

## Monthly Newsletter

March 2023  
Vol. XLII, No. 3



慈光園

## Jikoen Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

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[www.jikoenhongwanji.org](http://www.jikoenhongwanji.org)

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### THIS MONTH'S EVENTS

*All scheduled Sunday services will be held in-person and via Zoom in the Hondo unless otherwise noted. All other in-person activities and events as noted. We will continue to follow all Federal, State and City safety protocols. Please keep in mind that service schedules are subject to change without notice. Thank you for your understanding.*

*For all Zoom services and programs please contact the Jikoen office for access information.*

<b>Sat 3/4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Jikoen BWA New Year Luncheon</b> Time: 10:00 a.m., Location: Social Hall</li></ul>
<b>Sun 3/5</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Spring Ohigan &amp; Shotsuki Monthly Memorial Service</b> Time: 9:00 a.m., Guest Speaker: Rev. Barbara Brennan</li><li>• <b>PBA Taiko Festival – “Journey of a Thousand Miles”</b> Time: 4:00 p.m., Location: Moanalua Performing Arts Center</li></ul>
<b>Sun 3/12</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Sangha Family Service</b> Time: 9:00 a.m., Speaker: Rev. Shindo Nishiyama</li></ul>
<b>Mon, 3/13 thru Fri, 3/17</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Lumbini Preschool Spring Break</b></li></ul>
<b>Wed 3/15</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Living Dharma Session via Zoom</b> Time: 6:00 p.m.</li></ul>
<b>Sat 3/18</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Jikoen Spring Cha-Cha-Cha (see page 8 for details)</b> Time: 9:00–11:00 a.m., Location: Social Hall</li></ul>
<b>Sun 3/19</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Lay Speaker Sunday</b> Time: 9:00 a.m.</li><li>• <b>Virtual Board of Directors Monthly Meeting</b> Time: 10:30 a.m., On Zoom</li></ul>
<b>Sun 3/26</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Family Dharma Moments Service</b> Time: 9:00 a.m.</li></ul>
<b>Mon 3/27</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Prince Kūhiō Day Holiday (Office &amp; Preschool Closed)</b></li></ul>
<b>Sat 4/1</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Jikoen Annual Bazaar (see page 6 for details)</b></li></ul>

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Sun 4/2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>NO SERVICE AT JIKOEN</b></li><li>• <b>Hawaii Buddhist Council (HBC) Combined Buddha Day Service (see page 9 for details)</b> Time: 9:30 a.m., Location: Jodo Mission of Hawaii, Speaker: Dr. George Tanabe</li></ul>
Sun 4/9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Jikoen Hanamatsuri &amp; Shotsuki Monthly Memorial Service</b> Time: 9:00 a.m.</li></ul>

## INTER-TEMPLE NEWS

### *Hawaii Association of International Buddhists 11th Annual Buddha Day Celebration: "Resilience in Our Lives"*

The Hawaii Island chapter of the Hawaii Association of International Buddhists (HAIB) presents the 11th Annual Buddha Day Celebration in honor of Shakyamuni Buddha's birth. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Bart Aoki, retired Clinical Psychologist.

This FREE event will be held in person at Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple (81-6630 Mamalahoa Highway, Kealahakua) and online via Zoom video conferencing on Sunday, March 12, 2023, from 9:30am-11:00am (HST).

You and your sangha are welcome to join in this joyful celebration of Shakyamuni Buddha's birth as either a participant or observer. Participants are invited to contribute a Buddhist verse or piece of music appropriate for the occasion. Please note that there is a time limit of 3-5 minutes per group. Participating groups are asked to designate a representative to pour sweet tea over the statue of the baby Buddha during the service.

For those joining via Zoom a meeting link and program will be sent to you on the Friday before the event.

For questions, please contact Rev. Blayne Higa of Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple at [bhiga@honpahi.org](mailto:bhiga@honpahi.org) or 808-323-2993.

### *Project Dana 2023 News*

Project Dana announces its "Caring for the Caregiver" Program offering public presentations, support group, counseling, and training to family caregivers and soon to be caregivers. The goal of the program is to help alleviate the stress that comes with continuous caregiving responsibilities.

Public Presentations: Speakers from various professions and organizations will present topics related to caregiving and aging at in-person meetings or by Zoom once a month at the Honpa Hongwanji Hawai'i Betsuin in Honolulu (2nd Wednesday) and Waipahu Hongwanji Buddhist Temple (2nd Saturday.) both from 9:30am to 11:30am.

Training, Support Group, Counseling: Family caregivers actively caring for an individual who is at least 60 years old and over and still living at home are qualified for: 1) Caregiver Training designed to reduce the stress and burden of caregiving and also offering home assessment and education on lowering the risks of falling, 2) monthly Support Group "talk story" in-person or Zoom (3rd Wednesdays) and Zoom only (4th Thursdays) meetings at Honpa Hongwanji Betsuin and 3) one-on-one Caregiver Counseling in person, by phone, or through Zoom.

Contact Project Dana for more details at [info@projectdana.org](mailto:info@projectdana.org) or (808) 945-3736. Or contact Sandy Toma, Jikoen Project Dana site coordinator at (808) 782-9501.

## TEMPLE NEWS

### *Jikoen BOD Meeting Highlights*

December, 2022

#### **Repair and Maintenance**

- Asbestos mitigation at Lumbini Preschool began in December along with other repairs and renovations using federal preschool grant monies.
- WiFi coverage availability was upgraded in Hondo, Social Hall, operations area and Lumbini Preschool.
- Volunteers needed for grounds beautification and cleaning the Hondo and Nokotsudo. We also would appreciate flower donations for altar flower

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## SENRI NO MICH

JOURNEY OF A THOUSAND MILES

DATE: MARCH 5, 2023  
TIME: 4:00 PM



[pacificbuddhistacademy.org/giving/taiko-festival](https://pacificbuddhistacademy.org/giving/taiko-festival)

### LOCATION:

MOANALUA HIGH SCHOOL  
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER  
2825 ALA ILIMA STREET  
HONOLULU, HI

# The Great Undercurrent of Life

Friday, March 17, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm (HST): Zoom

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji



What is the purpose of religion? Why do we need Buddhism in our lives? When we think about our society today, many people are moving away from religion. One reason for this might be that people think religion is an outdated worldview that tells people how they should live. However, is that the only way to define religion? In this discussion, we will look at how the true meaning of religion is to encounter the great undercurrent of life. By doing so, we come to understand our true selves.

Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji is currently a minister at Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church since August 1, 2020. In addition, he teaches at the Institute of Buddhist Studies located in Berkeley, California. His previous assignment as a minister was at Tacoma Buddhist Temple from December 2017 to July 31, 2020.

He graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a Bachelor's Degree in Philosophy and Japanese language and literature, Institute of Buddhist Studies at Berkeley, California with a Master's Degree in Buddhist Studies, Ryukoku University in Kyoto, Japan with a Master's Degree in Shin Buddhist Studies, and completed the doctoral coursework at Ryukoku University. He specializes in the areas of Japanese Buddhism and religion, translation of Buddhist scripture, and Jodo Shinshu doctrine and ethics.

Rev. Miyaji received his Tokudo and Kyoshi qualifications at the Honpa Hongwanji school located in Kyoto, Japan. He also obtained the academic ranking of *Hokyo* recognized within Hongwanji. He most recently completed his doctoral dissertation entitled, "Shin Buddhist Ethics," through Ryukoku University.

**Registration Fee: Free (Registration Required)**

Donations can be made to the Kauai Hongwanji Council. Please make a check payable to Kauai Hongwanji Council and send it to Lihue Hongwanji Mission 3-3556 Kuhio Highway, Lihue, HI 96766.

**The maximum capacity is 100 people**, first come, first served. We will email you a Zoom link three days prior to the seminar.

**Click below to register!**

"Registration Deadline: March 11, 2023"

<https://forms.gle/gD7abvnQJQAENbtQ8>



When you complete the seminar registration, you will receive an automatic confirmation email from Google forms.

**For further information, please contact:**

Kapaa Hongwanji at 822-4667, West Kauai Hongwanji at 335-3195 or Lihue Hongwanji at 245-6262.





# *Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin's Spring Seminar*

*Saturday, March 18, 2023*

*10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.*

*To be held in person and on Zoom at  
Hilo Betsuin UBA Hall, 398 Kilauea Avenue*



*Rev. Elaine Donlin*

Assistant Minister,  
Buddhist Church of San Francisco  
will speak on our 2023 Hongwanji Slogan:

*"Building Healthy Sanghas:  
Sharing Joy Together"*

To attend in person, please register at the temple office by March 16. Fee of \$10 requested for lunch and materials. Attend on Zoom for free at the link below.

Zoom link & information: [https://zoom.us/j/93470607158?  
pwd=NTdqRDBaUmhSQ2VXZHM5ZzdGOEZGUT09](https://zoom.us/j/93470607158?pwd=NTdqRDBaUmhSQ2VXZHM5ZzdGOEZGUT09)

Meeting ID: 934 7060 7158

Passcode: HHHB

*For more information, call the temple office at (808) 961-6677*

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arrangements.

### Announcements

- The Keirokai Appreciation Luncheon and Recognition Service on November 20th was well-attended and memorable.
- Joya-E service offered members a peaceful moment to end the year. The soba and saimin noodles were delicious
- Family Dharma Moment's Gingerbread Cookie making took place on December 18th. Everyone had a great time making and decorating their cookies.

January, 2023

### Lumbini Preschool

- Lumbini Preschool is working towards the National Association for the Education of Young Children



## WHITE WAY RADIO

Moiliili Hongwanji's Weekly  
Dharma Message

⚡ **Saturdays at 7:45 am – 8:00 am on  
KZOO AM1210**

⚡ Weekly messages go to  
[www.moiliilihongwanji.org](http://www.moiliilihongwanji.org)

### March 2023

- **04 Rev. Thomas Okano**
- **11 Rev. Shigenori Makino**
- **18 Rev. Yuika Hasebe**
- **25 Dr. Dexter Mar**

⚡ Japanese-language Dharma talks Saturdays on KZOO AM1210 on Saturdays 7:30 am – 7:45 am; on-demand dharma talks in Japanese

⚡ Dharma talks in Japanese are produced by Hawaii Betsuin and are archived on their website

⚡ Your donation to Moiliili Hongwanji will be greatly appreciated to help support the White Way Radio broadcasts.

(NAEYC) Accreditation certification.

- The Asbestos abatement and electrical removal and replacement were completed on Lumbini Preschool.
- Approved repair of the Lumbini Preschool's girls' and boys' restrooms and kitchen which will be done during Spring break. Also, approved more renovations to our minister's residence.

### Scheduled Events

- 85th Anniversary – November 19, 2023. Jikoen will host a small commemorative celebration for this occasion. A larger 90th anniversary celebration will be planned in five years.
- Jikoen CHA CHA CHA. Jikoen will host four seasonal tea sessions from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.:
  1. Spring Cha Cha Cha – Sat., March 18, featuring Mrs. Tamayo Matsumoto
  2. Summer Cha Cha Cha – Sat., June 24
  3. Fall Cha Cha Cha – Sat., September 23
  4. Winter Cha Cha Cha – Sat., March 18
- Bon Dance! Jikoen's bon dance is scheduled for one night only, Saturday, July 22, 2023. Get ready to dance, eat, and enjoy!

### 2023 Jikoen Bazaar

After a three-year break, our popular Jikoen Bazaar is finally back! Please mark your calendars for **Saturday, April 1 from 8:30 a.m. to Noon**. In addition to an array of donated items, we will be selling maki sushi, takuan, andagi and baked goods. Additional parking will be available at Kapalama Elementary School.

We are truly grateful for your continuous support and patience, especially during these pandemic years. Due to these fundraisers, we have been able to meet the rising costs of maintaining our facilities.

*We welcome the following donations:* gently used clothing, linen, kitchenware, crafts, and handbags, plants, flowers, fruits, and vegetables.

Please plan to drop off items at the Social Hall between 8:30 am. to noon on weekdays (Monday-Friday). **Call the office – (808) 845-3422 – before dropping off to be sure someone is available to receive items.**

While we need donations for the bazaar, we CANNOT ACCEPT the following items. Please carefully review the list below and DO NOT BRING:

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# Spring

## Buddhist Study Center 2023 Spring Virtual Session Saturday, March 25, 2023 10am-12pm

### “FELLOW TRAVELERS IN SHIN BUDDHISM”

Presented by Rev. Jon Turner, Orange County Buddhist Church



Let's hear about the journey of a fellow Shin Buddhist traveler, Rev. Jon Turner. Rev. Turner was introduced to Shin Buddhism when his family began attending the Orange County Buddhist Church (OCBC) in 1999. Later he joined the Minister's Assistant Program. In 2010, Rev. Turner graduated from the Institute of Buddhist Studies at Berkeley with a master's degree in Buddhist Studies and received his Tokudo ordination. In 2017 became a fully ordained Kaikyoshi minister at OCBC.

Our founder, Shinran Shonin referred to his followers as equal companions and “fellow travelers” (Ondobo Ondogyo) in the Dharma. Shinran taught us that, without exception, we are all “brothers and sisters” embraced by Amida Buddha's Wisdom and Compassion.

The program will explore this unique Shin Buddhist understanding that developed from Shinran's life experience as a monk and then a lay teacher. We urge all Jodo Shinshu followers (ministers and members) to become fellow travelers and listeners of the Buddha Dharma.

**Everyone is Welcome!** Register online at: <https://forms.gle/CvXJCZhsKe4Gguv17>

Or, fill in form below & mail to the BSC. Please register by **Saturday, March 18, 2023**.

**Donations Welcome:** All gifts received will be donated to the BSC & go toward furthering Buddhist education. Give online at <http://bit.ly/hhmhdonate> Or, checks can be made payable to HHMH & mailed to the Buddhist Study Center. **Questions?** Call the BSC office at (808) 973-6555.



### ~ Registration Form for 2023 BSC Spring Session ~

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Temple (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Email/Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Buddhist Study Center • 1436 University Ave. Honolulu, HI 96822

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- Books (hard copy, paperback, encyclopedias), magazines, sheet music
- CDs, DVDs, cassette tapes, vinyl records
- Sporting goods - equipment, sport bags
- Luggage - suitcases of any size, duffel bags, overnight bags, etc.
- Audio/visual items - televisions, radios, record players, CD-DVD players, speakers, etc.
- Computers/laptops and accessories (monitors, keyboards, printers, etc.)
- Major appliances/equipment – stoves, refrigerators, washers, dryers, water heaters, fax machines, copy machines, vacuum cleaners, exercise machines
- Lighting fixtures, Halogen lamps, fluorescent light bulbs
- Office/home furnishings – metal desks, cabinets, mattresses, bed frames, etc.
- Hazardous waste materials – chemicals, paints, poisons, oils
- Infant/toddler/child car seats, cribs, strollers, walkers, high chairs, swings
- Medical aid equipment – shower seats, wheelchairs, bed pans, commodes, etc.

We appreciate any help you can provide with this bazaar and look forward to seeing you.

### *Jikoen Cha Cha Cha*

Tea has been enjoyed by people worldwide for centuries. In many cultures, tea is considered a symbol of hospitality and a way to bring people together. Tea ceremonies and traditions vary across different countries, but the essence of tea being a communal activity remains the same. In many parts of the world, sharing a cup of tea is seen as a way to socialize, bond, and connect with others. It provides an opportunity for people to take a break from their busy lives and catch up with friends, family, or colleagues. Whether it's a formal tea ceremony or an informal tea party, the act of sharing tea brings people together and fosters a sense of community and togetherness.

Jikoen Hongwanji presents a four-part series of tea events for 2023 called “Jikoen Cha Cha Cha.”

#### *Session One: Japanese Tea “Ocha”*

- *When:* Saturday, March 18, 2023
- *Where:* Jikoen Hongwanji social hall

- *What time:* 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM
- *Cost:* \$5 per session; to be paid at the door
- FREE for Jikoen members
- PLEASE REGISTER by Monday, March 13 via EMAIL ONLY: [jikoenprograms@gmail.com](mailto:jikoenprograms@gmail.com)
- There is a MAXIMUM 30 participants for this session.

Sensei Hideko Watanabe of the Hideko Watanabe Shu Wakari, assisted by her students, will present their tea style originating from the Urasenke tradition. Urasenke is a traditional tea ceremony style from Japan that has been passed down through generations for over 400 years. Urasenke emphasizes the importance of harmony, respect, and purity in the tea ceremony.

The tea ceremony is seen as a way to cultivate mindfulness, tranquility, and appreciation for the simple things in life. For those who study Urasenke, the practice is not just a hobby but a way of life. The principles of harmony, respect, and purity that are central to the tea ceremony can be applied to all aspects of life, from relationships with others to one's own personal well-being.

Fee includes tasting of Ocha with this tea learning experience.



### HILITES FROM HQ NEWS UPDATES (February, 2023)

#### *“Sharing Joy Together”*

Bishop Eric Matsumoto

As we slowly transition from Winter to Spring, like the many flowers and trees in Nature, let us begin to prepare ourselves to fully blossom too. For me, every year, the gift of cherry blossoms from Kamuela, reminds me that Spring is just around the corner and brings joy to me. It warms my heart which motivates me to want to share that beauty and the joy with others. The joy we feel when we see beautiful flowers is seen by others around us. It is a very spontaneous expression and sharing which occurs very naturally. The Joy of the Dharma we feel is the same. It is not a contrived joy or a joy which I, calculatedly, try to share. For ultimately, the source of that joy is not me, but comes from the flowers themselves or in the case of the Joy of the Dharma from the Buddha's Wisdom and Compassion itself.

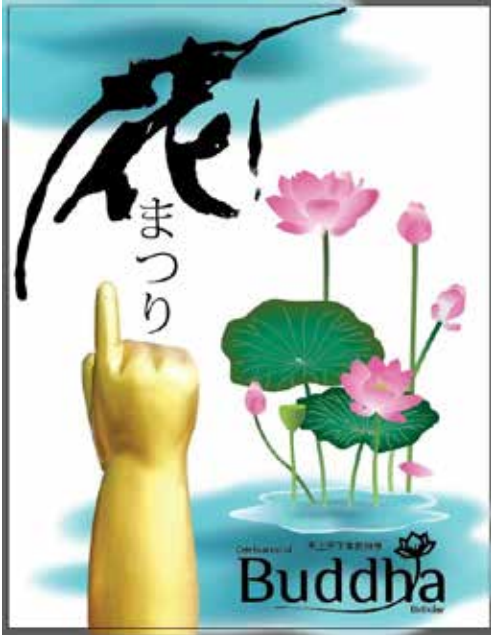
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# Hawaii Buddhist Council

## BUDDHA DAY SERVICE 2023

“Hanamatsuri” - Celebrating the Birth of Shakyamuni Buddha



Date: Sunday, April 2, 2023  
9:30 am (HST)  
Place: Jodo Mission of Hawaii  
1429 Makiki Street, HNL  
Phone: (808)949-3995  
Message: Dr. George Tanabe  
“Why We Tell Stories?”

Feature Show: JATAKA TALES @10:45am  
by Jeff Gere with Lesley Kline  
(co-sponsored by BDK Hawai'i)

Hospitality of Tea & Refreshments

### Dr. George Tanabe Biography

Born and raised in Waiialua, **George Tanabe** graduated from Willamette University (B.A.), Union Theological Seminary (M.Div.), and Columbia University (M.A. and Ph.D.). From 1977 to 2006, he taught in the Department of Religion at the University of Hawaii and retired as Professor Emeritus. He currently serves as president of BDK (Bukkyō Dendō Kyōkai) Hawai'i and BDK America (Berkeley). His books about Japanese religions are published by university presses at Harvard, Princeton, and Columbia, and include *Japanese Buddhist Temples of Hawai'i* (UH Press). In 2012, the Japanese government honored him with the Imperial Order of the Rising Sun. He still lives in Waiialua.



### Special Presentation of JATAKA TALES by Jeff Gere with a violinist Lesley Kline

**Jataka Tales** are Buddhist Teaching Tales in which the Buddha appears as an animal with life lessons. In this delightful family-friendly performance, popular Oahu storyteller **JEFF GERE** tells these simple profound tales in his animated dramatic style, and with shadow puppets. Innovative violin wizard **LESLEY KLINE** adds her rich musical textures.



**Jeff Gere** is among Hawaii's top storytellers. He created and produced Talk Story Festival, Hawaii's largest storytelling celebration for 27 years, a Story TV Series and Talk Story Radio. He constantly performs (for all ages) throughout the state & internationally, sometimes with shadow puppets. He will tour India in July (3rd trip.)



**LESLEY KLINE** is one of the finest violinists in Hawaii. She came to Oahu from Paris. She has performed in Hawaii's finest Irish & Appalachian bands, cutting edge drum & bass, and currently Martin & Kline, a swing era duet. Make a point to come hear her with Jeff.

### Free & Open to the Public

For more information: Please contact (808)949-3995 or email at [mail@hawaiibuddhistcouncil.org](mailto:mail@hawaiibuddhistcouncil.org) / YouTube Live is also available from the HBC YouTube channel.



HBC YouTube LIVE

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As Shinran Shonin explained in one of his poems, The light of compassion illumines from afar; Those beings it reaches, it is taught, Attain the Joy of the Dharma, So take refuge in Amida, the great consolation. Also, in his major writing “The True Teaching, Practice and Realization of the Pure Land Way,” he noted that when we realize the diamondlike true mind (shinjin), we...unfailing gain ten benefits in the present life. What are these ten? Of the ten, number seven is The benefit of having great joy in our hearts. It is explained that this joy is a very special kind of joy. It is not one that will dissipate or fade after a while for it comes about when they touch for the very first time that which is timeless (dharma-body), and therefore a joy that they have not known in the world of samsaric transmigration. This deep joy is a very big part of Jodo Shinshu and the life of Nembutsu.

In 2023, especially, as our theme and slogan is Building Healthy Sanghas: Sharing Joy Together, let us freely allow our awareness, joy and gratitude of Namo Amida Butsu express itself. This is one major way in which we (you and I), as the Nembutsu Sangha, can share the Teachings of the Buddha and the temple with others. By our naturally expressing our joy and gratitude, let our family and friends wonder, and hopefully ask us, “Why are you always so happy and grateful?” For many, this will be the joyous condition that could lead to their discovery of Namo Amida Butsu. It will be the opportunity to introduce to them the Nembutsu and invite them to temple.

At the same time, an important component which should be in place at every temple, is when people come to our temples we should be able to sincerely and happily welcome them. Thus, I would like to encourage every temple to have a Welcoming-Membership Committee which kindly assists those who come to our temples to continue their journey or quest including hopefully eventually become members. Our temples, and each one of us, should be inviting, welcoming, nurturing and supportive places centered on the Buddha-Dharma.

As a well-known Buddhist says goes Thousands of candles can be lighted from a single candle, and the life of the candle will not be shortened. Happiness never decreases by being shared. Also, let us keep in mind the saying To live a single day and hear a good teaching is better than to live a hundred years without knowing such a teaching.” To make manifest the above Dharma Teaching, please know that Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii continues to share Buddhist teachings and perspectives by continuing to regularly have Sunday Services, Buddhist Seminars and Retreats such as the Spring Session, BSC Summer Session, MLA Retreat and YESS Camp, participate in

interfaith and other community organizational events like UN Interfaith Harmony Week, and support other community programs like the Ohana Arts’ youth musical “Peace on your Wings” so we may fulfill our Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Mission Statement To share the living Teachings of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism so all beings may enjoy lives of harmony, peace and gratitude and our purpose as stated in our Hongwanji Constitution The organization transmits the wisdom and compassion of Amida Tathagata to all people, and in doing so, contributes to the realization of a society in which everyone, both within and outside of the organization, is able to live a life of spiritual fulfillment. This is our mission and vision that should unite and guide us in all of our endeavors.

In particular, as Jodo Shin Buddhists, let that deep joy that we experience of being accepted as we are and forever embraced by Amida Buddha’s all-inclusive Wisdom and all-embracing Compassion express itself and let us naturally share it with others with the wish that others too, may come to know and experience the same joy and happiness. More than ever, let us live the Nembutsu by responding in gratitude to Amida Buddha by “Sharing (the) Joy (of Namo Amida Butsu) Together” by talking about Amida Buddha and reciting Namo Amida Butsu as a manifestation of the saying “As the light of a small candle will spread from one to another in succession, so the light of Buddha’s compassion will pass on from one mind to another endlessly.”

Thank you and Namo Amida Butsu/Entrusting in All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion.

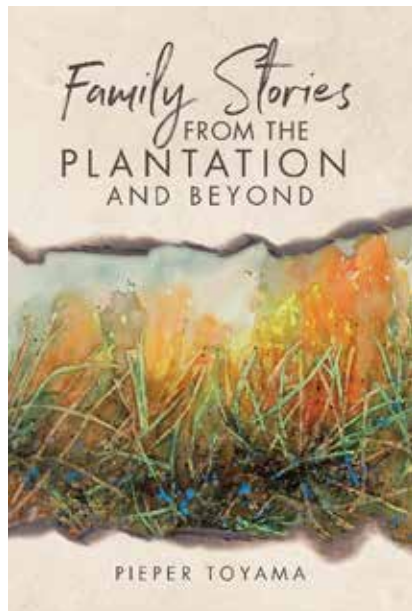
*Giseikai Message from the Jodo Shinshu  
Hongwanji-Ha Governor General Bishop  
Chiko Iwagami*

On the occasion of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii 111th Giseikai, I humbly extend my appreciation to you, the ministers and sangha representatives from throughout the state of Hawaii. I would also like to express my heartfelt gratitude to you all for your continuing efforts in propagating the Jodo Shinshu tradition and maintaining the temples within your respective districts.

I would first like to express my sympathy to those who have been directly affected by COVID-19. Though nowadays, countries are adopting policies of “living with the virus,” infections remain high in many areas. In addition, another significant global issue has been brought about on February 24, 2022, when the Russian military invasion into Ukraine began. Throughout the year, visual

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# Jikoen Literary Fundraiser



Jikoen member, Pieper Toyama, is donating proceeds from the sale of his book, FAMILY STORIES FROM THE PLANTATION AND BEYOND. The profits from all books sold to Jikoen members and friends of Jikoen will be donated to the Jikoen Building Fund.

His book is a collection of “small stories.” His family stories begin on a sugar plantation on the Big Island. He shares his stories in the local “talk story” style. Pieper’s stories focus on life’s small moments that often go unremembered. He talks about the putt-putt he rode to school, the big fish that fed the entire student body of Honoka’a School, blazing cane fires, the annual plantation Fishing Derby, his feisty mother, and his football-loving father. He goes beyond plantation days and shares stories of his first winter in Massachusetts where he met and married Lois Bredberg. He

tells of the values he learned from his parents and what he learned in raising his two daughters on the Big Island. His stories spring to life through old photos from his family album.

The book costs \$16.00 and you have three ways of ordering your copy of FAMILY STORIES FROM THE PLANTATION AND BEYOND:

1. Call Jikoen Office at: 808-845-3422
2. Email Jikoen Office at: [jikoen.info@gmail.com](mailto:jikoen.info@gmail.com)
3. Mail the order form below with a check payable to: *Jikoen Hongwanji Mission*  
1731 N. School St., Honolulu HI 96819

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies at \$16.00 per copy.

I have enclosed the total amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (#copies X \$16.00).

Make check out to: Jikoen

***This fundraiser will end on March 31, 2023.***



*(continued from page 10)*

images of the people suffering from the devastation caused by the war have been shown on TV and it makes us face the harsh reality of war. The global pandemic has brought about social division among people, particularly when it spread at furious speeds a couple of years ago and as a result, social instability has spread in various forms throughout the world. Amid such circumstances, Russia's aggression against Ukraine occurred. This incident has prompted many countries to put more emphasis on their military power and equipment which is stirring up people's fears and anxieties. Being aware that these issues are fundamentally caused by our own self-oriented mindset that every one of us possesses as a human being, I cannot help but renew my appreciation for the value of

Buddhist life relying on the Dharma as the foundation.

In his Message on 'Gratitude for the Jodo Shinshu Teaching,' Monshu Ohtani Kojun provides us with the following words, "When we are touched by this warm compassion and learn of Amida Tathagata's wish for our life, we are empowered to live at ease, share joy and sadness with people, and a world of mutual respect and support opens up." Receiving and deeply reflecting on this message, let us recite in unison the 'Gratitude for the Jodo Shinshu Teaching' while endeavoring to share the teaching in effective ways that is in accord with the time and age.

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## SHOTSUKI JOYOUS MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE

*Shotsuki Monthly Service* is a time to remember our loved ones and a time to express gratitude in Gassho. This memorial service is held on the first Sunday of each month at 9:00am, in memory of those whose date of death falls in that month. We also recognize the efforts of those who have passed and thank them for their continuing influence in our lives and for giving us the opportunity to share the Buddha-Dharma.

Due to the Covid-19/variant situation and recent rise in cases, all in-person services and events have been canceled until further notice.

*Here are our loved ones who will be remembered in the month of April, 2023:*

Jinei Arakaki ~ April 25, 2020 (98)  
Takemitsu Arakaki ~ April 25, 2016 (91)  
Eisuke Asato ~ April 22, 1996 (74)  
Tsuru Asato ~ April 4, 1990 (88)  
Ginei Bise ~ April 28, 1990 (80)  
Laura Shigeno Maeshiro Freeman ~ April 3, 2018 (88)  
Toshiko Fujita ~ April 27, 2015 (89)  
Yasuo Gushi ~ April 29, 2003 (91)  
Laura F. Hieda ~ April 13, 2020 (84)  
Katherine Matsui Higa ~ April 6, 1999 (86)  
Kazue Higa ~ April 3, 2010 (86)  
Miyeko Higa ~ April 10, 1999 (76)  
Yoshi K. Higa ~ April 17, 2012 (81)  
Eiso Hokama ~ April 18, 2005 (82)  
Harry Ishikawa ~ April 24, 2015 (75)  
Kiyoko Ishikawa ~ April 6, 2014 (98)  
Takashi "Rosa" Ito ~ April 7, 2021 (92)  
Eleanor Mitsue Itomura ~ April 10, 2013 (81)  
Lionel Jakahi ~ April 14, 2014 (71)  
Mrs. Kazumi Kaneshiro ~ April 28, 2013 (90)

Shinichi Kiyabu ~ April 19, 1998 (68)  
Kenneth Kiyoshi Kaneshiro ~ April 6, 2020 (90)  
Kikue Kaneshiro ~ April 7, 2016 (98)  
Richard Tsutomu Kaneshiro ~ April 2, 2012 (76)  
Thomas Masaichi Kaneshiro ~ April 18, 2001 (73)  
Margaret Naomi Kawashima ~ April 16, 2015 (58)  
Hisashi Kikuchi ~ April 20, 2001 (85)  
Kazuko Kinjo ~ April 30, 2021 (90)  
Shizue Kino ~ April 30, 2015 (101)  
Chizuko Kishimoto ~ April 28, 2005 (92)  
Toshiko Kotani ~ April 9, 2001 (79)  
Sadako Matayoshi ~ April 19, 2004 (84)  
Kenneth Katsuyoshi Matsumoto ~ April 23, 2020 (78)  
Takemi Miyashiro ~ April 10, 2020 (92)  
Tatsuko Miyasato ~ April 27, 2017 (94)  
Shigeko Kiyabu Nakahara ~ April 3, 2016 (96)  
Fukuo Nakai ~ April 5, 2016 (90)  
Kyoko Nakama ~ April 18, 2000 (97)  
Clara Mieko Nakasone ~ April 1, 2019 (98)  
Nobushige Nakasone ~ April 8, 2003 (91)  
Beatrice Kimiko Higa Nishizawa ~ April 12, 2015 (94)  
June Hatsue Oganeku ~ April 26, 2021 (88)  
Kikuye Okuhara ~ April 9, 2020 (97)  
Henry Oshiro ~ April 15, 2013 (91)  
Jeanette Misaye Oshiro ~ April 30, 2019 (73)  
James Seiei Oshiro ~ April 12, 2003 (78)  
Kosuke Oshiro ~ April 19, 1999 (94)  
Lillian Yukie Oshiro ~ April 14, 2022 (81)  
Michael Saito ~ April 10, 2010 (66)  
Seitaro Sakihara ~ April 12, 1990 (74)  
Akira Sakima ~ April 6, 2007 (88)  
Aaron Sunao Shimabukuro ~ April 13, 2021 (70)  
Shoyei Shimabukuro ~ April 25, 1992 (98)

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Yoshiko Shinsato ~ April 4, 2013 (89)  
 Derek Ichiro Shiroma ~ April 27, 2019 (57)  
 Dr. Teitsu Shiota, Jr. ~ April 15, 2017 (75)  
 Yasuo Takamiya ~ April 27, 2012 (76)  
 Warren Seizen Tamanaha ~ April 11, 1990 (64)  
 Matsu Tamashiro ~ April 15, 1990 (92)  
 Rose Tokie Tamashiro ~ April 25, 2013 (84)  
 Hiroshi Tamayori ~ April 2, 2011 (94)  
 Doris Miyome Tanaka ~ April 4, 2018 (100)  
 Dora Mitsue Tengan ~ April 21, 2009 (84)  
 Jared Makana Isamu Teruya ~ April 7, 2013 (12)  
 Yoshiko Toma ~ April 23, 2013 (90)  
 Edward Kiyoshi Tomasu ~ April 14, 2014 (71)

Toyo Uehara ~ April 5, 2006 (72)  
 Masako Wauke ~ April 21, 2002 (84)  
 Shiichi Yamada ~ April 11, 1990 (64)  
 Doris Toshiyo Yamaguchi ~ April 21, 2021 (90)  
 Kame Yamaguchi ~ April 8, 2000 (101)  
 Bertram "Bert" Seikichi Yasui ~ April 19, 2022 (80)  
 Reverend Chikai Yosemite ~ April 13, 2016 (84)  
 Richard Masahiro Yokogawa ~ April 1, 2011 (65)

### *Namu Amida Butsu*

If you would like to honor your loved one, please call the office at 808-845-3422 or email jikoen.info@gmail.com with your name and contact information and we will get back to you.

## DONATIONS FROM JANUARY 18, 2023 THRU FEBRUARY 21, 2023

### *General Operations (\$1 - \$99)*

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### *General Operations (\$100 - \$499)*

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### *Ho'onko Service (\$1 - \$99)*

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### *Joya-E Service (\$1 - \$99)*

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### *Keirokai 2022 (\$1 - \$99)*

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### *New Year's Luncheon (\$1 - \$99)*

Anonymous -----

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### *New Year's Luncheon (\$100 - \$299)*

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### *New Year's Luncheon (\$400 - \$599)*

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### *Social Concerns (\$1 - \$99)*

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 IMO Sadako Shimabukuro

### *Miscellaneous (\$1 - \$99)*

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 IHO Doris Oshiro's dedication  
 to Jikoen Hongwanji

### *IMO Steve Higa (Nokotsudo)*

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 IMO Eiso & Kiyoko Hokama &  
 IMO Jane Shiira

### *IMO Doris & Shigeru Yamaguchi*

### *IMO Edward N. Okita*

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 IHO John Toguchi, New  
 President for Jikoen Hongwanji

### *IMO Noboru & Kikue Higa*

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 IMO Tokiko Minei & IMO  
 Olga Oshiro

### *Miscellaneous (\$100 - \$299)*

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 IMO Noboru & Kikue Higa  
 -----  
 IMO Yasutake & Haruko Higa  
 (Nokotsudo)

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 IMO Shizuo & Alice Tokuda  
 Hui O'Laulima  
 IMO Edward N. Okita

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 IMO Kiyono Kawabata

### *(Shotsuki)*

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 IHO Suzue Nishiyama (Zoom  
 Facilitator)

### *Miscellaneous (\$300 - \$399)*

KBC Gakuen High School  
 (Okinawa)  
 c/o Daniel Chinen

### *Dana Day Service Donations*

Anonymous

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### *Offertory*

01/22/2023 Service .....\$114.00

01/29/2023 Service .....\$272.00

General Membership & Shinnen  
 Enkai

02/05/2023 Service .....\$148.00

02/12/2023 Service .....\$150.00

Dana Day Service

*Thank you for your  
 generous support!  
 有難うございます*

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As announced, the Joint Celebration of the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth and the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching will be observed at Hongwanji from March 29, and we are preparing for the occasion. It would be wonderful if we are able to celebrate this special event together with the Hawaii delegation in Kyoto.

In closing, it is my hope that the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii will continue to prosper and that many fruitful results will arise from this annual meeting.

February 10, 2023  
Bishop Chiko Iwagami  
Governor General  
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

### Confirmation of New Bishop

**Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani**, the Resident Minister of Moiliili Hongwanji Mission was confirmed as the 17th Bishop of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii at the 111th Legislative Assembly. Bishop-elect Rev. Umitani will officially assume the Office of the Bishop effective July 1, 2023.



### HHMH 111th Legislative Assembly (Giseikai)

The 111th Legislative Assembly (Giseikai) was held on February 10-11, 2023, in-person at the Hawaii Betsuin and via Zoom. Special guests were able to attend in-person from the Buddhist Churches of America (President Terri Omori, Terri's husband Ford Omori and Secretary Darlene Bagshaw), Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada (Bishop Tatsuya Aoki, President Laura Sugimoto) and Jodo Shinshu International Office (Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara). Ministers, delegates, HHMH Directors, observers and guests attended from every district.

On Thursday, February 9th, we were able to participate in an inspiring, motivational and educational Pre-Giseikai Rap Session led by Revs. Bob and Patti Oshita entitled "A Flourishing Sangha". Pieper Toyama shared a presentation on organizational decline and more importantly, ways to avoid organizational decline. This was an excellent session with meaningful audience participation.

At Friday's Opening Service attendees were uplifted by the combined voices of lay leaders and ministers singing

and chanting. Bishop Chiko Iwagami, Ms. Linda Nagai and Rev. Shingo Furusawa started the Assembly off in the right direction with inspirational messages. Ingo recipients from 2022 were recognized with a moment of silence. Ingo recipients for 2022 were:

- Ernest Kiichi Wakimura, *Ewa Hongwanji Mission*
- David Shunichi Ikawa, *Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin*
- Sadao Harold Aoki, *Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin*
- George Takashi Okamoto, *Wailuku Hongwanji Mission*
- Emiko Serikaku, *Waipahu Hongwanji Mission*
- Rev. Sandra Sanae Hiramatsu
- Rev. Midori Ogawa Kondo
- Wayne Katsuyuki Nishida, *Wailuku Hongwanji Mission*
- Rev. Yoshikazu Saito
- Rev. Yoshiaki Fujitani
- Clifford Katsuhiko Tamura, *Waianae Hongwanji Mission*
- Richard Nishihara, *Lahaina Hongwanji Mission*

Delegates from the Hongwanji temples throughout Hawaii discussed and passed the following resolutions:

- 2023-1 Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Budget
- 2023-2 Dissolution of the Implementation Maintenance Committee
- 2023-3 Establishment of a Hawaii Kyodan Communications Coordinator Position
- 2023-4 Commemorating the Triple Celebration of Shinran Shōnin's Birth, Establishment of the Jōdo Shinshu Teaching, and Founding of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii
- 2023-5 Resolution of Condolence and Appreciation for Reverend Midori O. Kondo, Mr. David Ikawa, Mrs. Jane Fumiko Obana Uyeno and Mr. Sadao Aoki

Presentations to the Legislative Assembly included:

- Presentation by Pacific Buddhist Academy Head of School **Mr. Josh Hernandez-Morse**
- Future of American Buddhism Conference Report by **Mr. Jon Matsuoka, Rev. Blayne Higa and Rev. Cristina Moon** (<https://futureofamericanbuddhism.com/>)
- New Dharma Partnership presentation by **Ms. JoAnn Yosemite and Rev. Shindo Nishiyama**
- West Kauai Hongwanji Special Presentation by **Rev. Tomo Hojo, Ms. Faye Tateishi & Ms. Shirley Kakuda**: West Kauai Hongwanji donated \$250,000 to the HHMH in order to establish the Shinichi and Sumako Hironaka Minister's Welfare Fund to be administered in the same manner as the Richard

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Taniguchi Fund.

- A special request by Honokaa Hongwanji President **Miles Okumura** to help Ukrainians stranded in Hawaii by the war in their home country.

On Saturday at our morning service we installed our 2023 Hawaii Kyodan Officers, Directors, Advisors, Sanmu and Kanji Ministers. We gave special recognition to retired ministers **Rev. Richard Tennes** and **Rev. Arthur Kaufmann**. We also recognized **Mr. Alan Kubota** for his many years of service to HHMH as a photographer.

At Saturday's plenary session, we confirmed Bishop-elect **Toshiyuki Umitani** as the next Bishop of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii by a unanimous vote. Bishop-elect Umitani shared his appreciation with the assembly. The Hawaii Federation of Jr. YBA shared a slide/video presentation of their activities. Special guests from the BCA, JSBTC and JSIO expressed their appreciation and shared their comments/observations with the Assembly.

Bishop Eric Matsumoto shared his Special Report and Remarks with the Assembly. This was his last Legislative Assembly as Bishop of the HHMH and he was recognized

with a warm and sustained standing ovation. The Legislative Assembly adjourned with Nembutsu led by Bishop Eric Matsumoto.

The Aloha Luncheon of the 111th Legislative Assembly and the 48th Living Treasures of Hawaii Program was held at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom after the conclusion of the 111th Legislative Assembly.

### *Hawaii Kyodan Supports Relief Efforts In Syria And Turkey*

In response to the devastating series of earthquakes that struck Syria and Turkey on February 6, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Committee on Social Concerns has made \$3,000 donations to Doctors Without Borders ([www.doctorswithoutborders.org](http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org)) and World Central Kitchen ([www.wck.org](http://www.wck.org)) for a total of \$6,000 to support relief efforts in the region.

Here in Hawaii, we know all too well how natural disasters can impact families and communities and how it takes time and resources to recover. Please consider making your own donation to support the people of Syria and Turkey in their time of need. Mahalo!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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1731 N. School Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819-4157

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