

# Monthly Newsletter

January 2024  
Vol. XLIII, No. 1



总光園

## Jikoetsu-ji Buddhist Temple

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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. 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 Jikoetsu office for access information.



**HAPPY NEW YEAR! 新年明けましてお目出度うございます!**



Mon 1/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>New Year's Day Holiday Observed (Office &amp; Preschool Closed)</b></li> </ul>
Sun 1/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ho'onko Shinran Shonin's Memorial &amp; Shotsuki Monthly Memorial Service</b> Time: 9:00 a.m., Guest Minister: Rev. Irene Nakamoto</li> </ul>
Sun 1/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sangha Family Service</b> Time: 9:00 a.m.</li> <li>• <b>Virtual Board of Directors Monthly Meeting</b> Time: 10:30 a.m., <i>On Zoom</i></li> </ul>
Mon 1/15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Office &amp; Preschool Closed)</b></li> <li>• <b>Participation in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade (see page 3 for details)</b> Time: 9:00 a.m., Location: Ala Moana Beach Park-Magic Island</li> </ul>
Sun 1/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sangha Family Service</b> Time: 9:00 a.m.</li> <li>• <b>Genki Ball Making Activity</b> Time: 10:00 a.m., Location: Social Hall</li> </ul>
Tue 1/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>KBC Gakuen Okinawa High School Student Performance Dress Rehearsal (free and open to the public)</b> Time: 6:30 p.m., Location: Social Hall</li> </ul>
Sun 1/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>New Year's Service, General Membership Meeting &amp; Installation of Officers (see page 3 for details)</b> Time: 9:00 a.m., Location: Hondo</li> <li>• <b>Shinnen Enkai New Year's Party-Luncheon (see page 3 for details)</b> Time: following service, Location: Social Hall</li> </ul>

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<b>Sun 2/4</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Shotsuki Monthly Memorial Service</b> Time: 9:00 a.m.</li></ul>
<b>Fri, 2/9 thru Sat, 2/10</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>112th Legislative Assembly (Giseikai) (see page 7 for details)</b> Location: Hawaii Betsuin, for registered participants &amp; observers</li><li>• <b>Living Treasures Luncheon (see page 7 for details)</b> Location: Hilton Hawaiian Village, for registered participants</li></ul>
<b>Sun 2/11</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Jikoen BWA Dana Day Service</b> Time: 9:00 a.m., Guest Speaker: Judy Muramoto</li></ul>

**Please mark/adjust your calendars for these upcoming events (subject to further change, more info to follow)...**

- **Nabeya Maido Fundraiser in March and April**
- **April 13: Annual Bazaar (preparations starting from April 7)**
- **July 20: Jikoen Bon Dance (preparations starting from July 13)**
- **September 7–8: Honpa Hongwanji Triple Celebration at Ala Moana Hotel**

## **Jikoen General Membership Annual Meeting & Shinnen Enkai New Year's Party**

**Sunday, January 28, 2024**

**9:00 a.m.** (Hondo)

- New Year's Service
- General Membership Annual Meeting
- Election & Installation of Officers and Approval of ByLaw Revisions

**10:30 a.m.** Party to follow in the Social Hall

There will be the usual great food, entertainment and lucky number prizes.

**RSVP by January 14. Please call the office at 808-845-3422 or email [jikoen.info@gmail.com](mailto:jikoen.info@gmail.com)**



## **THE MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PARADE**

**Monday, January 15, 2024**

- Starts at 9:00 a.m.
- The Parade begins at Magic Island and ends at Kapiolani Park Bandstand
- Jikoen will be participating with the Honolulu Hongwanji Council. If you are interested in participating and/or want more information, please contact [jikoenprograms@gmail.com](mailto:jikoenprograms@gmail.com) or call the Jikoen office at (808) 845-3422 by January 5.
- For those who are physically challenged, please indicate whether you are interested in a bus ride through the parade route.



**HMH Five-Year Theme: Building Healthy Sanghas  
Year 5 2024 Slogan: Sharing Nembutsu Moments**



*New Year's Greeting from Gomonshu  
Kojun Ohtani*



Happy New Year, everyone! At the beginning of this New Year, I would like to extend my best regards to you all.

Over the last year, innumerable people worldwide have been affected by natural disasters, such as earthquakes, floods, and forest fires. I was particularly shocked by the wild fires that devastated the island of Maui in the state of Hawaii. This disaster completely destroyed the temple hall of Lahaina Hongwanji Mission and one temple member was reported to have lost his life. I would like to offer my deepest condolences to all who have perished in those calamities. I would also like to express my sympathies to those who are still coping with the dire situations. It is my sincere hope that all who have been affected will soon be able to return to a normal daily life.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine that began in February 2022 is still continuing. Not only that, conflict between Israel and Palestine has once again flared up from October 2023, embroiling nations concerned with victimizing a large number of people many of whom are civilians. Looking at the appalling state of the world, the following

words of Sakyamuni Buddha come to mind. "Everyone fears violence and is scared of death. In consideration of all life, do not kill and do not make others kill."

Every one of us who has received life as a human being, no matter the reason, must be ensured equally of human rights, and no one's life should be threatened. In reality, however, conflicts and terrorist attacks have occurred everywhere in the world and for many people, their right to live and exist has been threatened. As Buddhists who aspire for peace, we must keep Sakyamuni Buddha's words seriously in our hearts and pursue our endeavor of contributing toward world peace and security.

During the last year, we observed the Joint Celebration of the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth and the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching at Hongwanji, Kyoto for a total of 30 days, divided into 5 sessions during the period from March 29 to May 21. On this occasion, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to those who came to Japan to attend, as well as those who supported it in various ways. This celebratory event could be realized only because our predecessors have cherished the Jodo Shinshu teaching as their spiritual foundation for many years no matter when or where they were, and carefully transmitted it to us today.

Let us, too, continue listening to the teaching as the center of our life while cherishing each day.

*January 1, 2024*

*OHTANI Kojun*

*Monshu*

*Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ga*

年頭の辞

新しい年のはじめにあたり、ご挨拶申し上げます。

昨年も世界各地で地震・洪水・山火事など様々な災害が起こり、多くの方が被災されました。特にハワイ・マウイ島における山火事ではラハイナ本願寺の本堂が全焼し、メンバーの方々の被害も報告されています。ここに災害によってお亡くなりになられたすべての方々に謹んで哀悼の意を表しますとともに、被災された皆さまに心よりお見舞い申し上げます。皆さまが一日

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も早く、日常の生活を取り戻されますことを願っております。

また、2022年2月に始まったロシア連邦によるウクライナ侵攻はいまだに続いており、2023年10月以来、イスラエルとパレスチナの武力衝突では関係国を巻き込んで、民間人を含む多くの犠牲者が出ています。私がいま思い起こしますのは、「すべての者は暴力におびえ、すべての者は死をおそれる。己が身にひきくらべて、殺してはならぬ。殺さしめてはならぬ。」（『ダンマパダ』第129偈）というお釈迦様のお言葉です。

この世に生を受けた私たちは、いかなる理由があろうとも等しく人権が保障され、命が脅かされるようなことがあってはなりません。しかし、現実には世界各地で紛争やテロが勃発し、生存の権利が脅かされている人々が数多くおられます。平和主義を掲げる仏教徒である私たちは、お釈迦様のお言葉を深く心に刻み、国際社会の平和と安全に大きく貢献することが求められています。

さて、昨年は本願寺において3月29日より5月21日までの5期30日間にわたり、「親鸞聖人御誕生850年立教開宗800年慶讃法要」をお勤めいたしました。ご参拝くださいました皆さま、お力添えを賜りました皆さまに心より感謝申し上げます。私たちが立教開宗800年の慶讃法要をお勤めできましたことは、時代や場所を超えて多くの

先人の方々が、浄土真宗のみ教えを生きる支えとして、今日まで大切に受け継いでこられたからに他なりません。

これからもみ教えを聞き、それを支えとして、一日一日を大切に過ごしてまいりましょう。

2024年1月1日

浄土真宗本願寺派  
門主 大谷光淳

### *Bishop's New Year's Message for 2024*

To welcome the New Year, I would like to extend my heartfelt greetings to you all. On behalf of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to all of you for your support, dedication, and participation in our services and activities.



Since I took the Headquarters Office as the new Bishop last July, I have been able to visit some of your temples. I bow my head to the ministers, temple leaders, and temple members for their tireless effort in protecting their temples and sharing with others the joy of Namo Amida Butsu. Each temple has its challenges and opportunities.

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HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII  
TRIPLE CELEBRATION



## ONLINE BUDDHIST EDUCATION SERIES

What is Mahayana Buddhism? **1** JANUARY 13, 10 AM  
DR. DAVID MATSUMOTO

JANUARY 20, 10 AM  
DR. MATSUMOTO **2** What is Pure Land Buddhism?

Scan to register

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



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As a community of people joined together revering the teaching of Shinran Shonin, let us work toward the realization of a society in which everyone can live a life of spiritual fulfillment.

This year, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii will observe the Triple Celebration at Ala Moana Hotel on September 7-8, 2024. The Triple Celebration commemorates the 850th Anniversary of the Birth of Shinran Shonin, the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teachings, and the 135th Anniversary of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. The Steering Committee is working hard towards the two-day celebration event and its related programs. I would like to invite you all to attend this auspicious anniversary.

Our Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Theme and Slogan for 2024 is “Building Healthy Sanghas: Sharing Nembutsu Moments.” What are the “Nembutsu Moments”? These are the moments when the voice of the Nembutsu, “Namo Amida Butsu,” spontaneously flows from our lips.

The main body of the Sutra on the Buddha of Immeasurable Life explains the Forty-eight Vows of Amida Buddha, who undertook to establish a Pure Land for the enlightenment of all sentient beings. Shinran Shonin regarded that our act of saying “Namo Amida Butsu” is derived wholly from the working of Amida’s Vow. It means that the sound of “Namo Amida Butsu,” the promise Amida Buddha made to embrace and never abandon all beings, is already fulfilled and extended to all beings. It is the calling voice from the Buddha of Immeasurable Light and Life that holds the Buddha’s boundless empathy, concern, and compassion toward all beings. Such a message of universal compassion reaches into our hearts and minds, and flows from our lips spontaneously as “Namo Amida Butsu.”

What we experience in our daily lives could be the opportunities to ascertain and appreciate the truth of Boundless Wisdom and Compassion that embraces our lives. Let us experience, savor, appreciate, and share the Nembutsu moments with our families and friends in our daily lives.

May the sound of the Nembutsu flow from our lips. May the Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha inspire and guide us always. Namo Amida Butsu.

*Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani  
Bishop, Honpa Hongwanji  
Mission of Hawaii*

## *President’s New Year’s Message for 2024*

*Happy New Year! Akemashite  
Omedetou Gozaimasu! Hauoli  
Makahiki Hou!*



I hope that you and your loved ones are healthy and in good spirits as we enter the New Year, 2024. The year 2023 was an eventful one. Many of our Sangha were able to attend the Joint Celebration (Commemoration of the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin’s Birth and the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching) at our Honzan in Kyoto on May 10, 2023. The Joint Celebration program was well organized and meaningful. The 17th World Buddhist Women’s Convention (WBWC) followed on May 11 and 12 at the modern (although 50 years old) Kyoto International Conference Center. These two events were a highlight of the year for those who were able to attend. I will always remember the warm welcome that we received from our hosts at the Honzan and at the World Buddhist Women’s Convention.

Soon after our return from Japan, we said “Mahalo and Aloha” to outgoing Bishop, Rev. Eric Matsumoto, Mrs. Tamayo Matsumoto, Chika and Caden at a luncheon in July. In August we warmly greeted incoming Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani, Mrs. Yoshiko Umitani, and daughters Naho and Riho at a luncheon.

Then, the disastrous Maui Wildfires of August 8, 2023 destroyed the historic town of Lahaina. Our Lahaina Hongwanji Mission, located near the center of the town was not spared. The temple, social hall, and minister’s residence burned to the ground. Only the columbarium appears to have survived the fire. Fortunately, Rev. Ai Hironaka and family along with many other temple members evacuated in time. However, we have learned that one temple member lost his life in that fire. It appears that 2023 will be remembered as the year of the Maui Wildfires and the year that Lahaina Hongwanji was lost to the fire. This was a great loss for Lahaina town and the entire Hawaii Sangha.

However, this was not the end of the story. Community, state and federal agencies rushed into action and are still on the ground in Maui, planning for the future of Lahaina town and helping those displaced by the fire. Maui temple ministers and Sangha have warmly supported Lahaina members displaced by the fire. The Honpa Hongwanji

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community statewide, nationally and internationally has responded with compassionate action in the form of postcards, letters, gifts and generous monetary donations. Like the recent “disaster” that affected us, the COVID-19 pandemic, we learned that we are adaptable and we are resilient. The Lahaina community, and Lahaina Hongwanji Sangha in particular, I believe will respond with grit and determination.

Our theme and slogan for 2024 is “Building Healthy Sanghas: Sharing Nembutsu Moments”. We live with joy and gratitude for Amida’s universal and unconditional compassion for us. Since we are connected with and care for the people around us, we share our Nembutsu moments, so that others may awaken to, and appreciate the Buddha’s limitless Compassion. In this way, we can each contribute to building healthy Sanghas.

*With Gassho,*

*Warren Tamamoto  
President, Honpa Hongwanji  
Mission of Hawaii*

## TEMPLE NEWS

### *Highlights from the November & December JBOD Meetings*

#### **Jikoen Board**

- *Board of Directors* – The slate of nominees for 2024-2025 Jikoen Board of Directors was approved by the board and will be presented for approval at the Annual General Membership Meeting on January 28, 2024.
- *Jikoen Bylaws* – A revision of our bylaws was approved by the board. The new bylaws will be presented at the Annual General Membership Meeting on January 28, 2024 for adoption.
- *Calendar* – The board is finalizing the 2024 calendar of events.

#### **Facilities**

- *Likelike Wall Repair* – The contract for sealing and painting the wall has been sent to the contractor and is under review.
- *Air Conditioning in Hondo* – The large exterior air conditioning unit mounted on the Likelike wall is in good working condition and was moved to the makai side. The smaller unit serving the altar area was not in good working condition and was discarded. When

deemed necessary a replacement unit will be installed.

- *Cooling Social Hall* – Investigating the viability of using large ceiling fans to help cool the social hall.
- *AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) Kit* – The board approved the purchase and mounting of two AED kits, but because of high cost, only one kit with the maintenance and training package will be purchased.
- *Water Main Break* – On December 15, 2023 a 16-inch water main break caused considerable damage to Jikoen’s asphalt and flooded the social hall. We are working with the Board of Water Supply and our insurance carrier to have repairs made so we can operate normally. The annual temple cleanup and holiday cookie activities were cancelled.

#### **Social Concerns**

- *Red Hill Water Kokua Drive* – Jikoen generously donated \$240 to purchase water for families still impacted by contaminated water due to the Red Hill fuel tank leaks. Pete Doktor assisted in the distribution of water on December 16, 2023.

#### **Events**

- *Annual General Membership Meeting and Shinnen Enkai* – The Annual General Membership Meeting and Shinnen Enkai will be held on January 28, 2024. We hope to see most of our members as we celebrate the New Year.
- *Nabeya Maido Fundraiser* – The board approved using Nabeya Maido for our February 2024 fundraiser. This fundraiser features microwavable ramen or udon.
- *2024 Giseikai Legislative Assembly* – The next Giseikai will be held on February 9 and 10, 2024. The Aloha Luncheon/Living Treasures Recognition will follow on Saturday.
- *2024 HHMH Triple Celebration and 2024 Lay Convention* – Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii hosts the Triple Celebration on September 7-8, 2024. Part of the celebration is the monthly Online Buddhist Education Series. The first two educational workshops will feature Dr. David Matsumoto on January 13 & 20, 2024, both starting at 10 a.m. See flyer for registration and other scheduled workshops. The 2024 Lay Convention will take place after the Triple Celebration concludes on September 8th.

#### **Lumbini Preschool**

- *60th Anniversary* – Lumbini Preschool will be

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## 2024 GISEIKAI HONPA HONGWANJI 111<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

- **Dates:** February 9 & 10, 2024
- **Place:** Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin
- **DELEGATES:** Rev. Shindo Nishiyama, John Toguchi, Eric Yosemite, Wayne Toma
- **OBSERVERS:** Terry Jean Arakaki, Pete Doktor, Lois Toyama, Pieper Toyama

### ALOHA LUNCHEON AND 49<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LIVING TREASURES OF HAWAI'I RECOGNITION

The Legislative Assembly registration fee includes the Aloha Luncheon & Living Treasures Recognition.

The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii will honor the following individuals in recognition of their personal and professional achievements and their contributions to the community. We welcome you to celebrate this honor with them.

**Julian Ako**, retired teacher and administrator, Kamehameha Schools; Hawaiian music composer and musicologist, leader in the indigenization of curriculum, promoter of international studies and relations, and regenerative tourism

**Douglas Chong**, leader in the Hawai'i Chinese Community, member of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, historian of Chinese in Hawai'i, retired University of Hawai'i Professor

**Sarah Keahi**, leader of the Hawaiian musical renaissance and reviver of Hawaiian language and education; long-time instructor and mentor at Kamehameha Schools

**Davianna Pōmaika'i McGregor**, Professor Emeritus, Ethnic Studies Department; Director Oral History Center, University of Hawai'i; one of the primary leaders of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana; author of seminal book, *Nā Kua'āina: Living Hawaiian Culture*

**Richard "Rick" Trimillos**, Professor Emeritus, Ethnomusicology, University of Hawai'i, perpetuator of Hawai'i's cultural, music, and artistic traditions, international consultant on ethnomusicology

- **Date:** Saturday, February 10, 2024
- **Place:** Hilton Hawaiian Village, Coral Ballroom
- **Time:** 11:00 am Registration  
12:00 pm Lunch & Program
- **Attire:** Aloha
- **Cost:** Early Registration – \$100.00 for payments received by January 21, 2024  
Late Registration – \$150.00 for payments between Jan. 22 - Jan. 28, 2024  
\*Additional fee for payments by credit card
- Reservations will not be accepted after January 28, 2024 or if maximum capacity is reached.
- Sponsor Tables are available: Gold – \$5,000; Silver – \$3,000; Bronze – \$1,500. *Deadline to purchase a Sponsor Table – January 13, 2024.*

Please call the office at (808) 845-3422 or email [jikoen.info@gmail.com](mailto:jikoen.info@gmail.com) if you would like to attend the Living Treasures luncheon.

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celebrating its 60th anniversary in May 2024. Lumbini was established in 1964 by Rev. Yamasato and Mrs. Yamasato. Information will be forthcoming.

### **2023 Keirokai (Respecting Our Revered Aged Ceremony)**

On November 19, 2023, a *Keirokai* was held to celebrate our elders who through their dedication, leadership, volunteerism, and unwavering support have been the backbone of Jikoen Temple for many decades. Each year we recognize our members who are 80 years old and above.

Those who marked milestone birthdays during the year were honored during a recognition ceremony in which Certificates of Appreciation were presented to them by Rev. Shindo Nishiyama and John Toguchi, Kyodan President. *Otanjoubi Omedetou Gozaimasu!* Congratulations and Best Wishes to our members who celebrated red letter birthdays in 2023!

100 Years Old (Momoju)  
Nancy Zukemura

97 Years Old (Kajimaya)  
Janet Ginoza • Hiroshi Kishimoto •  
Shizue Miyasato • Sadako Oshiro

90 Years Old (Sotsuju)  
Elaine Hirashiki • Maurice Nakachi •  
Yasuo Nakasone • Katsuo “Kats” Yamashiro

88 Years Old (Beiju)  
Ryokichi “Rick” Higashionna • Nobuko Kida •  
Jean Sakihara • Aiko Watanabe

80 Years Old (Sanju)  
Cindy Chinen • Judith “Judi” Matsumoto •  
Michael Shiroma • Wayne Toma •  
Arlene Uyeunten

While not all our special honorees could attend, we especially enjoyed seeing **Nancy Zukemura** and her four-generation family continue to celebrate her at our Keirokai. This year marked Nancy’s 100th birthday and she looked pretty as ever and even under a mask, you could feel her radiant smile.

In a nod to our Okinawan culture, Jikoen also celebrates *Kajimaya*, when at 97 years, elders are said to relive their childhood. *Kajimaya* translates to “pinwheel” in Okinawan language, a toy children play with. For **Sadako Oshiro**, who was at Jikoen to celebrate this milestone,

may the pinwheels keep spinning and keep you smiling each day.

In addition to our special year Keirokai guests, Jikoen also recognized our members and guests who are 80 years and above. Special gifts were prepared for those who attended. **Esther Kita** sewed custom gift bags and **Myrtle Hirayama** donated her specialty pens. **June Nakamasu** and **Amy Saito** donated a variety of gift items and snacks to fill the bags and prepared mini floral bouquets. Thank you, ladies.

As a departure from our previous Keirokai programs, we turned to our younger family members to actively assist in various capacities this year. For starters, **Mirei Ogata** was co-emcee (with **Pete Doktor**) for the program. If you were there, you saw our youngsters helping with set up, greeting guests, presenting gifts, assisting our kupuna through the buffet line, cleaning up, etc. A big mahalo to

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### **WHITE WAY RADIO**

Mō‘ili‘ili Hongwanji's Weekly  
Dharma Message

✦ **Saturdays at 7:45 am – 8:00 am on  
KZOO AM1210 or Spectrum 888 KZOO  
Radio**

✦ Weekly messages go to  
[www.moililihongwanji.org](http://www.moililihongwanji.org)

#### **January 2024**

- **06 Gomonshu Kojun Ohtani & Bishop  
Toshiyuki Umitani**
- **13 Dr. Warren Tamamoto**
- **20 Rev. Eric Matsumoto**
- **27 Rev. Bert Sumikawa**

✦ 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 Hawai‘i Betsuin and are  
archived on their website

✦ Your donation to Mō‘ili‘ili Hongwanji  
will be greatly appreciated to  
help support the White Way Radio  
broadcasts.



## 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 usually held on the first Sunday of each month at 9:00 a.m., 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.

*Here are our loved ones who will be remembered in the month of February, 2024:*

Kiyu Arakaki - February 20, 1990 (89)  
 Stanley Kenso Arakaki - February 2, 2023 (95)  
 Archie Atsushi Fujitani - February 11, 2019 (94)  
 Toshio "Lefty" Goya - February 11, 2017 (83)  
 Fumiko Higa - February 10, 2010 (91)  
 George Sanjiro Higa - February 26, 1990 (75)  
 Jean Hatsue Higa - February 1, 2020 (94)  
 Kikue Higa - February 10, 2020 (97)  
 Matsumori Higa - February 17, 2013 (97)  
 Nancy T. Higa - February 14, 2015 (80)  
 Norman Masaji Higa - February 17, 2023 (83)  
 Shizue Higa - February 1, 2011 (91)  
 Rev. Sandra Hiramatsu - February 19, 2022 (71)  
 Chiyoko Shimabukuro Ige - February 25, 2008 (91)  
 Richard Shoichi Ikei - February 15, 2010 (91)  
 Seikin Inamine - February 14, 2010 (88)  
 Kenneth Kiyoshi Ishikawa - February 14, 1995 (51)  
 Otoyo Izumikawa - February 22, 1998 (86)  
 Mitsuo Kamisato - February 19, 1999 (81)  
 Haruko Kaneshiro - February 1, 2015 (97)  
 Lorraine Tsuruko Kaneshiro - February 23, 2010 (87)  
 Masako Kaneshiro - February 12, 2008 (95)  
 Masaru "Kane" Kaneshiro - February 19, 2007 (83)  
 Thomas Sanjiro Kaneshiro - February 4, 1995 (74)  
 Richard Hideo Kaneshiro - February 10, 2018 (87)  
 Kiyono Fuchigami Kawabata - February 15, 2015 (91)  
 Milton Kunio Kikuchi - February 10, 2022  
 Etsuko Kishaba - February 23, 2007 (69)  
 George Kishimoto - February 3, 2013 (89)  
 Tsurue Sally Kiyuna - February 17, 2021 (94)  
 Nobuko Ruth Kobashigawa - February 4, 2016 (92)  
 Tatsuyuki Maeshiro - February 2, 2003 (81)  
 Tomiko "Tomi" Masaki - February 2, 2018 (83)  
 Matsuko Matsumoto - February 27, 2023 (94)  
 Helene J. Minehira - February 27, 2020 (94)  
 Ethel Tokiko Minei - February 13, 2014 (94)  
 Kameko "Violet" Miyahira - February 1, 2015 (100)  
 Claudia Arakaki Miyamoto - February 7, 2017 (79)  
 Dr. Albert H. Miyasato - February 24, 2006 (80)  
 Dennis Kazuo Miyasato - February 16, 2011 (66)

Fumiko Miyasato - February 5, 1999 (74)  
 Kenneth Yukio Miyasato - February 24, 2010 (36)  
 Gensho Miyashiro - February 1, 2015 (102)  
 Mrs. Miyoko Miyashiro - February 21, 2014 (87)  
 Tsuruko Miyashiro February 9, 2003 (84)  
 Momose Janet Moribe - February 4, 2011 (87)  
 Kosei Nagamine - February 14, 1999 (83)  
 Kamado Nakamura - February 26, 1995 (94)  
 Masue Nakamura - February 19, 1995 (77)  
 Kalen Akio Nakasato - February 25, 2003 (27)  
 Fuji Nakasato - February 5, 1995 (81)  
 Matsuro Nakasone - February 7, 1995 (91)  
 Usako Nakata - February 10, 2016 (97)  
 Kamewa Nagamine - February 18, 2006 (87)  
 Ayano Nishimiya - February 22, 2001 (76)  
 Richard Shintaro Nishimiya - February 22, 1995 (70)  
 Fusae Oshiro - February 15, 1990 (64)  
 Guy Itsuo Oshiro - February 7, 1999 (42)  
 Katsuo "Kats" Oshiro - February 7, 2007 (77)  
 Olga Ochiyo Oshiro - February 28, 2005 (89)  
 Tokuichi Oshiro - February 8, 1990 (68)  
 Mrs. Sonoko Sakai - February 2, 2014 (76)  
 Kenneth Tamotsu Sakamoto - February 6, 2014 (68)  
 Seijiro Sakihara - February 15, 1998 (75)  
 Hirosuke Shimabukuro - February 1, 2003 (85)  
 Larry Eikichi Shimabukuro - February 17, 1991 (72)  
 Matsuichi "Mutt" Shimabukuro - February 5, 1998 (77)  
 Francis Haruo Taketa - February 19, 2010 (75)  
 Susan A. Tamashiro - February 15, 2016 (61)  
 Minoru Tamashiro - February 15, 2010 (88)  
 Yasuko Tamayori - February 28, 2002 (76)  
 Dennis Sunao Tamayose - February 26, 2006 (52)  
 George H. Tanahara - February 28, 2014 (75)  
 Shizuka Teruya - February 25, 1995 (75)  
 Utomi Teruya - February 14, 1995 (93)  
 Victoria Futae Toguchi - February 25, 2003 (57)  
 Yoshiko Tokeshi - February 10, 2018 (93)  
 Seitoku "Stanley" Tokuda - February 1, 1998 (74)  
 Kamei Toyama - February 27, 1991 (76)  
 Ernest Tatsuo Tsumuro - February 21, 2007(75)  
 Stanley Hiroshi Ueunten - February 23, 2023 (86)  
 Edward Matsuji Uyesato - February 21, 2005 (78)  
 Elmo Eimo Yamaguchi - February 21, 2006 (86)  
 John Hisa Yamaguchi - February 20, 2021 (95)  
 Martin Yeimatsu Yamaguchi - February 22, 2005 (66)  
 Haruko Yamashiro - February 25, 2010 (84)  
 Lois Kiyomi Yasui - February 25, 2010 (68)  
 Yoshie Yasui - February 17, 2016 (96)  
 Shinho Yogi - February 16, 2007 (99)

*(continued on page 10)*

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Haruko Yonashiro ~ February 6, 2016 (93)  
Hiroshi Yoshida ~ February 19, 2007 (86)  
Tomiko Yoza ~ February 7, 2018 (97)  
Ethel Kiyoko Zahi ~ February 16, 1996 (82)

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 NOVEMBER 14, 2023 THRU DECEMBER 18, 2023**

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

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**Keirokai (\$300 - \$499)**

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

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**85th Anniversary (\$1 - \$99)**

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**General Operations (\$500 - \$599)**

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IMO Clara Kikuye Irei  
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**85th Anniversary (\$100 - \$299)**

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**General Operations (\$700 - \$799)**

Hui O Lailima  
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**Bodhi Day (\$1 - \$99)**

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**Okinawa Nenchoa Club**

**Bodhi Day (\$100 - \$299)**

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**85th Anniversary (\$300 - \$499)**

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IMO Hiroko & Nae  
Higashionna  
-----

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

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**85th Anniversary (\$500 - \$599)**

Windward Buddhist Temple  
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**Keirokai (\$100 - \$299)**

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HOCA  
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**Keirokai/85th Anniversary (\$1 - \$99)**

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**Keirokai/85th Anniversary (\$100 - \$299)**

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IMO Yasutake & Haruko Higa

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December Shotsuki  
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December Shotsuki  
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**Keirokai/85th Anniversary (\$300 - \$499)**

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IMO Mildred K. Kiyama  
(Shotsuki)

**Cha Cha Cha Event (\$1 - \$99)**

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

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IMO Bill Isa (Shotsuki)  
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Newsletter  
-----  
IMO Dora Nishihara  
-----  
IMO Edwin & Janet Ogasawara  
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**Cha Cha Cha Event (\$100 - \$499)**

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IMO Takefumi & Irene Otsuru  
Taba Omine

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

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

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IMO Melvin Naoya Kaneshiro  
(Shotsuki)  
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IMO Melvin Naoya Kaneshiro  
(Shotsuki)

**Social Concerns (\$100 - \$499)**

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**Offertory**  
11/19/2023 Service .....\$469.00  
Keirokai & 85th Anniversary  
Service  
11/29/2023 Service .....\$94.00  
12/10/2023 Service .....\$258.00  
Bodhi Day Service

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

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Dharma School  
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December Shotsuki  
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IMO Jean Kawakami (Shotsuki)  
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Thank you for your  
generous support!  
有難うございます

(continued from page 8)

our young and very energetic Kokua Team: **Reio Doktor, Suki and Ren Hong, Camden and Kaytlin Nakamura, Kingston Nicol, Reina and Nami Ogata.**

Since our Keirokai this year coincided with Jikoen's 85th Anniversary Service, official guests, and some Windward Buddhist Temple (Passport Visitors) members were also at the brunch. Kudos to **Dorene and Jimmy Toma** and **June Nakamasu** for making sure enough food was ordered/prepared for such a large group. The kitchen crew — **Jimmy and Dorene, and Bill and Sylvia Gushi** — were kept busy throughout. Those helping with food serving at the buffet and dessert stations: **Esther and Earl Kita, Monique Yuen, JoAnn Yosemite and Grant Ito, Terry Jean "TJ" Arakaki, Chase Urasaki, Zina Nagamine, Sandy Toma, Jean Oshiro.** We also thank them for packing bento-to-go for members to enjoy. Our dessert station was a big hit with an assortment of onolicious goodies prepared by **Sylvia, John Toguchi, Esther, Shari-Lee Asato, Arlene Asato, TJ, and JoAnn.**

Entertainment this year was provided by our own Okinawan dance performers. **Sensei Keith Oshiro** opened the program with a traditional celebratory dance. **Ann Moribe** and daughters **Marcie and Kaycie** performed lively numbers. The Hawaii Okinawa Creative Arts (HOCA) group entertained with energetic shishimai performances by youthful members ranging in age from tots through teenagers. Director **Jon Itomura's** narrative about various shiisa origins and Hawaii's adaptations was most informative. Other HOCA musicians joined in the festive program. **Mirei Ogata** played Ghibli music on the flute. The program ended with the joyous kachaashi as many got up to dance around the hall, bringing the Keirokai to a cheerful close.

Behind the scenes, were still other volunteers who we wanted to recognize. **Eric Yosemite, Allen Zukemura, Wayne Toma, Kevin Nicol and Roy Tamayori** who assisted with traffic/parking, and elevator lift operations. **Robyn Nicol and Ai Ogata** for help in reception area. Our Telephone Call Tree — **Sandy Toma, Judy Muramoto, Jean Oshiro** — for reaching out to our members. An event of this scale could not happen without our members' help, and we apologize if we missed acknowledging you.

We also extend a special thank you to former Hawaii Hochi photographer **Wayne Shinbara** for being there to capture precious moments. Appreciation also goes out to those who made generous donations for this occasion. Those who jumped in to help with clean up, big big mahalo! Last but not least,

we thank **Rev. and Mrs. Nishiyama, John Toguchi, and Doris Oshiro** (past Kyodan president) for their guidance in putting on this event.

We hope each of you who attended was pleased to be at Jikoen again and meet up with friends unseen in a long while. It was a treat to glance around the colorful room and see the smiling faces of young and old, eating ono food, engaging in conversations, enjoying the entertainment — all basked in the spirit of aloha. Jikoen is truly a gathering place.

As one of our honored members was leaving, she stopped to express thanks to everyone for their hard work. Reflecting on that, she was met with this response: "We are only trying to do what you have been doing all these years. We are only catching up with what you have taught us by example. It is we who thank you and all our elders for showing us the way!"

Each of us is probably at Jikoen because of some link from the past – a parent, grandparent, or great grandparent, a relative or friend, someone who influenced our life — a respected elder who was associated with Jikoen. Let us not forget that. *Namo Amida Butsu.*

### *Jikoen Hongwanji Mission's 85th Anniversary*

Many of us don't remember the first Jikoen on Houghtaling Street. It closely resembled the now destroyed Lahaina Hongwanji.

Between 1900 and 1924 about 25,000 Okinawan men,

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women and children emigrated to Hawaii, starting new lives in plantation communities throughout the state.

Reverend Chiro Yosemite, a minister at Waipahu Hongwanji saw the need to provide spiritual support for the Okinawan immigrants many of whom had little background in Buddhist teachings. Reverend Yosemite was transferred to the Hawaii Betsuin and began to regularly meet at private homes.

One of which was the Miyasato family home in Palama. The Miyasato family members would become lay leaders at Jikoen and the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii.

As the Buddhist following grew, there was enthusiasm to have our own temple to receive Jodo Shinshu teachings. This would also be a place for Okinawans to gather to support each other and perpetuate their culture.

With support of the Hawaii Betsuin Kyodan, a temple was constructed and dedicated in September 1938 at 942 Houghtaling Street. To save cost, member and designer/contractor Jiro Higa was asked to follow the same plans as Lahaina Hongwanji.

JIKOEN, "Garden of the Compassionate Light and

Wisdom of Amida Buddha," was carefully chosen for this new temple that would be open to members from all over the island.

Throughout Jikoen's existence, a strong foundation was built and maintained by our resident ministers. Reverend Nishiyama kept our sangha strong and together since being welcomed to Jikoen in 2005.

Jikoen celebrated its 85th Anniversary in 2023. The celebration was combined with our annual Keirokai event that honors members' 80th, 88th, 90th, 97th, 99th and 100th birthdays.

We were joined by special guests Hawaii Betsuin Rimban, **Reverend Yuika Hasebe**, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii President, **Dr. Warren Tamamoto** and the Honolulu District Presidents **Wayne Yoshioka** (Hawaii Betsuin), **Joanne Kealoha** (Moiiliili Hongwanji) and **Dennis Tashiro** (Windward Buddhist Temple). A strong contingent from Windward Buddhist Temple sangha also joined us for our service and celebration.

It was truly a Jikoen style celebration when everyone was asked to end the event with *Kachashi*.

*JIKOEN IS FULLY OPEN AND READY TO WELCOME EVERYONE BACK! MENSORE! CHIBARIYO!*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Jikoen Hongwanji Mission  
1731 N. School Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819-4157

Non-profit Organization  
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Honolulu, Hawaii



# HALLOWEEN COSTUME CONTEST



OCTOBER 29, 2023



Participants Under 19



Participants Over 18

## MOST CREATIVE

## MOST FUNNY

## MOST SCARY



Reio Doktor



Suki Hong



Mirei Ogata



Roy Higa



Jean Oshiro



Monique & Pete  
Doktor

# ONLINE WINNERS



**Myrtle  
Hirayama**



**Maya  
Crawford's Cat**



**Claire  
Uehara**

## MORE COSTUMES



**Pieper & Lois  
Toyama**



**Reverend &  
Suzue Nishiyama**



**Terry Arakaki  
Jean Oshiro**



**Barbara  
Higa**



# Jikoen Keirokai November 19, 2023



**Wayne Toma**



**Nancy Zukemura**



**Dr. Rick Higashionna**



**Sadako Oshiro**



**Kats Yamashiro**



**Nobuko Kida  
Sensei**

# Talented Jikoen Members



**MCs Pete Doktor & Mirei Ogata**



**Keith Oshiro**



**Marcie, Kacie, & Ann Moribe**



**Mirei Ogata**



# Jon Itomura and HOCA



## Kachashi Dancing!

## Jikoen 85th Anniversary Celebration



▲ Guests and volunteers gathered in the Jikoen courtyard lawn after the 85th Anniversary Celebration and Keirokai on November 19, 2023. *(photo by Wayne Shinbara, Hawaii Hochi/Hawaii Herald)*

▼ Jikoen Hongwanji as it stood 85 years ago in its original location on Houghtailing Street before moving to its current location in 1964.





◀ "Kajadifu" performed by Keith Oshiro Sensei



▶ Keirokai gift bags



◀ Shishimai (lion dance) performed by HOCA



▶ Centenarian – Mrs. Nancy Zukemura with June Nakamasu and Dorene Toma



▶ Kachashi performed by all to close the event

(photos by Wayne Shinbara, Hawaii Hochi/Hawaii Herald)