



JIHO

November 2021



Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Building Healthy Sanghas: Nurturing Empathy and Respect

Virtual Dharma Family Services

Please join us for our virtual services and events in November. All online services will begin at 10:00 am on Zoom (unless otherwise noted). A link to join the service will be emailed to you a few days before. Please contact the office to be included in our email list to receive weekly temple updates and information. We look forward to seeing you online! Please consider making an offertory donation for our virtual services just like attending an in-person service. Mahalo!

Dharma Family Service Honoring Veterans

Sunday, November 7, 2021 at 10:00 am

We would like to honor members of our Sangha who are veterans of the armed forces. Please submit any names to the temple office by Wednesday, November 3rd.

Eitaikyō Sangha Memorial Service

Sunday, November 21, 2021 at 10:00 am

Guest Speaker: Rev. Kazunori Takahashi

Rimban, Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin

Eitaikyō means the “perpetual chanting of sutras.” The word “sutra” means “thread” and it is what connects us to the Truth found in the Buddha’s teachings. Buddhism began as an oral tradition with the teachings having been passed down through memorized chanting. The act of chanting connects us to all those who have come before and to all those who will follow as we chant the very same sutras. Eitaikyō is an opportunity to reflect on the lives and the actions of those good teachers and spiritual friends who have enabled us to encounter the teachings and to make donations for the continuing cultivation of the Dharma.

For Assistance

Office Clerk: Ramah DeMello (Phone: 808-323-2993 Email: konahongwanji@twc.com)

Resident Minister: Rev. Blayne Higa (Emergency only 808-383-9153)

Temple President: Joseph Gusman (Emergency only 808-896-4988 or 808-324-0708)

KONA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE

P.O. Box 769

Kealakekua, HI 96750

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 1
KEALAKEKUA, HAWAII 96750

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

President's Message

As we move toward the closing months of the year, I would first like to thank all the members of our Sangha who are supporting our temple through our second annual chili fundraiser in cooperation with Sandy's Drive In. Hopefully you all also had the opportunity to check out the various pop-up sales in the backroom of Sandy's while picking up your chili on the Saturdays. I made sure I was there early on the first 2 Saturdays to pick up some of Marsha Boyle's pizzelle and Lynn Katayama's shortbread cookies. A hearty thank you also to everyone who helped with the distribution of the chili.

With Thanksgiving approaching, besides family & friends, I am also thankful for the help and support I always receive from the Sangha. Considering all the challenges of the last year and a half, I am truly humbled by how we've all worked together to provide for the needs of the temple. With the hope that the COVID situation will improve soon, maybe we can once again begin to gather in person. In the meantime, please stay safe and look after each other.

In Gassho,
Joseph Gusman
Kyodan President

Remembering a Good Dharma Friend Rev. Blayne Higa

As we observe Eitaikyō, we take time to remember the lives of those good teachers who have enabled us to encounter the Dharma and who have inspired us to follow the Buddha's path. Eitaikyō means the "perpetual chanting of sutras." Buddhism began as an oral tradition with the teachings having been shared through memorized chanting. The act of chanting connects us to all those who have come before and to all those who will follow as we chant the very same sutras. The Dharma is shared from mind to mind and from heart to heart. It is because of our familial and spiritual ancestors that we can encounter the teachings today and it is our responsibility to share these life-giving teachings with others.



I am grateful for the many teachers in my life who have been good spiritual friends along this journey. If we attune our lives to truly hearing the calling voice of Amida Buddha, we can live with a profound appreciation for the many Dharma teachers we encounter daily who leads us along the path of self-discovery and to the world of awakening.

This year, I reflect on the life of the Reverend Yoshiaki Fujitani who realized birth in the Pure Land on May 17, 2021, at the age of ninety-seven. Born on Maui, Rev. Fujitani was a son of Hawaii who lived with a heart of profound gratitude and aloha. In an interview on his experience as a Nisei or second-generation Japanese American, he shared, "Buddhism teaches that we all, we have four gratitudes. One is oya no on, our gratitude to our parents; shujo no on, gratitude to all beings; kimi no on, or kuni no on, our gratitude to our country; and the fourth would be our gratitude to the Buddha. In Buddhism, these four ons are taught."

From serving his country in the Military Intelligence Service during World War II to his career as a minister and his time serving as the 11th Bishop of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, he expressed his gratitude through fierce compassion for others and our world.

Among his many accomplishments, we uplift his work in establishing the Hawaii Association of International Buddhists in the early 1980s and his lifelong commitment to interreligious dialogue and harmony.

His intimate understanding of the Buddha's teaching on Interdependence informed his interfaith work. He said, "I think the only way is to get out into the community and to work with other faiths. I think that we have to bear that in mind. We're not alone, we're part of a larger community."

In addition to bringing together Buddhists of all traditions, he also tirelessly cultivated relationships with peoples of all faiths. Through his lifelong friendship with the late Maryknoll Sister Joan Chatfield, they created a Buddhist Studies focused curriculum at Chaminade University, the only Catholic University in Hawaii. For his 80th birthday, Chaminade honored him by creating The Rev. Yoshiaki Fujitani Buddhist Catholic Dialogue and Interfaith Program which would become The Rev. Yoshiaki Fujitani-BDK Interfaith Program.

Rev. Fujitani was also a longtime supporter of the Samaritan Counseling Center of Hawaii and an advisor for The Interfaith Alliance Hawaii and Project Dana. He also established the “Living Treasures of Hawaii” program which honors “individuals who have demonstrated excellence and high standards of achievement in their particular fields of endeavor, and, and through their continuous growth, learning and sharing, have made significant contributions towards enriching our society.”

Rev. Fujitani was an inspirational and consequential spiritual leader who himself was honored as a “Living Treasure” several years ago. I have always admired his commitment to interfaith dialogue and social justice and how he embodied the Buddha’s teachings through compassionate action. His Dharma-centered leadership touched countless lives and has left a lasting legacy for us all.

For these reasons and many more, we remember him as a humble disciple of the Buddha who lived with a soft and gentle heart and a firm and resolute mind.

Rabbi Peter Schaktman, an old friend of Rev. Fujitani’s, shared the following upon learning of his passing. “Blessed is the righteous Judge. He was indeed quite a powerful force and his memory truly is a blessing.” May his memory be a blessing indeed.

Rev. Fujitani was a good teacher, friend, and guide who touched and transformed our lives. In the Shin Buddhist tradition, we express our gratitude for his life and legacy by saying Amida Buddha’s honored name as we entrust in the dynamic activity of all-inclusive wisdom and all-embracing compassion which sustains our lives. Namo Amida Butsu.

Compassionate Care

The Dharma offers guidance and support for our whole lives, especially during times of difficulty. I am here to be a compassionate presence and companion to you on life’s journey. I am available for pastoral care and counseling via phone or video conference. I am also available for bedside end-of-life services and grief care. Please contact me at 808-323-2993 or for emergencies only at 808-383-9153.

*Aloha,
Rev. Blayne*

Weekly Sangha Talk Story

Rev. Blayne hosts a weekly virtual talk story session for Sangha members to connect and to share how life is going during the pandemic. The Sangha Talk Story happens every Thursday evening at 7:00pm over Zoom. If you would like to participate, please email Rev. Blayne at bhiga@honpahi.org to be sent the meeting link each week.

Holiday Gift Idea

Need a creative gift for family and friends? We have handmade Kukui Nut O-Nenju for only \$20.00. The Kukui or Candlenut has been valued for its many uses since ancient times. Native Hawaiians used the oil from the Kukui to make light. The Kukui was designated as the state tree of Hawaii in 1959. The tree symbolizes enlightenment, peace, guidance, and leadership. Kukui has a spiritual meaning of light, hope, and renewal. Our handmade Kukui Nut O-Nenju is a beautiful reminder of how we are always embraced by the light of the Buddha of All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion.



Support Kona Hongwanji by Shopping Online

Amazon Smile is a free and easy way to support your favorite charitable organization. When you shop at <http://smile.amazon.com> Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

We hope you will consider designating Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple as your favorite organization. Please encourage your family and friends to kokua as well. We sincerely appreciate your support during these uncertain times. Mahalo!

2021-2022 Social Concerns Fund Drive

We reflect on gratitude in November. The Thanksgiving holiday and the Eitaikyo observance are reminders of the countless blessings in our lives and how we live deeply connected to the world around us. It is in this spirit of gratitude that we begin our Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive. The fund drive will be from November 1, 2021, through August 31, 2022, and we request temples to submit their collected donations by September 30, 2022.

Through the generous contributions of Sangha members, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii is able to support worthy organizations and programs with funding to continue their work in our community. Your support also allows us to provide compassionate action during times of disaster and the ability to respond to social issues affecting our community. Because of your commitment to promoting the Buddhist values of compassion and loving kindness, we were able to lend our support to organizations such as Project Dana, Hawaii Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (Hawaii VOAD), Malama Kauai, A Cup of Cold Water, and various food banks on each island.

The Golden Chain Grant program was established to promote compassionate action through innovative community service projects. Your generosity directly helps those in need and promotes a more humane world. Several grants awarded this year were COVID-19 related, including temple projects to prepare and distribute meals. We also created the COVID-19 Resilience Grant to help temples acquire PPE and cleaning supplies for the health and safety of Sangha members.

Please make all checks payable to KONA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE using the enclosed Social Concerns envelope. A combined check from the temple will be sent to Hawaii Kyodan HQ. Mahalo for supporting the Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive!

In Gassho,

Rev. Blayne Higa, Chair

Committee on Social Concerns

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

2021 Sustaining Membership

If you haven't already done so, please remember to submit your annual membership dues before the end of the year. This is also a great opportunity to update your current contact information with us!

We rely on your support to help ensure our temple is a spiritual home where we can create Sangha together through sharing the Dharma. Mahalo!

2022 Calendar Order

Orders are now being taken for the 2022 Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Calendar.
Please contact the Temple Office at 808-323-2993

PUMPKIN BUTTER MOCHI SALE

Autumn is pumpkin season from Pumpkin Pie to Pumpkin Spice Latte. Back by popular demand, we will be selling delicious Pumpkin Butter Mochi for only \$12.00. We invite you to pre-order your 8" x 8" pan before sale opens to the general public. Please submit your order form and payment to the temple office by Monday, November 15th.

Drive-thru pick up will be on Wednesday, November 24th from 5:00pm to 6:30pm at the Temple Social Hall.



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Pumpkin Butter Mochi Pre-Order Form

**DRIVE THRU MOCHI PICK UP WILL BE Wednesday, November 24, 5:00-6:30 p.m.
Outside the social hall.**

Name: (First and Last) _____ Phone # _____

Email Address: _____

I would like to order _____ 8" x 8" pans of mochi at \$12.00 each

I would like to donate _____ to Kona Hongwanji

Enclosed is my check for _____ pans at \$12.00 each

Donation -----\$ _____ TOTAL:-----\$ _____

**Order Forms & payment
due November 15.**



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS—November 2021

HAKASOJI and NOKOTSUDO

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka
Mr. & Mrs. Lance Okamura
Pauline Nishida-Miller

Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Fujino
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Higashi
Sharon Langsi
Total - \$425.48

Diana Asakura
Hideyuki Nagai

HATSUBON/OBON

Mr. & Mrs. Gordon Ogi
Katoku Family

Kimie Mizoshiri
Total - \$135.00

Doris Higashi

JIHO

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka
Mr. & Mrs. John Tsue

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Higashi
Total - \$305.00

Howard Yamasaki

HI KYODAN DUES

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka
Mr. & Mrs. John Tsue

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Higashi

Howard Yamasaki

CAPITAL FUND

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka
Mr. & Mrs. John Tsue

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Higashi

Howard Yamasaki

GRANDPARENTS DAY

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Maeda
Ann Matsumoto

Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Takiue
Chizu Nakashima
Total - \$140.00

Alan Matsumoto
Claudia Chang

AUTUMN OHIGAN

Mr. & Mrs. Keith Hayama
Mr. & Mrs. George Nakamoto
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Oshiro
Mr. & Mrs. John Tsue
Carol Okuna
Ann Matsumoto
James Sato

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Maeda
Mr. & Mrs. Ichiro Shikada
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka
Sandy Iwashita
Lisa Fry
Elaine Nakagawa
Doris Yamamoto
Total - \$580.00

Mr. & Mrs. Bert Maedo
Mr. & Mrs. Hiroki Ishimaru
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Takiue
Jimmy Nakagawa
Carol Ichishita
Chizu Nakashima

Acknowledgements continued:

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Winter Hamada, Funeral Service & Related Expenses for Patsy Hamada

Bryan Matsumoto, Funeral Service & Related Expenses for Asano Matsumoto

Kenneth Komo, 49th Day Service for Kathleen Komo

Total - \$1,150.00

IN MEMORY OF

Katoku Family, IMO Tsurue Eto's 50th Year

Mr. & Mrs. Ken Love, IMO Ross Oue, George Kirihara, Yasunori Deguchi and George Matsuoka

Robert & Kazuko Mento, IMO Mutsumi Komo and Pauline Aoki-Yano

Anna Kaku, IMO Yumiko Kaku's 33rd Year

James Kaku, IMO Yumiko Kaku

Carol Kawachi, IMO Clara Misae Tokunaga and Jack I. Tokunaga

Karen Wakata, IMO Leighton Wakata

Anonymous, IMO Mae Harano

Albert Kaku, IMO Yumiko Kaku's 33rd Year

Maurice Kaku, IMO Yumiko Kaku

Sachiko Katoku, IMO Naoto Katoku's 3rd Year

Mr. & Mrs. Minoru Tashima, IMO Takie Tashima

Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Takiue, IMO Jane Fenske's 3rd Year and Asano Matsumoto

Kazumi Oshita, IMO Kiyoshi Haimoto, Sunao Kadooka, Yoshiyuki Kaneko, Mutsumi Komo and Bernice Tashima

Jennifer Oba, IMO Toshio Nakamoto's 13th Year and Jane A. Nakamoto's 7th Year

Dr. Stuart Nakamoto, Cynthia Nakamoto Tomono, Craig Nakamoto, Cathy Arakaki & Family, Sheila Lee, IMO Toshio Nakamoto's 13th Year and Jane A. Nakamoto's 7th Year

Total - \$1,440.00

SPECIAL DONATIONS

Edward Kihara

Lori Marcello

Patrick Komo

Yoga Class

Diane Aoki

Theresa Ono

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Yong & Family

Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kaneko

Norman Sakata

Chizu Nakashima, Sunday Service

Mr. & Mrs. Clayton Nishina, Sunday Service

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka, Social Concerns

Mr. & Mrs. John Tsue, JR. YBA, Sunday Service

Total - \$1,731.00

Mahalo for your generous donations!

Please let us know if there are any corrections.

MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2021

FIRST YEAR 2020

10/8 Okino, Charles

11/12 Saito, Ukie

12/01 Zakahi, Stanley

THIRD YEAR (2019)

10/23 Katoku, Naoto

12/05 Aoki, Dale Kakuma

12/28 Matsumoto, Glenn Tatsuki

12/28 Deguchi, Yasunori

12/30 Matsuoka, George Hideaki

SEVENTH YEAR (2015)

11/06 Maeno, Yukio

11/07 Aoki, Kazue

11/16 Okabayashi, Yaeko

11/20 Aoki, Kazuyoshi

11/23 Ichishita, Gary Kazuyoshi

11/27 Cheng, Minoru Reen

THIRTEENTH YEAR (2009)

10/18 Kurozawa, Yukiko K.

10/22 Okumura, Mitsuru "Irene"

11/17 Wagle, Satsue

SEVENTEENTH YEAR (2005)

10/13 Murata, Clarence Kiyoshi

10/30 Tanaka, Hiroshi

11/03 Ide, Kiyoshi

11/08 Kazama, Toshinori

11/10 Tashima, Takie

11/30 Kirihara, George Yukio

TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR (1997)

11/07 Komo, Clarence Satoru

11/09 Hirata, Harold Hiromi

11/23 Nakamura, Harold Yoshiyuki

THIRTY-THIRD YEAR (1989)

10/14 Fujii, Masao

FIFTIETH YEAR (1972)

10/08 Obata, Tsuya

10/10 Honda, Iwaki

NOTE: If you have any questions or corrections regarding the information listed above, please call the office at 323-2993. Thank you.