Mílílaní Hongwanjí P.O. Box 893308 Mililani Town, HI 96789

Address Service Requested

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



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 Messe by Reverend Joshin Kamuro

## <u>"Within the four seas, all men are brothers — SHIKAI KEITEI 四海兄弟"</u>

Last month, I was invited to Jikoen Hongwanji in Honolulu as a guest speaker for their Gotan-e (Shinran Shonin's Birthday) Service. I was truly grateful for the opportunity to be there, and I was especially happy to introduce our daughter, Nanami, to Jikoen Hongwanji sangha members. If you visit Jikoen Hongwanji, you will notice a stone monument near the entrance of the building. The inscription on it reads: "Within the four seas, all men are brothers. In Japanese: 四海兄弟 (*shikai keitei*)." The phrase "the four seas" (四海, *shikai*) reflects the Buddhist worldview and symbolizes the entire world or all the oceans. As many of you know already, our daughter's name is Nanami (七海), which means "seven seas" or "seven oceans" in Japanese. The idea of the "seven seas" also represents all the oceans of the world—an idea that

resonates with the meaning of *shikai keitei*: "Within the four seas, all men (and women) are brothers (and sisters)." We chose the name *Nanami* from one of my favorite Buddhist songs, titled *Nonno-sama*. *Nonno-sama* is a term affectionately used by children to refer to the Buddha.

Let me share the lyrics of the song "The Buddha, Nonno-sama – Lullaby for Children of the World":

## The Buddha, Nonno-sama, The Buddha, Nonno-sama,

- Please protect this child's life, Please protect this child's tomorrow and future.
- The Buddha, Nonno-sama, Please protect this child's friends,
- Please protect this child's Earth and dreams.
- Let's build bridges across the seven seas, connect the world, join hands together.

the world are brothers and sisters — SHIKAI KEITEI 四海兄弟."

A bridge is a rainbow bridge where the children of the world play.

I love the idea of building bridges across the seven seas. I imagine this bridge as a "rainbow bridge"—Amida's bridge— that connects the world and joins hands together. Since Hawaii is known as the Rainbow State, the image of a rainbow bridge spanning the seven seas feels especially meaningful for our daughter, who was born here in Hawaii. The song *Nonno-sama* is subtitled "Lullaby for Children of the World." Just as a mother gently cradles and protects her child, Amida Buddha warmly embraces all children and living beings. My wife, Minako and I hope our daughter, Nanami, will grow to be someone who connects people —a bridge guiding others toward the Buddha's land of peace. The Nembutsu teachings unite people beyond race and borders. Let us remember "All nembutsu practicers all over

You can enjoy the song "Lullaby for Children of the World (Nonno-sama)" performed at Choralfest 2014 at Hawaii Betsuin, available on YouTube.

Here is the link: <u>3. Lullaby for Children of the World - Choralfest 2014 Music Pro-</u> gram: Choral Presentation (tr. Hawaii Music Committee)





Rene's Review



President

**Aloha Friends!** 

I just love our Mililani Hongwanji Ohana! Their generosity is boundless, giving their time and energy to help Rev. Kamuro; to help open the temple on Sunday mornings, make the coffee, water, take out the service and gatha books, set the tables for refreshments, donate leis for us to welcome visitors on Sunday mornings, to greet and sit with a new visitor on Sundays; the Thursday gang taking care of our buildings, the grounds, the plants, the parking lot, you name it, everything takes giving and unselfish people who care and will voluntarily help wherever needed. I am so humbled with everyone's aloha. Equally special are the Kamuro family members like Mrs. Minako, our first lady who attends to our temple needs and assists Sensei, and her altar flowers and calligraphy classes are a big hit! The biggest sur-

prise is our Mililani High School Junior, Yuma is always helping his father at **Rene Mansho** 

Sunday services with the ty monitor set up, and computer equipment, which make every week's Dharma Message even more powerful. Yuma is also our star classical violinist, guitarist, President of the Oahu Jr. YBA, but there's more! He is teaching Japanese classes on Sundays from 11:15 am to 12:30 pm, and I am loving it so much! I'm learning Japanese terms when traveling, ordering at restaurants, relating to family members, some basic beginners lessons and some provocative topics that are very helpful! Please bring a friend and join us!

Every time I meet a new visitor on Sundays, they tell me they drive or walk by and are curious about our activities. Are we a strictly serious religious group, what's the adult day care about, and is there more than bon dancing going on beyond our front fence? Of course, people say they are surprised to see so many people praying, singing, talking story, eating, playing mahjong, ukulele, and just catching up on the week's happenings. Let's hope people's curiosity keeps surprising us! We should all share our brochure that announces Judo, Aikido, Crafters, Crocheting, Parkinsons Support Group, Dharma School, Meditation, Jr. YBA, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Kumon, Adult Day Care, and more! Actually, our secret weapon is our awesome website: www.mililanihongwanji.org

May was a busy month for Mililani Hongwanji being represented in the community at the MTA Senior Fair, the Mililani High School Quarterly Community Meeting, Wahiawa Celebration of Peace with the Royal Hawaiian Band and Steven Miwa's book, "Ganbare Hiroshima, Don't Give Up!", and sales go to support the Ohana Arts production of "PEACE ON YOUR WINGS" that is performing in Hiroshima and Fukuoka in July! That is so awesome that Americans from Hawaii are sharing Sadako's story of hope for peace, Japan's own Sadako is their pride and joy and Hawaii is honored to share her legendary story. What a proud moment for the youth who will share the message of Peace. I was so proud to emcee this historical event. Then on May 24<sup>th</sup>, Ty Wakahiro and I led the annual "Waialua-Kahuku Memorial Day Ceremony" at the Haleiwa Beach Park obelisk that lists the names of soldiers from the North Shore who died in combat, who gave their lives for us! Ty read all 45 soldiers names as families and friends presented leis at the memorial. So touching.

I'm looking forward to June 15th, 5 PM, the PAN PACIFIC FESTIVAL PARADE where Hongwanji members and friends can join us and ride the trolley through Waikiki to share the many cultures in Hawaii, or you can walk with us and carry a sign, "Walk for Peace". We are wearing the attire of our ethnic origins, and sharing our Hongwanji Aloha Spirit! Please call or email me, please we need you!

Ph: 807-291-6151 / renemansho@hawaii.rr.com

## Summary of May 14, 2025 Mililani Hongwanji (Kyodan) Board Meeting

The Mililani Hongwanji Board of Directors met via Zoom with a quorum. President Rene Mansho presided.

**Treasurer's Report:** (Cliff T) The April 30, 2025 Financial Report was presented. Major expense incurred was the first quarter HHMH Kyodan Assessment. Donations were steady, and normal operating expenses were incurred. Temple insurance premiums are due shortly with an anticipated increase. Hurricane insurances are being solicited and subject to review by the board. Major sources of income continue to be from ADC, Pledges (dues), Donations, and Other Rental income. Major expenses were Minister's Salary and FB, Utilities, Office & Altar, and Building Committee R&M. Report accepted, subject to audit. Dennis O will assist in coordinating the audit for FY 2024.

Auditors are Brad and Janice. A separate 50th Anniversary bank account will be established (Dennis O).

- Minister's Report: (Rev. Kamuro) Written report received showing various meetings, services, seminars, and other activities for the current and future month. We received partial shipment of Rev. Suchira's book "Shinran: the Hardships of His Life." Due to delivery problems, 48 additional books will be provided by Rev. Suchira. A Mahalo gift was sent to Rev. Suchira by Rev. Kamuro on behalf of MHM. A new front table for the altar will be arriving soon to replace the current chest. Dr. Enrique Galvan Alvarez from Spain will be speaking at Mililani Hongwanji on Aug 1, 6:30 pm, topic will be "The Past, Present, and Future of Jodo Shinshu in Europe", more info forthcoming.
- **President's Report:** (Rene M) Bishop Umitani will be calling a meeting of temple presidents to discuss how the HHMH can sustain our membership. Waianae Hongwanji will be closing its door in November 2025, a HHMH committee is assisting Waianae Hongwanji in the closure process.
- **VP Operations:** (Kevin A) Awaiting status report on Community event being considered on temple grounds.
- **VP Facilities:** (Steve K, excused) Reroofing Ed. Bldg. Proposal to be presented at next meeting. HECO work on driveway to improve electrical service nearly completed. Access will be kept open at all time.
- **VP Religious & Temple Activities:** (Dean S, excused) Dharma School (Alex K) is doing well, students enjoyed the tie-dye tee shirt activity. Alex and Steven C recently returned from their trip to Gardena, CA to attend the FDSTL Conference. Lots were learned and will implement at Mililani and share resources with other temples.
- **BWA Report:** (Lani Y) BWA Scholarship awarded to Diandra Thomson. Some members will attend the "Celebration of Peace" at Wahiawa. The Eshinni-Kakushinni offertory and donations will be given to Ohana Arts. The World BWA Convention will be held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village.
- **Jr. YBA:** (Gay T) Jrs. helped with the Hanamatsuri Service at Aiea, will be having an activity at the Coral Crater Adventure Park, couple members attended and enjoyed the YESS camp. Requested and board approved to purchase an ice machine, mainly for Bon Dance, but for general temple use as well. Details (purchase/ installation) to be worked out with Facilities group.
- **50th Anniversary** (June & Mel) Written report submitted. Committees established with members and functions. Fundraising goal set at \$1M. As a 50th Anniversary Project, Hideaki Yagi and Mel presented several proposals for improving the landscaped garden fronting the temple building. No action requested at this time, just for info and consideration. As part of the 50th Anniversary the Board approved the purchase of a Solar Water system. Also approved to move forward on the purchase of a Photovoltaic System with battery backup for the temple facilities.
- **Community Engagement and Outreach Work** (Ty Wakahiro) Submitted and Board approved a proposal to increase publicity and interest in Jodo Shinshu and Mililani Hongwanji through various cost effective community engagement and outreach methods. This includes creating collateral materials including print products, videos, social media content, etc relating to Shin Buddhism, Mililani Hongwanji, Mililani bon dance, Mililani Hongwanji's 50th Anniversary, and other topics to increase public interest. Project period: 5/28/25-8/14/25.

#### **Other Reports or Announcements:**

Adopt-A-Highway, May 17th, 8:00 am

Bon Dance Planning Committee Meeting, May 28th, 7:00 pm

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 11, 2025, 7:00pm via ZOOM. (All meetings are usually on the 2nd Wednesday of the month via Zoom)



Thank you Carrie Kawamoto for serving as MC for the Eshinni-Kakushinni Service. President Lani Yamami introduced our special speaker, Ms. Edythe Vassall from Hilo Hongwanji. Ms. Vassall, born and educated in New York, has traveled to South America, worked for the Buddhist Churches of America, served as Managing Editor of the Kaleo Kahea, and does freelance editing and teaching. She touched upon the lives of Eshinni and her daughter Kakushinni, who gave their complete support to Shinran Shonin. As a wealthy landowner, she aided his life's mission of spreading the Nembutsu Teachings. Poor harvests and wide-spread epidemics strengthened Eshinni and Kukushinni and instilled in them with unwavering faith in the Nembutsu.

Ms. Vassall also spoke of Mary Foster, a more contemporary Buddhist, who descended from Hawaiian royalty, married at a young age of 16, had no children, and dedicated land to Hongwanji and the City of Honolulu. The Foster Botanical Gardens, named in her honor, has a thriving Bodhi tree, propagated from the same tree under which Buddha gained enlightenment.

Our Mililani Hongwanji Jammers played "It's a Wonderful World", by Iz, while Lani Yamami, Amy Nakamura, and Joyce Ogawa danced the hula in matching pareaus. A BIG MAHALO to the BWA members who provided a light lunch of sandwiches, salads, and desserts for the attendees at this service.

It was decided that the Eshinni-Kakushinni offertory be presented to Ohana Arts, who produces "Peace On Your Wings," a widely acclaimed production for youth, inspired by the true story of Sadako Suzuki and her one thousand paper cranes.

"Heigh-ho, Heigh-ho, it's off to work we go" with buckets, rags, brooms, and mops. Led by co-chairs Debbie Hiyakumoto and Janice Yasunaga, BWA members Minako Kamuro, Joyce Ogawa, Claire Matsumoto, Patsy Hiyakumoto, Warren Hahn, and Nora Hahn, cleaned the Ehime Maru Monument. Erected in memory of the lives lost on board the Japanese Fishery High School Training Ship, 4 high school students, 2 teachers, and 3 crew members perished in the tragic collision 10 miles off the shores of South Oahu on February, 2001. The ship was struck by the U.S. Naval Submarine Greenville in this tragic accident.

The BWA has made this a semi-annual service project and invites all Temple members to join them. Thank you to Claire M., Debbie, and the Hahns for their floral offerings.

The BWA is very pleased to present the annual BWA scholarship to Diandra Thomson, who has been active throughout her school years with Mililani Hongwanji in Dharma School and Jr. YBA. She plans to pursue a degree in the health field, as a Physician's Assistant. The Baccalaureate Service and Luncheon was held recently in her honor. Congratulations, Diandra!!

We wish the following members a Happy Birthday for the month of June: June Asato (5), Arynn Ishikawa (8), Ethel Yamashige (12), Bobbi Kishinami (13), and Gail Taira (23).

Next BWA meeting: June 8, following Sunday Service. MC's are Claire Doi and Charijean Watanabe. We look forward to seeing all members.







## Dharma School

Last month at Dharma School, Gay led a lesson on "Engaged Buddhism" and how we can use our Buddhist practice to help create the world we want to live in. She began by showing the classic Schoolhouse Rock video "I'm Just a Bill," which explains how a bill becomes a law. This led us into creating postcards to send to our Hawaii Buddhist senator, Mazie Hirono. Some of us wrote words of gratitude for the senator and her team, while others shared specific hopes for the future. Gay provided a variety of creative ways for us to design our postcards. Thank you, Gay, for leading this lesson and for sending our postcards to Senator Hirono!

At the next class, Crystal led a lesson about shinjin. From Shinran's teachings we learned how we can achieve a Pure Land state of mind if we trust in the Three Treasures-the Buddha, the Dharma, and the Sangha-and strive to keep our hearts and minds pure, peaceful, and joyful. For our activity, we practiced some "tie-dye shinjin"! Both students and adults brought their own t-shirts, and the temple provided all the other materials. Thank you to the King family for bringing the remaining tie-dye supplies, and to everyone who helped set up for this fun activity.

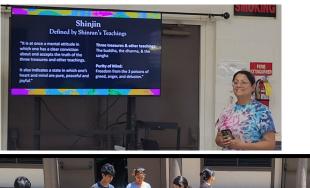
Sunday, May 25th, is the last day of Dharma School and we're celebrating with a party! Throughout the year, students have been filling our "Gratitude Bowl" by earning tickets for attending temple service, participating in oshoko, and coming to Dharma School. During the party, we'll draw tickets from the "Gratitude Bowl" for prizes. Thank you, Sgt. Rainbow (Stephen), for organizing this for our students and for leading us in belly breathing exercises!

Thank you to Rev. Karumo and our dedicated teachers: co-leaders Alex and Crystal King, Ann Ishikawa, Jill Kyhos, Stephen Chinen, Gay Tanaka, Mari Wakahiro (assistant), and Claire Doi.

Thank you Dharma School students, families, and the Sangha for your ongoing support! Have a great summer!

In Gassho, Your Dharma School 'Ohana











# Jr. YBA Happenings

Congratulations Diandra Thomson! She graduated from Mililani High School on May 25. We celebrated her Baccalaureate Service and luncheon the previous Sunday and it was a beautiful day. Aunty Arynn was the MC for the service and Aunty Gay gave an inspiring baccalaureate message based on the Three Treasures. Diandra will be staying home where she will be attending UH West Oahu and studying toward a nursing degree.



Can you believe it's already summer? You know what that means. We are preparing for our end of year transition to next year. If you haven't already thought about being a United or Federation officer, now's the



time. We will have United officer elections after Convention in July. Federation Officer forms will need to be filled out and signed before June 20. Please see the convention website for the proper forms and qualifications. The Jr. YBA State

Convention will be held at the Ala Moana Hotel on June 20-June 22. This year's Convention is hosted by the United of Honolulu and the theme is Hello Kitty & Friends. We are looking forward to connecting with our friends from the neighbor islands and making new ones among the members across the state. It is sure to be a exciting convention with a

dinner banquet and auction as well as workshops. We also encourage you to enter one of the contests: Art, Essay, Oratorical or Jr. YBA Member of the Year.

Forms and instructions can also be found on the Convention Website. https://sites.google.com/view/68th-jr-yba-state-convention/home

Summer is also Bon Dance season! We were asked to help at some of the district bon dances so please be sure to check your calendars and come out to whatever bon dance you can help at! We also encourage you to bring your friends to experience bon dance. They are not obligated to work a shift but they can if they want!

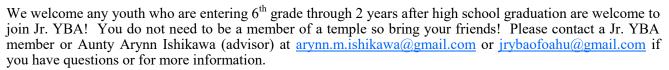
June 13 & 14 – Wahiawa Hongwanji (fishing pond game for children) June 21 – Ewa Hongwanji July 5 – Waipahu Hongwanji July 19 – Waianae Hongwanji July 26 – Aiea Hongwanji (shave ice booth) August 9 – Pearl City Hongwanji (food booth) August 15 and 16 – Mililani Hongwanji (beverage booth – 2 locations)

#### **Upcoming Important Dates:**

Saturday, May 24, 8:00am: Graveyard Cleaning with Wahiawa Hongwanji. We will meet at Wahiawa Hongwanji to carpool. Please wear shoes/ clothes you are ok to get dirty, bring yard cleaning tools, gloves, sunscreen and water.

#### Next Meeting: Sunday, June 1, at Waipahu Hongwanji conference room at 12:00pm

**DATE CHANGE! Sunday June 1, 4:00pm.** We have rescheduled our outing to Coral Crater Adventure Park for after our next meeting. We will meet at the park (91-1780 Midway Street, Kapolei, 96707). Cost will be \$10 per person with \$50 covered by the United.





Follow us on Instagram! @jrybaofoahu and @hawaiifedjryba



## Silent Auction Donations

Aloha! A friendly reminder to all that the Silent Auction Team is seeking (and sorting) out gift cards, ceramics, appliances, vintage clothing, artwork and small furniture in good shape that can be used to auction off at our Annual Bon Dance. Please bring to Temple on Sunday, June 8th, as a lot of time and energy is needed to gather, clean and package your goods. Looking forward to seeing you clean out your home and office! Questions? Please call Chari Watanabe at 808.223.6077 or email charijean@aol.com.



Come to explore different perspectives supported by Buddhist Teachings. We will watch several presentations from Buddhist countries, and some tear-jerking videos, which may change your life! Don't forget to bring your box of tissues! Please bring a simple potluck dish to share. Let's make it an enjoyable Sangha night!

Sunday, June 8, 2025 4 - 6:30 pm Aiea Hongwanji 99-186 Puakala St.

## June Memoríals

Robert Asato Keníí Blanchard Chiyoko Chinen Masue Goto Míyukí Guerrera Tadayoshi Hamasaki Nobuko Harada Matsukata Hayashí Akíra Hayashída Shugeno Híronaka Matsue Honda Vone Honda Isaburo Iída Редду Ітатига Toshio Ishihara Míyukí Iwamoto Susumí Iwamoto Toshío Iwamoto Katsuji Kushimi Thomas Kushímí Gary Matsumoto

Matao Matsumura Ryoíchí Nakamura Shízue Nakamura Tsutsumu Nakauchí Yutaka Nishihara Elsie Nunotani Walter Nunotaní Satoru Ota Kíkue Sakado Kím Say Edward Shízuto Suematsu George Masamí Tachíbana Ume Tashima Fae Togo Tsune Uekí Kímí Watanabe Miyuki Watanabe Asayo Yamashita **Beatrice** Young James Young Noboru Yoza

Please call (808) 625-0925 and/or email

<u>dharma.connection@gmail.com</u> 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 2025, special memorial years are observed for loved ones who passed away in:

2024 1st Year 2023 3rd Year 2019 7th Year 2013 13th Year 2009 17th Year 2001 25th year 1993 33rd year 1976 50th year

mo Amida Bu

### Life Story Writing Class

When: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 10:30am – 12:30pm, Where: Temple building.

Please sign up on the bulletin board or email, call, or text me to register.

The 1<sup>st</sup> class will be held on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Looking forward to it! Jill Kyhos

Email: jkyhos3@gmail.com, cell: 808-384-8581



#### Adopt-A-Highway Clean-Up

By: Tyler Oshiro, Adopt-A-Highway Coordinator

A big MAHALO to the volunteers who helped with the second Adopt-A-Highway clean-up for the year on Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>! The trash was no match for our fabulous crew — Brandon H, Claire M, Cliff T, Gay T, Rev. Kamuro, Roger B, Stan S, Stephen K, Warren H, and Wendell O. Thank you to Wendell for joining us for the first time as well. We'd also like to thank Ann I, Arynn I, and Mel H for making brownies and hot coffee for us as part of the refreshments.

Our next quarterly cleanup is scheduled for **Saturday, September 6, 2025**. We will also have the final cleanup of the year on **Saturday, November 15, 2025**. Please mark your calendars if you are interested in helping out! These cleanups are a great opportunity to help beautify our community and spend time with members of our Sangha.

Anyone 12 years of age and older is 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. The clean-up usually runs for about an hour. Upon return to the temple, water, coffee, and a light breakfast will be provided.



If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at <u>tylerkoshiro@gmail.com</u>. Thank you!





Celebrating Anniversaries



## Week of March 10-16, 2027is 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Week at Mililani Hongwanji

Thursday, March 11 –Celebration Service for members and Special Guests Friday, March 12—Open House for members and Special Guests (Historical displays, cultural programs and social reception) Saturday, March 13

Public Open House with displays and cultural programs Affirmation Rite and reception with Biship Toshiyuki Umitani for Affirmants and Families Sunday, March 14

Commemoration Service officiated by Bishop Toshiaki Umitani at Mililani Hongwanji with Chigo Gala Celebration Luncheon

Contact Rev. Kamuro, June Asato or Mel Hayase for more information or to join committees to implement these activities and other projects and events

## Mahalo for your DANA (April 11, 2025 to May 10, 2025)

#### Buddha Day Service (Hanamatsuri)

Luana Fukutomi

Georgiana Kobavashi Steven & Sadako Shintaku Nancy Tanaka Gordon & Lyn Watanabe Steven & Lani Yamami Diane Yoza **BWA Eshinni & Kakushinni Day** Anonymous Janet Abe Roger Babcock & Jill Kyhos Claire Doi Luana Fukutomi Warren & Nora Hahn Karl & Carol Ann Kakehi Sharon Kaneko Georgiana Kobayashi Claire Matsumoto Joyce Nishioka Lester & Joyce Ogawa Frances Saito Dean & Doreen Sakamoto Christine & Richard Lightner Sato Steven & Lani Yamami Diane Yoza Funeral Kyle Nakahara **General Donation** MasTec (MTA Cell Tower Contractor) James & Karen Nakasone Stanford Tanaka Ethel Yamashige **Memorial Service** Michie Ando Michie Ando Takashi Ando Mamoru Kawahara Thelma Kimura Patrick, Tyler & Chloe Oshiro Christine & Richard Lightner Sato Diane Yoza

## In Deep Gratitude.

Namo Amida Butsu Namo Amida Butsu Namo Amida Butsu

Funeral for Keith Nakahara

Altar & Donation to Temple

IMO Ruth Nishihara IMO George Ando & Susumu Ando IMO George Ando & Susumu Ando IMO Masanobu Kawahara Funeral Counseling for Shuzo Kimura IMO Susan Oshiro IMO Ronald Minoru Sato & Beatrice Sato IMO Anna Nakamura



# Photo Gallery



## MILILANI BUDDHIST TEMPLE



















## 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

## June 2025

## Calendar

June 21 (Sat)

5:00pm

Obon Service

6:30pm-9:30pm Ewa Hongwanji Bon Dance (see below for preparation schedule) Wednesdays 9:00am-12:00pm - weekly Hosha and Rev. Fujimoto's office hours (Phone 808-348-9458)

## Rev. David's Thoughts

Rev. David K. Fujimoto, BBC

Obon Season is once again here, and soon, 'Ewa Hongwanji will be holding its annual Bon Dance. I was recently reflecting on a conversation I had with a great Dharma Friend and how excited he was for this time of year. In the end, he mentioned "Always watching for you!" I always look forward to seeing him and always cherish the time we are able to spend conversing and having fun. He's always encouraging me to dance, and so I make it a point to at least dance next to him at some point of the night. I am very grateful for the karmic conditions that have played out as I continue to learn from him. Obon is a moment for us to celebrate the karmic conditions that have brought us into this world, as we celebrate our dear loved ones that have gone before us, and yet celebrate our dear loved ones that are still with us today, that make us who we are. At some point during this Obon Season, I hope you take the opportunity to say "Thank you" to not only the ones who have departed this world, but also those we are still surrounded by.

## Bon Dance - June 21, 2025

Reminder: Bon Dance is just around the corner! We could still could use a few more volunteers so let us know if you are able to help. We will be setting up on Friday and Saturday mornings, and preparing food on Saturday from 4:00pm. Food booth shifts are 4:30-7:00 and 7:00-9:30. We will also be having a bake sale and will welcome baked goods packaged in \$3.00 bags (or priced as marked).

If you would like to order Windcatchers, please send in the name(s) of those who you would like to honor to <u>ewahm1901@gmail.com</u> or mail in with your payment. Cost is \$10 per name and payment may be sent in to Ewa Hongwanji Mission, P.O.Box 60549, Ewa Beach HI 96706. Please order before June 9th.



## Mahalo for your Donations

#### Hanamatsuri Service

Dale Anzai Brian & Karen Date Caran Iwata Glenn Nagamine Myra Nohara Ruth & Rae Wakimura Arnold Yoshioka General Michael Sawamoto

Ofuse

Arnold Yoshioka ~ In memory of Elaine Yoshioka Patrick, Tyler, Chloe Oshiro ~ In memory of Elaine Yoshioka Arnold Yoshioka ~ In memory of Susan Oshiro Patrick, Tyler, Chloe Oshiro ~ In memory of Susan Oshiro