



JHO

May 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 May. 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!

Mother's Day & Children's Day Service

Sunday, May 9, 2021 at 10:00 am
Lay Speaker: Cheryl Matsuoka Marshall

Baccalaureate Service

Sunday, May 16, 2021 at 10:00 am
Speaker: Rev. Blayne Higa

Gōtan-E Service (Shinran Shōnin's Birth)

Sunday, May 30, 2021 at 10:00 am
Guest Speaker: Rev Dr. Bert Sumikawa
Minister of Windward Buddhist Temple

This service celebrates the birth of Shinran Shōnin (May 21, 1173-January 16, 1263) who was the founder of Shin Buddhism. His life and teachings represent one of the most significant developments in the history of Buddhism. Before then only the privileged and educated received spiritual instruction. Shinran taught that everyone was equally embraced by the Buddha's infinite light and compassion, and the truth of the Dharma and shinjin awakening are accessible to everyone without discrimination.

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
Kealahou, HI 96750

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

President's Message

As we continue to hold our special services via Zoom, I hope this has given everyone the opportunity to participate in the services from the comfort-and safety-of your own homes. Beyond our own temple membership, our virtual services have allowed us to welcome new attendees literally from around the world. If you attended our recent Spring Ohigan or Hanamatsuri services, you would have heard inspiring messages from retired Minister Ronald Kobata all the way from Oregon and Moilili Hongwanji President Raymond Takiue, Jr. from Oahu. Even large distances can be bridged with the use of technology.

Heading into the graduation season, I would like to express my congratulations to all the children & grandchildren of our temple members who are graduating from high school or college. Your perseverance through all the challenges that have come with the COVID-19 pandemic make your accomplishments especially notable. Knowing that even a pandemic could not stop you, I have every confidence you will achieve any goals you set for yourselves. I wish you all the best for your future.

In Gassho,
Joseph Gusman
Kyodan President

“We” is Greater Than “I”: Why I Got Vaccinated Rev. Blayne Higa

Shakyamuni Buddha has often been considered a great physician or healer. He observed, diagnosed, prescribed treatment, and offered a cure for our spiritual suffering. His Four Noble Truths offer us a cure for our inherent illness which is caused by attachment and desire. The Buddha's four-part remedy 1) Diagnosed there is suffering in life; 2) Observed the cause of suffering; 3) Discovered suffering can be cured, and 4) Offered a plan of treatment. Following the Path he shared leads to wholeness and healing. This is why we gratefully take refuge in the Three Treasures of Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha for the lasting relief they bring.

A basic principle of Buddhism is that we should always be mindful of the health of the community. We are guided to see ourselves as part of a larger whole because what we do affects others. This is a recognition of the interdependent nature of our existence and how we are mutually dependent on each other for survival.

The COVID-19 pandemic has been a lesson in this fundamental truth. Taking personal action by wearing a mask in public, keeping at least six feet away from others, washing or sanitizing our hands frequently has proven to be effective in reducing the spread of the virus. Being vigilant about these precautions is not only about our self-benefit but more importantly about benefiting others. This is why we have done everything we can to care for each other as a Sangha because we will only get through this crisis together. “We” is greater than “I”.

It is in this spirit of mutual care and responsibility that I was personally glad to receive the COVID-19 vaccination. For over a year, I have had limited contact with family and loved ones out of concern for their safety. We have all made sacrifices for the welfare of those we love. For me, taking the vaccine is about love, care, and concern for others. The vaccine has given me hope that I will be able to visit with my family safely one day soon.

The pandemic has tested the power and effectiveness of the Dharma working in our lives. Relying on the Buddha's teachings we have been able to face the challenges of the past year with kindness, compassion, and grace. Just like the Buddha, scientists and healthcare professionals have offered us a proven remedy. The COVID-19 vaccine is a scientific advancement that promotes health and wellbeing and is good for both the individual and the community.



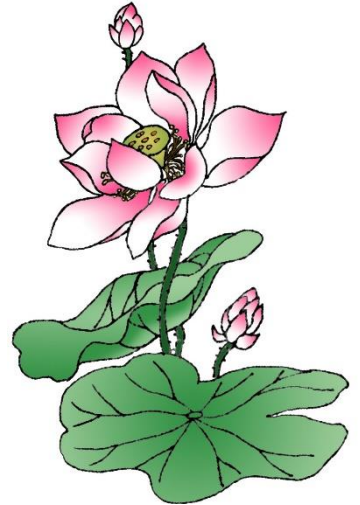
I am profoundly grateful for the Buddha's teaching that is the medicine for my spiritual illness. I'm also thankful for the vaccine that is the key to saving lives and controlling this pandemic. Let's all continue to do our part to stop the spread of COVID. Our actions truly make a difference.

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 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



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.

Veterans Appreciation

On June 13th we will hold our annual service honoring our temple members who served in the armed forces. Please contact the temple office by June 1st to let us know if there is someone who should be honored for their service to our country. Mahalo for your help!

2021 Graduates?

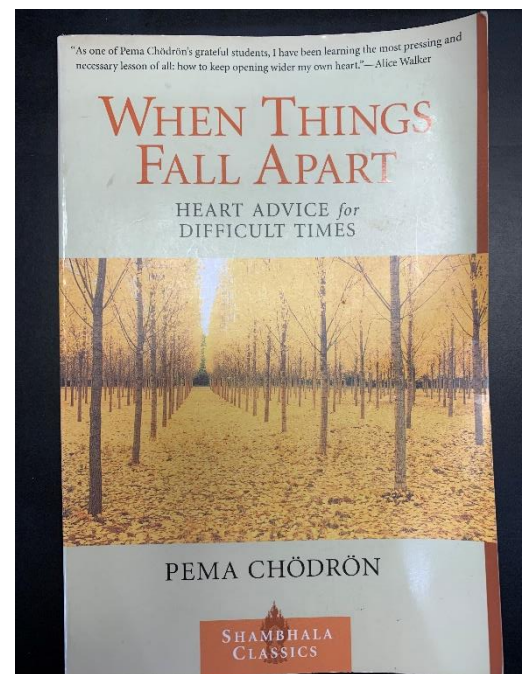
We would like to recognize all 2021 graduates from our temple or affiliated organizations at our upcoming Baccalaureate Service scheduled for May 16th. If you have a child or grandchild that will be graduating or has graduated from high school, college, or a vocational/professional school this year, please let the temple office know as soon as possible.

Buddhist Book Club: Wisdom for Living in Difficult Times

Are you interested in learning about how Buddhist teaching applies to everyday life? Are you looking for a relaxed and fun environment to read and explore the Dharma together and discuss what it personally means to you? If so, the Kona Hongwanji Book Club is the place for you!

Join us as we learn how the Dharma can offer wisdom for living with compassion and courage in times of difficulty. We will explore: ***When Things Fall Apart: Heart Advice for Difficult Times* by Pema Chödrön**. We will meet weekly via Zoom from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm on the following Wednesdays in June (16, 23, 30). Please register by Monday, June 7th and purchase a copy of the book from an online retailer of your choice.

Register here: <https://forms.gle/nsLj1eV161FahcDt8>



Preschool News

March began with the celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday and National Read Across America Day. It was a fun week as we saw characters like Horton, Thing One and Thing Two and the Cat in the Hat come to life through various art activities. We also learned about plants in our gardening unit and planted flower seeds for National Plant a Flower day on March 12. We did go green on St. Patrick's Day with leprechauns, rainbows and pots of gold and our gardening unit wouldn't be complete without learning about insects and creepy crawlers. The children enjoyed digging for worms and making different bugs such as ants, bees, butterflies and walking sticks. Our main attraction this year; a spider that was found with an hourglass shape on its abdomen.

April was all about weather, things that fly and animals in the air. After a very wet March, April turned out to be sunny for most days. This made cloud watching (looking for shapes) possible for National Look Up At the Sky Day on April 14. Earth Day on April 22nd reminded us to be mindful of what we do to our planet and to take care of it every day. The month ended with things that fly and was an enjoyable unit as the children got to make airplanes, hot air balloons, rockets and flyable paper airplanes, rockets and kites.

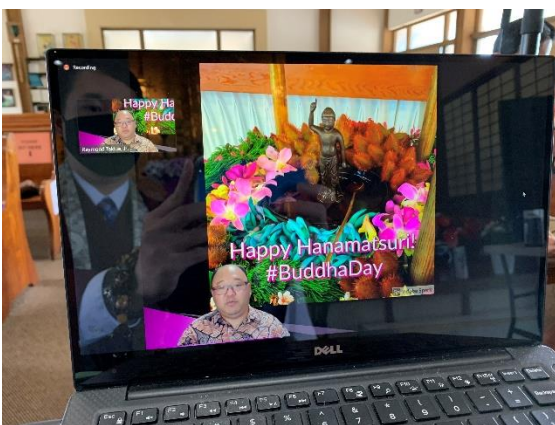
May is all about mothers, people in our community and graduation. Mother's Day honors the mother of the family, motherhood, maternal bonds and the influences they have on society. It is a day for us to show appreciation for all that they do and all that they are. Happy Mother's Day moms! We also talk about the people in our community and their roles in society which prompts the question, "what do you want to be when you grow up?" This is the question our preschool graduates answer during our annual graduation program. Due to COVID and facility restrictions, we will be having a drive through graduation this year.

COVID has made this school year in particular extra challenging. As the traditional school year comes to an end, we are thankful for making it this far. We are grateful for the support of our parents, temple members and the community in helping to educate our youngest members of our community. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Aloha,
Leanne Abe, preschool director

We are looking for part-time and/or full-time, temporary and permanent positions for 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 khp72016@outlook.com. We are looking for a team player with a positive attitude to join our team.

Hanamatsuri Service and Open House



On April 11, we held our Zoom Hanamatsuri Service and in-person Open House. We had a wonderful time celebrating the birth of Shakyamuni Buddha with a Dharma Message by Raymond Takiue Jr., President of Moilili Hongwanji and pouring sweet tea over the statue of the baby Buddha. The stunning hanamido was beautifully decorated by BWA members Janet Maeda and Elaine Sugiyama.

“MAY WE GATHER” A NATIONAL BUDDHIST MEMORIAL CEREMONY FOR ASIAN AMERICAN ANCESTORS ON TUESDAY, MAY 4TH, 2021 at 1PM HAWAII TIME

May We Gather is the first national Buddhist memorial service in response to anti-Asian violence. This event is promoted by Dr. Duncan Ryuken Williams, Dr. Funie Hsu, and Ms. Chenxing Han and supported by many Buddhist partner temples, organizations, and individuals. Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii is also endorsing and supporting this event. The following is the press release for this event.

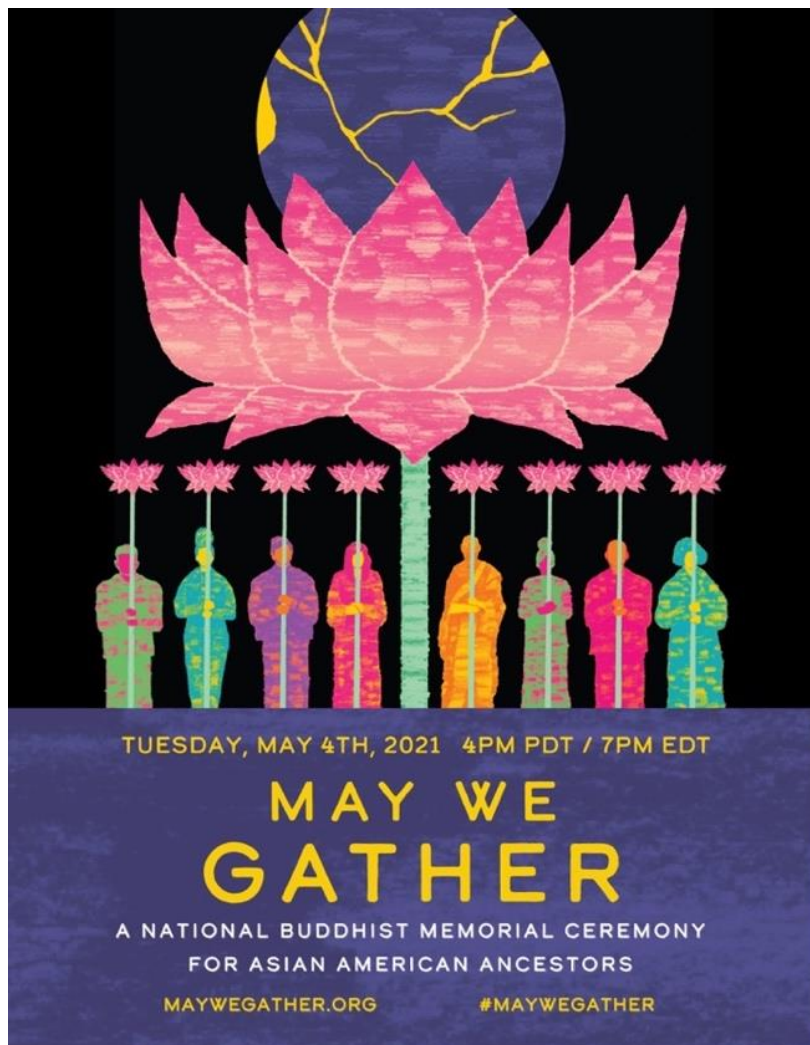
May We Gather: A National Buddhist Memorial Ceremony for Asian American Ancestors (www.maywegather.org) is the first national Buddhist memorial service in response to anti-Asian violence. The ceremony will be livestreamed from Higashi Honganji Temple in Los Angeles, which was vandalized earlier this year. The event will be freely broadcast online and will bring together Asian American Buddhists and their allies to heal in community together.

On May 4th, 2021, exactly seven weeks, or forty-nine days, will have passed since the Atlanta shootings claimed the lives of eight people, six of them women of Asian descent, including the 63-year-old Buddhist Yong Ae Yue. In many Buddhist traditions, forty-nine days after death marks an important transition for the bereaved. May We Gather will feature Buddhist chanting and reflections from forty-nine Asian American Buddhist leaders of South, Southeast, and East Asian descent in a communal ritual to honor people who have died from acts of anti-Asian violence in the United States.

The hourlong event will be held **on Tuesday, May 4th, 2021 at 4pm PDT (1pm Hawaii Time)**. We welcome Asian American Buddhist temples and organizations as well as allied communities and individuals of all backgrounds to participate in this ceremony by endorsing the gathering, sharing it widely, and watching the livestream on May 4th.

The livestream is free and registration is not required. Please visit the following page to participate in this service: <https://www.maywegather.org/livestream>

For more information, please visit the event website: <https://www.maywegather.org/>



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS—APRIL 2021

HAKASOJI and NOKOTSUDO

Anonymous	Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Fujikawa	Janet Fujikawa
James Fujimoto	Ronan Fukushima	Patrick Imai
Mary Katayama	Nancy Katayama	Carol Kawachi
Richard Komo	Dwight Manago	Alan Matsumoto
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Matsubara	Norma Matsumoto	Roy Matsumoto
Dr. & Mrs. James Mitchell	Sueto Matsumura	Hideyuki Nagai
Phyllis Nakamura	Jenny Nakashima	Elaine Okura
Kazumi Oshita	Helen Oue	Grace Rivera
James Sato	Molly Takashiba	Katy Uemura
Toyoko Urada	Doris Yamamoto	
	Total - \$1,400.46	

SERVICES

Beverly Kanda, 49th day service for Walter Kanda
Arlene Ogata, Funeral Service and Related Expenses for Tsuino Yoshiki
Mr. & Mrs. Kiyoshi Watanabe, Funeral Service and Related Expenses for Setsuko Deguchi
Total - \$1,275.00

JIHO

Janet Fujikawa	Carol Kawachi	Elaine Komo
Norma Matsumoto	Sueto Matsumura	Jenny Nakashima
Carol Okuna	Katy Uemura	Doris Yamamoto
	Total - \$305.00	

SPRING OHIGAN

Anonymous	Carol Ichishita	Kimie Mizoshiri
Mr. & Mrs. Hiroki Ishimaru	Alan Matsumoto	Ann Matsumoto
Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Kaneko	Shigeko Nakasone	Mr. & Mrs. Bert Maedo
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Maeda	Chizu Nakashima	Clayton Nishina
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka	Dr. & Mrs. John Tsue	Carol Okuna
	Total - \$500.00	

HANAMATSURI

Hatsuyo Haimoto	Sandy Iwashita	Kimie Mizoshiri
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Komo	Mr. & Mrs. Bert Maedo	Katy Uemura
Sukeji Yamagata	Doris Yamamoto	
	Total - \$235.00	

IN MEMORY OF

Anonymous, IMO Tatsuyo Nakagawa
Anonymous, IMO Yasue Ito
Elaine Chapman, Gifford Matsuoka, Peter Matsuoka, Henry Chapman, Malia Chapman and Kanani Chapman,
IMO Stanley Kunitomo 3rd year
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hiraishi, IMO Tatsuyo Nakagawa's 7th year
Patrick Imai, IMO Herbert Imai's 7th year
Mr. & Mrs. Sadayuki Inouye, IMO Konoe Saito's 33rd year
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Sakamoto, IMO George and Charles Sakamoto's 3rd year
Aileen Kaneshiro, IMO Sally Murakami
Leanne Kirk, IMO Misako "Mitzi" Iseri's 13th year
Kona Trans, IMO Shin and Yaeko Shiotsuka
SJA Partnership LLP, IMO Shin and Yaeko Shiotsuka
Audrey Mikami, IMO Konoe Saito's 33rd year
Fusaye Murayama, IMO Masaki Motomura & Ohana and Genzo Fujii & Ohana

Acknowledgements continued:

Elaine Nakagawa, IMO Lillian Yamamoto
Minoru Tashima, IMO Tsuino Yoshiki
Mackay Yamamoto, IMO Tsuino Yoshiki

Total - \$3,150.00

HI KYODAN DUES

Anonymous
Carol Kawachi
Dr. & Mrs. James Mitchell
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Tanaka

Anonymous
Norma Matsumoto
Kazumi Oshita

Mary Katayama
Sueto Matsumura
Doris Yamamoto

CAPITAL FUND

Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Fujikawa
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Matsubara
Dr. & Mrs. James Mitchell
Kazumi Oshita

Anonymous
Mary Katayama
Carol Kawachi
Norma Matsumoto
Katy Uemura

Janet Fujikawa
Nancy Katayama
Elaine Komo
Sueto Matsumura
Toyoko Urada

SPECIAL DONATIONS

Mitsue Akazawa
Patrick Komo
Linda Nakagawa

Ishikada Fund
Dwight Manago

Sandy Iwashita
Lori Marcello

Anonymous, Eshinni/Kakushinni Day
Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Kaneko, Sunday Services
Nancy Katayama, Sunday Services
Carol Ichishita, Ho'onko, Gotan-E
Clayton Nishina, Eshinni/Kakushinni Day
Dr. & Mrs. John Tsue, Eshinni/Kakushinni Day
Carol Kawachi, Project Dana
Doris Yamamoto, Project Dana, Social Concerns
Kimie Mizoshiri, Obon, Ho'onko, Eitaikyo
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Fujikawa, Social Concerns
Ellen Nishikawa, HAIB Buddha Day
Norma Matsumoto, Judo Club
Kazumi Oshita, Cub Scouts Pack 12
Michitoshi Murakami, Nirvana Day
Carol Okuna, Ho'onko, Gotan-E
James Sato, Eitaikyo

Total - \$1,592.00

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

MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR MAY ,JUNE AND JULY 2021

FIRST YEAR 2020

5/10	Katoku, Takao	6/23	Fujino, Robert
6/10	Yoshioka, Yaeko	7/28	Nakagawa, Mary

THIRD YEAR (2019)

05/07	Tanaka, Takiyo	06/16	Sato, Saeko
07/17	Miyose, Janet Mieko	07/17	Harano, Makoto
07/18	Pratt, Asako		

SEVENTH YEAR (2015)

06/14	Kunitomo, Gladys Hideko	06/28	Higashi, Sanford Tatsuya
07/18	Oue, Tatsumi		

THIRTEENTH YEAR (2009)

05/04	Kaneo, Motoji	05/14	Iseri, Misako "Mitzi"
06/05	Oura, Sadako "Janet"	07/27	Kawahara, Kathryn Kinoe

SEVENTEENTH YEAR (2005)

05/17	Yamato, Kikue	05/23	Harano, Daniel Manabu
06/29	Nakashima, Jace Masao	07/14	Koike, George

TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR (1997)

05/10	Kato, "Sadie" Sadako	05/11	Sakamoto, Tomio
05/18	Fukunaga, Aiko	05/27	Kadohiro, Yasuo
07/05	Ota, Matsue	07/26	Fujimoto, Yoshinobu
07/29	Miyazono, Sadayuki "Barney"		

THIRTY-THIRD YEAR (1989)

05/07	Saito, Konoe	06/05	Fujimoto, Chiyono
06/01	Kitaoka, Takeshi	06/07	Shimamoto Jr., Cornell

FIFTIETH YEAR (1972)

05/13	Yamasaki, Takeo	05/22	Izuno, Tokio
06/28	Onaka, Shizue		

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