



WAIPAHU HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE
(A Shin Buddhist Temple)

GOLDEN CHAIN

Monthly Newsletter

JUNE 2022

Building Healthy Sanghas: Connecting with Others.



JODO SHINSHU, Teaching of Pure Land “Amida Buddha’s Vow #10 06/2022 Reverend Jeffrey Soga, resident minister

How time flies! June is coming. It means half of the year is about to pass. How are you all at Waipahu and Waianae Hongwanji Temples?

This time, following on from last month, let us think about Amida-sama's Third 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.

This third vow of Amida-Buddha is that if we can go to the Pure Land that Amida-Buddha wished for, everyone will become a sparkling Buddha, a world where everyone recognizes and praises each other. There are many different people, different ideas, different ways of living, and there may be things that are not convenient for you. However, there is such a wonderful world where we can understand and acknowledge each other. Everyone wants a world that sparkles together.

I'd like to introduce a wonderful poem. This is a poem written by a person named Misuzu Kaneko.

A Little Bird, a Bell, and Me

*Even though I open my arms wide, I still can't fly in the sky at all.
But a little bird who can fly, Can't run on the ground as fast as me.*

*Even though I shake my body, I still can't make a sound as beautiful as a bell,
But that ringing bell, Doesn't know as many songs as me.*

A bell, a little bird, and me, We're all different and all wonderful.

She sees things from different perspectives and sees things with a flexible mind. In this poem, she sees from little bird, small bell, and herself. Each of them are different and wonderful as they are. What about us? Do you sometimes have a self-centered

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MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR 2022

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

1st (2021)

July 14 Masanori Ohara
July 15 Chikashi Saito

3rd (2020)

July 4 Faye Yasuko Sakihara
July 25 Masaaki Nii

7th (2016)

July 24 Derrik Matsumoto

13th (2010)

July 29 Molly Kiyono Yamaguchi
July 31 Ronald Hidemi Shimabukuro

17th (2006)

July 4 Ronald Asaki Kondo

25th (1998)

July 18 Masami Takamoto
July 21 Keith Yoshimi Matsumura
July 30 Setsuyo Miyamoto

33rd (1990)

July 23 Kana Tsukayama

50th (1973)

July 16 Makato Ishihara

(Jodo Shinshu, From Page 1)

perspective, a fixed view that has to be like this? Sometimes, you may get into arguments, complain, or get upset. In such a case, take a breath, take a deep breath, and try to put yourself in the person's shoes and look at things from your own fixed point of view, wondering why the person said such a thing. When there is something painful or frustrating, think that Amida-sama is watching you, and if Shinran-sama is here, what he will say and guide us. Of course, when you take a deep breath, be sure to say Amida-sama's name aloud, "Nanmandabu."

In gassho,



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Evan Watarida, President of Waipahu Hongwanji

Dear Waipahu Sangha,

Speaking of “Sangha”, several weeks ago, Rev. Blayne Higa was a guest speaker on our District Spring Nembutsu Seminar. He spoke on the topic of “Building Sangha Together: Nurturing Dharma Centered Communities.” The Youtube link is here in case you want to view it. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VCyYbDgOpVI>

He spoke on his definition of what a Sangha is and the importance of maintaining a healthy Sangha to benefit the greater good of the community. A Sangha’s purpose needs to have an intent and common values at its center. Otherwise, what is the main purpose of us gathering together? Coming to temple can be for fellowship, but if it’s solely fellowship, then it’s no different than a bunch of friends that hang out or play in a pickle ball club. That is not to say that fellowship is not a major reason to be involved with the temple, it should be. But there’s a much bigger purpose that ties us together.

Rev. Higa described Sangha as a community of “fellow travelers” along the dharma path supporting one another through interconnected relationships. And at the core is compassion and working for the good of the whole community.

Everyone has different reasons why they first came to the temple and why they continue being involved. It may be a family funeral or weekly service. Some came through youth activities like scouting or judo. Maybe their parents dragged them each Sunday. Some came seeking religious answers. But for many people, it is our public events like our upcoming bazaar and bon dance that people first get to experience our church. These are fun activities that bring the community together, members and non-members. It creates an inclusive environment where everyone is welcome and creates fond memories.

However, that’s just the introduction though. What we hope for is that some people want to return and develop relationships over time. And eventually these people come to learn the dharma and become additional Sangha members. And because compassion is the core of the dharma, it is inevitable that we will be attracting like-minded people who care for others.

I am very grateful that our bazaar and bon dance can resume after a two-year absence. And we look forward to all your help, support, and welcoming smiles as we show the Waipahu community how much compassion we have.

In Gassho,

WAIPAHU HONGWANJI NEWS

May Activities



Top from left: Eshin ni sama day, guest speaker Mrs. Umitani, May 8
Thank you for mothers (ladies) who supporting Waipahu Hongwanji, May 8
Takoyaki demonstration at Culture Class, May 10



Waipahu Hongwanji extended appreciation to mothers and ladies on May 8. Thank you Frances Uyeno for coordinating male chefs.
All attendances enjoyed delicious brunch.

Two pictures bottom right:
Waipahu Hongwanji supported Food Bank distribution. Volunteers worked hard in the rain on Friday, May 20.



WAIPAHU HONGWANJI NEWS

June Activities

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

Three graduates will be recognized at the service. Please attend the service and celebrate the future leader for temple, community, and country.

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.

The Ewa Hongwanji Mission will be having a Drive-By Obon

Saturday, June 18, 2022
at 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

If you would like to support their obon, please order bento, fried noodles, andagi, windcatchers and make a donation.
Here's the link to PREORDER:
<https://bit.ly/3bKGt2f>
DEADLINE IS JUNE 5, 2022

Mini Bazaar and Ohana Day Festival

Saturday, June 4, 2022, 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Our Board members have decided to hold a mini bazaar and festival even with the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic situation. We'd like to welcome everyone to attend this activity with your OHANA (family and friends). The committee needs your KOKUA. Your monetary donations are appreciated, and we highly encourage your participation in supporting this festival day. If you are available to help with this event, please contact Kumika Soga (Ohana Day coordinator) 808-677-4221. We'll have children's games, music performances, and lots of food and baked goods. So, let's all enjoy this Ohana Day Festival.

Reminder: Keep our social distance as "Masks are Highly Recommended".

Announcement

OBON CHOCHIN

The display of CHOCHIN tags with the names of loved ones who have passed away will be done in July for Obon.

Please send your donatin per tag:
\$10 for tag

Deadline: June 30, 2022

Please contact Reverend Jeff at (808) 677-4221 by end of June.

SPECIAL DONATION

Cabinatan Family ... \$500
In memory of Jon Tokuhara

Shane & Shari Henderson ... \$300
Special

Ishii & Takemoto Family ... \$200
In memory of Ishii & Takemoto Family

Ruby Kohagura ... \$200
In memory of Toshiko Kohagura

Kon Family ... \$100
Ohana Day

Tsunako Sakata ... \$200
In memory of James Sakata

Helen Tateyama ... \$200
In memory of Takashi Tateyama

Peggy Tsukida ... \$100
In memory of Emiko Serikaku

GOTANE

Milton Fujioka, Marjory & Henry Funasaki, Daniel & Lois Hanaoka, Roy & Dorothy Hirata, Steven & Jan Honda, Edith Ihori, Nancy Inouye, Robert & Margaret Itagaki, Caran Iwata, Yoshito Kamikawa, Thomas & Sachie Kaneshiro, Janet Kaya, Richard & Sue Kodama, Gary Maeda, Wilfred & Mae Matsushige, Kara Mendoza, Flora & Lionel Minemoto, Carol & Anthony Miyasato, Masumi Murakami, Lori Noborikawa, Jenny Nomura, Richard & Hisaye Nomura, Lisa Okada, Emiko Onaga, Joyce & Robert Oshita, Clarence & Edna Otsuka, Jan Ro, Tsunako Sakata, Ann Saruwatari, George Sawa, Annette Sekine, Thomas Sekine, Haruo & Jane Shigeta, Koshin & Megumi Soga, Beatrice Sonoda, Wilma & Calvin Sumida, Craig & Christi Tadaki, Jane Tanaka, Victor & Helene Tanimoto, Barbara Torricer, Robert Tsumoto, Kuniomi & Akemi Uehara, Ellen Ujimori, Guy & Cindy Ujimori, Masao & Yukiko Uyeda, Francis Uyeno, Setsuko Uyeno, Evan & Cristina Watarida, Helen Yonashiro, Janet Yoshida, Shigeru & Eileen Yoshimoto

Membership 2022:

Goto, Laverne	Hayashi, Carrie	Hashimoto, Esther	Koga, Wendell
Kawamoto, M/M Sadao	Tadaki, M/M Craig	Tanouye, Vanessa	

REMINDER

2022 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES \$300

Please send your check PAYABLE TO :

Waipahu Hongwanji Mission

And state: membership dues for 2022

浄土真宗の教え 2022年6月 「阿弥陀様の願い その10」

駐在開教使 曾我大円

6月がやってきます。今年も一年の半分が過ぎようとしています。ワイパフ、ワイアナエ本願寺の皆様いかがお過ごしでしょうか？

この度も先月に続いて、阿弥陀様の三番目の願いについて考えてまいりましょう。

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
(意訳) 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。

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、皆がキラキラ輝く仏様になるということです。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。皆と一緒にキラキラ輝く世界が願われてあるのです。これを阿弥陀様の願われるお浄土と言う世界です。

ここに素晴らしい詩を紹介させていただきます。これは金子みすずさんという方が書かれた詩です。

「私と小鳥と鈴と」 金子 みすず

私が両手をひろげても、お空はちっとも飛べないが、
飛べる小鳥は私のように、地面を速くは走れない。

私がからだをゆすっても、きれいな音は出ないけど、
あの鳴る鈴は私のように、たくさんな唄は知らないよ。

鈴と、小鳥と、それから私、みんなちがって、みんないい。

金子さんは他にも沢山心に残る詩を書いておられます。彼女は色んな目線から、そして柔軟な心を以って物事を見ておられます。この詩でしたら、小鳥の目線、鈴虫の目線、そして私、みんな違うけど、それがいいとお互いを讃えておられるのです。私たちはどうでしょう。時に自分中心の見方、こうでなくてはと凝り固まった物の見方をしていませんか。時々、言い合いになったり、愚痴が出たり、むかつとすることがあったりすることがあるでしょう。そんな時は、一息ついて、深呼吸して、自分の凝り固まったものの見方から、その人がどうしてそんなことを言ったのだらうと、その人の立場になって物を見してみるような努力をしてみてください。辛いこと、イラッとするようなことがある時、ふと阿弥陀様が見ておられるよ、親鸞様だったらなんて言われるだらう、と思ってみてください。もちろん、その深呼吸する時は必ず「なんまんだぶ」と声に出して阿弥陀様の名前をよんでみてください。

合 掌

Waipahu Hongwanji Mission

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Resident Minister: Reverend Jeffrey D. Soga

Non Profit Organization

U. S. POSTAGE

P A I D

Permit No. 5

Waipahu, Hawaii

Address Correction Requested**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
(Masks are recommended)**OHANA DAY and MINI BAZAAR**

June 4, Saturday, 2022

8:30 - 12 noon

Please come to check all activities.

Baccalaureate Service

June 5, Sunday, 2022 9 a.m.

Speaker: Cedric S F Lorenzo, MD, FACS

OBON SERVICE/DANCE

July 9, Saturday

Please support the Waipahu Hongwanji

OBON SERVICE/DANCE

Which will be in person.

(Masks are recommended)

Fujinkai BWA Meeting

June 12 , Sunday after the Family Service

No Culture Class in June and July