



WAIPAHU HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE
(A Shin Buddhist Temple)

GOLDEN CHAIN

Monthly Newsletter

MAY 2022

Building Healthy Sanghas: Connecting with Others.



JODO SHINSHU, Teaching of Pure Land “Amida Buddha’s Vow #9 05/2022 Reverend Jeffrey Soga, resident minister

This month, May 21, will be a birthday for Shinran Shonin, a founder of Hongwanji. He will be 849 years old. Hongwanji in Kyoto, Japan, our mother temple, will celebrate 850 years birthday next year.

These past three months, I wrote a somewhat heavy story, about hell. Therefore, I’d like to write a bright thing this month. I’d like to share about Amida Buddha’s 3rd Vow.

“If, when I attain Buddhahood, the humans and devas in my land should not all be the color of genuine gold, may I not attain the perfect enlightenment.”

My understanding is that:

Amida wishes that if we were born into Amida’s pure land, we would all be golden Buddhas. Next time you visit Waipahu Hongwanji Temple, please look at the altar. Amida and his surroundings are a shining gold color. When I look up at the altar, I remember Amida’s third Vow.

Amida is hoping that everyone will be all sparkly. Do you live a glittering life? Amida Buddha is wishing all of us have a shining life. Are you living everyday with a shining, fulfilled, meaningful life?

In the world where we live, men and women all have different faces, speak various words, and various people live together. Some people like natto, some people don't like it, some people like sweets, people who prefer salty things, some people are hot and cold, and all those people live together. That's why it's a wonderful world if everyone likes each other, respects each other, and lives together to pray for each other's treatment. However, it does not come as thought so. As the phrase "harassment" these days suggests, such as gender discrimination, racism, and religious differences, the person who is hurting is not aware of the heartache of the person who is hurting and distinguishes it from the good, bad, or useless person by their own measures. It can't stay away from suffering, anxiety, sadness and pain no matter how far it goes.

(Continued to Page 2)

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR 2022

1st (2021)

May 2 Takashi Tateyama

3rd (2020)

May 9 Gary Toshiyuki Toguchi
 May 13 James Satoru Sakata
 May 18 May Yoshiko Oba
 May 27 Clyde Hatsuji Tsukayama

7th (2016)

None

13th (2010)

May 6 Teruo Kimura Stanley

17th (2006)

May 17 Kimiyo Yasui
 May 19 Todd Akihiro Watanabe

25th (1998)

May 10 Shonosuke Takayama

33rd (1990)

None

50th (1973)

None

1st (2021)

June 9 Neal Mitsuo Okada
 June 12 Barbara Mitsue Duarte

3rd (2020)

June 25 Masako Kawamoto

7th (2016)

None

13th (2010)

June 19 Harriet Yaeko Asato
 June 22 Betsy Takayo Kochi

17th (2006)

None

25th (1998)

none

33rd (1990)

June 12 Tatsuo Maeda
 June 14 Kiyome Tanaka
 June 29 Leo Hiroshi Matsumura

50th (1973)

June 12 Tsuru Kamisato
 June 30 Taru Nashiro

(Jodo Shinshu, From Page 1)

What does it mean to shine brightly? This Amida's third wish is that if we were able to go to the Pure Land that Amida had requested, it would be a world where everyone would recognize and praise each other. There are various people, there are various ideas, there are various ways of life, and it may be inconvenient for me. However, there is such a wonderful world where we can understand and recognize each other. We are hoping for a world where everyone shines together.

Perhaps Amida was able to see many people and the world during his training, where people separated good and bad, discriminated against, hurt, and afflicted people with their values. And all that comes to my world is fulfilled in a world of such a feeling that shines in gold and each other can praise each other. I am doing a Nembutsu while thinking about that.

In gassho,



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Evan Watarida, President of Waipahu Hongwanji

Thank you to everyone for supporting the temple through the challenges of the past 2 years. As things are starting to go back to normal, plans are in the works and we look forward to resuming our temple activities and seeing familiar faces once again.

Here are some of the things that are coming up to look forward to:

On Saturday June 4th, we are planning an Ohana Day family event with music activities and games for the children. Details are still being finalized and an announcement will come out soon. On the same day, we are intending to have a small bazaar in the social hall. We have a lot of items accumulated that we couldn't sell the past two years and we need room for Obon. For now, please hold off on dropping off items at this time as we want to clear out what we have. You will still have an opportunity later in the year to drop off stuff if we have another bazaar.

On Sunday June 5th we will be having a baccalaureate service for graduating seniors. If you have a high school or college senior, please let Rev. Soga know so we can send a formal invitation and recognize them for a great achievement.

On Saturday July 9th, we'll be having our bon dance after a two-year hiatus. Hooray! It will be in-person and open to the public with live music and food. Event planning is currently ongoing.

With these events, we will be in need of volunteers. The ending of April was Hawaii Volunteer Week. So, in the spirit of dana, if you are able to assist in the following ways, please email or call the temple. Detailed times will come out later.

Bazaar - June 4

- 1) Sorting and pricing of items (in the weeks leading up to event)
- 2) Cashiers and floor monitors for that day
- 3) Baked goods to sell

Bon Dance – July 9

Set-up of yagura, lighting, tents, sounds, etc.
Concession servers, runners, and cashiers
Clean up

Food preparation / cooks
Parking attendants

We are grateful for the support of all our members and volunteers. We could not carry on without the hard-working Sangha. And we look forward to seeing familiar faces once again in fellowship.

In Gassho,

WAIPAHU HONGWANJI NEWS

April Activities



Photos from left:

1. Okada family gathered at Hanamatsuri Service.
2. Waipahu Hongwanji joined Hawaii Buddhist Council Hanamatsuri by zoom.
3. Beautiful Flower Arrangement at Culture Class
4. Mrs. Emiko Serikaku received IN GO (Posthumous Title) by Bishop Matsumoto. Reverend Jeff passing it to Mr. George Serikaku on Saturday, April 9 at Waipahu Hongwanji.

MEDITATION CLASS (New Event)

The first Thursday of each month, Reverend Jeff will conduct class. Please arrive about 6:45 a.m. please come to main temple 7 a.m. class starts.

Wear loose, comfortable clothes.

Please call Waipahu Hongwanji if you plan to attend.

Culture Class

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

10 a.m.

Introduction of TAKOYAKI

By Reverend Jeff

Please call to Waipahu Hongwanji
(808) 6774221 by May 10 if you attend .

FUJINKAI (B. W. A.) News

ESHIN NI SAMA SERVICE & MOTHER'S DAY SERVICE

May 8, Sunday, 2022, 9 a.m.



Eshin-ni-sama was the wife of Shinran Shonin. Buddhist Women's Association pay respect and dedicate to Eshin-ni-sama annually.

Mrs. Yoshiko Umitani will be the guest speaker for this year's service. All BWA members are requested to join the service and also, all male members are requested to join the service to celebrate Mother's Day. Waipahu Hongwanji men under the leadership of Mr. Francis Uyeno will provide special brunch after the service.

Mrs. Yoshiko Umitani

Born and raised in Hongwanji Temple family, Nagoya, Aichi, Japan.

She married Reverend Umitani who is currently resident minister at Moiliili Hongwanji and came to Hawaii 2003.

Bachelor's degree: English and International Relations from Kyoto Sangyo University

Master's degree: International Development from Nagoya University

Shin Buddhist Correspondence Course from Central Buddhist Institute in Kyoto

Project Dana Caregiver Support Program was resting for past two years due to pandemic. However, from next month, they will resume in person class at Waipahu Hongwanji. This article was submitted by Maria Morales. Please attend the important class on May 14, Saturday, 2022, start at 9:30 a.m.

In-Person Caregiver Education and Support Group Returns **By Maria Morales, CGSG Coordinator**

More than two years have passed since the pandemic started. Project Dana's "Caring for the Caregiver" Support Group (CGSG) program continued to support family caregivers in our community by transitioning delivery of services virtually, online, and over the phone. Caregivers received education on various topics related to caregiving and aging by joining group meetings online through Zoom. Meanwhile, caregivers that needed counseling support and caregiver training received services over the phone or met with staff through Zoom.

The emotional, psychological, and physical burdens from caregiving are exacerbated by social isolation and loss of formal and informal support. With the updated mandates from the State of Hawai'i, businesses restarted operations and permitted group gathering outdoors. Project Dana arranged outings to give caregivers opportunities to socialize safely with their peers. For example, participants in the program enjoyed a walk through a botanical garden, visits at the Zoo, and drive-in holiday gatherings.

Project Dana is especially grateful we were able to continually support family caregivers through this pandemic. However, the Project also recognizes that there are limitations to virtual and remote delivery of services. Caregivers who lacked technology and capability to access services through these methods were at higher risk to stress and burden.

With information and knowledge to guide us in preventing the spread of Covid-19, Project Dana is returning in-person caregiver group meetings and counseling services. Meetings every second Saturday of the month from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm will return at Waipahu Hongwanji Buddhist Temple. The first meeting is May 14, 2022. Join us! Learn about "Health Management Strategies and Advocating for your Loved One" from our speaker Joni Kamiya, OT. Please contact Maria Morales if you would like to attend group meetings or need more information about the CGSG program. Call (808)979-5365 or email cgsg@projectdana.org.

2022 Baccalaureate Service and Celebration

Date and time: Sunday, June 5, 2022, 9 a.m.

Guest Speaker: Cedric S F Lorenzo, MD, FACS

Associate Professor of Surgery, Medical Director, Minimally Invasive & Bariatric Surgery
The University of Hawaii Department of Surgery & The Queens Medical Center

Waipahu Hongwanji is planning to congratulate students who are graduating from high school or college this year. If you know of someone who is graduating and they wish to be recognized, please let Reverend Jeff know by May 15.

SPECIAL DONATION

Fujita Family ... \$300
Funeral for Susumu Fujita

Mildred Ichinose ... \$200
In memory of Meuki Amaral

Caran Iwata ... \$100
In memory of Stan Lagapa

Gary & Ruth Panee ... \$20
Funeral for Takeo Tanouye

Fumiyo Sakata ... \$350
In memory of Kenji Sakata

Craig & Christi Tadaki ... \$100
In memory of Janet Sato

Cynthia Tanouye ... \$1,000
Funeral for Takeo Tanouye

Peggy Tsukida ... \$100
In memory of Hideko Nancy Oshiro

Lynne Yoshimura ... \$250
Special

Musashi International ... \$300
Special

Ann & James Fukui ... \$100
In memory of Kenji Sakata

Kono Family ... \$200
In memory of Miyano & Takumi Kono

Lisa Okada & Family... \$500
In memory of Neal Okada & Miles Okada

Joseph & Joleen Panee ... \$1,000
Funeral for Takeo Tanouye

Serikaku Family ... \$100
Funeral for Emiko Serikaku

Takara family ... \$100
In memory of Michiko Takara

Lilly Tokuhara ... \$100
In memory of Taro Takushi

Yoshida Family ... \$300
In memory of Francis Yoshida

No name on envelope ... \$100
No name on envelope ... \$100
In memory of Kenji Sakata

SPRING OHIGAN

Thomas & Sachie Kaneshiro, Adrian & Gale Koizumi, Emiko Onaga,
Henry & Gladys Oshiro, Jo Ann Oshiro, S. Sano, Craig & Christi Tadaki, Craig & Megumi
Uyeno, Janet Yoshida

Membership

2022:

Harada, Doreen
Kon, M/M Charles
Tanaka, Jane

Ikeda, Charlene
Onaga, Emiko
Tanouye, Vanassa

Ikeda-Lee, Kathleen
Otsuka, M/M Clarence
Ujimori, M/M Guy

Nii, Fumiko
Sasaki, Yoshito
Yamauchi, Glenn

浄土真宗の教え 2022年4月 「阿弥陀様の願い その 9」

駐在開教使 曾我大円

5月となります。5月21日は親鸞聖人のお誕生日です。今年で849歳になられます。来年は850歳のお誕生日のお祝いが京都本願寺でお勤めされます。おめでたく有り難いことです。

今年に入って地獄の重い話が続きましたので、今月は明るい話を書きます。阿弥陀様の三番目の願いには次のようにあります。

設我得仏 国中人天 不悉真金色者 不取正覚

たとひ 我仏を得たらんに 国中の人天 ことごとく真金色ならずは 正覚を取らじ

(意識) 私が仏と成るとき 私の国の人たちが皆金色に輝かなければ 私には覚りをひらけません。

阿弥陀様のお浄土に生まれたならば、私たちは皆金色に輝く仏様にならせていただくのだよ、と阿弥陀様は願って下さっています。今度ワイパフ本願寺にお参りされる時、仏様のお姿をみて下さい。阿弥陀様とその周りは金色にキラキラ輝いています。このお姿を見上げる時、この阿弥陀様の三番目の願いを思いだすのです。

阿弥陀様は「皆キラキラするんだよ」と願っていてくださるのです。皆さんはキラキラ輝く人生を生きておられますか。

私たちが生きている世界は、男とか女とか、みんな違う顔をして、いろんな言葉を話して、さまざまな人が一緒に暮らしています。納豆が好きな人もいれば嫌いな人もいる、甘いものが好きな人もいれば塩辛い方がいいという人、暑がりな人もいれば寒がりの人がいる、そんな人たちが皆一緒に生きているのです。だからこそ、そんな人たちが皆理解し合い、それぞれがそれぞれを敬い、共に譲り合ってお互いの仕合わせを願って生きていければ素晴らしい世界なのです。だけどそう思うようには参りません。未だに男女差別、人種差別、宗教の違いなど、最近流行りのハラスメントという言葉が示すように、傷つけている人は傷つけられている人の心の痛みを知らず、自分の物差しで良い人、悪い人、または役に立つ人、立たない人と分別しているのです。それはどこまで行っても苦しみ、不安、悲しみ、痛みから離れることはできません。

キラキラ輝くとはどういうことでしょうか。この阿弥陀様の三番目の願いは、私たちが阿弥陀様の願われたお浄土にゆくことが出来たならば、皆がお互いを認め合い、讃えあう世界、ということです。いろんな人がいて、いろんな考えがあり、いろんな生き方があり、それが自分に都合の悪いことがあるかも知れません。しかし、それをお互い理解し、認めあっていくことのできる、そんな素晴らしい世界があるのです。皆が一緒にキラキラ輝く世界が願われてあるのです。

多分、阿弥陀様はご修行中に、人々が良し悪しを分別し、その人の価値観で人を差別し、傷つけ、苦しめる、そんな人や世界を沢山見られたのでしょうね。そして私の世界に来たるものは、全て金色に輝き、お互いが讃えあうことの出来る、そんな覚りの世界にすると成就してくださっているのです。そのことを思いながらお念仏させていただいております。 合 掌

Introducing

★ Waipahu Hongwanji Buddhist Temple's Inaugural Summer Ohana Day Festival

*★ Saturday, June 4, 2022
8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.*

Free Admission



Festivities will include:

*Children's music performances,
Karaoke, Games, Rummage sale, Crafts,
Food (Japanese curry, cone sushi, noodles, hot dog,
spam musubi, and more), baked confectionery,
shave ice)*

Waipahu Hongwanji Buddhist Temple
94-821 Kuhaulua Street
Waipahu, HI 96797
(808) 677-4221
Email: waipahuhongwanji@hawaii.rr.com

**** Masks are highly recommended*

*Donations are welcome and will be greatly appreciated.
Rice, Spam (25% less salt), Monetary donations*

*Sorry, we are not accepting items for the rummage sale
at this time.*

*See you
there!*



Waipahu Hongwanji Mission

94-821 Kuhaulua Street

Waipahu, HI 96797

Phone: 808 677-4221

E-mail: waipahuhongwanji@hawaii.rr.com

Resident Minister: Reverend Jeffrey D. Soga

Non Profit Organization

U. S. POSTAGE

P A I D

Permit No. 5

Waipahu, Hawaii

Address Correction Requested**Condolence:**

Waipahu Hongwanji extends deepest sympathy to the families of

Susumu Fujita
Emi Serikaku

***** *** ***** *** *****

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Every Sunday: 9 a.m. Family Service
All are welcome.

Every Thursday: 9 a.m. Kokua Day

Saturdays , 8:30 a.m. Hosha Day

1st and 3rd Thursday: 12:30 p.m.
Karaoke Club Everyone welcome

1st Sunday: after the Family Service
Bon Dance Exercise in Social Hall

1st Thursday: 7 a.m.
Meditation Class Everyone welcome

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Eshinni Sama and Mother's Day Service
May 8, Sunday, 2022, 9 a.m.

Speaker: Mrs. Yoshiko Umitani

Brunch will be served by Waipahu
Hongwanji men after the service.

GOTAN E, Shinran Shonin's birthday
May 15, Sunday, 2022, 9 a.m.

Baccalaureate Service
June 5, Sunday, 2022 9 a.m.
Speaker: Cedric S F Lorenzo, MD, FACS

Culture Class
Tuesday, May 10, 2022, 10 a.m.
Introduction of TAKOYAKI
by Reverend Jeff
Please call to Waipahu Hongwanji (808)
6774221 by May 7 if you attend.

Fujinkai BWA Meeting
May 22, Sunday after the Family Service