



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

February 2024

The Newsletter of Mililani Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Volume 47 Issue No. 2

~ BWA Dana Day Food Drive ~

Mililani BWA will be observing Dana Day on **Sunday, February 11, 2024**, by having a food drive and special speaker. Please bring canned goods and non-perishable items to donate on Sunday, February 11th, beginning at 8:00 am. Cash and checks payable to the Hawaii Foodbank will also be collected.

We'll have a special speaker on that day, Ms. Martha Samson, Chair of the Project Dana Advisory Council.



February 2024

March 2024

- 4 9:00am Family Dharma Service & Dharma School
- 4 After Service Appreciation and Aloha Party Honoring Rev. David Fujimoto (Potluck lunch to follow)
- 11 9:00am Joint Memorial & Dana Day Family Dharma Service
- 11 10:15am BWA Monthly Meeting
- 18 9:00am Family Dharma Service & Dharma School
- 25 9:00am Family Dharma Service & Dharma School

- 3 9:00am Hongwanji Day Family Dharma Service
- 10 9:00am Joint Memorial & Family Dharma Service
- 10 10:15am BWA Monthly Meeting
- 17 9:00am Family Dharma Service &
- 24 9:00am Ohigan Service & Dharma School
- 31 9:00am Family Dharma Service & 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



Place in this World: Final Message

One of my favorite songs is entitled "Place in this World" by Michael W. Smith. Next month, a remake of this song will be a part the soundtrack to the movie "Unsung Hero." The first verse to that song goes:

The wind is moving but I am standing still
A life of pages waiting to be filled
A heart that's hopeful, a head that's full of dreams
But this becoming is harder than it seems
Feels like I'm
Looking for a reason
Roaming through the night to find
My place in this world
My place in this world
Not a lot to lean on
I need Your light to help me find
My place in this world

These lyrics capture the spirit of hope and enthusiasm, but also is a painful reminder that it can get shattered and we lose that hope and enthusiasm, and in that moment, we are wanting to find reason and find our place in this world. Though my time at Mililani Hongwanji is coming to an end and although I was not able to achieve what I wanted to accomplish, Namo Amida Butsu is the Light that keeps me going, even though I sometimes forget that Light always embraces me, and I am looking for that Light.

If there are millions down on their knees
Among the many, can You still hear me?
Hear me asking, "Where do I belong?"
Is there a vision that I can call my own?

Our founder Shinran held the belief that he was such an ignorant being, that he felt that it was as if the Buddha's Teachings was made just for him. That very different from mainstream religious thinking. There are many times as if we are calling out for help, and yet we are not heard. Namo Amida Butsu is the calling voice of Amida Buddha telling us not to worry, yes, I CAN hear you, yes, You DO belong.

The temple exists to validate the Nembutsu Teachings and to nurture ourselves to hear that calling voice, despite the life that we live. I may just be a vessel for the Teachings, but together, we can continue to make sure the Light shines and embraces for the future generation.

I am very grateful to all of you and to all the experiences I've had at Mililani Hongwanji, and I will forever cherish these "Ichigo Ichie" Moments. I mean let's face it, it's going to be hard to forget someone yelling "Eh! Das our minister!" at a funeral. But I am humbled by moments like that.

There is an old Okinawan Folk Song that talks about a person lying on the beach staring up at the moon. This person misses his/her loved ones and wonders if they are staring up at the moon also. The moon will always connect us, as we are all under the same moon. Though we may not notice it, like the Infinite Wisdom and Incomprehensible Compassion of the Buddha, it is always there.

Finally, I don't believe in goodbyes, for we will always be connected, and we will always see each other again. So on behalf of my family and I, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your support over the years and my aspiration for all of you is to nurture the future generation so that they too can benefit in the Light of Amida Buddha.

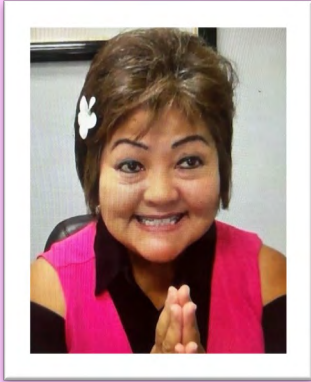


Rev. David Fujimoto

Namo Amida Butsu, Till We Meet Again!

Rene's Review

“Building Healthy Sanghas: Sharing Nembutsu Moments!”



Aloha Friends!

We're off to a great start! My first week ended with the First Friday, 7:30-8:30 PM session in the temple for MINDFUL MEDITATION. It's free! It's open to all! Perfect for relaxing at the end of a hectic work week, or stopping to smell the roses. Please drop in, bring your neighbors and discover that your mind and body will be refreshed and at peace, kudos to the teachers **Stephen Chinen** and **Mel Hayase**. See you all on Feb. 2nd!

Did you enjoy the ono grinds at the **Dharma School's Sangha Breakfast**? Broke da mouth food, and lots of fun and fellowship! Many thanks to the Jr. YBA and Dharma School Ohana sharing their appreciation for our Sangha! Mahalo!

I am in awe of all the **behind the scenes** actions going on thanks to our kind and unselfish and giving volunteers! Did you know that the **BWA ladies** continue the Ho'onko tradition of **Joyce Nishioka** and **Joyce Ogawa** making Zenzai; we depend on the **Thursday Gang** taking care of our facilities handling maintenance, safety and security. **Sharon Freitas**, **Claire Doi**, and **Ann Ishikawa** maintain weekly services schedule **Cliff Togo** handling our finances with **Dennis Oshita** putting together our annual budget; **Christine Sato Lightner** is busy doing tons of data entry; every week, **Lester Ogawa** and **Warren Hahn** open up and prepare the temple for Sunday services; **Carol Kakehi** makes sure gatha books are ready on the counter for services; our Dharma Connection newsletter has been handed down by **Cliff Togo** and now prepared by **Susan Oshiro**, and **Brandon Hee** prepares them for mailing; **Diane Yoza** is retrieving our mail from the post office and also goes to the bank to make deposits; **Ty Wakahiro** and **Dean Sakamoto** manage our fabulous website, which is attracting new visitors; **Gay Tanaka** is handling social media, Facebook, Instagram and others; Adopt-A-Highway led by Coordinator **Tyler Oshiro**; and **Dave Thomson** who is coordinating the Plant Share Program and welcoming the community to our temple! **WE COULDN'T SURVIVE WITHOUT OUR VOLUNTEERS! Please thank them whenever you can.**

Please also join me in supporting and promoting our affiliate programs that make up our Mililani Hongwanji Ohana: **Kyodan Board of Directors, Buddhist Women's Association, Dharma School, Jr. YBA, Judo, Aikido, Mindful Meditation, Kumon, Adult Day Care, Mililani Parkinsons Support Group, the Choir, the Jammers, Mahjong, Bon Dance, Bazaar, Going Green E-waste Recycling, Plant Share, and the awesome Thursday Gang!**

Finally, February will be our last month with our **Reverend David Fujimoto**. We wish him well on his new assignment at Moiliili Hongwanji effective March 1st. He served 8 years as our resident minister and leaves many lasting memories with our Sangha. Domo Arigato, Sensei!

In the meantime, we will be working with an Interim Minister to oversee religious services and invite guest speakers for Sunday services, as we patiently await the assignment of a new Resident Minister. 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

Please join us on Sunday, February 4th

**Rev. David Fujimoto's
Appreciation & Aloha Party**

**Featuring: Potluck Lunch
Fun & Fellowship**

Please make your plans to attend (after Family Service) and thank Rev. David for his years of service to our Mililani Sangha!

Summary of January 10, 2024 Kyodan Board Meeting

- The Mililani Hongwanji Board of Directors met via ZOOM with a quorum. President Rene Mansho presided. Minutes of previous month's meeting were approved.
- Treasurer's Report: (Dennis O for Cliff T) The final 2024 Financial Report was presented with actual figures for the month of December. Overall, it was a good year as expenditures were less than budgeted and income was more than budgeted. Excess cash in checking account will be transferred to the Hawaii Kyodan Combined Fund for investment/growth. The Finance Committee consisting of Dennis O, Cliff T, and Stan S will be meeting to propose a 2024 Operating Budget in the near future. There are several major costs that are still being worked on. The Auditors (Brad W and Janice Y) will be reviewing the 2023 financials shortly.
- Minister's Report: (Rev. Fujimoto) No Report.
- President's Report: (Rene M) Shared solicited "Wish-List" from membership and feedback from the Board was provided. Minister Transition Committee met with Bishop Umitani on the possibility of having a minister temporarily assigned to Mililani Hongwanji during the interim. No decision has been made. A permanent resident minister is hoped to be assigned by the end of 2024. Dean S, Dennis O, Stan S, Cliff T, June A, and Rene M are trying to make the ministerial transition as smooth as possible.
- BWA Report: (Lani Y) Joyce O and Joyce N will be heading the BWA in serving ZENZAI after the Ho'onko Service, January 28th. DANA Day is on February 11th with offertory being donated to charitable and welfare agencies. A food drive for Hawaii's Foodbank will also take place on that day. Marsha Samson, Project DANA Advisory Council Chair will be the guest speaker.
- New Business:
 - Hall Rentals: (Dean S) Current policy is dated. Rates, users, operational guidelines may need to be updated/addressed. Will work with other volunteers to update the policy, forward to VP Operations and then to President for Board action.
 - New Kumon Referral Program started, referrers to receive \$25 gift card, approved for Mililani Hongwanji to participate in program.
 - Sunday morning temple opening to be addressed by VPs for Religious Programs & Facilities.
 - Approved to support participants in the Triple Celebration a subsidy of \$50, not to exceed \$1,000 in total. Registration is \$250/pp.
- VP Operations: (Kevin A) No report.
- VP Facilities: (Steve K) Steve K along with Mel H and Lester O resolved a plumbing issue in the Ed Building. Floor and bathroom drains were backed up. Bottom line, an abundance of toilet paper was plugging the pipes. Close monitoring will be done by the ADC staff to prevent this type of clog.
- VP Religious Programs: (Ann I) No report.
- Jr. YBA: (Gay T) George Takei Night canceled, several Jrs. Attending United Winter Fed Committee meeting in Hilo, Jan 14-15. Manju fundraising order forms in the newsletter, don't forget to place your orders.
- Other Committee Reports:
 - Kokua Committee, will be restarted with Lester O, Nora H and other volunteers. Existing Guidelines distributed that will be reviewed and updated.
 - Green Hongwanji: (David T) Previous survey will be used to start new programs. Plant sharing event on Jan 13, similar program "Junk in the Trunk" being considered.
 - Aloha Party for Rev. Fujimoto being planned for Feb 4, after service. Potluck with fun and entertainment.
- Announcements: Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, February 14, 2024, 7:00pm via ZOOM.
- Important Dates: 1) Jan. 13, 10:00am Plant Share Day; 2) Jan. 15, 9:00am MLK Parade; 3) Jan. 22, 7:00pm Pre-Giseikai Meeting via ZOOM.



BWA News

BWA launched the new year on January 14 with installation of its 2024 Officers.



Congratulations!

First row L to R: C. Doi, N. Hahn, D. Yoza, L. Yamami, T. Castellucci, L. Inoue, A. Sato, C. Sato Lightner, Top row: Rev. Fujimoto.

President: Lani Yamami
Past President: Diane Yoza
Vice President: Aileen Sato
Secretary: Claire Doi

Assistant Secretary: Christine Sato Lightner
Treasurer: Lenora Inoue
Assistant Treasurer: Aryn Ishikawa
Auditors: Twila Castellucci & Nora Hahn

The first BWA meeting of the year kicked off on January 14, and Lani and Aileen are already hard at work. Presented were the 2024 Calendar of Events and 2024 Committee assignments. Stay tuned for details of upcoming events and please sign up for committees. Every member's contribution is valuable and appreciated to make this year a success!

Reminder to submit annual membership renewal of \$25.00 by end of January to Joyce Ogawa. Be sure also to inform Joyce of any changes in contact info. A Membership Roster will be distributed shortly after.

Ho'onoko Service on January 28 was followed by serving of zenzai. Joyce Ogawa and Joyce Nishioka co-chaired, along with the support of BWA members to prepare, cook, and serve the zenzai to everyone in attendance. More to follow in the March newsletter.

February 11 is Dana Day. Special speaker will be Ms. Martha Samson, Project Dana Advisory Council Chair, and she will speak on Project Dana. Also, in recognition of Dana Day, BWA is holding a food drive and will be accepting non-perishable food donations, starting at 8:00am that day. All proceeds will be given to the Hawaii Foodbank.

March 23 is the Bazaar. Rummage Sale chairs are Nora Hahn and Warren Hahn. Country Store chairs are Diana Yoza and Claire Doi. Nora and Warren circulated flyers indicating donations drop-off times and sign-up sheets for volunteer help. Country Store planning and advance media promotions are already underway. Contact them directly to see where you can help out.



**Saturday, March 23rd
9:00am-1:00pm**

There will be the Annual BWA Luncheon in April, and planning is in progress.



Dharma School

The Dharma School had a fun January, mostly revolving around food! For our first class of 2024, Rev. Fujimoto lead the first ever mochi making class for the Dharma School 'ohana. Students and adults filled their fresh mochi with yummy red bean an, crunchy peanut butter, and mini chocolate candies!



Then on Sunday, January 21st, our Dharma School families woke up early to prepare a delicious breakfast for the Sangha that included scrambled eggs, turkey bacon, smoked franks, fried rice, fruits, and various baked goods. It was nice to see all the members who came to temple early to enjoy breakfast and fellowship before the service. Thanks to all who came to help as well as members who joined in for breakfast.

Then for class, after our belly breathing with Sgt. Rainbow, Aunty Jill reviewed the theme for this year's Oahu District Youth Poster Contest. Inspired by the 2024 Hongwanji theme/slogan, "Building Healthy Sanghas: Sharing Nembutsu Moments", the theme for this year's poster contest is "I Say Thank You for This Moment." Students started on their rough drafts and will have two more classes to complete their posters, which are due by March 31st.

There was also a discussion of the Dharma School's participation in this year's BWA Bazaar on March 23rd. It was decided that the families will be selling their toys and books, along with some items donated by Rev. Fujimoto. We hope everyone will support the bazaar and come by the Dharma School table to see what we have for sale.

For our last class for January, the students continued working on their posters. The students did well at last year's contest and we hope they will again show their talents with creative interpretations of this year's theme.

Here's what we have planned for February:

- ◆ Sunday, February 18th, 10am: Dharma School Farewell & Appreciation Sendoff for Rev. Fujimoto
- ◆ Sunday, February 25th, 10am: Last day to work on poster contest entries

Please note that we will not have class on Sunday, February 4th due to Rev. Fujimoto's Aloha Party and Lunch.



If you know a student (preschool to high school) who would like to join our classes, please contact Claire Doi at 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.

Happy 21st Birthday Mel!

Do you know we have a Leap Year Baby in our Sangha? Yes, Mel Hayase, will be celebrating his 21st, oops, 84th birthday on Thursday, February 29th!

Here are some interesting facts about Leap Year Babies:

- 1. They come with a nickname:** People born on February 29th are called leplings, leapettes, leapsters, and leapers. No matter what they're called, they're all unique and fabulous. Yes, Mel is!
- 2. They (sort of) get to pick their birthday:** Since most of the time they won't get to party on the 29th, most Leapers pick between celebrating on February 28th or March 1st. Mel chooses to celebrate on February 28th on non-leap years, because he identifies his birthday being in February vs. March.
- 3. They (might) come with super-powers:** Did you know Superman was a Leap Year Baby? Maybe we have to call Mel, SuperMel!
- 4. They share their birthdays with fewer people:** Leplings share their birthday with about 5 million other people, while the rest of the population shares their special day with almost 21 million people.
- 5. They come out beating the odds:** The average baby has a 1 in 365 chance of being born on any given day. The odds of being a Leap Day baby is 1 in 1,461.
- 6. They have their own club:** Leapsters can join the [Honor Society of Leap Day Babies](#), where all things Leap Day are celebrated and discussed. Don't think there are any societies associated other birthdays.
- 7. They get birthday do-overs:** Many Leapers keep track of their annual age, as well as their quadrennial age, meaning Mel can finally legally drink at age 21!



Melvin Teruji Hayase was born on February 29, 1940, in Hana, Maui. Mel notes that besides being a Leap year this year, it's also the Year of the Golden Dragon that comes once in 60 years and is considered the luckiest of all in the Chinese Zodiac cycle. Since it's a very lucky year, maybe Mel will hit the big jackpot on his annual trip Las Vegas! But Mel also wants to do more traveling this year, maybe internationally to Mexico or Japan.

The odds of being born on February 29th are so low but Mel noted that he actually knew two others in his class with the same birthday. He said that one was also born in Hana and the other guy was born on the other side of Haleakala in Pukalani. Would you believe we were both named Melvin!?!

Mel shared that his mother used to remind him of this sweet story of when he was young. He said, "When I was too young to know these things, I used to go up to the new years calendars and when I could not find February 29, I complained, this is a junk calendar, no mo my birthday."

Here's wishing you the happiest of birthdays Mel Hayase! We drink to you...and now you can drink too! 🍷

**HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII
TRIPLE CELEBRATION 2024**

850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth
800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching
135th Anniversary of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

**ONLINE BUDDHIST EDUCATION SERIES
JANUARY-MARCH**

SPEAKERS



**Rev. Dr. David
Matsumoto**

**INSITUTE OF
BUDDHIST STUDIES**

**January 13 & 20
10 am**

**WHAT IS MAHAYANA
BUDDHISM AND
PURE LAND
BUDDHISM?**



**Prof. Mitsuya
Dake**

**RYUKOKU
UNIVERSITY**

**February 3 & 17
2 pm**

**DEVELOPEMENT
OF JODO SHINSHU
IN JAPAN AND
HAWAII**



**Prof. Eisho
Nasu**

**RYUKOKU
UNIVERSITY**

**March 16
2 pm**

**SIGNIFICANCE OF
ESTABLISHMENT
OF JODO SHINSHU
TRADITION**

Scan to register  Email: triple.celebration@honpahi.org

HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII
TRIPLE CELEBRATION
ONLINE BUDDHIST EDUCATION SERIES 2024

1. What is Mahayana Buddhism? JANUARY 13, 10 AM DR. DAVID MATSUMOTO
2. What is Pure Land Buddhism? JANUARY 20, 10 AM DR. MATSUMOTO
3. Development of Jodo Shinshu in Japan and Hawaii Part 1 FEBRUARY 3, 2 PM PROF. MITSUYA DAKE
4. Development of Jodo Shinshu in Japan and Hawaii Part 2 FEBRUARY 17, 2 PM PROF. DAKE
5. Significance of establishment of Jodo Shinshu Tradition MARCH 16, 2 PM PROF. EISHO NASU
6. Kyogyoshinsho: Teaching APRIL 13, 10 AM REV. MUTSUMI WONDRA
7. Kyogyoshinsho: Practice MAY 18, 10 AM REV. YUKI SUGAHARA
8. Kyogyoshinsho: Entrusting Heart JUNE 22, 10 AM REV. KYONOBU KUWAHARA
9. Kyogyoshinsho: Realization JULY 20, 10 AM REV. HENRY ADAMS
10. The world is waiting for Buddhism and Shinran Shonin: Joy of the Nembutsu AUGUST 24, 2 PM REV. GENE SEKIYA

Scan to register  Email: triple.celebration@honpahi.org

**TRIPLE CELEBRATION
September 7 & 8**

850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth
800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching
135th Anniversary of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii



2024 Baccalaureate Callout

Our 2024 annual Mililani Hongwanji Baccalaureate recognition events are planned for **Sunday, April 28, 2024**. The Baccalaureate service and luncheon are traditionally held to honor our high school graduates and provide them spiritual guidance as they enter into adulthood.

The Baccalaureate Committee is asking our Mililani Sangha family and friends to provide names of any graduating high school seniors who would like to participate in our annual service and luncheon. Names of college graduates are also welcome and will be recognized in the event program.

Please contact Jill Kyhos at jkyhos3@gmail.com with any interested graduates by **March 3, 2024**.

Upon confirmation of Baccalaureate participants, the Baccalaureate Committee will distribute more info about the luncheon sign-ups. Stay tuned for updates!

**MILILANI HONGWANJI
BAZAAR**

Saturday: March 23, 2024
9:00am-1:00pm
95-257 Kaloapau St. (Next to Rec Ctr 3)

- Rummage Sale
 - Treasured Finds
 - Amazing Value
 - Unique Items
- Country Store
 - Ono Homemade Foods
 - Baked Goods
 - Sekihan Rice
 - Takuan
 - So Much More

RunnAge Sale 

COUNTRY STORE 

We hope to see you there!

Mililani Hongwanji
95-257 Kaloapau St
Mililani, HI 96789
Phone: 625-0925
<http://www.mililanihongwanji.org>

Participating Organizations:
Buddhist Women's Association
Dharma School
Ki Aikido Club

NO PETS

KUMON
LEARNING CENTERS



Preschool -
High School

Math & Reading
Program

practice makes **good habits**
practice makes **perseverance**
practice makes **triumphs**

practice makes possibilities™



**Enroll Now
and Save
up to \$80!***

In-Center and Virtual classes available



**Kumon Math and Reading Center of
Mililani - Uka**

95-257 Kaloapau St.
Mililani, HI 96789
808-445-3137

*Enroll between February 1-29, 2024, to waive the Registration Fee of up to \$80. Most Kumon Centers are independently owned and operated. Additional fees may apply. See Center for applicable terms and conditions. ©2024 Kumon North America, Inc. All rights reserved.

Celebrating HONGWANJI DAY Sunday, March 3, 2024



Hongwanji Day (March 2nd) honors the Rev. Soryu Kagahi, the first Jodo Shinshu minister who came to Hawaii from Japan in March, 1889 to propagate the faith among the Japanese laborers on the sugar plantations. Visiting them on the Big Island, Kauai and Maui, his aim was to comfort them and try to alleviate their extreme physical and spiritual hardships. After only seven months, he returned to Japan to urge Honzan to send more ministers to Hawaii to continue his work.

Mililani Hongwanji will be celebrating HONGWANJI DAY on Sunday, March 3, 2024, with Mel Hayase MC-ing the service. Tentatively/Suggested Sangha activities: 1) Sharing early memories of attending temple; 2) Making mochi (a Sangha that makes mochi together, "sticks" together).

If you would like to volunteer to help with these activities or have other ideas, please contact Ann Ishikawa, via email: i_ishikawa@yahoo.com or call/text: (571) 312-0401.



Mililani Hongwanji is participating in Kumon's referral program. If you refer a student to the program, please have the parent/guardian use the referral code **dharmaconNECTION** in the eEnrollment Form. Mililani Hongwanji will receive \$25 for each student that registers with this code and the new student will receive \$25 off the registration fee while the referral promotion is in effect. Kumon is held on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday afternoons and on Saturday mornings at Mililani Hongwanji. Call 808-445-3137 for further information.

Enroll in Kumon & receive
\$25 OFF*

with this referral code: **dharmaconNECTION**

**Kumon Math and Reading Center of
Mililani - Uka**

95-257 Kaloapau St.
Mililani, HI 96789 | 808-445-3137



KUMON

*You must submit the referral code through the eEnrollment Form provided by the Kumon Instructor when enrolling in the Kumon Center in order for you to receive \$25 OFF the registration fee. Valid only at participating Kumon Centers in the U.S. and Canada. Visit www.kumon.com for terms and conditions.
©2023 Kumon North America, Inc. All rights reserved.

Please join us every first Friday for Mindful Meditation

Finding Peace: Come join a group of mindful meditators on the first Friday of every month from 7:30-8:30pm at mindful meditation to find Mililani Hongwanji. Learn and practice peace and improve your daily life.

**Next session is on Friday,
February 2nd, 7:30pm!**
Contact Mel Hayase at
808-258-6192 for more info.



United Jr. YBA of Oahu HBY Month Fundraiser



In October, the United Jr. YBA of Oahu baked Manju filled with Koshian (red bean paste) to fundraise for our HBY (Hawaii Buddhist Youth) Month project. This year, we will be donating a portion of proceeds to Honpa Hongwanji's Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund and/ or Reverend Ai Hironaka and his family.

Please see the information and order form below.

Thank you for your continued support!

ORDER DEADLINE: February 4, 2024

Please email orders to: jrybaofoaahu@gmail.com

(Include name, address, contact number, temple pickup location, and number of orders)

OR

Mail order form (bottom) to:

Mililani Hongwanji Mission, attn: Jr. YBA

P.O. Box 893308, Mililani, HI 96789

Pick-up/Delivery date: **Sunday February 18**

Pick-up locations: **TBD due to George Takei at Honpa Hongwanji service on Feb. 18th.**

Payment: Cash (exact change) or checks payable to United Jr. YBA of Oahu

Please enclose payment or pay at the time of pick up/delivery.

Name: _____ Contact Number: _____

TEMPLE: _____ OR Delivery Address: _____



Manju: one order is 5 pc for \$5



TOTAL: ___ orders x \$5 = \$ _____

Payment enclosed: Yes ___ No ___

2024 Adopt-A-Highway Schedule

- February 17th
- May 18th
- August 24th
- November 16th



Adopt-A-Highway Clean-Up on February 17th!

By: Tyler Oshiro, Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator

Mark your calendars and make your plans to join our Sangha members for this important community service project! Our first quarterly clean-up of 2024 is coming up on:

Saturday, February 17, 2024, 8:00 a.m.

Anyone 12 years of age and older are welcome to participate! Please arrive at the temple by 8:00 a.m. Please wear covered shoes. Trash bags, gloves, and safety vests will be provided. There will be brief safety review and areas to clean will be assigned. Our temple is assigned to clean the portion of Kamehameha Highway that runs through Mililani.

The clean-up usually runs for about an hour. Upon return to the temple, water, coffee, and breakfast sandwiches will be provided.

This program is a great opportunity to help beautify our community and spent a Saturday morning with members of our Sangha.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at tylerkoshiro@gmail.com.

PLEASE JOIN US & GEORGE TAKEI AT HONPA HONGWANJI HAWAII BETSUIN HONDO

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2024

9:30am Special Service

"What Buddhism Means to Me"

(Free admission)

5pm "George Takei Reflects on Day of
Remembrance"

followed by food & entertainment at
Pacific Buddhist Academy

(Fundraising event - Tickets at \$150)

All proceeds will support social justice initiatives at the temple and other nonprofit organizations (including Spill the Tea)

Event presented by:

Honolulu Hongwanji Council

Pacific Buddhist Academy

Community partners:

Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center

Japanese American Citizens League, Honolulu Chapter

Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i

University of Hawai'i LGBTQIA+ Center



SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER
GEORGE TAKEI
ACTOR/CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST



HHHB.LINK/TAKEI

For sponsorship information please contact: Jon Matsuoka at jmatsuoka@hawaiibetsuin.org

Headquarters:



HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

1727 PALE HIGHWAY 2, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 / (PH) 522-9209 / FAX: 522-9200

November 20, 2023

Dear Ministers, Temple Presidents, and Affiliated Organization Leaders,

I hope this email finds you well.

We are pleased to inform you that the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Triple Celebration will be held on September 7 & 8, 2024.

The year 2023 will mark 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 teaching and the 135th anniversary of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. Accordingly in 2024, we will observe commemorative services and workshops for these occasions.

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Triple Celebration

Theme: Sharing the Joy of Nembutsu Together: Our Living Heart of Gratitude

Date: September 7 & 8, 2024

Place: Ala Moana Hotel

Please see attached Triple Celebration bulletin and registration form for more information.

If you have any questions, please e-mail triple.celebration@hongaji.org or call Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii at (808)522-9200.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the celebration.

See page 8 for upcoming seminars. For more info, go to the Honpa Hongwanji website: <https://hongwanjihawaii.com/triple-celebration/>

In Gassho,

Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani

Co-Chair Rev. Tomo Hojo

February Memorials

Those who have passed during the month

<i>Haruno Abe</i>	<i>Mitsuo Nakasone</i>
<i>Shigeko Abe</i>	<i>Francis Nakayama</i>
<i>Harry Abe</i>	<i>James Ogasawara</i>
<i>Rev. Tetsuun Ama</i>	<i>Lynn Onigami</i>
<i>Hayako Ando</i>	<i>Isamu Oura</i>
<i>Helen Cobb</i>	<i>Bob Riichi</i>
<i>Norman Doi</i>	<i>Seichi Sakaida</i>
<i>Mitsuo Fujimoto</i>	<i>Harold Sato</i>
<i>Kakujiro Ginoza</i>	<i>Mark Shintaku</i>
<i>Susie Hara</i>	<i>Sammy Sumida</i>
<i>Edward Hirai</i>	<i>Chiyo Tada</i>
<i>Hasuno Iha</i>	<i>Earl Takita</i>
<i>Gladys Kanagawa</i>	<i>Tokuichi Tanabe</i>
<i>Charles Kanja</i>	<i>Paul Tanaka</i>
<i>Aimee Kawamura</i>	<i>Hajime Tanitomi</i>
<i>Eyvinn Kihara</i>	<i>Ayame Terao</i>
<i>Ethel Kunishige</i>	<i>Derrik Tokioka</i>
<i>Hideko Kuya</i>	<i>Joyce Tonouchi</i>
<i>Patrick Matsuda</i>	<i>Shigeo Tsurusaki</i>
<i>Toshio Matsumiya</i>	<i>Shitsue Tsurusaki</i>
<i>Satomi Matsumoto</i>	<i>Yumi Ukita</i>
<i>Winona Matsumoto</i>	<i>Sueo Watanabe</i>
<i>Elsie Matsumura</i>	<i>Yoshinobu Watanabe</i>
<i>Mitsuto Mitsui</i>	<i>Ralph Yasunaga</i>
<i>George Morioka</i>	<i>Uta Yoza</i>

Please call the minister at (808) 625-0925 and/or email dharmaconnection@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 observed for loved ones who passed away in:

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

Love to do crafting but can never find the time? Come to...

Friday Night Craft Night!
Friday, February 23, 7pm

Bring your craft supplies/projects, whatever they may be & gather in the temple building every 4th Friday evening with your fellow crafters! No rules, just fun & fellowship—come & go as you please. Contact Gay Tanaka (808-349-7364) for more info.

Three Treasures

I go to the Buddha for guidance

I go to the Dharma for guidance

I go to the Sangha for guidance

Fun & Games Corner

DAAMI

DABHUD

MADRAH

HSGANA

Unscramble each of the clue words. Take the letters that appear in boxes and unscramble them to reveal one of the Six Paramitas.

(Go to the bottom of page 12 for the answers)

Mahalo for your DANA

(December 14, 2023 to January 13, 2024)

Funeral

Richard & Gail Taira
for Funeral Service for Itsue Tamamoto

General Donation

Mililani Crafters
Mililani Hongwanji Ikebana Class
Mililani Support Group
Theodine Hirai (for Dharma School)
Milton & Susan Migita
Milton & Susan Migita
Dirk Yoshizawa (via Aloha United Way)
Tomeo Yoshizawa

General Donation (Bon Dance)

Karen Tanaka

Hoonko Service

Margaret Tanabe

Memorial Service

Michie Ando
IMO George Ando
Annie A. Chang
IMO Kameju & Hatsue Akamine, Arnold Akamine
Mace Mutobe
IMO June Motobe
Margaret Tanabe
IMO Wayne Hirata



New Year's Day Service

Christine Sato & Richard Lightner
June Asato
Melvin Hayase
Lorna Miyasaki
Margaret Tanabe
Gordon & Lyn Watanabe

Social Concerns (HQ)

Akamai Glass Co., Inc.
June Asato
Myra Fujino
Brian & Ruth Fukumoto
Michael & Eleanor Guerrero
Warren & Nora Hahn
Allan & Helen Hasegawa
Harley & Martha Ishii
Karl & Carol Ann Kakehi
Dennis & Carrie Kawamoto

Social Concerns (HQ)

Earline Kihara
Wayne & Roberta Kishinami
Stephen & Susan Koito
Thomas & Thelma Kushimi
Carl & Aileen Matsuda
Baldwin & Sally Miyake
Lorna Miyasaki
Wayne Morimoto
Keith Nakahara
James & Karen Nakasone
Earl & Amy Nishimoto
Masami & Joyce Nishimoto
Karen Oda
June Ogawa
Lester & Joyce Ogawa
Beatrice Okino
Dennis & Michele Oshita
Frances Saito
Dean & Doreen Sakamoto
Melvin & Elaine Sasaki
Deanna Sato
Charles & June Shimata
Steven & Sadako Shintaku
Tyler & Kristi Tamashiro
Margaret Tanabe
Nancy Tanaka
Derrick & Lynn Taves
Hiroyoshi & Satoko Terao
Clifford Togo
Susan Tokuhama
Carl & Sheila Tonaki
Lloyd & Janis Uradomo
Brad & Mari Wakahiro
Gordon & Lyn Watanabe
Wayne Yamaguchi
Steven & Lani Yamami
Ethel Yamashige
Ralph & Janice Yasunaga
Glenn S. & Minnie Yoshimori
Jan Youth
Diane Yoza

Thank you to all who have submitted your Gojikai (membership) pledge/dues for 2024. If you have not received a Pledge Letter and would like to become a member, please request at dharm.connection@gmail.com



Puzzle key: Amida, Buddha, Dharma, Sangha, Dana

Photo Gallery



Kyodan Board Installation: January 14th



Guest Speaker
Ty Wakahiro,
January 7th



Plant Share - January 13th
Next one: April 13th



Sangha
Breakfast
prepared by
Dharma
School
'ohana -
January 21st





FYI.....



Mililani Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Minister: Rev. David Fujimoto
 Kyodan Pres: 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

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)

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

President-Rene Mansho
 VP Fac.-Stephen Koito
 VP Oper.-Kevin Asato
 VP Rel. Svc./Programs-Ann Ishikawa
 Secretary-Roger Babcock
 Treasurer-Clifford Togo
 Auditors-
 Brad Wakahiro
 Janice Yasunaga
 BWA Rep.-Lani Yamami
 Immed. Past Pres.-
 June Asato
 Directors-
 Nora Hahn
 Dennis Oshita
 Gay Tanaka
 David Thomson
 Advisors-
 Melvin Hayase
 Dean Sakamoto
 Resident 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!





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

February 2024

Calendar

Feb 9-10 (Fri-Sat) Giseikai (Legislative Assembly)

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

25 (Sun) 11:00 am Monthly Service

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

President's Message

Aloha. Hoping again for a Happy New Year to all! It looks like we are not having a live Bon Dance in 2024? But stay tuned. I'm supposed to be retired. But my activities are continuous, and/or endless. I get lectured, given ideas, etc on how to run my life. And I'm not even a grandparent. But we all know that any action, or change will have to come from within. Then we make a choice, we get the Monday morning quarterbacks. I unexpectedly lost one of my best friends coming up on two years in March. He inspired me. And I hope I inspired him? We were very different. But we agreed on one thing. "NO REGRETS!" Have a good everyday, everybody.

In Gassho,
Craig T. Tsutsumi

Notice

Effective March 1, 2024, Rev. David Fujimoto will be assigned as the Resident Minister at Moiliili Hongwanji and will continue to be Ewa Hongwanji's Oversee Minister. His contact number is 808-479-3744. Moiliili Hongwanji is located at 902 University Avenue and their weekly Sunday services are at 9:00 am. More information will be included in next month's newsletter.

Mahalo for your Donations

General

Jayne Kurizaki

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, 9:00 am-12:00 pm ~ give us a call if you'd like to drop by or if you want us to deliver.

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

2024 Memorial Anniversaries

Nenki Hoyo Memorial Services are held during certain anniversary years for families to gather to encounter and listen to the Buddha Dharma and to remember family members and friends who have passed on. The following is a list of memorial anniversaries for 2024. If you would like to schedule a memorial service, please contact Rev. David Fujimoto at 808-625-0925. Services may be held in person (according to current social distancing protocols) or virtually.

1st Year ~ 2023

None

3rd Year ~ 2022

Apr 13 Beatrice Tashiro
Apr 19 Bertram Yasui
June 18 Miyoko Kaneshiro

7th Year ~ 2018

Oct 14 Dan Yamamoto
Oct 19 Atsuko Iguchi
Dec 9 John Iguchi

13th Year ~ 2012

Jan 28 Haruki Sakamoto
Feb 12 Ernest Kawakami
Feb 16 Thomas Iwata
Mar 5 Laura Nakasono
Apr 24 Hisayo Kawakami
June 27 Andrew Onitsuka
July 5 Tomii Orita
July 26 Howard Shimoda
July 29 Kiyoyama Yamashiroya
Sep 29 Carolyn Hirata

17th Year ~ 2008

May 20 Hajime Takemoto
Aug 10 Fred Nagamine

25th Year ~ 2000

May 4 Eva Tsutsumi
July 8 James Omoto

33rd Year ~ 1992

Mar 31 Imayo Nakasono
May 1 Setsu Furukawa
June 9 Richard Abe
July 18 Teruo Hirata
Oct 5 Kameko Teruya
Dec 15 Frances Tamura

50th Year - 1975

Jan 3 Take Yasui
July 8 Morishige Gushi
Sept 30 Chieko Morinaga
Nov 8 Umeichi Oda
Dec 4 Hisayoshi Goto

Rev. David Fujimoto's office hours at Ewa Hongwanji ~ Thursdays 9:00 am-11:00 am.
You may also contact him at 808-479-3744 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>