

# JIKO - "Compassionate Light"

SEPTEMBER, 2024

VOLUME 70, ISSUE 09

Monthly Newsletter of  
The Aiea Hongwanji Mission

Building Healthy Sanghas: Sharing Nembutsu Moments

AIEA HONGWANJI  
MISSION



## MINISTER'S MESSAGE

### Are you a contributor to World Peace?



**Yes, you can and it's simple!** On Friday, September 20, 2024, we will be observing our 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Ring your Bell for Peace Day. Please participate by registering using the link found elsewhere in this Newsletter. Your participation will show that world peace is important, desired and we can all somehow contribute.

As we move forward, I would like to add let us not forget to address not only the outward conditions which bring forth suffering including war, but just as importantly, if not more importantly, the inward internal cause or causes of suffering including war. In our attempt to address suffering and realize peace, we must focus on both the outward conditions and internal root causes of suffering. This is what the Buddha-Dharma shares with us. It is not only external factors that result in war and violence that need to be addressed, but we must also each reflect on our own hearts-and-minds which is all too often affected by our anger, greed and ignorance which results in arguments, battles and war. To me, we need a compass and a new perspective to guide and inspire us one which from the very start is all-inclusive and all-embracing.

Please allow me to share about the Hiroshima Peace Bell. The bell, significantly, has a map of the world without boundaries engraved on it. Further, two significant sayings inscribed on the bell are "*Know thyself*" by Socrates and a Pure Land Buddhist verse from the Larger Sukhavativyuha Sutra referring to Amida Buddha's promise "*Emitting a great light with my majestic power, I will completely illuminate the boundless worlds; Dispelling, thereby, the darkness of the three defilements, I will deliver all beings from suffering and affliction.*" It speaks of a Great Light of Wisdom and Compassion which illumines and nurtures us to understand the preciousness and equality of all life and promises that one and all will attain perfect peace and happiness. The sound of the Hiroshima Peace Bell encourages us to wisely know our true self, both our strengths and weaknesses, and to be inspired by a great Compassion which excludes none and includes all within its embrace. Our rescue is this Great Wisdom and Compassion which includes everyone and everything in its embrace and tempers our negativity with awareness and where in gratitude of that Great Compassion and deep lament of my limited self, we respond to it by embracing the aspiration for peace and harmony in the world for both self and others.

Minister's Message continued on page 2

## FOR ASSISTANCE OF THE MINISTER

Please call:

**Reverend**

**Eric Matsumoto**

808-487-2626 (AHM  
office)

If he is not  
available, leave a  
message on the  
answering  
machine.

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For religious  
Emergencies  
(Makuragyo or bedside  
services), please call  
Rev. Matsumoto on his  
mobile phone:

808-488-5685

\*\*\*

**Aiea Hongwanji  
Mission,**

99-186 Puakala St,  
Aiea, Hawaii 96701  
Phone: 808-487-2626

**Email:**

[aieajiko@gmail.com](mailto:aieajiko@gmail.com)

**Website:**

[aieabuddhisttemple.org](http://aieabuddhisttemple.org)

However, how do we awaken? There is a particular bell known as the bonsho (in Japanese) of which the Hiroshima Peace Bell is. According to Tradition, this type of bell originated in India and in China, Korea and Japan, its sound is regarded as the Enlightened Voice of the Buddha calling out to us to awaken. Traditionally, on New Year's Eve at Buddhist Temples, the bonsho bell is rung 108 times to awaken us from spiritual slumber so we can start the New Year fresh. The deep reverberating sound of a large bonsho bell permeates to the deepest recesses of a person's heart. As its resonating sound passes through every cell of our bodies to reach the very core of our heart. There, it stirs the heart to become more open and receptive, sensitive and aware.

In our case for Peace Day, the bonsho bell rings the message for world peace and an important part of the message is that while we address the outward physical conditions such as nuclear weapons and the clash of different ideologies and sometimes even religious institutions which can lead to violence including war, let us each not forget to also look inward into our own hearts and minds for those negative thoughts, feelings and emotions of hate, greed, arrogance, and fear based on our self-centered ego which are, many times, the cause of our unwholesome actions and behaviors.

As we feel the sound of the bonsho bell and other bells on "Ring your Bell for Peace Day," may they touch our hearts, minds and bodies awakening us to the Enlightened Call of Great Wisdom which asks us to acknowledge the importance of mutual respect and appreciation and Boundless Compassion which aspires for the peace and happiness of all life and, even if ever so slightly, inspires us to move towards harmonious non-violent co-existence and the peace and well-being of all peoples of the world or in the spirit of, as we say in Hawaii, "kakou" or all!

May we all, Buddhists and non-Buddhist alike, be guided and nurtured by All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion so that as the Larger Pure Land sutra further states, *"The land is prosperous and people live in peace, so there is no need to use soldiers and weapons. People respect virtue, cultivate benevolence, and diligently observe propriety and humility."*

Namo Amida Butsu.

Reverend Eric Matsumoto

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



To Our Sangha:

I hope all of you had a chance to listen to at least one of Dr. Rev. Kenji Akahoshi Dharma talk sessions this past month. Dr. Rev. Akahoshi brings a new and modern perspective on how Shin Buddhism can help us through the challenges we face in our daily lives. Recordings of these sessions will be posted online after editing, so you may still be able to view and learn from them at your convenience.

We were very fortunate and grateful this year to have had good weather that allowed us to hold our annual bon dance festivities. Some temples on the Big Island were forced to cancel due to the approaching storm. The Bon Dance planning committee headed by Mark Funasaki did an incredible job in bringing this bon dance to fruition. This effort included organizing all of the volunteers who helped with the Yagura set-up, food and craft preparations and sales, music, taiko, dancing, and finally the clean-up. This event was a community effort and much mahalos go out to the following organizations that made it possible: The Oahu District Bon Dance Club, Aiea Yagura Gumi Taiko Group, Hawaii Eisa Shinyuu Kai Okinawan Dance Group, Aiea Hongwanji Judo Club, Honolulu Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce, Aiea Methodist Parking, St. Elizabeth Church Parking, Aiea High School Japanese Club, Jr. YBA of Oahu, and the Aiea BWA. Individuals from other temples and organizations not mentioned above, as well as AHM's membership all contributed to this effort. Thank you also to those who made monetary and other donations, and to those who loaned us ice chests, electronic equipment, and other necessities for this event to be successful.

For September, we look forward to seeing you at the Triple Celebration and other events highlighted in this newsletter.

In Gassho,  
Boyd Marumoto

## *Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii - HEADQUARTERS UPDATE*

1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 \*\* Phone: (808) 522-9200 Fax: (808) 522-9209  
Web: [www.hongwanjihawaii.com](http://www.hongwanjihawaii.com) Email: [hqs@honpahi.org](mailto:hqs@honpahi.org)

### MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

## **35<sup>th</sup> Annual Hiroshima Peace Service Ceremony Commemorating the 79<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Bombing of Hiroshima**

Tuesday, August 6, 2024

### **Buddhist Message of Peace Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii**

Today, we gather here in solemn remembrance of one of the darkest chapters in human history – the devastating bombing of Hiroshima in 1945. The city of Hiroshima, a city once vibrant with life, became the epicenter of unimaginable suffering, sorrow, and loss. On this day, we pause for a moment to honor the memory of those who lost their lives and to show our commitment to stand in solidarity with those whose lives were affected by the consequences of war.

Prince Shotoku, the Imperial Regent in Japan during the early 7th century, is widely regarded as the founding figure of Buddhism in Japan. He wrote the following in the Seventeen-Article Constitution.



“For all men have hearts, and each heart has its own leanings. Their right is our wrong, and our right is their wrong. We are not unquestionably sages, nor are they unquestionably fools. Both of us are simply ordinary beings (*Bonbu*). ...For we are all, one with another, wise and foolish, like a ring with no end.”

It is a stern admonishment to us all. It is easy to criticize or judge others, to see the flaws in others while remaining blind to our own. “Bonbu,” a term that refers to ordinary beings, signifies our inherent limitations – our ego-centeredness, our propensity for judgment, and our inability to see beyond our own perspective. Prince Shotoku’s words caution us against the arrogance of assuming we hold the ultimate truth, as this very mindset is what leads to division, conflict, and, ultimately, the horrors of war.

Yet, even as we acknowledge our own bonbu-nature, we find hope in the teaching of Shinran Shonin, the founder of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. Shinran Shonin taught us that such a “bonbu” like ourselves is the primal target of Amida Buddha, the Buddha of all-inclusive Wisdom and Compassion. The Light of Wisdom and Compassion shines upon us, illuminating the path from our ego-centered existence to a life of oneness and understanding. It is through this Light that we can transform our minds clouded by greed, anger, and ignorance into hearts of generosity, compassion, and wisdom.

As beneficiaries of this all-inclusive Wisdom and Compassion, I believe each of us bears a responsibility. With hearts of self-reflection, we must cultivate an environment where wisdom and compassion toward one another flourish, transcending boundaries of nationality, race, religion, and all others that separate us. The journey from hatred to understanding, from conflict to peace, begins within each of us.

In one of the Buddhist scriptures called “Sanbutsuge” from the Sutra of the Buddha of Immeasurable Life, a statement goes as follows: “The great voice of the Perfectly Enlightened One resounds throughout the ten quarters.” It teaches us that there is no place where the voice of Truth does not reach. As we hit the Hiroshima Peace Bell today in commemorating the 79th Anniversary of the Bombing of Hiroshima, may we all listen to this voice of truth, the voice of Wisdom and Compassion, and rededicate ourselves to the pursuit of peace, reconciliation, and the creation of a society where every individual can live in peace, joy, and gratitude.

With humble reflection, I recite the name of the Buddha. Namo Amida Butsu.

*Headquarters Update continued on page 4*

September, 2024 JIKO



## 2024 YBICSE REPORT

Thanks to support from the Honzan and the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Headquarters, six fellow young Buddhists from Hawaii and I had wonderful experiences through the 2024 YBICSE (Young Buddhist International Cultural Study Exchange) program in Japan this summer from July 2 to 12, 2024. This year there were 19 participants and four chaperons from the districts of the Buddhist Churches of America, Hawaii, Canada, and South America.

We stayed at the Hongwanji Monbou Kaikan and participated in morning services at 6 a.m., followed by the Confirmation Ceremony at the Hongwanji. Former Monshu Koshin Ohtani (Zenmon sama) officiated the Confirmation Ceremony on July 5. Ty Wakahiro from Mililani Hongwanji Mission participated in the ceremony and received his Buddhist name.

We went to Hongwanji-related sites, Mt. Hiei and Otani Hombyo Mausoleum, to learn the history of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. At Hiroshima Betsuin we attended the Memorial for All Those Who Perished in War and we heard Hiroshima atomic bomb survivor Mr. Mikio Saiki share his memories and hopes for the future. During the discussion with Mr. Saiki, he told us that he would visit the Pearl Harbor National Memorial in August.

My son, Yuma, and I welcomed him when he came to the Pearl Harbor National Memorial and the University of Hawaii at Manoa to talk about his experience. We were able to hear his testimony again here in Hawaii on August 18. Mr. Saiki said, "We should learn from the past, to share new ideas of the future." Through the activities at the Honzan as well as by visiting Enryaku-ji Temple on Mt. Hiei, Hiroshima Betsuin, and Tsukiji Hongwanji, we deepened our appreciation of the teachings of Shinran Shonin and learned about the anti-nuclear and peace movements.

I believe that all participants including me can make use of this YBICSE experience in our Nembutsu lives, and we shall endeavor to keep ringing the bell for peace.

In gassho,  
Joshin Kamuro, YBICSE Chaperone



When we visited the statue of Sadako Sasaki in the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park on July 7, 2024, we had a short service in front of the statue and rang the bell for peace.



In the Hongwanji Goei-do (Founder's Hall) From the right: Rev. Joshin Kamuro, Laethan Chanhmany, Yuma Kamuro, Chad Okawa, Sean Fitch, Kaitlin Nakamura, and Ty Wakahiro.

## MINISTER'S LAY ASSISTANT RETREAT

The HHMH Ministerial Training Committee will host the Annual Minister's Lay Assistant Retreat at Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin on October 12-13, 2024. This retreat is specifically designed for individuals who have been designated as Minister's Lay Assistants (including Certified MLAs) at their temple and are actively involved in collaboration with their minister mentor. The retreat aims to provide a platform for participants to review and enhance their knowledge and skills relevant to their roles as MLAs. Ministers who have MLAs and/or CMLAs are requested to encourage their MLAs/CMLAs to attend this retreat. Additionally, a travel subsidy may be available for those coming from the neighbor islands. For those who are not yet designated as MLAs but are interested in attending the retreat, please consult with your temple minister about the process of becoming an MLA.

**\*Please contact the AHM Office or minister for the registration form.**

## PBA LIGHTING OUR WAY BANQUET

**Celebrating Leadership: Join Us for the 2024 Lighting Our Way Banquet**



Reserve your seats for Pacific Buddhist Academy's highly anticipated Lighting Our Way Banquet! Join us on Friday, November 15, 2024, at the Ala Moana Hotel by Mantra. The evening begins with doors opening at 5:00 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m.

This event honors individuals and organizations who embody the leadership principles and values that define our school, including selfless service, gratitude, and compassion. We are delighted to recognize our 2024 honorees: Mabel Hashisaka, William Kaneko, Dr. Takashi Manago, and Claude Onizuka alongside the Astronaut Ellison S. Onizuka Memorial.

To become a sponsor, purchase individual tickets, or make a donation to support the Banquet, please visit PBA's Banquet website at <https://pacificbuddhistacademy.org/giving/lighting-our-way> or contact Megan Lee at [megan.lee@pbahi.org](mailto:megan.lee@pbahi.org) for more information.

We deeply appreciate your support for our remarkable honorees and look forward to celebrating with you!



Thank you, George Tanabe, for the beautiful Lotus flower arrangement that adorned the altar during obon services.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Our thanks also goes out to the individuals who kindly provided the flowers shown below.





## Junior YBA Happenings



Happy Back-to-School everyone! We hope the transition to a new school year was a good one! We know many of you have full schedules so we are grateful that you make Jr. YBA a priority and continue to participate in as many activities as you can! It's been a whirlwind summer with staying busy helping at our district bon dances! Thank you to everyone who volunteered to work at the various temple bon dances since last newsletter: Waianae, Pearl City, Mililani and Aiea! Our drink booths at Mililani and shave ice booth at Aiea were a huge success! We worked hard but also had the opportunity to work with some of our Jr. YBA Alumni and make new connections. We have several new members so we look forward to welcoming them into our group!

**Next Meeting: Sunday, September 1, at Mililani Hongwanji at 11:30am. We will be voting on our new officers and having installation of the newly elected officers.**

Our current slate of officers:

President: Yuma Kamuro (Mililani Hongwanji)

Vice-President: Vacant

Secretary: Courtney Uehara (Mililani Hongwanji)

Treasurer: Jamelyn Tomori (Aiea Hongwanji)

If you would like to nominate anyone, please make sure you are present at the next meeting to make any additional nominations and to vote!



**Fall Federation Meeting: Friday, September 6 at 6:30pm. Meet at Ala Moana Hotel Anthurium Conference Room.** Juniors from neighbor islands will be coming in for this meeting so it is a good opportunity to meet the other members from around the state! We will also have dinner and assist preparation of registration bags for the Hongwanji Triple Celebration Convention this weekend.

**Upcoming Events: Saturday, October 6, time TBD. Manju making for HBY Month Fundraiser at Waipahu Hongwanji.**

This year for Hawaii Buddhist Youth (HBY) Month, in October, the Federation has chosen a local animal shelter as the charity organization. During this month we try to incorporate service and monetary donation to the organization. As part of HBY we will be doing a manju fundraiser so please mark your calendars for Saturday, October 5 when we will be making our now infamous manju. Distribution will be on Sunday, October 6. Please use the order form that can be found in the newsletter. We encourage you to share the fundraiser with your friends and family. The money raised from this fundraiser will be going to help the Oahu SPCA. We will be taking orders until **September 22**.

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



Follow us on Instagram! @jrybafoahu and @hawaii-fedjryba



## United Jr. YBA of Oahu HBY Month Fundraiser



In October, the United Jr. YBA of Oahu will sell 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 Oahu SCPA. Please see the information and order form below. Thank you for your continued support!

**ORDER DEADLINE: September 22, 2024**

Please email orders to: [jrybafoahu@gmail.com](mailto:jrybafoahu@gmail.com)

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

**OR**

Mail order form (bottom) to:

**Millilani Hongwanji Mission, attn: Jr. YBA  
P.O. Box 893308, Mililani, HI 96789**

**Pick-up/Delivery date: October 6, 2024**

**\*\*\*Must be postmarked by September 22, 2024\*\*\***

Pick-up locations: Aiea, Mililani, Wahiawa, or Waipahu Hongwanji

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:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Pick up temple location:** \_\_\_\_\_

**OR**

**Delivery Address:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Manju: one order is 5 pc for \$5**

**TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_ orders x \$5 = \$ \_\_\_\_

**Payment enclosed:** Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_





"Building Healthy  
Sanghas-  
Sharing Nembutsu  
Moments"

HONPA HONGWANJI  
MISSION OF HAWAII  
Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani  
Rev. Daido Baba  
Dr. Warren Tamamoto  
Derrick Inouye  
David Atcheson

2024  
PEACE DAY COMMITTEE  
Oahu  
Rene Mansho, Chair  
Carolyn Uchiyama  
Honolulu  
Sharyn Sekine  
Rev. Sol Kalu  
Big Island  
Miles Okumura  
Maui  
Kallie Keith-Agaran  
Marilyn Morikawa  
Kauai  
Roberta Yanagawa  
Pacific Buddhist Academy  
Joshua Hernandez Morse  
Megan Lee  
United Nations Hawaii  
Joanne Tachibana  
Sophia Lorentzen, UHM  
PR  
Catherine Tarleton

#### MISSION

- To promote Peace Day in Hawaii - September 21st
- Temple activities to promote peace and harmony in the world

**PEACE DAY**  
Hawaii September 21st

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

## 2024 PEACE DAY IN HAWAII

International Day of Peace

*You're Invited!*

**"RING YOUR BELL for PEACE DAY"**  
**Friday, Sept. 20, 2024- 8:30-9:30 AM**

**Register here: [bit.ly/PeaceDay2024](https://bit.ly/PeaceDay2024)**

In the spirit of promoting Peace Day in Hawaii and throughout the world, we invite the world to join us in ringing bells for PEACE DAY,

**Friday, September 20th at 9:01 AM.**

**At 9:00 AM, we will have a minute of silence to honor all those who sacrificed for us to achieve peace.**

**Immediately following the minute of silence, bells will be rung by representatives at all the respective temples, churches, schools, community organizations, individuals in their offices and homes. You are our future in ensuring peace in the world.**

**We are also planning to capture the program and all participants on a Zoom Screen, simultaneously, so get your computers ready when you are sent the link to join the event.**

**Please RSVP by Sept. 16, 2024**

**You may request a Participation Form to**

**Rene Mansho - ph: 808-291-6151**

**[renemansho@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:renemansho@hawaii.rr.com)**

**\*\*\*Join Jake Shimabukuro, "Hawaii's Ambassador for Peace!"**

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

## PEACE DAY HAWAII

September 21

International Day of Peace

## Peace Day T-shirts

In the spirit of promoting Peace Day in Hawaii and throughout the world, we invite you to order the new navy blue, dri-fit PEACE DAY t-shirts, which is also a fundraiser to support Lahaina Hongwanji families who were displaced by the wildfires and support relief efforts on Maui through the Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund.

**Order here:**

**<https://bit.ly/PeaceDayShirts2024>**



- Origami Crane is the International symbol of Peace and Pink is the Island of Maui's color
  - The white lotus is for purity and enlightenment
- PRICES: \$15.00 - S, M, L Children's t-shirts  
\$20.00 - XS, S, M, L, \$21.00 - XL, 2XL, 3XL**  
Cost for shipping requests to be added

*Mahalo Nui Loa!*

**Rene Mansho - ph: 808-291-6151**  
**[rmansho100@gmail.com](mailto:rmansho100@gmail.com)**

JOIN US FOR THIS FREE EVENT IN CELEBRATION OF

*Dhammacakka*

**SEPTEMBER 14, 2024 1:00-5:00PM**

HIGASHI HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

1685 ALANEO ST. HONOLULU, HI 96817

We invite you to join in celebration of the Dhammacakka, the first teaching of Shakyamuni Buddha. Here Buddha shared the Four Noble Truths and the Noble Eightfold Path including the Middle Way and Dependent co-origination, setting in Motion the Wheel of Dhamma that gave Buddhists and all others a path to follow that can lead towards achieving enlightenment.

#### About our Keynote:

p4CHI founder Dr. Thomas Jackson will explore the connections between his work, a spirit of wonder, and Buddha's life and teachings in his talk, "The Purpose of Wonder in Fulfilling Compassionate Life."



**philosophy for children of Hawai'i (p4CHI)** is a nearly half-century old approach to empowering children to become compassionate, ethical, reflective, and effective thinkers. Following the keynote by Dr. Thomas Jackson, Dr. Thomas "Toby" Yos and youth from his p4C Hawai'i 'Ohana will engage attendees in a p4C conversation with Buddha's Dhammacakkappavattana Sutta as a stimulus, a discussion themed "Reflections on Living Well: Learning to Engage in a Practice of Compassionately Thinking Together"



#### PROGRAM INCLUDES:

Opening Ceremony at 1:00pm, followed by:

- Keynote: "The Purpose of Wonder in Fulfilling Compassionate Life" by Dr. Thomas Jackson
- p4C with Dr. Thomas "Toby" Yos and Community
- Refreshments and Discussion to close at 5:00pm



SCAN TO REGISTER

ORGANIZED BY HAWAII ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL BUDDHISTS  
[WWW.HAWAIIIBUDDHISTS.ORG](http://WWW.HAWAIIIBUDDHISTS.ORG)

## 19TH ANNUAL JOINT NISEI VETERAN MEMORIAL SERVICE

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2024**

**NATIONAL MEMORIAL CEMETERY OF THE PACIFIC (Punchbowl)**

**Sponsored by Club 100 Charlie Chapter**

**Hawaii Betsuin is helping recruit volunteers to decorate the graves of Nisei Veterans**

**100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment, 1399 Engineers and Military Intelligence Service (MIS)**



**View this news story by Annalisa Burgos via this link about this memorial service: <https://youtu.be/t-qwekO6GWI>**

#### Here is how you can help.

Logistics: **Saturday September 28, 2023 8:30 am** at Punchbowl. Parking is free and open to the public, except for the reserved spaces on Mall Drive.

On Saturday, look for the tables, under the tents, with buckets of flowers. Club 100 organizers will assign you to a section, hand you a map, bucket of flowers and flags and off you go, into history, in search of 100th Battalion soldiers. Volunteers are advised to bring sunscreen, a hat, and please stay hydrated. We'll have water. And no worries, there will be plenty of folks available to help you, so just ask, if needed.

And on **Sunday, September 29 there's a 9:30 am joint memorial service.** The service is open to the public. It's also televised on **Olelo**.

We also need help **September 30, Monday morning**, removing (2000) flags. We'll start that process **at 8:30am**.

Contact Rick Tabor for more information at [rtabor12@twc.com](mailto:rtabor12@twc.com)

#### Why September 29th?

The memorial service is held annually on the Sunday **September 29** — the day in 1943 that Sgt. Shigeo "Joe" Takata of the 100th Infantry Battalion became the first Japanese American soldier killed in action in World War II. Sgt. Shigeo "Joe" Takata was hit by shrapnel and fought death long enough to point out the location of the enemy, action for which he was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. Sgt. Takata rests in eternal peace at Punchbowl.





*Oahu United  
Honpa Hongwanji Buddhist Women's Association  
Annual Conference*

Saturday, October 26, 2024\*\*\*\*\*8:00 am to 2:30 pm  
Mililani Hongwanji (95-257 Kaloapau St. next to Rec. III)

Members of **OUHNBWA** and Dharma friends are invited to attend this Special event. Registration is through your Oahu BWA Unit or by contacting OUHNBWA. Registration includes lunch (Regular or Vegetarian Bento) and handout materials. \$13 for OUHNBWA members, \$15 for Dharma friends.

**Registration closes on Friday, October 11**

*Theme: Building Healthy Sanghas: Sharing Nembutsu Moments*

- ❖ 8:00 am--Registration and Fellowship
- ❖ 8:30 am--**Memorial Service Officiated by Rev. Joshin Kamuro of Mililani Hongwanji with Keynote Dharma Talk by Rev. Kamuro**
- ❖ Annual Meeting to elect officers and other business, Install Officers for 2025
- ❖ **Workshop: "The Evolution of Elder Abuse"**, a growing problem., Scott Spallina, a prosecutor with the City and County of Honolulu, an informed and entertaining speaker will provide good advice.
- ❖ Bento lunch and Beverages, Bring your mugs and cups
- ❖ Afternoon program by author Annette Kam who wrote, **"Wait - Don't Die Yet!"**. It sounds like a morbid topic but it is to help those who survive us or who assist us when we are unable to care for ourselves. Kam began her book when she needed to take care of her in-laws and found that she did not know specifics of their lives. She will allow those who attend to download her book and the checklist for free. She also has a hard bound copy of the book which will be available for purchase.
- ❖ 2:00 pm--Closing and cleanup

For more information, contact Susan Morishige at [susanm@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:susanm@hawaiiantel.net) or [Dharma.connection@gmail.com](mailto:Dharma.connection@gmail.com) Attention OUHNBWA Conference

## Dana Thrives at Aiea Hongwanji

By Gayle Yamaguchi

In 2007, Frank and Helen Takenouchi introduced Project Dana to Aiea Hongwanji. Over many years, they supported seniors in our community. They kept them company when their caregivers needed to run errands. They checked in on seniors living alone. Transportation to appointments and shopping assistance was provided. Then COVID changed the way we interacted with one another. We are much more considerate about not spreading our illnesses, no matter how minor. And we are less likely to interact with people we are not close with for the services they provided with their original Project Dana group. Yet, as the years passed, Helen and Frank cultivated a culture of unspoken Dana among the BWA and Senior YBA Hosha crew. They will say it wasn't just them, and that is true.

No one thinks about what they are doing as Dana works. It is just the right thing to do. "Hey, you want me to pick you up on Sunday?" "Where have you been? Long time no see. We miss you." "You not feeling well? I'm going to drop off some soup for you. I made extra." "Can I stop by and visit you?" Conversations like this are commonplace at Aiea Hongwanji.

The former Executive Director of Project Dana encouraged us to renew our energies and focus on our AHM community. It is starting slowly by acknowledging the AHM culture of helping each other and our aging members. Every little act is acknowledged. It surprised us when we started to list the services they were providing. At AHM, no service is too small, and participation continues to grow. The official volunteer list is growing, and they often report on the services they want to provide. Our Lotus Adult Day Care Center has received a few services and donations from our volunteers. Not all of our services can be called official Project Dana services. We do it anyway; it's just the AHM Way.

For assistance and information, call our office at 808-487-2626 or email us at [aieajiko@gmail.com](mailto:aieajiko@gmail.com). Or contact Project Dana at 808-945-3736 or [info@projectdana.org](mailto:info@projectdana.org). Leave a message, and we will call you. After all, Project Dana is all about interdependence and helping each other.

Project Dana at Aiea Hongwanji is embedded in our culture of thoughtfulness and respect for our senior members. When acts of helpful consideration come from our hearts, we strengthen our links in the Golden Chain of Love.

### **PROJECT DANA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

Wednesday, September 11 10:00 am to 11:30 am

- Topic: Nursing Home Partners – Senior Care Options: How Can We Help?
- Speaker: Vance Yamamoto, Nursing Home Partners
- Location: Zoom and Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin (1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813)

Saturday, September 14 10:00 am to 11:30 am

- Topic: What is Home Care?
- Speaker: Tita Pulido and Tyler Nakamura, Always Best Care
- Location: Zoom & Waipahu Hongwanji Buddhist Temple (94-821 Kuhaulua St., Waipahu, 96797)

Tuesday, October 1 1:45 pm to 2:45 pm

- Topic: Planning Ahead for Your Future with the University of Hawaii Elder Law Program (UHELP)
- Featuring: Professor James Pietsch, JD, Dr. Lenora Lee, PhD, and University of Hawaii William S. Richardson School of Law Students
- Location: Zoom and Moiliili Hongwanji Mission (902 University Ave, Honolulu, HI 96826)

Please call or email if you are interested in attending or need more information:  
Maria Morales, Program Coordinator—(808) 945-3736, email: [cgsg@projectdana.org](mailto:cgsg@projectdana.org)



## STUDENT EXCHANGE TO JAPAN IN 2025

After a 5 year hiatus, the Hawaii Federation of BWAs sponsored Student Exchange Program to Japan is back on track. Young Jodo Shinshu Buddhist students, ages 17-23 as of June 30, 2025 are encouraged to apply for this approximately 10-day summer trip in July 2025. Included is a 2–3-day homestay and a visit to Honzan to meet Lady Ruzumi Ohtani. Two students will be selected and will travel together. More information can be found at the website: <http://hawaiibwa.org/programs/student-exchange/>

Information sheet and application forms are currently being updated to be gender-neutral. Like YBICSE, selected students will no longer be limited to female.

Submit completed application no later than October 31, 2024, to

BWA Student Exchange Committee Chairperson  
Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii  
Federation of Buddhist Women's Associations  
1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813

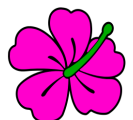
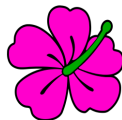
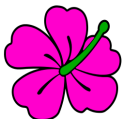
**QUALIFICATIONS:** Applicants must be 1) a Jodo Shinshu Buddhist, 2) between ages 17 through 23 as of June 30, 2025, 3) a high school, university, community college or business school student, 4) in good health and able to withstand the strenuous program in a foreign country, and 5) interested in the Buddhist movement. Applicants must also show potential leadership quality, submit two references including one from their temple minister, and submit their application with two photos and their essay.

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### Family Memorial Service

Buddhist consider the memorial service a significant occasion to remember the deceased with feelings of gratitude and love. The memorial service provides an opportunity to pay tribute and recall cherished memories of the departed, while listening to the Buddha Dharma. The service is not for appeasing the spirits of the deceased or for the sake of the deceased, but rather for the sake of the living. In remembering the deceased we acknowledge their influence on our lives as well as the importance of living the Buddha Dharma.

If your family would like to arrange a memorial service for your loved one, please call Reverend Eric Matsumoto at (808)-488-6685, or leave a message on the office phone: (808)-487-2626. You may schedule the service either before or after the memorial date.



### **September 2024**

**1 st Helen**

**Nakagawa**

**7 th Nancy Harumi**

**Nakagawa**

**13 th Ruth Fumie**

**Yoshioka**

**7 th Thomas Yoshinori**

**Katayama**

**13 th Sadako**

**Ginoza**

### **October 2024**

**13 th Betty Chiyoko**

**Nakata**

**17 th Yoshi**

**Oshiro**

**50 th Mitsuru**

**Watanabe**

**33 rd Suminosuke**

**Nanbara**

**50 th Shunichi**

**Uyeunten**

Aiea Hongwanji Mission  
99-186 Puakala Street  
Aiea, HI, 96701

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#### Temple Calendar of Events for September 2024

1 Sun	9:00AM	Sunday Service (Service Rituals and Temple Etiquette)
2 Mon		Lotus Adult Daycare and Preschool closed for Labor Day Holiday
7 Sat	9:00AM-5:00PM	HMMH Triple Celebration – 850 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's birth & 800 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Establishment of Jodo Shinshu Teaching
8 Sun	7:00AM-12:00PM 1:30PM- 4:30PM	HMMH Triple Celebration - 135 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of HMMH (No AHM Service) HMMH State 61 <sup>st</sup> Lay Assoc. Meeting & Ministers' Spouses Assoc. Seminar
13 Fri	1:00PM	HMMH Sanmu-Kanji Online Meeting
14 Sat	9:00AM 1:00PM-5:00PM	HMMH Board of Directors Online Meeting HAIB Dharmachakra Festival & Program at Higashi Hongwanji Mission
15 Sun	9:00AM	Sunday Service with presenter Chad Okawa sharing YBICSE Experience
17 Tue	7:00PM	AHM Board of Directors meeting
18 Wed	9:00AM-10:30AM	Preschool Temple Services
19 Thu	10:00AM	Lotus Adult Daycare Service and Visitation
20 Fri	8:30AM	HMMH's Annual Ring your Bell for Peace Day (Zoom registration required)
22 Sun	9:00AM 10:30AM	AHM Fall Higan & Peace Day Service AHM BWA Meeting
23 Mon	7:00PM	Oahu District Hongwanji Council Online Meeting
29 Sun	9:00AM	AHM Temple Beautification Day (No service)

*\*Note: Rev. Matsumoto will be on leave from Sunday, Sept. 22, 2024 (PM) & will return on Oct. 1, 2024. Please contact Rev. Mariko Nishiyama of Pearl City Hongwanji at (808) 953-0014 for ministerial emergencies.*

#### Partial Temple Calendar of Events for October 2024

2 Wed	9:30AM	Oahu District Ministers Association Meeting
6 Sun	9:00AM	Sunday Service
9 Wed	9:00AM-10:30AM	Preschool Temple Services