



Makawao Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

February 2022

P.O. Box 188, Makawao, Maui, HI 96768

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Website: makawaohongwanji.org

Resident Minister: Rev. Kerry Kiyohara

MAKAWAO HONGWANJI MISSION
P. O. BOX 188
Makawao, HI.—96768

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
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Makawao, HI 96768



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SUNDAY SERVICES IN FEBRUARY ARE LIVESTREAMED

Sunday, February 6, 2022, 9:00 a.m.
FIRST SUNDAY FAMILY DHARMA SERVICE

Sunday, February 13, 2022, 9:00 a.m.
FAMILY DHARMA SERVICE

Sunday, February 20, 2022, 9:00 a.m.
DHARMA FAMILY SERVICE

Sunday, February 27, 2022, 9:00 a.m.
INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
AND
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

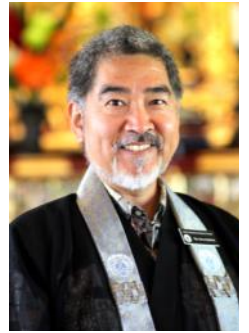


MAY ALL BEINGS BE HAPPY AND WELL,
MAY NO HARM OR DIFFICULTIES COME TO THEM,
MAY THEY LIVE IN PEACE AND HARMONY.

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

KIMYŌ (return to life) and NAMO (take refuge)

"I have arrived, I am home" means: I don't want to run anymore. I've been running all my life, and I've arrived nowhere. Now I want to stop. My destination is the here and now, the only time and place where true life is possible.



—Thich Nhat Hanh (1926-2022)

Thich Nhat Hanh, one of the most influential Buddhists of our time, passed away on January 22, 2022 at age 95. NamōAmidaButsu! For many people, our understanding of “Buddhism” reflects directly the influence of the thoughts, words, and teachings of Thich Nhat Hahn: “mindfulness” “engaged Buddhism” “compassion,” as well as Buddhist “practices” of meditation, monastic life, and non-attachment. Thich Nhat Hanh was ordained as a Buddhist monk in the Zen tradition, which along with the Pure Land tradition, is at the core of the Mahayana stream of Buddhism, and so there are many parallels in the teachings of Shinran *Shōnin* and Thich Nhat Hanh.

“Mindfulness” today is often defined as the “spiritual but not religious” practice of meditation to achieve personal inner peace, calmness, manage stress of modern life—and Mindfulness is a billion-dollar profit-making business. The “mindfulness” movement offers a spiritual practice that appeals to our self-centered, transactional view of the world, and our deepest need to feel superior to others.

“Anxious about the future?” “Depressed over the past?” “Stressed out in the now?” Try new and improved mindfulness—Just “live in the moment,” breathe, focus, meditate!

Since this is a spiritual “practice,” the instruction fee is \$250 per person, per hour. As Americans, we are culturally conditioned to think of life as a transaction with negotiated outcomes: we pay money and get what we want. What’s in it for ME?

Thich Nhat Hanh’s Buddhist teachings are deceptively simple explanations of Buddhist truth that push our ego-self to see beyond ME (my ego). The Truth of Non-Self—the Oneness of All Life—and the path of cultivating compassion is taught in simple words.

“The peace we seek cannot be our personal possession. We need to find an inner peace which makes it possible for us to become one with those who suffer, and to do something to help our brothers and sisters, which is to say, ourselves.” —Thich Nhat Hanh (1926-2022)

It is human nature to practice mindfulness with the goal of personal benefit, and secret desire to feel superior to others: “I meditate, I am great = You should meditate (unspoken: because you are not great)” while Buddha-nature is to transcend the ego-self, our inherent self-centeredness, to cultivate compassion for other living beings in suffering, and to be compelled to take action.

“Mindfulness” is a profitable business, not a religion, which is why “mindfulness” is portrayed in the media as a “movement” while Buddhism is positioned as a traditional “religion” and thus religious organizations, e.g., ethnocentric “Asian” Buddhist temples like the Hongwanji, are in decline, especially the younger the person asked.

What does Shinran *Shōnin* teach about “mindfulness”?

"Saying the Name is in itself mindfulness; mindfulness is the nembutsu; the nembutsu is Namu-amida-butsu." —Shinran Shōnin (1173-1263), Passages on the Pure Land Way, Collected Works of Shinran, Vol. 1, p. 296

The “practice” of Nembutsu is simply saying Namu (Namu) Amida Butsu in mindfulness of the All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion of Amida Buddha working in your unrepeatable life right here, right now to guide you to Birth in the Pure Land, thus Supreme Enlightenment, and returning to this world in Oneness with Amida to save all people and living beings.

Namu (Namu) is derived from the Sanskrit “namas” which has many meanings: to take refuge, to find refuge, to accept refuge. The reason for Namu and Namu is the simple fact that two different Chinese hanzi (like Japanese kanji) were used in the transliteration of Namo Amitabha Buddhaya. So beyond tradition and linguistic constraints, there is no difference in using Namu or Namu in the practice of the Nembutsu, mindfulness of Amida's Compassion working in your unrepeatable life.

“I have arrived, I am home” means: I don't want to run anymore. I've been running all my life, and I've arrived nowhere. Now I want to stop. My destination is the here and now, the only time and place where true life is possible. —Thich Nhat Hanh (1926-2022)

As Americans, we are driven to achieve “success”—work hard, get ahead, get rich! The promised land is always beyond our reach: study hard, get into good university, get good job, work your butt off, retire and enjoy the “golden years” without a care in the world!

My personal transformation came during a period of professional burn-out: I realized that I had been pushing myself relentlessly to reach some promised land, but I arrived nowhere. I realized I wasn't running TO someplace, I was running away from myself, the person I had become to achieve “success” in the corporate world.

Because I am karma's fool, Amida's Compassion and Wisdom reached out to me, slapped me across the head, and said, “Hey dude, maybe the problem is you? Kinda hard to run away from yourself, no?” And that led to my return home to my Buddhist roots, the teachings of Shinran, the teachings of the Buddha, and the example set by Thich Nhat Hahn in how he lived his life during my lifetime.

The opening verse of the *Shōshin Nembutsu-ge (Shōshinge)* written by Shinran *Shōnin*, begins with “Take refuge in the Tathagata of Immeasurable Life”,

「帰命」 *ki myō* “Return to Life”

「無量寿如来」 *muryōjū nyorai* Immeasurable Life Tathagata (Amida)

The kanji characters for KI-MYŌ literally translate as “return home” (to) “life”—which is the Tathagata of Immeasurable Life, that is to say Amida Buddha, All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion working in your unrepeatable life.

Namu (Namu) means the same thing:

「南无」 *na mo* 「南無」 *na mu* “take refuge” “find refuge” in Amida Butsu (Buddha)

Grammatically, it is critical to note there is no personal pronoun in NamuAmidaButsu! From Amida's perspective, “YOU take refuge” (in Great Compassion and Infinite Wisdom). From my perspective, “I have found my refuge” (from my Ego-Self). From the perspective of others, “WE can all find refuge!” (in the All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion of Amida). NamuAmidaButsu!

It's easy to over-simplify Shin Buddhism as being focused solely on the what happens after we die (the “after-life”) but that misses the point of living this unrepeatable life as a Buddhist. In Thich Nhat Hanh's words and how he lived his unrepeatable life,

“...My destination is the here and now, the only time and place where true life is possible.”

Continued From Page 3, Minister's Message

Shinran uses the words “true and real” (*shinjitsu*) life, which is the life of Nembutsu, living your unrepeatable life without fear, anxiety, or depression, even as we live in the midst of confusion and delusion, “this burning house.”

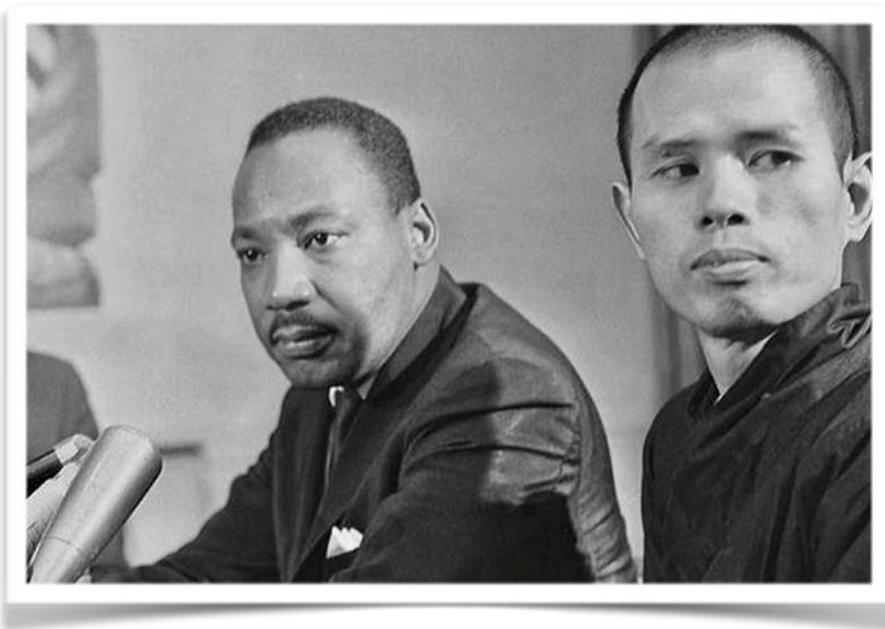
Both Thich Nhat Hanh and Shinran Shōnin implore us, wish for us, hope for us to awaken to the reality-as-it-is that we are not separate from other life, we are all part of life. What is important is not what happens after this life but during this unrepeatable life, and this arises from our thoughts, words, and actions. As Shin Buddhists, we try our best to become aware of our true self, our utter human-ness, to see through the illusion of our separate-ness, gradually shifting our world view from “it’s about ME!” to “it’s not about ME!”

Let us take a moment to reflect upon the passing of Thich Nhat Hahn and express our gratitude for reminding us as Shin Buddhists that *NamoAmidaButsu!* is simply “returning to true and real life” and your unrepeatable life is happening right here, right now, in this moment. What are you going to do today?

NamoAmidaButsu!

Mahalo,

Rev. Kerry



“We are here to awaken from our illusion of separateness.”

— **Thich Nhat Hanh (1926-2022)**

Photo: © Plum Village Community of Engaged Buddhism (PVCEB)

NamoAmidaButsu

President's Message

Last year, 2021 I started my tenure as Council President for the first time. I began on a hopeful note. We were looking forward to the new vaccines that had just been approved by the FDA for elderly citizens. Some of us started receiving our shots as early as January of 2021. I remember writing about the light at the end of the tunnel. One year later, how have things changed?



Unfortunately, as things got better, the new Omicron variant started its spread throughout the US and here on Maui. What happened? The state's data shows we have the highest percentage of cases on Maui, as well as the least vaccinated percentage in the state today. Seems like Dr. Fauchi, President Biden, Governor Ige, Lieutenant Governor Dr. Josh Green, and our own Mayor Mike Victorino are all sending the same message. We only have a few weapons against getting really sick with the Virus. Get vaccinated, Mask up, Wash your hands, avoid events with lots of crowds. Funny, my wife says from way back they always taught us kids from kindergarten to wash your hands, cover your coughs, and stay home if you feel sick. It's just common health practice, not a political issue. As far as I can remember, the public schools won't allow children who don't have their all their immunization shots to attend school. There's a reason for this... makes sense?

So this year, as a result of increased Covid cases, Makawao Hongwanji Buddhist Temple has had to shutter its doors to non-essential temple activities officially until February 15st. Looking back to one year ago, on January 31, we had everyone welcoming the New Year with our Shinnenkai drive through "meet & greet". Our new Council officers were inducted and we held our annual membership meeting in person and by zoom. We were all in a celebratory mood, expecting to return to some normalcy with our special services and dharma school activities. We held a walk through with video Hanamatsuri in May, Virtual Obon in July, a drive-through Halloween treat day in October, and a New Years Eve and Day services in December. Last October we announced the temple opening for in-person services. Although the opening has been short-lived, I wish to thank all of you who have worked so hard at bringing these activities to our members to enjoy and for keeping our temple running. Thank you to Reverend Kerry for continuing services on line every Sunday and also for daily chanting.

Let's keep on helping the temple and keep on observing our important Buddhist services. May you be happy and well.

In Gassho,

Clyde

BE SAFE / BE WELL

February & March 2022 Memorial Anniversaries

(Please call Temple Office to schedule your service—572-7229)

1st Year Memorial Service 2021

February 13 Yoshio Kijima

1st Year Memorial service 2021

March 15 Yoshiharu Nakamura

3rd Year Memorial Service 2020

February 20 Michael Suda

3rd Year Memorial Service 2020

March 01 Ross Yeimei Tamayose

7th Year Memorial Service 2016

February 03 Haruyuki Yamanaka

February 08 George Freitas

7th Year Memorial Service 2016

March 27 Shizuko Nellie Kawabe

13th Year Memorial Service 2010

February 09 Tsurue Sera

February 12 Dorothy Toshiko Matsui

February 21 Isamu Shimizu

13th Year Memorial Service 2010

March 25 Takeo Otsubo

17th Year Memorial Service 2006

February 05 Hajime Kawakami

February 11 Namiko Noda

17th Year Memorial Service 2006

March 30 Hiroshi Horiuchi

25th Year Memorial Service 1998

February 04 Kiyoko Masusako

February 16 Kinu Matsumoto

February 16 Rikio Kawauchi

February 20 Tokie Adachi

25th Year Memorial Service 1998

March - None

33rd Year Memorial Service 1990

February 16 Hisayoshi Takahashi

33rd Year Memorial Service 1990

March - None

50th Year Memorial Service 1973

February - None

50th Year Memorial Service 1973

March 03 Hideo Nakamura

March 09 Goichi Hifumi

March 14 Francis Takakura

March 26 Tokiyo Tanaka



Donations - Makawao Hongwanji Mission can operate only because of the generous donations from many, many people. All donations are humbly received with sincere gratitude and appreciation. IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO HAVE YOUR DONATION PRINTED IN THE NEWSLETTER, OR IF YOU WISH TO HAVE YOUR DONATION LISTED AS ANONYMOUS, PLEASE INDICATE SO BY ATTACHING A NOTE TO YOUR CONTRIBUTION.

Thank You!

Contributions December 22, 2021 to January 26, 2022

DONATION:

Christy Vail

Christine Kubo

Joann Yosemori

Dr. Ryan Agena

Jennie H. Sniegowski

Stanley Shimote

Darryl Yagi

Lloyd Sodetani

Asano Suizu

Burton Onikama

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Tetsuo Terao – Diane Umbar

In memory of Shigeo and Fudeko Maeda – Jean A. Kawakami

In memory of grandparents Hachiro and Kiwa Hirano, parents Waichi and Jane Kunimitsu,
brother Wesley Kunimitsu – Mark Kunimitsu

In memory of Kazuo and Misao Tamura – Kenneth and Joann Tamura

In memory of Edward and Doris Nakamoto – David Hongo

In memory of Kay Keiko (Oishi) Watanabe – Allen Watanabe

In memory of Sho Sakae – Florence Sakae

In memory of Paul Otani – Andy and Betty Hirose, Robert and Iwa Yoshioka

In memory of Dorothy Matsui – Robert and Iwa Yoshioka

In memory of Clyde Yoshime Matsui – Mitsuko Matsui

In memory of Raymond Nakamura – Colin Nakamura

In memory of Eileen Iwatake and Mamoru Nakagawa – Kelly Yokouchi

25th Memorial Anniversary of Masaharu Migita – Glenn Yoshimori

New Year donation – Yvonne and Toshio Kishi, Jane Sato, Caren Gohara, Andy and Betty Hirose, Clyde
and Gail Hamai, Alma and Ken Nakano, Floyd and Sharon Nagoshi, Glenn and Diane Kosaka

Social Concerns – Noboru Hironaka

NOKOTSUDO:

Kelvin and Lynn Nakamura

Margaret Honda

Noboru Hironaka

In memory of Mildred Makimoto – Harold Makimoto

In memory of Shoichi Karimoto – Donald and Mae Karimoto

In memory of Yoshio and Grace Kijima – Mark Kijima

In memory of Robert and Florence Taniguchi – Lorine and Richard DeCoite

In memory of Harumi Kawaharada - Anonymous

OFUSE:

Funeral service for Yukie Nihei – Craig Nihei

7th year memorial service for Kazuo Takemoto – Family of Kazuo Takemoto

In memory of Kazuo Takemoto – Susan Watanabe

Yakudoshi service for grandson – Teiko Gibson

88th birthday (beiju) for Mrs. Teiko Gibson – Teiko Gibson

NEWSLETTER:

Mr. and Mrs. Masami Hironaka

Shirley Takahashi

Annette Iwahashi

THANK YOU FOR RECYCLING: \$130.00



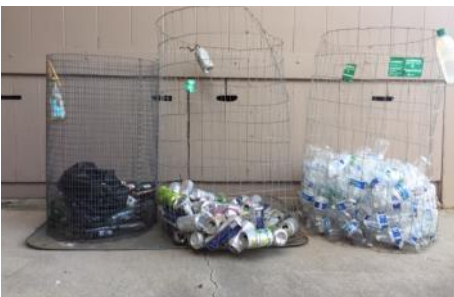


PACK 18 BIKE RIDE

It was a perfect day for a bike ride, for the children as well as parents. Pack 18 Cub Scouts had a family outing on January 23. There were 18 participants who cycled from Kanaha Beach Park to Stable Road.



MHBT RECYCLES



Recyclable bins by temple kitchen.

Thank you to all who have been contributing to our recycling bins. We have a bin for bottles, a bin for cans, and a bin for plastics. On a regular basis, volunteer members take the recyclables to the redemption centers (closest one is behind Kalama School). Remember to separate your recyclables in the appropriate bins. Thank you very much.

DATE CHANGE: MHBT GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Due to the highly infectious Omicron Virus, our Installation of Officers and MHBT General Membership Meeting has been changed to February 27, 2022. General Membership Meeting will commence at 9:00 a.m. Please adjust your calendars accordingly. See you all then.

JR. YBA

By: Diane Nako

During 2021, the Maui United Jr. YBA meetings were held virtually. Our members participated in the annual YESS Camp and State Federation of Jr. YBA Convention, also done virtually. Although not in-person, members were able to take away important Dharma messages and conduct Federation business as well as shared fellowship with Jr. YBA'ers from the State of Hawaii and California.

Some of the highlights were:

- Service project to benefit the Ronald McDonald House of Hawaii. Coupon books were sold at \$5 each.
- Graduates' dinner was held at Café O'Lei in August to bid farewell to seniors
- Makawao Hongwanji Temple's Halloween Drive-by candy distribution.
- Welcome New member: Wesley Kosaka

In 2022, we plan to have a bonding event at MHBT as well as recruiting drive for the Maui United Jr. YBA. If you know of any youths in 7th through 12th grades who would like to be a part of this wonderful youth group, please call the Temple Office at (808)572-7229 for information. Members meet and participate with Jr. YBA'ers from all islands. It's a great way to make new friends, experience leadership opportunities and possible student exchange experiences. Students new to the temple are welcomed. Join Jr. YBA today!



Pickled Peach Mui

Limited quantity of Pickled Peach Mui is available now. Please contact Temple Office (808) 572-7229 to reserve and pick up from temple office. \$6 for 8oz.



**MAKAWAO HONGWANJI
PRESCHOOL**

Outdoor activities are always enjoyed by the children at Makawao Hongwanji Preschool.

If your child turns 3 this year, his/her name may be placed on our waitlist. Call 572-7883.

Makawao Hongwanji Preschool is looking to hire a preschool teacher. Please call the preschool for more information.



MAKAWAO HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE

Council Minutes Highlights

January 23, 2022, viz Zoom



1. Treasurer's Report: Report submitted.
2. Minister's Report:
 - 1) Makawao Hongwanji is closed to non-essential activity through February 1, 2022.
 - 2) Temple continues to provide essential in- religious services in temple hall.
 - 3) For end-of-life services in the temple hall (Hondo), temple offers in-person attendance and livestream of funerals and memorial cycle services.
 - 4) Temple continues to livestream daily Sunrise, Eitaikyo Chanting in the Columbarium, Chanting the Shoshenge, and Virtual Dharma Family Service with Children's Dharma Story Time (Sundays).
3. Pauwela Cemetery Update: Report submitted. Glen Kosaka reported on the particular issues for satisfying title insurance requirements.
4. Annual Membership Meeting and New Year's 2022 Food Drive Through: Event date changed to February 27, 2022, due to concerns about COVID.
5. Bodhi Tree Plaque: Floyd Nagoshi reported that the plaque was received from Michael Emura of Emura's Jewelry as a donation. Glen Coryell donated a kiawe wood post to hold the plaque which will be mounted on a mahogany board. A dedication ceremony, as part of the 115th anniversary of Paia Hongwanji and 50th anniversary of Makawao Hongwanji in October, was discussed.
6. Temple Website Update: Jean Heselden will work on this.
7. Maui County Right of Entry Request: Request submitted by the County Department of Public Works for right of entry onto temple property during sidewalk improvements on Makawao Avenue. Motion approved.
8. Membership: Report submitted.
9. Funeral/Columbarium: Report submitted.
10. Properties: Report submitted.
11. Maui District Hongwanji Council: Karen Ishizu will be installed as Vice President.
12. HHMH (Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii) Board of Directors: Sharon Higuchi's term ended December 31, 2021. Carol Yamamura is our new director.
13. Jr. YBA: Report submitted.
14. BWA: Carol Yamamura reported that the April 23-24, 2022, State Conference hosted by Maui United BWA is now virtual, only via Zoom.
15. Boy/Cub Scouts: Enjoyed outdoor activities such as bike rides and miniature golf.
16. Judo: Suspended activities due to temple closure.
17. Preschool: Bobbi reported that the Preschool is still in need of more staff with maximum 20 students and a growing wait list.

(Full text of Council meeting and reports can be obtained from the Temple Office.)



BUDDHIST STUDY CENTER PRESENTS
2022 SPRING SEMINAR



DHARMA THROUGH the Eyes of Youth

MARCH 25 & 26

Friday, March 25 | 7:00 - 8:30pm

Panel Discussion
Jr. YBA Youth-led activity
Q&A after Discussion



Manami Alspach



Chihiro Okawa



Kana Suzuki



Jay Yokoyama



Naho Umitani

JR. YBA PANELISTS

Saturday, March 26 | 10:00 - 11:30am

Guest Speaker: Jacob Chang
Panelists

Dharma School / New Member: Wayne Yoshioka

YESS Camp: Dwight Matsuo

Temple Leadership: Wayde Toyama

Q&A

SATURDAY SPEAKERS



Jacob Chang



Wayne Yoshioka



Dwight Matsuo



Wayde Toyama

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