



WAIPAHU HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE
(A Shin Buddhist Temple)

GOLDEN CHAIN

Monthly Newsletter

AUGUST 2024

Building Healthy Sanghas: Sharing Nembutsu Moments



JODO SHINSHU, Teaching of Pure Land Amida Buddha's Vow #26, (9th Vow) 07/2024 Jeffrey Soga, Resident Minister

It will be August. I'd like to congratulate everyone for successful Bon Dance. Everyone of Waipahu and Waianae Hongwanji, worked so hard. All temple members, visitors, dancers, volunteers, together enjoyed the night. How arigatai, grateful, I was when I watched people. I hope this enthusiasm will continue at next year Bon Dance.

I'd like to share about 9th Vow of Amida Buddha:

If, when I attain Buddhahood, the humans and devas in my land should not possess divine feet, and thus be unable to go beyond at least a hundred thousand Kotis of nayutas of Buddha-lands in a thought-moment, may I not attain the perfect enlightenment.
(Three Pure Land Sutras, Volume II, Larger Sutra Page 21)

(My translation)

If I (Amida) attain enlightenment as a Buddha, all the people of my land will be able to get the super divine feet and get to where they want to go in a thought of moments. If I can't do that, I can't be a Buddha of Enlightenment.

In the 9th Vow, Amida Buddha hoped that all people in the Pure Land can reach any place wherever they want to reach at a moment. Do you have any thoughts when you hear this Vow? Yes, Kenji Miyazawa's writing, "*Rain won't stop me. Wind won't stop me. Neither will driving snow...*" Among them

If a child were to fall ill in the east, I'd run there to help with the nursing. If a mother were to overwork herself in the west, I'd be there to carry the heavy bundles of rice. If a man were on the verge of death in the south, I'd rush to soothe his fears. If bitter lawsuits and fighting were to break out in the north, I'd urge all parties to come together and talk things over.

「東に病気の子供あれば、行って看病してやり。西に疲れた母あれば、行ってその稲の束を背負い。南に死にそうな人あれば、行って怖がらなくても良いと言ひ。北に喧嘩や訴訟があれば、つまらないからやめろと言ひ…」

(Continued to Page 2)

(Jodo Shinshu, from Page 1)

Have you ever felt the same way as you are reading this? When something painful or mishaps happen to your family or friends, you want to fly to help them. My daughter, Michelle, who lives in Hilo is pregnant. She will deliver at the beginning of September. I hope new baby will appear safely. However, in our everyday life, you never know what will happen, such as premature birth or an unexpected accident. If something happens, we have to fly immediately and we have to be ready for it, thus Kumika and I have been talking.

The difference between me and Mr. Miyazawa is that if I can go where I want to go in the moment of thought, I want to go back to Japan and soak in hot springs, or eat delicious sushi dishes in Japan, or I would want to go there for my pleasure. But Mr. Miyazawa is always for people. This sentence expresses a great desire to help those who are suffering or in trouble, a heart of compassion from an uncontrollable thought, and a great vow. This is exactly the same as Amida's 9th Vow. However, at the end of this book, Mr. Miyazawa sees his own limitations, saying, "I want to be that kind of person. *(it is extremely difficult to establish my desire)"

Therefore, Amida Buddha practiced for a long time, *five Kalpas*, and fulfilled his Vows. By listening to Amida's Vows, it is important that we are aware it is huge difficult to achieve such wish like Amida Buddha. However, if we keep such compassionate thought, the thought of "Nanmandabu or nembutsu" come out from our lips. And it is the thought "Thank to the Amida Buddha". It means we are living together with Amida and embraced by Amida Buddha's Compassionate Vow.

*My translation and expression.



Come and join our wonderful Ohana at the...

Waipahu Hongwanji Mission

ADULT DAY CARE CENTER

"Caring for our Elders with Love and Compassion"

* *Music & Singing* * *Entertainment* * *Socializations & more*
* *Games & Memory Joggers* * *Exercise* * *Arts & Crafts*

Full and Part-time Programs available with lunch and snacks

94-821 Kuhaulua Street, Waipahu * Phone: 808-678-1770
Email: whmadcc@hawaii.rr.com * Website: adultdaycarehawaii.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
Evan Watarida, President of Waipahu Hongwanji



Dear Waipahu Hongwanji Sangha,

I hope you all had the chance to attend our bon dance on July 13th. The weather was great and it was a perfect evening to celebrate obon. Everything went smoothly with lots of fun and fellowship. Spirits were high as people danced to performances by Ewa Fukushima Bon Dance Club and Hawaii Eisa Shinyuukai. There was a lot of good food to keep everyone happy and lots of shave ice to cool off with.

Thank you to Rev. Soga and family, the Kyodan board, the planning committees, and all the hard-working members and volunteers for your months of preparation. It takes a lot of people coming together and donating their time and energy to make Obon a success. It really is the true meaning of “selfless giving” as everyone works together as one Sangha.

Special thank you to the Friends of Jon Tokuhara who made lumpia, desserts, and ono drinks, Da Andagi Guy always a crowd favorite, and Tamura’s Super Market who provided the bentos. Thank you to Leeward Judo Club for helping with setup, cleanup, and parking and also to the Oahu Jr. YBA. Mahalo to Waipahu Adult Day Care for providing the first aid station.

Donations continue to come in and we are on track to net around \$17,000 in Obon donations and sales. This provides great assistance in keeping the temple going and perpetuating the dharma. As summer continues, we will continue with our regular Sunday Family services. And for special upcoming events, we have our special annual pet Obon service on Sunday August 25. If you wish to honor your late pets, please inform Rev. Soga and you may provide a photo to him to place on the altar and join us in remembrance.

Also coming up around the corner is the Triple Celebration at Ala Moana Hotel on September 7 & 8. Registration is already closed and booked to capacity for this big statewide event that has been years in the planning. Waipahu temple has a sizeable group that will be attending the workshops and services there. 2024 has turned out to be a memorable year with many exciting events and insightful seminars and opportunities for learning. I hope to see you at these upcoming events.

In Gassho,

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR 2024

AUGUST		3rd (2022)	September 1 September 19	Sumiko Ishimaru Richard Katsuto Nomura	
1st (2023)	August 17	Satsue Yamaguchi			
3rd (2022)	August 18	Noboru Yamauchi	7th (2018)	September 16 September 17	Tomio Hirayama Amy Yoshiko Yoshimura
7th (2018)	August 4	Hatsuko Horio	13th (2012)	September 4 September 9	Chitose Oshiro Errol Tooru Matsumura
13th (2012)	none		17th (2008)	September 6	Yukiko Yoshida
17th (2008)	none		25th (2000)	September 8 September 22 September 24 September 29	Yoshiko Ayakawa Shosaburo Akamine Mitsugu Yoshimoto Noboru Yamamoto
25th (2000)	August 23	Tamotsu Shimizu	33rd (1992)	September 2 September 14	Toshio Yamamoto Makoto Suzuki
33th (1992)	August 14	Hatsuyo Ueno	50th (1975)	September 3	Kimiko Yamamoto
50th (1975)	none				
SEPTEMBER					
1st (2023)	none				



PET OBON MEMORIAL SERVICE

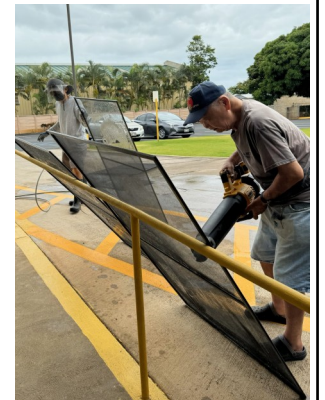
August 25, 2024, 9:00 am, Sunday Family Service

Have you lost a family pet in the past and would like to remember and honor their life?

If so, please sign up and attend Waipahu Hongwanji Annual Pet Obon Memorial Service. The animals that have touched our lives are part of our Sangha family and should be recognized and remembered for the happiness they shared with us.

- If you would like your pet's name to be recognized, please contact Reverend Soga, at **(808) 677-4221**, or e-mail: waipahuhongwanji@hawaii.rr.com.
- There is no required cost, but donations can be made to Waipahu Hongwanji Mission.
- You may bring a **SMALL** memorable item (ex. picture, collar, toy, etc.) to be displayed at the altar during the service. Please bring the item on the morning of the service by 8:30 am.

WAIPAHU HONGWANJI NEWS OBON 2024



 **Waipahu Hongwanji Mission**
ADULT DAY CARE CENTER
Caring for Our Elders with Love and Compassion



SPECIAL DONATION

Evelyn Emiko Deiner (Sakai) ... \$100
In memory of Sakai family

Friends of Jon Tokuhara ... \$1,500
In memory of Jon Tokuhara

Mel & Charmaine Miyaji ... \$500
New Obon Lanterns

Kellen & Dianne Murakami ... \$100
Special

Kimura Family ... \$200
In memory of Masako Kimura

Nomura Family ... \$200
In memory of Hisae Nomura

Takushi Family ... \$500
Funeral for Wallace Takushi

Tsunako Sakata ... \$50
Use of conference room

Kirana Soga ... \$500
Special

Tsutsui Family ... \$200
In memory of Albert & Sachiko Tsutsui

Ann Toma ... \$100
In memory of Roy Toma

OBON

Sally Asato, Albert & Marian Au, Adrienne & Ellen Ayakawa, Gail & Patrick Bow, Naomi & George Okino, Milton Fujioka, Jane Fukunaga, Marjory & Henry Funasaki, Joyce Gushiken, Daniel & Lois Hanaoka, Hawaii Eisa Shinyuu Kai, Carrie & James Hayashi, Roy & Dorothy Hirata, Steven & Jan Honda, Wesley Imaoka, Ishitani Family, R. Itamoto, Caran Iwata, Doris Kakugawa & Iris Tsuha, Thomas & Sachie Kaneshiro, Carrie & Dennis Kawamoto, Janet Kaya, Corinne Kazunaga, J. Kimoto, Charles & Ellen Kishimoto, Clyde & Lynette Kishimoto, Sherry Lee & Derrick Kobayashi, Richard & Sueko Kodama, Shirley & Charles Kon, Chizuko Kono, Claire Masaki, Frances Matsumoto, Wilfred & Mae Matsushige, Wendy Miyahara, Sarah Miyasaki, Mavis Morihara, Susan Morishige, Jasmine & Daniel Morrison, Leigh Morrison, Masumi Murakami, Arthur & Irene Nakagawa, Jocelyn Nakata, Lori Noborikawa, Jenny Nomura, Lisa Okada Melanie Okazaki & Lianne Whang, Emiko Onaga, Family of Henry & Gladys Oshiro, Jo Ann Oshiro, Joyce & Robert Oshita, Brian Otsuka, Edna Otsuka, Jan Ro, Edna & Chikako Saito, Winton Saito & Laura Wong Saito, Tsunako Sakata, Dixon & Jeanne Sasaki, Thomas Sekine, George Serikaku & Pearl Bayes, Haruo & Jane Shigeta, Kay & Raymond Shigeta, Thomas & Fay Shimizu, Emily Shinsato, Vincent & Eunice Soeda Beatrice Sonoda, Calvin & Wilma Sumida, Mae Sunahara, Craig & Christi Tadaki, Gail Takeuchi, Warren & Claire Tamamoto, Victor & Helene Tanimoto, Norman & Laurie Tochiki, Lilly Tokuhara, Fay Toyama, Robert Tsumoto, Kuniomi & Akemi Uehara, Ellen Ujimori, Guy & Cindy Ujimori, Masao & Yukiko Uyeda, Craig & Megumi Uyeno, Francis Uyeno, Ruth Wakimura, Lilinoe Watanabe, Evan Watarida, Family of Satsue Yamaguchi, Miles & Sandra Yasui, Wallace & Lynn Yasui, Wayne & June Yokota, Helen Yonashiro & Lynn Fujikawa, Janet Yoshida

HATSUBON

Fumiko & Stephen Nii, Edna Otsuka IMO Clarence Otsuka & Jane Tanaka, Russell Tsutsui IMO Sachi Tsutsui, Yoshimi Family IMO Clyde Yoshimi

GOTANE

Robert & Margaret Itagaki

浄土真宗の教え 2024年7月
「阿弥陀様の願いその26 (第九願) 神足如意の願」
駐在開教使 曾我大円

八月となります。ワイパフ、ワイアナエ本願寺の皆さん、盆ダンスご苦労様でした。どちらも沢山の人数で
した。皆さんも心を一つにして盛り上げて下さいました。見ていてとても嬉しく思いました。
今月から、阿弥陀様の第九願をいただきます。

たとひわれ仏を得たらんに、国中の天人、神足を得ずして、一念のあひだにお
いて、下百千億那由他の諸仏の国を超過することあたはざるに至らば、正覺を
と
取らじ。

(神足如意の願) (浄土真宗聖典)

(私の意識) もし私(阿弥陀様)が佛としての覚りを得る時に、私の国のすべて
の人々が、神の足を得て、思い通りに一瞬の間に、行きたい場所へ到着するこ
とができる。もしそれが出来なければ、私は聖覺の佛となることは出来ません。

これは思い通りに自分の行きたい所へ一念の間(一瞬)にしていくことが出来ると、阿弥陀様が願わ
れたのです。この願いを聞いて何か思い当たることはありませんか? そう、宮澤賢治氏の「雨にも負け
ず、風にも負けず…」という書き出しから始まる本です。その中に

「東に病気の子供あれば、行って看病してやり。西に疲れた母あれば、行ってその稲の
束を背負い。南に死にそうな人あれば、行って怖がらなくても良いと言い。北に喧嘩や
訴訟があれば、つまらないからやめろと言い…」

という文章があります。宮澤氏は日蓮宗を信仰されていたと聞いております。が、この文章を思う時、
宮澤氏は阿弥陀様のこの四十八通りの願いに出会われたことがあると確信しています。特にこの第
九願に出会われて、この文章ができたのだと思います。まあ、もう亡くなられているから、それを証明
することはできませんけど。

これを読まれている皆さんも同じような思いを持たれたことはありませんか。ご家族やお友達に辛いこ
とや災難が起こった時、飛んで行って助けてあげたい。サンフランシスコに住んでおります長女が
妊娠しております。11月に生まれるそうです。順調に生まれてくれることを願っています。しかし、
早産とか、予期せぬ事故とか、何があるかわからないのが人生です。もし何かが起こったら、飛んで
行ってあげないとね、と久弥香さんと話をしてしています。

(次のページへ)

(前のページより)

わたし みやざわし ちが おも どお じぶん またた ま い にほん かえ
私と宮澤氏との違いは、私が思い通りに自分の行きたいところへ瞬く間に行けるとしたら、日本へ帰っ
おんせん おい うなぎりょうり た じぶん
て温泉につかりたい、日本の美味しい鰻料理が食べたい、とか自分のために行きたいと思うでしょう。け
みやざわし つね くる こま
ど宮澤氏は常に人のため、苦しんだり困ったりしている人をどうにかしてあげよう、やるせない思いからの
じ ひ まさ
慈悲の心、大きな願いをこの文章に書かれてあります。これは正にこの阿弥陀様の第九願と同じであり
ほん さいご もの じぶん げんかい み
ます。ただ宮澤氏はこの本の最後に「そういう者に、私はなりたい」と自分の限界を見ておられます。阿弥
ごこう なが ごしゅぎょう ねがい じょうじゅ
陀様はそこから五劫という長い間の御修行をされて、願を成就されました。

この阿弥陀様の願いを聞かせていただくことで、私たちも同じようになれないけど、なりたいと願うこと
だいじ おも ねんぶつ あみださま おも
は大事なことです。この思いから「ナンマンダブ」とお念仏し、阿弥陀様によろしくお願ひします、という思
くち
いが口から出てくるようになります。お念仏とともにどうぞしてください。

続く

Saturday, August 10 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Topic: "Where are All the Geriatricians?"

Speaker: Dr. Pat Borman, Geriatrician, Care Plus

Location: Zoom and Waipahu Hongwanji Buddhist Temple
(94-821 Kuhaulua Street, Waipahu, HI 96797)



Wednesday, August 14 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Topic: Bristol Healthcare Services

Speaker: Tania Mejia, Bristol Healthcare Services, Community Liaison

Location: Zoom and Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin
(1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813)

Saturday, August 24 10:00 am to 12:10 pm

Caregiver Training Workshop: Assisting Your Care Recipient with Activities of
Daily Living

Featuring: Lowelyn Cudjoe, Hawaii Medical College Home Care

Location: Waipahu Hongwanji Buddhist Temple
(94-821 Kuhaulua Street, Waipahu, HI 96797)

Please call or email if you are interested in attending or need more information:

Maria Morales, Program Coordinator
(808) 945-3736 cgs@projectdana.org

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

AUGUST 2024

Address Correction Requested

Condolence

Waipahu Hongwanji extends deepest
Sympathy to the families of:

Wallace Minoru Takushi
Ronald Watarida

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

Every Thursday: 9 a.m. Kokua Day

Every Saturday, 8:30 a.m. Hosha Day

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

2nd Saturday: 9:30 a.m.
Project Dana, Caregiver Support Program.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OBON SERVICE for
FAMILY PET**
Sunday, August 25, 2024
At Waipahu Hongwanji Temple
Please call Rev. Soga.

Lectures with Reverend Akahoshi

August 14, 2024, 7 p.m.
@Aiea Hongwanji

August 19, 2024, Monday
@ Pearl City Hongwanji
Please call Rev. Soga,

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

Project Dana Caregiver Support Program
Saturday, August 10, 2024, 10 a.m.
Conference Room