



JIHO

August 2021



Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Building Healthy Sanghas: Nurturing Empathy and Respect

Upcoming Services and Events

Hiroshima Remembrance Service

Sunday, August 8, 2021, at 10:00 am

Hosted in collaboration with the Kona Hiroshima Kenjin Kai, this service commemorates the 76th Anniversary of the Atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. A video message from an A-Bomb survivor will be shared along with reflections on peace.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, there will be a limited number of seating available in the temple. We kindly ask that you call the temple office at 808-323-2993 to let us know if you plan to attend the service. You may also continue to participate in our services via Zoom. 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 in person or online!



Obon Open House and Market

Sunday, August 29, 2021

9:00am to Noon

We will celebrate the Obon season with an Open House and Market. We cordially invite you to visit the temple to offer incense and view the beautiful lanterns as you remember your loved ones. We will also have pre-ordered Chicken Hekka plate pick-up as well as other exciting pop-up vendors at our Obon market. The Kona Hongwanji Taiko Group will perform featuring a live Bon Dance demonstration. Special appearance by the 69th Cherry Blossom Festival Queen and Court. Please stop by for the food and fun!

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

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 1
KEALAKEKUA, HAWAII 96750

President's Message

It's great to be back in the temple! Starting with our Family Obon Service held on July 18th we have transitioned our services to a hybrid format with our sangha members who wish to attend the services in person welcome to come to the temple. The Family Obon Service saw in excess of 40 attendees at the temple who were all happy to be able to see each other in person. We will also continue to broadcast our services over Zoom for the members who would like to join us virtually.

Temperature checks and physical distancing requirements will continue to be followed for those attending in person. Refreshments following any service will be prepared for COVID-safe take out in accordance with current health guidelines. We do request that those attending the services in person call in their attendance to the temple office so we can plan for appropriate seating and refreshments.

As we enter the Obon season, it looks like our traditional bon dance and other celebrations will need to be put on hold for another year to ensure everyone's safety. Please do join us for our Obon Open House and Market on August 29, 2021, from 9:00 AM to noon. We will have food available, taiko drumming & bon dance demonstrations, and craft booths for everyone to enjoy.

Lastly, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who helped make our recent anpan fundraiser a success. From the members of the fundraising committee who helped plan the event, to everyone who showed up to help on both of the distribution days, and especially to all the member of the sangha & public who purchased the anpan. The temple is deeply appreciative of all your efforts & support.

In Gassho,
Joseph Gusman
Kyodan President

Our Imaginary Walls

Rev. Blayne Higa

We all live with imaginary walls. Some walls are necessary because they create healthy boundaries and offer protection. However, some of the walls we create are obstacles that hold us back. Maybe at one time, these walls were necessary but as conditions change, they are no longer needed. We easily become attached to certain conditions and continue to live as if life is fixed and unchanging. In his teachings, the Buddha emphasized the power of the human mind to create the world in which we live. With the proper mental discipline, we can live mindfully and can discern the necessary from the unnecessary.

When I was a child, we built an extension to our house. We enclosed the back patio but had left the sliding glass door in place separating the dining room from the new extension. I remember how over time the area right next to the fixed part of the glass door became storage and a narrow walkway the width of the moveable part of the door had formed. This made sense at the time since we couldn't walk through the wall of glass anyway.

Several years ago, after living with this glass wall for over twenty-five years my mom hired a contractor to remove the door to widen the opening between rooms. This made a remarkable difference as a whole new open pathway was created. However, over time, I began noticing how the same area began filling up with boxes and how a narrow pathway was being formed again. Recently, I was home and was struck by how the former glass door had become an imaginary wall. That the now open pathway had become closed again.

In a Jataka Tale, one of the animal wisdom stories, the Buddha once lived as a Tree-Sprite in the foothills of the Himalayan Mountains where he encountered a beautiful white elephant who had run away from her cruel owners. Despite being free, the elephant was so terrified of being caught again that even the wind rustling in the grass would cause her to panic. Living in a constant state of fear and agitation, the poor elephant grew thin and weak from exhaustion. One day, the Tree-Sprite took pity on the elephant and whispered to her how the fear in her heart would cause her to waste away. The elephant began to reflect and wondered if she really did have anything to be afraid of anymore. Had she simply fallen into the habit of being fearful despite being free?



What walls do we keep up despite no longer being necessary? What habitual patterns do we fall back into even when conditions change? Can we discover a new way of being that is appropriate to our current situation?

The Buddha’s teachings help us to see life clearly, enabling us to discern the truly necessary walls from the ones we can take down when they are no longer needed. This self-knowledge is the doorway to wisdom and a life of freedom. Namo Amida Butsu.

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 on Zoom. If you would like to participate, please email Rev. Blayne at bhiga@honpahi.org to be sent the meeting link each week.

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 wherever you are on life’s journey. I am available for pastoral care and counseling in-person, by phone, or by 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*

Yoga Fridays at Kona Hongwanji

Come join us for Hatha Yoga Classes, 8:30-9:30 a.m. on Fridays beginning August 6, 2021. Classes are by donation to the instructor and temple, and are held in the Judo Hall. Please bring yoga mat, blanket, water, and any other props you like to use. Mask, temperature check, & social distancing required. Arrive 10 minutes early to sign in and complete a waiver. All levels welcome! Call or text questions to Liz Aschenbrenner. 808-345-1127.



Adopt an Obutsudan

The Obutsudan, or home altar, plays an important part in cultivating our spiritual lives as Shin Buddhists. Our caring for a home altar serves as a mirror to the self within the compassionate embrace of Amida Buddha. The temple has several gently used Obutsudan and altar adornments that are available for adoption. If you would like to have an Obutsudan for your home, please contact the office or Rev. Blayne for more information.

-----CUT HERE-----



BWA Chicken Hekka Plate Pre-Order Form

CHICKEN PLATE PICK UP WILL BE SUNDAY, AUG 29, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
During Kona Hongwanji Obon Open House
Outside the social hall, near the kitchen. This is NOT a drive thru pickup.

Name: (First and Last) _____ Phone # _____

Email Address: _____

I would like to order _____ Chicken Hekka Plates at \$10.00 each -----

I would like to donate to Kona Hongwanji (optional) Thank you -----

Total Payment Enclosed:----- \$ _____

ORDER FORM & PAYMENT DUE AUGUST 20



Hatsubon

To those families remembering loved ones during Hatsubon this year, our deepest condolences on your recent loss. May the Nembutsu give you comfort and peace. Namo Amida Butsu

- | | | | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Setsuko Deguchi | Yoshiyuki Kaneko | Harumi Oda | Hisako Taniyama |
| Robert Fujino | Masashi "Boston" Kitaoka | Charles Okino | Carl Taniyama |
| Yasuo Fukumitsu | Jay Manago | Ukie Saito | Bernice Tashima |
| Mae Harano | Sally Murakami | Ethel Saito | Tsuino Yoshiki |
| Hisako Hatta | Mary Nakagawa | Fujie Sato | Stanley Zakahi |
| Kenneth Kaku | Miles Nakahara | Yoshie Tanaka | |

Preschool News

Welcome back to school! Our 2021-2022 school year began on August 5th with 32 students among 3 classrooms. With our plans to get the 4th classroom up and running, we continue to seek part-time and/or full-time, substitutes, temporary and permanent persons for the positions of preschool director, preschool teacher, teacher’s aide and after-school cleaners. If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact the preschool at 323-3737 or send your resume to khp72016@outlook.com. We are looking for hard working team players with positive attitudes and willingness to learn. (Our priority is bringing new preschool teachers and aides aboard).

Obon Cemetery Service



On July 4th we held our Obon Cemetery Service. It was a beautiful day as we gathered outdoors to remember our loved ones. This was our first in-person service in over a year!

Obon Family Service



We were happy to have Rev. Alan Urasaki and his family join us for our Obon Family Service on July 18th. It was so wonderful to see so many Dharma friends and to be together again as sangha. Mahalo to everyone who joined us in-person or online for our first family service back in the temple in over 16 months! Alan Matsumoto was presented with a congratulatory resolution by the Federation of Jr. YBA for his many years of dedicated service. Our very own Manami Alspach was also recently elected Federation President! We truly had a gathering of joy! Namo Amida Butsu!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS—July 2021

HAKASOJI and NOKOTSUDO

Susan Demotta	Carol Honda	Mildred Iwamuro
Norman Kimoto	Melvin Kobayakawa	Betty Matsuo
Jay Matsuoka	Karen Morinoue	Wilfred Murakami
Winnie Narusawa	Gayle Nishikawa	Ronald Shiotsuka
Raymond Ueno	Amy Hanaoka	Kent Iwashita
Alice Kawamoto	Laraine Oura	Doris Yoshitake
Dianne Katsutani	Mr. & Mrs. Brian Takahara	Mr. & Mrs. Kaoru Uyeda
Mr. & Mrs. Masamori Takaki	Mr. & Mrs. Masakatsu Tsukahara	Cynthia Tomono-Nakamoto
Mr. & Mrs. Sukeji Yamagata		
	Total - \$1,660.48	

OBON

Anonymous	Lisa Ciriako	Fred Hatta
Sandy Iwashita	Francis Katoku	Janet Lindner
Rinko Matsuoka	Satsuko Matsuoka	Jimmy Nakagawa
Chizu Nakashima	Doris Yamamoto	Carol Zakahi
Claudia Chang	Mary Katayama	Nancy Katayama
Alan Matsumoto	Ann Matsumoto	Jim Miller
Fusaye Murayama	Ellen Nishikawa	Toyoko Urada
Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Ikeda	Mr. & Mrs. Burt Kamigaki	Mr. & Mrs. John Tsue
Mr. & Mrs. Atsushi Matsumoto	Mr. & Mrs. Keith Hayama	Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Kaneko
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kaneko	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Maeda	Mr. & Mrs. Bert Maedo
Mr. & Mrs. George Nakamoto	Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Nakano	Mr. & Mrs. Clayton Nishina
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka		
	Total – 1,505.00	

MOTHER'S DAY & FATHERS DAY

Anonymous	Aiko Ichishita	Cheryl Marshall
Shirley Matsuoka	Mary Katayama	Lilly Ushiroda
Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Kaneko	Mr. & Mrs. John Tsue	
	Total - \$245.00	

MILITARY REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Mary Katayama	Nora Koyanagi	Cheryl Marshall
Shirley Matsuoka	Chizu Nakashima	Lilly Ushiroda
Glenn Yano	Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka	Mr. & Mrs. John Tsue
	Total - \$275.00	

Acknowledgements continued:

SPECIAL DONATIONS

Wesley Deguchi

Annette Green

Lori Marcello

Karen Morinoue

Winnie Narusawa

Gayle Nishikawa

Anonymous, Chili

Marsha Boyle, Chili

Janice Onaka, Preschool

Betty Matsuo, Project Dana

Toyoko Urada, Gotan-E

Ellen Nishikawa, Eitaikyo, Autumn Ohigan

Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Takiue, Taiko

Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Kaneko, Gotan-E

Total - \$1,103.00

IN MEMORY OF

Nelson Harano, IMO Manabu Harano

Steven Harano, IMO Manabu Harano and Makoto Harano

Lloyd & Lisa Harano, IMO Makoto Harano

Fred Hatta, IMO Hisako Hatta

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ikeno, IMO Tatsume Oue

Aiko Ichishita, IMO Shingo & Yasuo Nakayama

Cynthia Nakamoto-Tomono, IMO Toshio & Jean Nakamoto

Roy, Lynn & Jonathan Nakamura, IMO Manabu Harano and Makoto Harano

Chizu Nakashima, IMO Jace M. Nakashima's 17th year

Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Ogata, IMO Sadako Oura's 13th year

Kazumi Oshita, IMO Richard & Saeko Sato

Nellie Reed, IMO Elsie Shizue Onaka

Mr. & Mrs. Masamori Takaki, IMO Tanizo & Tai Takaki

Minoru Tashima, IMO Sachan Oura

Tomono Ohana, IMO Koshi Tomono

Shigeko Yonemori, IMO Nisuke Kawasaki & Kimiko Yonemori

Trudith Young, IMO Kiyoshi Masunaga

Total - \$2,400.00

JHO

Annette Green

Janice Onaka

Hatsuyo Haimoto

Mr. & Mrs. Masakatsu Tsukahara

Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Takiue

Betty Matsuo

Total - \$265.00

Acknowledgements continued:

SERVICES

Mel Harano, 3rd year Memorial Service for Makoto Harano

Mel Harano, 17th year Memorial Service for Manabu “Daniel” Harano

Landon Yamaoka & Kyla Tom, Wedding

Clayton Yoshioka, 1 year Memorial Service for Yaeko Yoshioka

Sandra Yoshioka, 1 year Memorial Service for Yaeko Yoshioka

Total - \$1,050.00

HI KYODAN DUES

Melvin Kobayakawa

Ronald Shiotsuka

Akino Sonoda

Mr. & Mrs. Russell Everett

Mr. & Mrs. Sukeji Yamagata

Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Takiue

CAPITAL FUND

Melvin Kobayakawa

Ronald Shiotsuka

Betty Matsuo

Mr. & Mrs. Russell Everett

Mr. & Mrs. Sukeji Yamagata

Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Takiue

Mahalo for your generous donations!
Please let us know if there are any corrections.



**Ring YOUR Bell for Peace Day
on the International Day of Peace
Tuesday, September 21, 2021**

Peace Day Program

8:30 a.m. Welcome messages, musical entertainment and reflection.

9:00 a.m. Observe one minute of silence to honor those who have come before us, to help foster peace in the world.

9:01 a.m. Ring your bell for Peace Day! Join us from temples, churches, schools, and communities around the world as we ring our bells for five minutes from wherever we are—virtually united by Zoom and livestream.



We encourage young people to participate.

Please register in advance,
online at www.hongwanjihawaii.com

Or contact Rene Mansho

HHMH Peace Day Committee Chair

808-291-6151, renemansho@hawaii.rr.com.

You will receive a Zoom link and setup instructions.



With gratitude to our Peace Co-Sponsors,
the United Nations Association Chapters of
Hawaii-Honolulu and University of Hawai'i-Manoa
and to KTUH radio

The poster features a large, dark, ornate bell hanging from a wooden structure. A young man in a purple shirt is shown from the waist up, holding a mallet and about to strike the bell. The background shows a lush green landscape under a blue sky with clouds. The text 'Ring your Bell for Peace Day' is written in a large, white, stylized font across the top. Below the image, the text reads: 'Tuesday, September 21 at 8:30 a.m. A live virtual event.' At the bottom, there is a white box containing the text: 'The Buddhist Temples of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i invite you to ring a bell in the spirit of peace from your temple, church, or favorite place.' To the left of this text is a dove icon, and to the right is a circular purple logo with a stylized design.

MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR AUGUST, SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2021

FIRST YEAR (2020)

8/24 10/08	Teshima, Bernice Okino, Charles	8/25	Murakami, Sally
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THIRD YEAR (2019)

08/16 10/23	Sakamoto, George Katoku, Naoto	09/23	Fenske, Jane Emiko
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SEVENTH YEAR (2015)

08/17 09/19	Matsumoto, Thomas Shinichi Nakamoto, Jean Aiko	09/18	Oue, Ross Akiyoshi
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THIRTEENTH YEAR (2009)

09/16 10/18	Yanagi, Brent Akio Kurozawa, Yukiko K.	09/26 10/22	Nakamoto, Toshio Okamura, Mitsuru "Irene"
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SEVENTHEENTH YEAR (2005)

08/09 8/22 9/14 10/30	Wakata, Leighton Hisao Koshi, Tomeko Sato, Torami "Amy" Tanaka, Hiroshi	08/20. 08/31 10/13	Oga, Masao Murasaki, Takeo Murata, Clarence Kiyoshi
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TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR (1997)

08/09	Teshima, Torao	09/01	Nozaki, Clarence Yoshito
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THIRTY-THIRD YEAR (1989)

08/22 09/27 10/14	Nakatani, Arthur Masao. Sonoda, Jane Tomiko Fujii, Masuo	08/26 9/28	Fujikawa, Cary Shizuo Kaku, Yumiko
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FIFTIETH YEAR (1972)

08/04 10/08	Shikada, Sueto Obata, Tsuya	09/12 10/10	Eto, Tsurue Honda, Iwaki
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NOTE: If you have any questions or corrections regarding the information listed above, please call the office at 808-323-2993. Thank you.

ONLINE BON DANCE EXPERIENCE 2021

It's that time of the year again! O-Bon Season is here, but unfortunately, we will not be able to experience the traditional Bon Dance as we know it, once again. Although, it cannot compare to an in person Bon Dance, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii would like to present a new Online Bon Dance Experience for 2021. It will feature dances, a few easy recipes, and recollections and reflections by bon dance enthusiasts from across the state.

Bon Dance Experience 2021 will premiere on the HHMH YouTube channel on **Friday, August 13 at 7 p.m. HST**. To join others in watching the premiere, visit our YouTube channel page at that time (shortcut link: <http://honpahi.link/youtube>). As we get closer to the premiere date, a direct link to the premiere will be shared on our website, <http://hongwanjihawaii.com>, as well as on social media. Viewers will also be able to view the video after the premiere, however, live chat will not be available.

Summer Dharmathon 2021



The BSC Summer Session has featured, and will continue to feature, noted national and international speakers for the benefit of its attendees. However, there is one rich source of Dharma learning and ideas that is as close as our own Nembutsu sanghas. These sangha are made up of our ministers and lay people and their acquaintances within the State of Hawaii. They have much to offer if we take the effort to feature them. So, with that in mind the BSC Program Committee has started a new program, the Summer Dharmathon that will rely on that pool of speakers.

Summer Dharmathon will start this new program by featuring 10 Hawaii Kyodan Ministers who will be speaking on the Hawaii Kyodan 2021 theme and slogan:

Building Healthy Sanghas: Nurturing Empathy and Respect

WHERE: YouTube Livestream DATES: Mon. Aug 23 - Fri. Aug 27 TIMES: 6:30 - 8:30p HST

DAILY SCHEDULE

6:30pm Start

6:35 Introduction of Speaker 1

6:40 Dharma Talk

7:15 Q & A

7:30 Break

7:35 Introduction of Speaker 2

7:40 Dharma Talk

8:15 Q & A

8:30 Conclusion

MON
8/23



BISHOP
MATSUMOTO

TUES
8/24



REVEREND
KALU

WEDS
8/25



REVEREND
HIGA

THURS
8/26



REVEREND
BABA

FRI
8/27



REVEREND
HASEBE



REVEREND
KAUFMANN



REVEREND
TOMIOKA



REVEREND
KIYOHARA



REVEREND
MAJIMA



REVEREND
FUJIMOTO

Did you know?

Incense Burning (*Oshoko*)

The practice of burning (or “offering”) incense is a symbol of purification. There are many references to the use of incense and aromatic woods in the sutras and there are countless similes and metaphors given in the commentaries. Essentially, incense has been traditionally associated with cleanliness. It is a way to provide a fresh and pure scent to the home and temple, both enhancing the spiritual atmosphere of the place of reverence and of the follower. It symbolizes purification of mind and body before paying homage to the Buddha.

The human body is likened to incense itself. While the smoke of incense rises, it releases a beautiful scent which fills the room. At the same time, the smoke rising from the burning incense reminds us of the transiency of all existence. With the human body, even as breath and life rise from it, it is simultaneously aging and dying. (From *Jodo Shinshu A Guide*)