



JIHO

October 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 October. 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

Sunday, October 10, 2021, at 10:00 am

Dharma Family Service

Sunday, October 24, 2021, at 10:00 am

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!

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

While the ongoing surge in COVID cases resulted in the cancelation of our Obon Open House that was scheduled last month, I would like to extend a big mahalo to our temple BWA members who made our chicken hekka fundraiser a success. For 2 consecutive days, a dedicated core of volunteers worked together to make this project possible. Thank you also to all of our sangha members who purchased the hekka plates in support of our temple.

As we now transition to our chili fundraiser in cooperation with Sandy's Drive Inn, hopefully you've all received your tickets in the mail. Pick up will be on Fridays & Saturdays in October. I'll thank you in advance for your participation in this fundraiser that helps to maintain our temple's place in the community and enhances our ability to service the needs of our members.

Finally, I'll add my hope that the COVID situation will improve soon and allow us to return to in-person services once again at the temple. With everyone working together, we can bring our sangha together in a safe and appropriate manner. Please stay safe and look after each other.

In Gassho,

Joseph M. Gusman
Kyodan President

Healing Our Brokenness Rev. Blayne Higa

In our world today it seems like empathy and respect are in short supply. We can see this lack of empathy every time we turn on the news or scroll through social media. We see it in the way people have responded or not responded to the most serious public health crisis of our lifetime.

In September 2020, Scientific American ran an opinion piece entitled, "The U.S. has an Empathy Deficit." Over a year later, this headline seems even more true today and reflects our brokenness as a society.

I recently saw a video of a high school student in Tennessee testifying before a county school board. He was advocating for a mask-wearing policy in schools and shared how last year, his grandmother, who was a former schoolteacher in the district, died of COVID because someone wasn't wearing a mask. However, in the middle of sharing his painful story, he was drowned out by laughter and jeering from several adults in the audience. Naturally, this young man was stunned by the blatant disrespect and lack of empathy displayed by some in attendance but he bravely persevered and finished his testimony.

The shocking disregard for the pain this young man and his family endured is astounding. How did we become so numb to the suffering of others that we can respond with scorn and ridicule? What happened to compassion? What happened to empathy? What happened to basic human decency?

In Buddhism, we often describe the world we are living in as a "burning house" because we are trapped by the fires of old age, sickness, and death. We can also understand this "burning house" to mean the world where suffering exists.

We know from our experience over the past several years that there is much suffering. The world is burning quite literally in some places like the Amazon Rainforest and the Western United States due to our changing climate. However, the world is also burning with the poisons of greed, hatred, and ignorance. From the demonization of immigrants, to hate crimes against Asian Americans, to systemic racism and white supremacy, to an armed insurrection on our nation's Capital, to the polarization of our responses to the COVID-19 pandemic, we find ourselves with so many fires to quench.

Buddhism teaches that suffering occurs when we cling to the notion of wanting life to be fixed, independent, and the way we want it to be. However, despite this wish, our interconnected world is undergoing constant change and we often have little control over what is happening. The ongoing pandemic has brought us face-to-face with these fundamental truths: impermanence and interdependence.

The Buddha offers powerful medicine for healing our suffering. The Dharma teaches us how to become true and real human beings by relying on Amida Buddha's Vow of Universal Compassion. I believe Amida's Vow is also our vow—our highest aspiration in life. The Buddha's aspiration to nourish and liberate all beings is the ultimate example of how we should strive to live. The Vow nourishes the soil of our imperfect lives where the seeds of the Dharma are planted and will grow.



The spiritual head of the Nishi Hongwanji Gomonshu Kojun Ohtani expresses the essentials of Shin Buddhism and how the Buddha's teaching can transform and heal our brokenness:

Living with the Dharma as my guide
Softens my rigid heart and mind.
Gratitude for the gift of life I have received
Frees me from becoming lost in greed and anger,
And allows me to share a warm smile and speak gentle words.
Sharing in the joy and sadness of others,
I shall strive to live each day to its fullest.

Living the Nembutsu path leads to a life of spiritual transformation in which our heart breaks open to the suffering of others and we naturally begin to embody the living Dharma in all that we do. Can you imagine how different our lives and our world could be if we simply allow the Buddha's spiritual medicine to work? This is the remarkable life of universal awakening promised by the Buddha. Namu Amida Butsu.

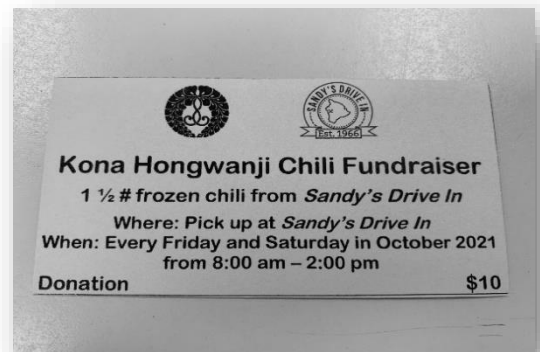
Adopt an Obutsudan

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 (in various sizes) 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.

Chili Fundraiser Pick-up

Thank you for supporting Kona Hongwanji's Chili Fundraiser! This exciting partnership with Sandy's Drive-In supports the temple and local business during these challenging times.

Remember to pick up your 1 1/2 lb. Frozen Chili at Sandy's every Friday and Saturday in October from 8:00am to 2:00pm. Mahalo!



Preschool News

Happy October! We are continuing our Ethnic Travels to Costa Rica where we will learn about the food, interesting places to visit, wildlife, and learn a little Spanish along the way.

It is also the month for one of our all time favorite holidays, Halloween! Our parent-child project for this month will be to make a costume out of a brown paper bag. In lieu of Trick or Treating in our community, the children will have a Costume Parade here at our preschool and will get to trick or treat at our different classrooms, play some Halloween games and look for Wee Pumpkins in our "pumpkin patch". Thank you to Armstrong Produce (Darcie Asakura) for the generous donation of pumpkins for our patch.

Employment opportunities are still available. If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact the preschool at 323-3737 or email at khp72016@outlook.com. We are looking for:

- 2 full time Teachers and Sub Teachers (Registry with PATCH required)
- 1part/full time Aide and Sub Aides (Registry with PATCH required)
- Sub Cleaners
- Preschool Director (Registry with PATCH required)

Thank you!
Leanne

Shop Online to Support Kona Hongwanji

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!



Former Kona Hongwanji President Norma Matsumoto was our guest speaker for our Grandparent’s Day Service on September 12th. She shared how exciting it is to be a new Grandma!

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.

New Member

Mahalo to Annette Saito for becoming a sustaining member. Welcome to our Sangha! Please encourage family and friends to join our temple Ohana. New members are always welcome!



Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii
Hawaii District Ministers Association

ONLINE
2021 BUDDHIST EDUCATION SERIES

"Embracing our Shadow: Shin Buddhist Wisdom for When Life Gets Difficult"

Saturday, October 9, 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m.,

GUEST LECTURER:

REV. BLAYNE HIGA

Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple



-We often believe happiness occurs when we escape pain and suffering. However, only by embracing the shadowy parts of our lives and moving towards uncomfortable situations can we discover wholeness and healing. Shin Buddhism offers a practical path of radical happiness and hope for when life gets difficult. -



Open to public / Free

Any Questions?
hawaii.kyogakkai@gmail.com

[Click to Register](#) Scan to Register

Hawaii Island United Hongwanji and Kona Hongwanji
Buddhist Women’s Association Presents:

On White Ashes

Advanced Care Planning and Buddhist Wisdom for
End-of-Life

Saturday, October 23, 2021
9:00 a.m.—12:00 (noon)
Via Zoom

Please register online at <https://forms.gle/d5qrnc9ezKWdq53B6>,
or contact Linda Nagai @hibelle@hawaii.rr.com.

Reservation Deadline Monday, October 18, 2021.

Elderly Care



Advance Care Planning
& Planning Ahead



Preparing to Say Goodbye
& Help for the Bereaved



Co-sponsored by: Honpa Hongwanji Federation of Buddhist Women

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS—September 2021

HAKASOJI and NOKOTSUDO

Judy Amano	Nancy Fujimoto	Elaine Hirata
Bessie Kakizoe	Stanley Kaku	Mr. & Mrs. Earl Matsuyama
Mr. & Mrs. David Miyashita	Albert Morita	Susan Nishioka
Annette Saito	Mr. & Mrs. Shizuya Sakata	Hanako Sheldon
Jane Shiraishi		
	Total - \$1,030.00	

HATSUBON/OBON

Anonymous	Anna Kaku	Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Kunitake
Mr. & Mrs. Guy Kitaoka	Terry Taniyama	Sueto Matsumura
Mr. & Mrs. George Shimamoto	Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Takiue	Taniyama Family
Edna Fukumitsu	Mr. & Mrs. Fumio Murasaki	Linda Nagai
Jimmy Nakagawa	Chizuko Nakamura	Darlene Saito Cho
James Tashima	Carol Zakahi	
	Total - \$1,245.00	

HIROSHIMA REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

Anonymous	Claudia Chang	Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Kaneko
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kaneko	Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Nagata	Chizu Nakashima
Mr. & Mrs. Clayton Nishina	Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka	Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Takiue
Mr. & Mrs. John Tsue	Lilly Ushiroda	Carol Zakahi
	Total – 340.00	

JIHO

Judy Amano	Sueto Matsumura	Mr. & Mrs. Richie Mori
Susan Nishioka	Mr. & Mrs. Shizuya Sakata	Nancy Fujimoto
Edna Fukumitsu	Mr. & Mrs. David Miyashita	
	Total - \$240.00	

HI KYODAN DUES

Mr. & Mrs. Richie Mori	Mr. & Mrs. Shizuya Sakata	Nancy Fujimoto
Mr. & Mrs. Earl Matsuyama		

CAPITAL FUND

Susan Nishioka	Edna Fukumitsu	Mr. & Mrs. David Miyashita
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Acknowledgements continued:

IN MEMORY OF

Judy Amano & Family, IMO Cary Fujikawa's 33rd Year
Mr. & Mrs. James Boyle, IMO Carl Taniyama and Boston Kitaoka
Janet Fujikawa & Family, IMO Cary Fujikawa's 33rd Year
Michitoshi Murakami, IMO Sally Murakami
Allyson Brown & Family, IMO Sally Murakami
Mr. & Mrs. Milton Deguchi and Family, IMO Fujie Sato
Edna Fukumitsu, IMO Yasuo Fukumitsu
Mr. & Mrs. Brian Isa, IMO Fujie Sato
Maurice Kaku, IMO Kenneth Kaku
Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kaneko, IMO Yoshiyuki Kaneko
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Takiue, IMO Hisako Hatta, Ethel Saito, Mutsumi Komo and Yaeko Yoshioka
Emiko Kaneko, Lani & Spencer Kimura, IMO Yoshiyuki Kaneko
Total - \$1,660.00

SPECIAL DONATIONS

Clyde Oshiro	Elaine Hirata	Grace Sasaki
Taniyama Family	Mitzi Taniyama	Mr. & Mrs. Bert Maedo
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Sugiyama	Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Tagawa	Kona Hongwanji BWA

Edna Fukumitsu, BWA, Project Dana
David Miyashita, Dharma School, Jr. YBA
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Takiue, Father's Day
Linda Nagai, Memorial Service for Toshio Nagai's 7th Year
Kenneth Komo, 49th day Service for Mutsumi Komo
Total - \$1,165.00

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
12/01 Zakahi, Stanley

11/12 Saito, Ukie

THIRD YEAR (2019)

10/23 Katoku, Naoto
12/28 Matsumoto, Glenn Tatsuki
12/30 Matsuoka, George Hideaki

12/05 Aoki, Dale Kakuma
12/28 Deguchi, Yasunori

SEVENTH YEAR (2015)

11/06 Maeno, Yukio
11/16 Okabayashi, Yaeko
11/23 Ichishita, Gary Kazuyoshi

11/07 Aoki, Kazue
11/20 Aoki, Kazuyoshi
11/27 Cheng, Minoru Reen

THIRTEENTH YEAR (2009)

10/18 Kurozawa, Yukiko K.
11/17 Wagle, Satsue

10/22 Okumura, Mitsuru "Irene"

SEVENTEENTH YEAR (2005)

10/13 Murata, Clarence Kiyoshi
11/03 Ide, Kiyoshi
11/10 Tashima, Takie

10/30 Tanaka, Hiroshi
11/08 Kazama, Toshinori
11/30 Kirihara, George Yukio

TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR (1997)

11/07 Komo, Clarence Satoru
11/23 Nakamura, Harold Yoshiyuki

11/09 Hirata, Harold Hiromi

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.





Nembutsu Seminar 2021

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii
Hawaii District Ministers Association

"Path of Resilience, Path of Nembutsu"

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2
10 A.M. - 11:30 AM (HST)
[Click to Register](#)

"In times of chaos, resilience is perhaps the one thing we can aspire for, if not faith/trust, so we can get through these enormous difficulties. We human beings as helpless and ignorant as we are, need to be able to turn to something greater than ourselves that provides refuge, safety, and unconditional kindness: Amida Buddha. Being firmly grounded in Namo Amida Butsu can settle our agitated minds, heal our broken hearts, and unequivocally carry us through countless traumatic events."



[Click for bio](#)

-Rev. Carmela Javellana-Hirano



Scan to Register

Any questions? Email: hawaii.kyogakkai@gmail.com

Open Invitation to All...

2nd Dharma School Gathering

"Building Healthy Sanghas"

Sunday, October 17, 2021



PROGRAM

- 9:30 am: Service: Dharma Message by
Rev. Satoshi Tomioka of Puna HM
- 10:00 am: DS Breakout Rm. Sessions;
Adult Breakout Rm. Session:
Speaker - Rev. Kerry Kiyohara of
Makawao HM
- 10:50 am: DS Families/Adult Sessions End
- 11:00 am: DS Teachers/Educators Gathering:
Guest Speaker - Mr. Pieper Toyama
- 12:00 pm: End

Any questions? Contact:
Debbie Kubota at dekub88@gmail.com



RSVP Deadline is **October 2**.
Click on the following link to register:
<https://forms.gle/Koy9KtWq868Uzbl07>

Gathering Zoom Link will be emailed
to participants by **October 15**

A Commission on Buddhist Education (CBE) Project of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii