facilities, please come and help clean our Temple. Just as we clean our own houses so that we can start the New Year out right in a clean house let us begin the new year 2024, with a clean temple in which to hear the Buddha Dharma.

WHEN: Sunday, Dec. 17, 2023, 9:00am to done  
WHERE: Mililani Hongwanji Buddhist Temple  
WHAT TO WEAR: Work clothes & masks optional  
WHAT TO BRING: Rags, buckets, short ladders, scrubbing materials, etc.  
WHAT TO DO: List of tasks will be available, but use your initiative

Refreshments: Voluntary, Coffee & water to be provided. A short service will be conducted. Please come out to this annual clean-up for fun, fellowship and a great cause.



# BWA News



*We wish everyone a happy holiday season, and hope that your 2023 was a satisfying one, with goals achieved, dreams fulfilled, and hopes for the future bright. The year sped by, for sure, and with it, the BWA can look back to having participated in successful events, ie, the Zippy's fundraisers, the Obon Country Store, the Shinran Shonin Memorial & Worldwide BWA Convention in Kyoto, Ehime Maru Clean-up, scholarship sponsorships, Eshinni-Kakushinni Memorial Service, and the Oahu United Convention.*

*All of these activities require planning, so we welcome anyone — women AND men to join the BWA. We welcome your membership, so please consider joining. Talk to any BWA member for information.*

*The second of two Ehime Maru cleanup sessions were held recently, after which time, members enjoyed a delicious dim sum lunch at the Jade Dynasty Restaurant. Two Saturdays each year are designated to cleaning the memorial monument at the Kaka'ako Waterfront Park.*

*Members are reminded that our final meeting of the year will be a dinner/meeting, on Wednesday, December 6, beginning at 6:00. Please invite anyone who may be interested in joining the BWA. Unlike years past, when we were engulfed in food, we'd like you to partner up with someone to bring a dish. Please also remember to bring a wrapped grab bag valued at up to a \$10.00, and do not write your name on it. A fun and festive evening is planned. Annual dues of \$25 for 2024 will also be collected at registration.*

*Finally, "thank-you" to our Keiroshas, the Committee, chaired by Claire Doi, Reverend Fujimoto, June Asato, Rene Mansho, Diane Yoza, Susan Oshiro, Arynn Ishikawa, Dharma School, and the Sangha for their help and participation in recognizing our Keiroshas for 2023. Recognized this year were Twila Castellucci and Nora Hahn. Bobbie and Wayne Kishinami and Gordon "Josh" Lau were also recognized, but were unable to attend.*

*Have a festive, fun, spiritual, and safe holiday season!*







## 2023 Keirokai Recognition - OKAGESAMA DE!

Thank you to our 2023 Keiroshas for your many years with the Jodo Shinshu teachings, your unending support, and your dedication to our community, our temple, and the Buddhist teachings! CONGRATULATIONS on this very special year!

### **KEIROSHA: Twila Castellucci**

Twila Castellucci born on November 12, 1941 in San Francisco, California. The only child of Marie and Henry Meyer, Twila grew up with two cousins on her Father's side and 6 cousins on her mother's side. Twila is of German and English-Canadian descent.

Twila lived in a neighborhood that consisted of older adults and for most of her childhood, she had no one to play games with. The only game that Twila played regularly was Solitaire and spent many hours reading!

The most vivid memory of Twila growing up was when Twila's mother took her to visit her family in London, Ontario, Canada. She remembers riding on the train and looking out the window at the sagebrush and distant mountains and also going over the Great Salt Lake. Twila loved being able to meet her aunts, uncles, and cousins! London was very pretty with streets lined with maple trees. The evenings were very warm, so they used to sit out on a veranda and socialize. Over the years, Twila's holidays were especially enjoyed at her father's sister's beautiful home in Burlingame, California where she was able to play with her cousins Ed and Pat.

Twila's grandmother on her father's side lived in the Bay Area when she was in her late 80's – 90s and Twila would often visit her when she lived in San Francisco and Burlingame. Her grandmother would tell her about what life was like when she lived in other areas before San Francisco, such as Mountain View, Los Angeles, Tucson, and Silicon Valley which was farmland where they grew apricots and walnuts.

Twila's parents met when they were working in San Francisco. Twila lived on the border of the Sunset and Parkside Districts in San Francisco. Her house was a typical San Francisco house, with a basement, garage on the street level, 2 bedrooms, a living, dining, breakfast room, kitchen, and one bathroom above the ground floor. This area of San Francisco is cold and foggy most of the year, so Twila spent most of her time in her room reading and drawing!

Twila attended Parkside Elementary School, Aptos Junior High School, AP Giannini Junior High School, Lincoln High School, City College of San Francisco, San Francisco State University, and Golden Gate University where she received her Master's degree in Taxation and attended Law School receiving a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree. Twila is also a Certified Public Accountant!

Twila met her husband, Pasquale (Par) while working at the Bank of America working part-time while attending San Francisco State University. They eloped and were married in Carson City Nevada. They have a son named John and a grandson Lewis who visited our temple and also joined us for several activities. Lewis Castellucci was awarded the 2022 BWA Scholarship and sent us a video of him playing "Arigato".

Twila's great-grandfather, Henry Meyer came to Brooklyn in 1848 and opened a grocery store selling Christmas Trees and groceries. One of his sons, Gus Meyer, an artist, painted a picture of a sled carrying a Christmas tree representing his father's store. He was also a designer for the Oneida Silverware company!

Twila's favorite subject was art. This may be where Twila picked up her talents and passion for the arts as her mother's father also an artist, worked at McClary's Foundry, painting pictures on metal plates.

Most of Twila's teachers were grouchy, but her kindergarten teacher Mrs. Mackerty was nice! Twila keeps in touch with one of her best friends living near Sacramento and also has a good friend, JoAnn Shibata who lives in Novato, CA who she worked with at Marin County. They traveled together on the recent BCA Japan tour. JoAnn invited Twila to the Buddhist Temple of Marin where Twila was introduced to Shinran Shonin's teaching and especially likes the Golden Chain of Love. Elaine Weston another good friend of Twila's visits our temple when she comes to Oahu.

Twila's career took her to another bank, First Western Bank where she was held up by a bank robber! She also loved working for Had-don N. Salt (the Fish & Chips man) on his horse farm. A wonderful man with a great family where his father taught Twila music theory and his mother taught her how to play classical guitar. Twila eventually retired from the County of Marin. Twila likes working with money so she regularly volunteers as a cashier at the BWA fundraisers.

Twila loves Italian food, especially, "pasta fzoal" a pasta and bean soup polenta, a corn meal mush with pasta sauce. When Twila and her husband were first married, they were poor, so they ate simple foods. She developed a taste for it and still cooks it today. It's good for her health and her budget!

Twila has admired many people over her lifetime. Some were people that she worked for, others that she read about. She likes to read biographies and autobiographies and has learned so much about how to live by reading about other people's lives. The successful people for the most part have been kind, compassionate, generous people who were grateful for the opportunities that came their way and took advantage of them. She has learned that while life can be difficult if we love and care for others, that love is returned and enables us to face almost any difficulty that comes our way.

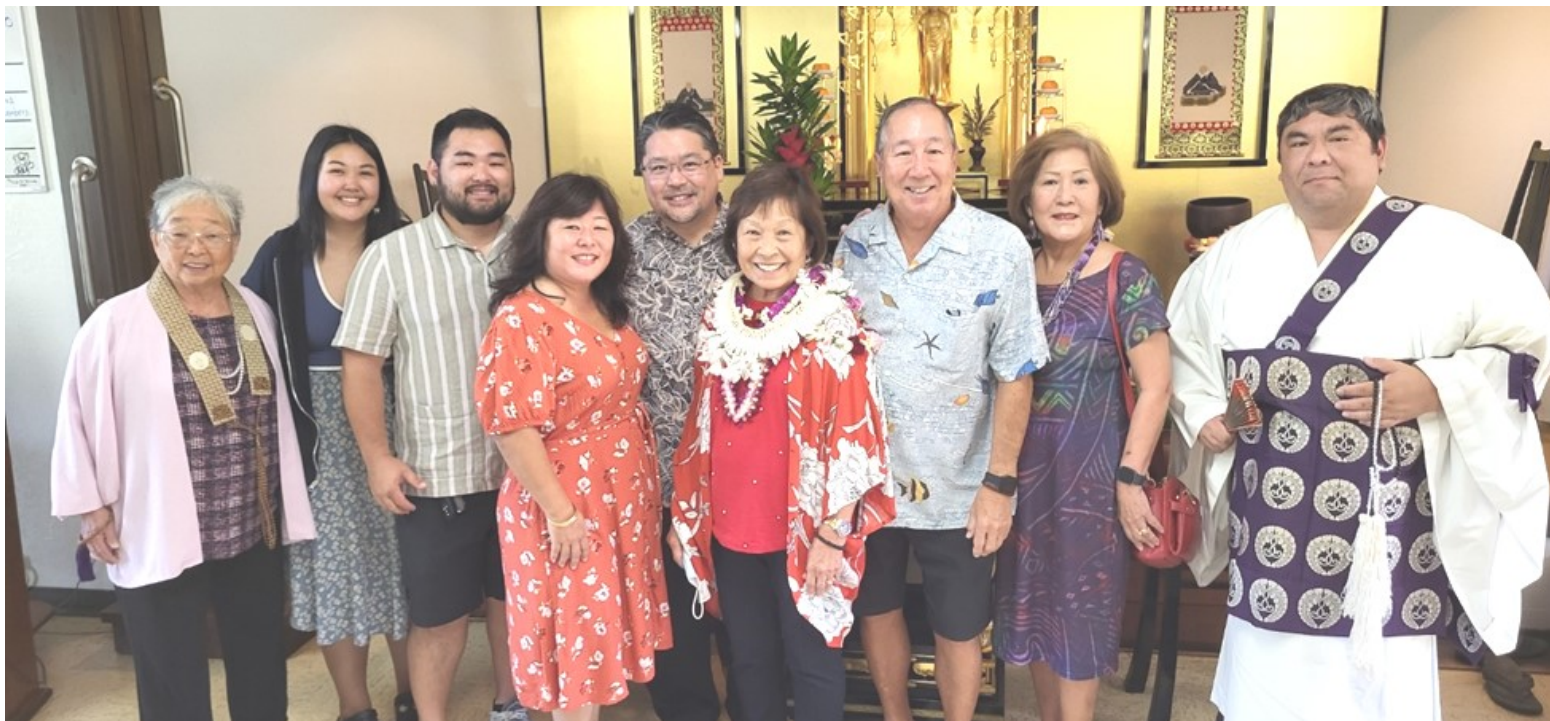
Twila continues to work as of today as a Trustee for her husband's business partner!





### **KEIROSHA: Nora Hahn**

Nora has always been a very compassionate person, always willing to help whatever the task is. She was the chairperson for our previous rummage sale and has volunteered to be the chairperson, with Warren, for our next rummage sale in March 2024. Nora is always pleasant and hard-working. She always has delicious dishes when it's her and Warren's turn for refreshments. Nora also makes the most delicious tsukemono and takuan!



### **KEIROSHA: Roberta 'Bobbie' Kishinami and Wayne Kishinami**

Roberta 'Bobbie' has always helped at our Bon Country Store and makes the best energy bars to sell. She enjoys traveling to many places and goes on tours with her husband, Wayne, her family, and friends. She participates in the refreshment activities at our temple and Bobbie also makes great bread pudding!



### **KEIROSHA: Gordon 'Tosh' Lau**

With Tosh's construction background, he has worked on many different construction projects over the years and has also helped and contributed great work to the Thursday Gang crew at Mililani Hongwanji, who all tirelessly work hard to keep our temple in top shape!







# Dharma School

Is it really December already? Where did the year go? We've had a great time at Dharma School this year and are grateful to our group of students and parents/grandparents who join us on Sundays after service.

We started off the month of November with some Knockerball fun after the Keirokai service/program. Shout out to Auntie Gay for providing the battle balls (and blowing them up too)! A fun time was had by all.

Our November 18<sup>th</sup> class consisted of a lesson from Rev. Fujimoto on the Golden Chain of Love. Did you know that the Golden Chain was written by Dorothy Hunt in 1927, right here in Hawaii? Maybe you did know if you read the article in last month's newsletter. Mrs. Hunt wanted a simple way to relate the aspects of the Eight-fold Path to students in an easy to remember way. After the lesson, the students/adults colored "Kindness" cards. These cards, with the Golden Chain printed on the back, were attached to snack bags and passed out to the Sangha on November 26<sup>th</sup> to share our kindness with others.

We are grateful to have Stephen Chinen, alias Sgt. Rainbow, as one of our Dharma School teachers. His belly breathing sessions at the start of each class is a great way to kick off each week's lesson/activity. And as the author of the "RAINBOWS in Me: Values of Aloha" book, he always has a great character-building lesson like the one he led on our last class in November.

We just have one class in December, on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, where will be making holiday candle holders led by our master crafter Auntie Gay. Our thanks goes out to Lani Y. for donating the class candle holders for our craft. The Dharma School will also be the emcee for service on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our thanks to the King 'ohana for volunteering to our quarterly emcee representative.

If you know a student (preschool to high school) who would like to join our classes, please contact Claire Doi at [clairedoi@dharmaantel.net](mailto:clairedoi@dharmaantel.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.





## Notice of Annual Meeting of Mililani Hongwanji

**Sunday, December 10th after Sunday Service**

Agenda: Receive annual reports and election of Directors for 2024, New business items

### The Nomination Committee Report

Chair: Kevin Asato

Committee Members: Clifford Togo, Dennis Oshita, Kathy Nakamoto, Aryn Ishikawa

Position	Name
Minister	Rev. David Fujimoto
Immediate Past President	June Asato
President	Fill from Director
VP of Operations	Fill from Director
VP of Facilities	Fill from Director
VP of Religious/Temple Activities	Fill from Director
Secretary	Fill from Director
Treasurer	Fill from Director
Auditor	Fill from Director
Auditor	Fill from Director
BWA Director	Lani Yamami
Advisor	Dean Sakamoto
Advisor	Melvin Hayase

Position		
Director 1	Stephen Koito	Elected thru 2024
Director 2	June Asato	Elected thru 2024
Director 3	Kevin Asato	Elected thru 2024
Director 4	Janice Yasunaga	Elected thru 2024
Director 5	Gay Tanaka	Elected thru 2024
Director 6	Brad Wakahiro	Elected thru 2024
Director 7	Clifford Togo	New 2-year Term
Director 8	Dennis Oshita	New 2-year Term
Director 9	Roger Babcock	New 2-year Term
Director 10	Rene Mansho	New 2-year Term
Director 11	Ann Ishikawa	New 2-year Term
Director 12		New 2-year Term

Bylaws require 10 or more Directors. The Directors elected will be electing the officers from among all elected Directors to serve as officers for 2024. Nominations will be taken from the floor for directors or advisors. Two elected advisors serve without vote.

The Jr. YBA of Oahu will be continuing our HBY Month **Manju Fundraiser** after the New Year. Please mark your calendars for February 2024 as we will be baking manju on February 17th with **delivery and pick up on February 18th**. This fundraiser is for our Mililani and Ewa Hongwanji Members! We thank you for your patience and all your support so please keep an eye out for the order form which will be in next month's newsletter!



## December Memorials

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

*Richard Abe*  
*Arnold Akamine*  
*Chiyoiko Akasaki*  
*George Ando*  
*Hatsune Araki*  
*Walter Fukuda*  
*Grant Hirohata-Goto*  
*Fuyu Hironaka*  
*Takezo Hironaka*  
*Tokiko Iwamasa*  
*Mitsu Kaneko*  
*Toshio Kanno*  
*Satoshi Kawahara*  
*Toshiye Kiyota*  
*Ai Koito*  
*Yoshie Kyhos*  
*Kay Macawile*  
*Satoshi Matsumoto*  
*Yoshino Matsumoto*  
*Tetsuichi Mitsuda*  
*Paul Morikawa*

*Chiyoiko Mutoke*  
*Ryujun Mutoke*  
*Brian Nakamura*  
*Sadako Nakashima*  
*Seiji Nakatsu*  
*Charles Oishi*  
*Usuke Okada*  
*Kazuo Okino*  
*Donald Saito*  
*Thomas Sakurai*  
*Yukino Sakurai*  
*Shigeru Shinsato*  
*Chizuko Takayama*  
*Sueo Tanabe*  
*Yuke-Hung Tengan*  
*Haruko Toma*  
*Chikaji Tsurusaki*  
*Lillian Ukita*  
*Fumie Watanabe*  
*Kazuo Watanabe*  
*Masae Yamamoto*

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	





# FYI...



## *Mililani Hongwanji Buddhist Temple*

Minister: Rev. David Fujimoto  
 Kyodan Pres: June Asato  
 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 893308  
 Mililani, HI 96789  
 Location: 95-257 Kaloapau Street  
 Mililani, HI 96789  
 Email: [dharma.connection@gmail.com](mailto:dharma.connection@gmail.com)  
 Phone: (808) 625-0925

### **Dharma Connection Publication**

3 ways to get the Dharma Connection:

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

(This edition is online at: [mililanihongwanji.org](http://mililanihongwanji.org))

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

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!



# Mahalo for your DANA

( October 6, 2023 to November 14, 2023 )

## 50th Anniversary Celebration

June Asato

## Bodhi Day Service

Lawrence & Joyce Nishioka

## Building Fund

June Asato

## Eitaikyo Service

Lawrence & Joyce Nishioka

Sandra Okubo

## Funeral

Norman Kawashima

Joni Masaki

Eric & Judy Sadoyama

## General Donation

Anonymous

Lotus Connection Group

Mililani Crafters

Mililani Hongwanji Bon Dancercise Class

Mililani Hongwanji Mahjong Players (3)

Mililani Support Group

United Jr. YBA of Oahu

Sharon Freitas

Mamoru & Ethel Kawahara

Dennis & Carrie Kawamoto

James & Karen Nakasone

Stanley & Carol Sasaki

Calvin & Betty Shibuya

Cynthia Tong

Tomeo Yoshizawa (2)

## Higan Fall Service

Ethel Yamashige

## Keirokai Service

Warren & Nora Hahn

Ralph & Janice Yasunaga

Lette Kawashima

For Lawrence  
Takenaka

For Florence Saito

via Give Aloha

Parkinson's Support  
Group

For Roof Repairs

via Give Aloha

via Give Aloha

via Give Aloha

via Give Aloha

via Give Aloha

Honoree: Nora Hahn

## Memorial Service

Janet Abe

Trudy Akamine

Trudy Akamine

Michie Ando

Takashi Ando

Melvin Hayase

Melvin Hayase

Harley & Martha Ishii

Wayne & Roberta Kishinami

Carl & Aileen Matsuda

Carl & Aileen Matsuda

Beatrice Okino

Carol Saito

Raymond & Ethel Shiroma

Margaret Tanabe

Margaret Tanabe

Hiroyoshi & Satoko Terao

Wayne & Nora Toma

Wayne & Nora Toma

Carl & Sheila Tonaki

Gordon & Lyn Watanabe

Diane Yoza

IMO Makiyo Okino

IMO Thomas Akamine

IMO Yashiro Hayase &  
Takijiro Ueki

IMO Utako Ando

IMO Utako Ando

IMO Yashiro Hayase &  
Takijiro Ueki

IMO Thomas Akamine

IMO Yoshio Fuke

IMO Adaline Nakata

IMO Sayoko Kuwata

IMO Kazukiyo Kuwata  
& Cynthia Kitsu

IMO Earl Onitsuka

IMO Jane Saito

IMO Isao Kawamoto

IMO Jesse Nomura

IMO Ichio Hirata

IMO Tasuke Terao

IMO Shinji Toma

IMO Ronald Toma

IMO Genchu Tonaki

IMO Chimo Sakutori

IMO Santa Yoza

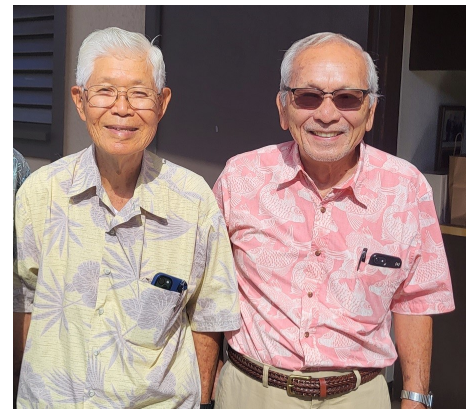
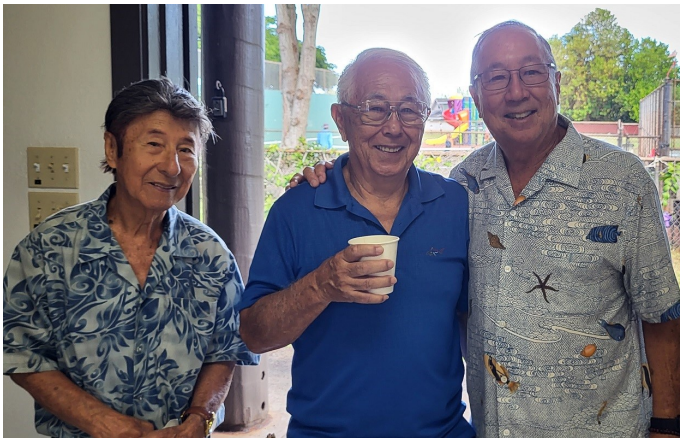


**In Deep Gratitude.**

**Namo Amida Butsu  
Namo Amida Butsu  
Namo Amida Butsu**



# Photo Gallery







# EWA HONGWANJI MISSION

91-1133 Renton Road, Ewa, Hawaii

mail:

P.O. Box 60549

Ewa Beach, HI 96706

phone: (808) 681-5222

email: EwaHM1901@gmail.com



## NEWSLETTER

December 2023

### Calendar

Dec 14 (Thu) 9:00 am Before service clean-up

17 (Sun) 11:00 am Bodhi Day Service (**NOTE: 3rd Sunday**)

Jan 1 (Mon) 8:00 am New Year's Day Service (Let's all ring the temple bell for 2024!)

### President's Message

Aloha. Here's wishing you Hope and Happiness in the coming season, and always for the future. The letter, capital "H", looks like the old football goal post, where the extra points kicked thru the uprights can win the game. It could be similar to our lives. If we can stay within the upper portion of the goalposts, we can be happy and hopefully satisfied with our lives? The further out of range we are, the harder the task. And it takes a team effort to get the job done. May the majority of your "kicking in life" go thru the uprights.

Have a good everyday, everybody.

In Gassho

Craig T. Tsutsumi

### Cane Tassels, Work Whistles, and Labor Day Carnivals

We still have a few books available for purchase ~ we are at the temple on Thursday mornings, 9:00am-12:00pm ~ give us a call if you'd like to drop by or if you want us to deliver.

email: [ewahm1901@gmail.com](mailto:ewahm1901@gmail.com) or phone: (808) 681-5222 (leave a message)

### Mahalo for your Donations

#### General

Michael Sawamoto

Howard & Frances Tateishi

(Family Record Book)

#### Higan-e Service

Jean Abe

Caran Iwata

Glenn Nagamine

Myra Nohara

Rae Wakimura

Ruth Wakimura

Amy Yamamoto

Arnold Yoshioka