



# JIHO

March 2021



## Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

*Building Healthy Sanghas: Nurturing Empathy and Respect*

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### **Virtual Dharma Family Services**

Please join us for our virtual services and events in March. 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!

### **Eshinni & Kakushinni Day Service**

Sunday, March 7, 2021 at 10:00 am

Guest Speaker: Rev. Yuika Hasebe

Associate Minister, Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin

Eshinni and Kakushinni were the wife and daughter of Shinran Shonin, who are remembered for their support in bringing his teachings to all. We honor their immense contributions to the development of Jodo Shinshu.

### **Hawaii Association of International Buddhists (HAIB) Buddha Day Celebration**

Sunday, March 14, 2021, 10:00 am to 11:30 am

Dharma Message by Mushim Patricia Ikeda of East Bay Meditation Center in Oakland, CA and a panel of young adult Buddhists sharing on the theme of "Dharma in Action".

Please register online at <https://forms.gle/5pg5F7SufZnq2jB5A>

### **Spring Ohigan Service**

Sunday, March 28, 2021 at 10:00 am

Guest Speaker: Rev. Ronald Kobata

Retired Minister, Buddhist Church of San Francisco and Kahului Hongwanji

Ohigan services occur twice a year around the spring and fall equinox when the daylight and nighttime are equal. In many ancient cultures, it was a time of celebration to remind us of our deep connection to the rhythms and cycles of the earth and the entire universe. Ohigan translates as "the other shore" and is a metaphor for crossing from this shore of ignorance, anger, and greed to the other shore of nirvana and peace.

### **For Assistance**

**Office Clerk:** Ramah DeMello (Phone: 808-323-2993 Email: [konahongwanji@twc.com](mailto: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

Kealahou, HI 96750

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**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

## President's Message

First, I would like to thank all the members who attended our first ever virtual annual meeting and memorial service on February 21, 2021. While not the normal social event we have come to expect from our annual meeting, we did have the opportunity to see and talk to the members of our sangha and share information about the administrative functioning of our temple. During the service we were also able to honor our Keirokai members that attain the age of 80 this year, the members of our temple that passed away in 2020 and welcome new members who joined our sangha.

We continue to monitor developments with the COVID-19 pandemic and what effect they will have on future activities at our temple. With everyone's cooperation we can hopefully return to in-person activities sooner rather than later. Recent reports from government & health authorities sound promising, but only time will tell how everything develops. Perhaps we can also make this year's meeting the last ever virtual annual meeting.

Take care of yourselves and your families.

In Gassho,  
Joseph Gusman  
Kyodan President

## Relearning Simple Lessons Rev. Blayne Higa

*Thousands of candles can be lighted from a single candle, and the life of the candle will not be shortened.  
Happiness never decreases by being shared.  
-A Teaching of the Buddha*

The pandemic has impacted our lives in so many ways. One of the things I miss most is spending time with our preschoolers during their monthly temple visit. Greeting their joyful faces at the door, sharing a story, and talking with them was truly the highlight of my day. Despite being there to learn from me, I always leave with my heart full and lessons learned.

Children by their nature are natural teachers. With open hearts and minds, they teach us how we should be. As adults, many of us have forgotten how the happiness of another person is directly connected to our own. We often think of happiness as a pie that we reluctantly share because we want to keep more for ourselves. Children on the other hand naturally understand that happiness is not a finite resource to be jealously guarded but rather is limitless and should be shared freely.

Recently, our preschoolers participated in the Great Kindness Challenge to help cultivate a culture of kindness and compassion throughout the world. They made and delivered floral arrangements to businesses in the neighborhood, waved signs along the highway in front of the temple, and created links out of recycled paper which will be joined with others to create the world's longest paper chain all connected by messages of hope and love.

Amid the ongoing pandemic, these little ones teach me how we should treat and care for one another. They remind me how truly effortless being kind and compassionate can be. Children implicitly understand how we are profoundly connected by love and they demonstrate it with every fiber of their being. They spontaneously live Amida's Golden Chain of Love.

Happiness inspires happiness just like how one candle can light a thousand. In the hubbub of our lives can we take a moment to relearn these simple lessons that children are so eager to teach?

It could be I am simply missing being hugged by thirty preschoolers as we say goodbye at the end of our time together. That in itself is a remarkable lesson.

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](mailto:bhiga@honpahi.org) to be sent the meeting link each week.

### Welcome New Members!

Mahalo to Richard & Blanche Hiraishi, Robert & Helen Kobzi, and Shigeru Yamamoto & Midori Satoh for becoming sustaining members.

Welcome to our Sangha!

Please encourage family and friends to join our temple 'Ohana. New members are always welcome!

### 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*



### Preschool News

Happy March everyone and greetings from Kona Hongwanji Preschool. February was Healthy Heart Month and all about My Body and Me. We talked to the children throughout the month about their bodies and about healthy eating and healthy living. This led up to the Kid's Heart Challenge event at the end of the month; one hour of non-stop physical activity which included biking, jumping rope, hula hoops, soccer, sack races, basketball, balance beam and dancing. This was followed by a healthy snack of watermelon, blueberries, pineapple and strawberries (in honor of National Strawberry Day on February 27).

February 28th was our deadline for the Kindness Chain Project which began at the end of January and was a part of our Great Kindness Challenge. Our school goal was a quarter mile or 5,280 links. At press time, we had surpassed our goal with a total of 5,320. Thank you to all who supported us with donations of recycled materials. We sent our links to Carlsbad, CA to be part of the Guinness World Record Event for the world's longest recycled paper chain made with messages of love and hope.

This month, we work on gardening; growing our own food and planting flowers and herbs. We hope to create recipes and cook what we grow. We will also study the weather and things that fly.

We are also looking to hire a teacher. Please contact me for more information. [KHP72016@outlook.com](mailto:KHP72016@outlook.com) or at 808-323-3737.

Mahalo,  
Leanne Abe  
Director

9th Annual  
BUDDHA DAY CELEBRATION

Hosted by the Hawaii Association of International Buddhists (HAIB)



**DHARMA  
IN  
ACTION**

Keynote Speaker: Mushim Patricia Ikeda  
East Bay Meditation Center

Young Adult Speakers:



Ryan Nakade  
Integral Buddhist



Lisa Lassner  
Triratna Buddhist  
Community



Sheera Tamura  
Jodo Shin Tradition

March 14, 2021 10:00 AM—11:30 AM (HST)

Attendance will be VIRTUAL (Zoom) and is FREE

Please register at <https://forms.gle/8LQK7zAGSDElmZNB7> to receive the Zoom Link

For more information contact Rev. Blayne Higa at [bhiga@honpahi.org](mailto:bhiga@honpahi.org) or (808) 323-2993

Donations can be made to the Hawaii Food Basket ([hawaiifoodbasket.org](http://hawaiifoodbasket.org)). Kindly put HAIB in the comments.

### Sangha Milestones



Robert Nakagawa and Sherri Izuno were married on February 1, 2021.  
Congratulations and best wishes!

## Nirvana Day Service



On February 14<sup>th</sup> Rev. Dr. Daijaku Judith Kinst was our guest speaker for our Nirvana Day Service. She is a Professor at the Institute of Buddhist Studies and a guiding teacher at the Ocean Gate Zen Center in Capitola, California.

## Everyday Dharma

From the book *Learning the Wisdom of Enlightenment* published by Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai (BDK)

### Four Unlimited States of Mind

There are Four Unlimited States of Mind that the seeker of Enlightenment should cherish. They are compassion, tenderness, gladness and equanimity. One can remove greed by cherishing compassion; one can remove anger with tenderness; one can remove suffering with gladness, and one can remove the habit of discriminating between friends and enemies by cherishing an equitable mind.

It is great compassion that makes people happy and contented; it is great tenderness that removes everything that does not make people happy and contented; it is great gladness that makes everyone happy and contented with a mind of joy. There is great peacefulness when everyone is happy and contented, and then one can have equal feelings toward everybody.

*-Mahaparinirvana-sutra*

A poem by Rev. Kenryu Tsuji from the book *The Heart of the Buddha-Dharma*

### Listen

Listen. Listen to the voice of the Dharma.  
Listen to the birds, singing in the morning.  
The wind sighing in the boughs overhead,  
And the roar of the waves on the beach.

Listen to the rain on the roof and the snow falling in the fields.

The Dharma speaks to us through the sounds of the world—  
Forcefully and eloquently and beautifully.  
It speaks of the unending change around us,  
The immutable truth of interdependence,  
And the peace in nature.  
Do we have the ears to hear and listen...?

Listen to the nembutsu in the Hondo.  
Listen to the noble silence of the Buddha.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS—February 2021**

### **HAKASOJI and NOKOTSUDO**

Mr. James Nakagawa	Asako Shindo	Fay Nakamoto
Mr. & Mrs. Sadamu Koba	Mr. Raymond Yanagi	Lorraine Haraguchi
Sandy Iwashita	Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Nagata	
	Total - \$445.00	

### **HO'ONKO**

Arnold Feldman	Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Komo	Ellen Aoki
Mr. & Mrs. Bert Maedo	Fumikichi Matsuoka	Anonymous
Satsuko Matsuoka	Michitoshi Murakami	Hisako Hirai
Mr. & Mrs. George Nakamoto	Mr. & Mrs. Takeo Nakasone	Sandy Iwashita
Mr. & Mrs. Ichiro Shikada	Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Takiue	Betty Matsuo
Mr. & Mrs. John Tsue	Mr. & Mrs. Richard Maeda	Elaine Nakagawa
Mr. & Mrs. Sadayuki Inouye	Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka	Doris Yamamoto
Lisa Ciriako	Alan Matsumoto	Ann Matsumoto
Richard Miyahira	Chizu Nakashima	Keith Nishihara
Ellen Nishikawa	Mr. & Mrs. Takeo Nakasone	Albert Watanabe
	Total - \$800.00	

### **New Year Service**

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka	Mr. & Mrs. John Tsue	Makiko Yamaguchi
Lisa Ciriako	Ann Matsumoto	Norma Matsumoto
James Nakagawa	Chizu Nakashima	Albert Watanabe
Clayton Nishina	Janet Lindner	
	Total - \$760.00	

### **SERVICES**

Carol Zakahi, Funeral Service & Related Expenses for Stanley Zakahi  
Wesley Deguchi, Memorial Service for Yasunori Deguchi  
Emiko Kaneko, Funeral Service & Related Expenses for Yoshiyuki Kaneko  
Saito Family, Funeral Service & Related Expenses for Ukie Saito  
Hanako Sheldon, Memorial Service & Blessing for Robert Sheldon  
Robert Nakagawa, Wedding Ceremony & Related Expenses  
Total - \$3,600.00

### **Jiho**

Mr. & Mrs. Sadamu Koba	Mr. & Mrs. Bert Maedo	James Nakagawa
Mr. & Mrs. Shizuya Sakata	Lorraine Haraguchi	Ellen Kato
Hanae Okumura	Sandy Iwashita	June Gokan
Roy Hayama	Total - \$285.00	

**Acknowledgements continued:**

**ELLISON ONIZUKA & SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER MEMORIAL**

Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Kaneko	Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka	Shirley Matsuoka
Lorna Onizuka & Family		
	Total - \$295.00	

**SPECIAL DONATIONS**

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ban	Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kaneko	Elsie Higa
Mary Katayama	Lori Marcello	Setsuko Morimoto
Raymond Yanagi	Saito Family	Anonymous

Sandy Iwashita, Preschool  
Keith Nishihara, Gotane, Obon, Autumn Ohigan, Spring Ohigan  
Ellen Nishikawa, Gotane, Spring Ohigan  
Mr. & Mrs. James Boyle, Gotane, Obon, Autumn Ohigan, Eitaikyo, Spring Ohigan  
Lynn Katayama, Onenju  
Chizu Nakashima, Sunday Service  
Carol Okuna, Bodhi Day  
Hisako Hirai, Spring Ohigan  
Michitoshi Murakami, Nirvana Day  
Mr. & Mrs. Bert Maedo, Nirvana Day  
Judy Amano & Family, IMO Katsumi Takamoto's 3<sup>rd</sup> Year  
Blanche Ito, IMO Kimie Kuroyama's 17<sup>th</sup> Year  
Mr. & Mrs. Vaughn Miyauchi, IMO Kimie Kuroyama's 17<sup>th</sup> Year  
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Ogata, IMO Kimie Kuroyama's 17<sup>th</sup> Year  
Masae Okamoto & Family, IMO Wayne Okamoto and Frank Okamoto  
Setsue Okuda, IMO Ichi & Kikita Mori  
Matsuko Onaka, IMO Hiroshi Tanaka's 17<sup>th</sup> Year and Shizue Onaka's 50<sup>th</sup> Year  
Rose Onaka, IMO Mark Onaka & Family, Shingo Nakayama & Family  
Kazumi Oshita, IMO Richard & Saeko Sato, George Matsuoka, Yasunori Deguchi, Fred Uechi and Charles Okino  
Anonymous, IMO Karen Murata  
Leatrice Saito, IMO Ukie Saito  
June Saito, IMO Ukie Saito  
Merle Saito-Millico, IMO Ukie Saito  
Mr. & Mrs. Wally Murdoch, IMO Ukie Saito  
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Takiue, IMO Dale Aoki, Yoshiyuki Kaneko, Sally Murakami, Saeko Sato, Bernice Tashima, and Elsie Watanabe  
Nobuko Aoki, IMO Janet Tobar's 13 Years  
Mr. & Mrs. Milton Deguchi, IMO Yasunori Deguchi's 1<sup>st</sup> Year  
Janet Fujikawa & Family, IMO Katsumi Takamoto's 3<sup>rd</sup> Year  
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Komo, IMO Yasunori Deguchi's 1<sup>st</sup> Year  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Schaetzl, IMO Hitoshi Aoki's 75<sup>th</sup> Year  
Virginia Squier, IMO Yasunori Deguchi's 1<sup>st</sup> Year  
Mr. & Mrs. Minoru Tashima, IMO Kimie Kuroyama  
Xandria Tobar, IMO Janet Tobar  
Makiko Yamaguchi, IMO Yasunori Deguchi  
Rance Tobar, IMO Janet Tobar  
Mr. & Mrs. James Boyle, IMO Tom Taniyama's 7<sup>th</sup> Year  
Hisako Taniyama, IMO Tom Taniyama's 7<sup>th</sup> Year  
Edwin Ueda, IMO Katsue Ueda's 50<sup>th</sup> Year  
Carol Zakahi, IMO Stanley Zakahi's 49<sup>th</sup> Day  
Kaneo Family, IMO Fujiyo Kaneo and Flora Kaneo-Donaldson  
Kaneo & Souza Family, IMO Thomas Kaneo  
Roy Hayama, IMO Ritsue Hayama's 13<sup>th</sup> Year  
Ken Love, IMO Desiree Shiraki, Sunao Kadooka, and Chiyoko Takashiba  
Steven Waldon, IMO Sharon Deguchi and Terry Waldon  
Total - \$4,738.00

***Mahalo for your generous donations!***

***Please let us know if there are any corrections.***

**CAPITAL FUND & HAWAII KYODAN DUES**

Mr. & Mrs. Shizuya Sakata

Mr. & Mrs. Bert Maedo

Sandy Iwashita

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kobzi

**MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR MARCH, APRIL AND MAY 2021**

**FIRST YEAR 2020**

4/27	Nakahara, Miles	5/10	Katoku, Takao
5/23	Fujino, Robert		

**THIRD YEAR (2019)**

03/02	Sakamoto, Tsuneo "Charles"	04/09	Kunitomo, Stanley Mitsuo
04/18	Shiraki, Desiree Jade	05/07	Tanaka, Takiyo

**SEVENTH YEAR (2015)**

03/06	Kadooka, Sunao	03/18	Nakagawa, Tatsuyo
03/31	Ozaki, Florence Masako		

**THIRTEENTH YEAR (2009)**

03/15	Shiotsuka, Shinichi	04/14	Kanai, Minnie Mitsue
04/19	Nakamura, Katsue	05/04	Kaneo, Motoji
05/14	Iseri, Misako "Mitzi"		

**SEVENTEENTH YEAR (2005)**

05/17	Yamato, Kikue	05/23	Harano, Daniel Manabu
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**TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR (1997)**

04/28	Ito, Yasue	05/10	Kato, "Sadie" Sadako
05/11	Sakamoto, Tomio	05/18	Fukunaga, Aiko
05/27	Kadohiro, Yasuo		

**THIRTY-THIRD YEAR (1989)**

03/03	Takashiba, Chiyoko	05/07	Saito, Konoe
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**FIFTIETH YEAR (1972)**

03/11	Ueda, Katsue	03/29	Fujino, Ine
04/11	Nishina, Tojiu	05/13	Yamasaki, Takeo
05/22	Izuno, Tokio		

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