



Makawao Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

June 2023

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

Office Phone: (808) 572-7229

E-mail: makawaohongwanji@gmail.com Website: makawaohongwanji.org Resident Minister: Rev. Kerry Kiyohara

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

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SUNDAY SERVICES ARE IN-PERSON AND LIVESTREAMED

Sunday, June 4, 9:00 a.m.
FIRST SUNDAY FAMILY DHARMA SERVICE
MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE
DHARMA SCHOOL
BACCALAUREATE SERVICE

Sunday, June 18, 9:00 a.m.
SUNDAY FAMILY DHARMA SERVICE

Sunday, June 11, 9:00 a.m.
SUNDAY FAMILY DHARMA SERVICE

Saturday, June 24, 7:00 a.m.
GARAGE SALE
Sunday, June 25, 7:00 a.m.
NO SUNDAY SERVICE
GARAGE SALE AND BAZAAR

NO SUNDAY FAMILY SERVICE DURING THE MONTH OF AUGUST

The temple will be on "SUMMER BREAK" for the month of August. Due to the many activities and fund raisers in June/July, the temple council voted to not hold Sunday Services for the month of August, but the temple office will remain open . Office hours are Monday—Friday, 8:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m. Sunday Family Services will resume in September.

MINISTER'S MESSAGE



The “Bad Buddhist” and the New Perpetual Dharma Fund “I’m a bad Buddhist,” said Aunty K when we first met. Aunty K was at end-of-life in home hospice care.

“What do you mean?” I asked. “I never went much to church on Sundays,” said Aunty, “and I really don’t know much about Buddhism. I just know *Namo Amida Butsu*.”

“There are no good or bad Buddhists, Amida’s Great Love and Compassion embraces everyone equally, just as they are, as *Namo Amida Butsu*,” I assured her, “Is there something else worrying you?”

“Actually, yes, there is...I’m worried that no one will remember my aunts and uncles who didn’t have their own children so they took care of me just like their own. After they died, I went to visit them in the *nokotsudo* columbarium regularly but when I’m gone, I’m afraid no one will remember them,” Aunty said.

“And since we don’t have children ourselves, after I’m gone, I don’t want to burden my husband with the details of temple membership, making donations to the *nokotsudo* fund, arranging memorial services, and that sort of thing,” sighed Aunty.

“Is there a way I could make a donation now to ensure my aunts and uncles are remembered, my husband continues to be a temple member, and our family’s niches will continue to be at the temple for as long as it exists?”

“Yes, of course, because you’ve just described the tradition of *eitaikyō* or perpetual Dharma, both annual memorial services and the wish that the temple and sangha community continue to prosper forever,” I explained, “traditionally, people made large donations to fund long-term capital improvements like new temples and buildings, family cemetery sites or columbarium niches.”

“All we have to do is record exactly what you want in writing, and as the temple minister I will be responsible for ensuring your wishes are honored after you are born into the Pure Land.”

And that was how the “new and improved” Perpetual Dharma Fund (*eitaikyō*) was born! My Ego (ME) would love to take credit for the program but Aunty K, who was at end-of-life, literally designed a wonderful program for all of us, including the idea of a one-time donation to cover:

- a) **lifetime membership** for donors;
- b) **perpetual reservation for use of niche** at Makawao Hongwanji Columbarium (“*nokotsudo*”);
- c) **no obligation or expectations for survivors and descendants** to maintain sustaining membership status or make equivalent annual donations to the *Nokotsudo* fund
- d) **annual memorial service** for designated departed loved ones, including using return on investment funds to provide o-fuse offering to temple and o-rei gratuity to officiating minister

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Continued From Page 2, Minister's Message

The Finance Committee's and Temple Council's consensus was that a one-time donation of \$20,000.

After that, every visit began with Aunty smiling and saying how she was so relieved even though, as she insisted, "I'm a bad Buddhist. *NamoAmidaButsu!*" Aunty K was a wonderfully sincere and impressive woman who knew exactly what she wanted and got it done even at the end-of-life.

The solution that Aunty created is so flexible, we've already created new options for donors who don't need or want a niche in the columbarium, as well as for planned giving and legacy endowment.

Isn't it ironic how a "bad Buddhist" became the inspiration and driving force behind the "new and improved" Perpetual Dharma Fund! Or is it?

"Amida's Vow is, from the very beginning, designed to bring each of us to entrust ourselves to it—saying 'Namu-amida-butsu'—and to receive us into the Pure Land; none of this is through our calculation. Thus, there is no room for the practitioner to be concerned about being good or bad." GUTOKU SHINRAN, age 86 (1258) [On Jinen Honi], Lamp for the Latter Ages CWS Volume 1, page 530.

Thus, being a "good" or "bad" Buddhist is the wrong question, particularly if you define a "good" Buddhist as one who goes to temple regularly, or someone who is a scholar of Buddhism. From Shinran's perspective, the only question is whether one has been brought to entrust oneself to Amida's Vow to Save All, saying *Namo Amida Butsu* in joy and gratitude, in this unrepeatable life for our Birth into the Pure Land.

Aunty K obviously had carefully considered her situation, created a solution, and then cleverly got the *kotonk* minister to draft the memorandum of agreement, get it reviewed and approved by the temple board, and to take responsibility for execution of the agreement, hahaha! Aunty K's insights and ideas created a solution that offers benefit and utility to many people. In times past, the mutual obligations of *eitaikyō* were understood implicitly but not recorded explicitly, leading to potential misunderstandings 50 or 100 years later.

Thus, the causes and conditions brought Aunty K to be able to solve her own concerns—and that of others—at the end-of-life are indeed inconceivable, and to be viewed as the working of Amida's Vow in our unrepeatable lives. What a remarkable encounter with a rare and wondrous Buddhist, a "bad" Buddhist!

NamoAmidaButsu!

Rev. Kerry

IN MEMORIAM

Makawao Hongwanji Mission extends its deepest sympathy to families that have recently lost a loved one:

Family of the **Late Mrs. Caren Shizue Gohara (95)** who passed away on April 22, 2023.

June & July 2023 Memorial Anniversaries

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

1st Year Memorial Service 2022

June - None

1st Year Memorial service 2022

July 03 Edwin Kagehiro
July 16 Harumi Ushijima

3rd Year Memorial Service 2021

June - None

3rd Year Memorial Service 2021

July 29 Misa Nishida

7th Year Memorial Service 2017

June - None

7th Year Memorial Service 2017

July - None

13th Year Memorial Service 2011

June 03 Tamao Otani
June 26 Tom Tanizaki

13th Year Memorial Service 2011

July 05 Tadatsugu Wayne Endo
July 16 Suma Masusako

17th Year Memorial Service 2007

June 05 Japo Itsumi Yokohama
June 11 Koichi Nitta
June 13 Masaichi Okamura

17th Year Memorial Service 2007

July 08 Joyce Fumie Yamada

25th Year Memorial Service 1999

June 06 Makoto Tanaka

25th Year Memorial Service 1999

July 14 Stanley Akito Hedani
July 25 Masao Nakao
July 26 George Aketo Kayatani

33rd Year Memorial Service 1991

June 30 Mitsuo Ito

33rd Year Memorial Service 1991

July 04 Teruko Karimoto
July 30 Tokusaburo Enoki

50th Year Memorial Service 1974

June 19 Suga Matsuo

50th Year Memorial Service 1974

July - None

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 April 27, 2023 to May 25, 2023

DONATION:

Burton Onikama

In memory of Glen Isobe – Arthur Onikama

In memory of Harumi Kawahara – Ken and Susan Cassman

In memory of Betsy Matsumura (1st year memorial) – Daryl Matsumura, Tsuzuki Matsumura, Glenn and Lori Okimoto

In memory of Makoto Tanaka – Hiromi and Jo-Ann Tanaka, Mark Tanaka

In memory of Sueko Matsunaga - Marlene Nomura

In memory of Ayame Kametani – Alvin Kametani

In memory of Erilee Tamiko Takabayashi – Earl and Lori Takabayashi

Facilities use – Kathy Kitagawa

NOKOTSUDO:

Kelvin and Lynn Nakamura

OFUSE:

33rd year memorial service for Fumi Yamanaka – Family of Fumi Yamanaka

1st year memorial service for Mitsuko Matsui – Family of Yukio and Mitsuko Matsui

7th year memorial service for Yukio Matsui – Family of Yukio and Mitsuko Matsui

In memory of Yukio and Mitsuko Matsui (memorial service/inurnment) – Susan Matsubara and family, Matsui family

Memorial service for Emily Sueko Tanaka – Family of Emily Sueko Tanaka

100th day service for Tadashi Mori – Family of Tadashi Mori

Funeral service for Caren Gohara – Family of Caren Gohara

NEWSLETTER:

Mitzi Yamamoto

GARAGE SALE WORK SCHEDULE

June 11 - June 23, 2023

Sunday, June 11	10 am - 2 pm: Set up tables, move items to hall /unloading
Monday, June 12 - Sunday, June 17	8 am - 5 pm: Sorting / cleaning / pricing
Sunday, June 18	10 am - 2 pm: Sorting / cleaning/ pricing
Monday, June 19 - Thursday, June 22	8 am - 5 pm: Sorting / cleaning/ pricing
Friday, June 23	8 am - 2 pm: Getting ready for next day
Saturday, June 24	Garage Sale 7 am - 2 pm: Parking help begins at 5:30 am
Sunday, June 25	Bazaar & Garage Sale 7 am - 12 noon: Parking help begins at 5:30 am
	12 noon - 4 pm: Clean up

IMPORTANT: If you are not feeling well, have just returned from travel, or had contact with someone who tested positive, please self test and quarantine as necessary. Please be safe, happy and well!

17TH WORLD BUDDHIST WOMEN'S CONVENTION IN KYOTO

by Jean Heselden

May was a busy month for our Sangha members who attended the Joint Celebration of Shinran's birth and the founding of Jodo Shinshu teachings held at Honzan in Kyoto on Wednesday May 10th, participated in the 17th World Buddhist Women's Convention in Kyoto on May 11th and 12th, and enjoyed popular post-convention tours of Japan lasting from 6 to 9 days.

The Joint Celebration is held every 50 years at Honzan, making our attendance a rare privilege. The *Goei-do*, or Founder's Hall, was filled to capacity with hundreds of people sitting on folding chairs. Large video screens were mounted on pillars and individual audio devices translated from Japanese to English or Portuguese. Hearing the entire hall chant and sing together was very moving.

We were honored by the presence of the Gomonshu at the morning Joint Celebration and at the confirmation ceremony. At the World Buddhist Women's Convention, we were honored by the participation of Lady Ruzumi Ohtani.

The convention was held at the Kyoto International Conference Center, located in a wooded area on the far north side of Kyoto. We met members and guests from Japan, Brazil, Canada, and the USA. Before Hawaii BWA hosts the 18th World Buddhist Women's Convention in September 2027 in Honolulu, many of us need to brush up on our conversational Japanese and Portuguese!

Following the convention, most members from Makawao went on the Ura Nihon Tour led by Rev. Murakami of Wailuku Hongwanji. Their tour went from Kyoto to Fukui, Kanazawa, and Osaka, spending 2 nights in each city.

Jean Heselden joined BWA members and friends from the other islands for the Chubu Tour, organized by Kintetsu International. This tour went from Kyoto through the central portion of Honshu and ended in Tokyo on May 21st.

Many thanks to Sylvia Neizman of Lahaina Hongwanji for allowing me to include her photos from their temple's Facebook page in this article.

As you will see from the group photos, everyone enjoyed this visit to Japan very much. We are deeply grateful for the enriching experience.



Maui Group at Honzan for Joint Celebration.

17th World Buddhist Women's Convention



Several Maui Members at Convention, along with Yoshiko and Rev. Umitani.



Ura Nihon Tour Group in Mikuni.



Special Service at Tsukiji Hongwanji in Tokyo

MAKAWAO HONGWANJI PRESCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS OF 2023



Congratulations to our Class of 2023 graduates!. The graduates will be going to the “big school” to attend kindergarten in August. We are very proud of having been part of their growth in this education journey. Much success to all our graduates:

*Bailey, Dacee, Jackson, Kage, Kase, Kenna, Kenzie, Keoua, Kinzee,
Lincoln, Manutea, Mia, Nathan, Pu’uwai, Sunset, Teagan*

We look forward to seeing our returning students in August: Ka’ikela, Kallie, and Tyrus! Remember to call our Preschool at (808) 572-7883 to put your child’s name on the list when he/she turns 3 that year.

PRESCHOOL TEACHER AND AIDE WANTED: Makawao Hongwanji Preschool is hiring. We are looking for an ECW/CDA certified teacher and a preschool aide. Please call the preschool at 808-572-7883, or email Director Iris Valente at mhpreschool808@gmail.com for further information.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

**Joye Fukuda
Daughter of Allen and Janet Fukuda**

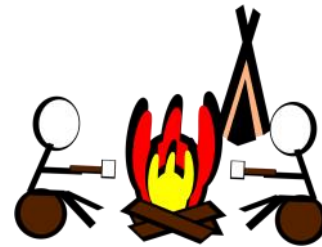
TROOP and PACK 18 CAMPING AND GRADUATION CEREMONY AT MAKAWAO HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE



Pack 18 camp site.



Troop 18 camp site.



Camp fire program in Breezeway.



Awaiting flag placing duties.



Placing flags by Troop and Pack 18 at Makawao Veterans Memorial Cemetery for Memorial Day.

TROOP 18 NEWS

During the month of May, the Troop worked on a Pioneering Project. The different patrols made chairs, tables, and a tripod out of bamboo and rope. They showcased these projects at the Maui Matsuri Festival that was held at the Queen Kaahumanu Center.



DHARMA SCHOOL - Moms and grandmas were delighted to receive a special Mother's Day message created by their creative keikis.



Teacher Sharon assisting Lindsay.



Tyrus working on his project with a little help from big sis Kalena and cousin Tory.



Success! Dharma School keikis showing their master pieces.



And then we eat!

Congratulations to Kaylie Okuni, daughter of Robert and Sherri Okuni, for making the list of 2023 MIL JUDO ALL-STARS GIRLS.

Kaylie is also President of Maui's Jr.YBA (Young Buddhists Association). We asked Kaylie about her Judo experiences at Makawao Hongwanji.


"I bumped into my friends, Ava and Bennett Takahama, at a Makawao Hongwanji New Year's party and found that they had joined the judo club. I joined the club so I could spend more time with my friends. I was 10 years old (2016). It was more of a social gathering until I got serious about it during my Sophomore year in High School. My friends from the judo club are at different high schools now, so when it's high school judo season, it's like a reunion for us, and our club senseis become our coaches and referees. I am now a Junior in High School and I have been in the judo club for 6 years now, and finally earned my brown belt. After high school judo season is over, we get more members joining at Makawao Hongwanji judo club and it's still where I can spend time with my best friends."



Kaylie and Friends



Makawao Hongwanji Judo Club's MIL All Stars. Front center, James McCall, KKHS, 121 lbs. Back row, L-R, Krystal Valoroso, Miya Lu, Leinaala Patricio, Kaylie Okuni.



MEMBERSHIP DUES

Don't forget to send in your membership dues by September 7, 2023 or earlier. Remember, except for Emeritus members, you are not a sustaining member until dues are paid.

So far, 80% of our members have paid dues. If you have already paid your dues, help us by reminding your relatives and friends to do the same.

**Mahalo,
Membership Committee**

MAKAWAO HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE
COUNCIL MINUTES HIGHLIGHTS
Sunday, May 21, 2023



1. Treasurer's Report: Report submitted. Insurance will increase by 2 to 3%.
2. Minister's Report:
 - 1) Japanese School Semester II concluded, classes will restart in September.
 - 2) Off-Island May 23-27.
 - 3) Monthly visitation to preschool.
3. Sound System in Hondo - Upgrade: Sound system has been installed.
4. Fujimatsuri May 28 at Lahaina Hongwanji: Makawao Hongwanji made sweet potato manju for dessert.
5. Garage Sale/Bazaar on June 24 - 25, 2023:
 - 1) Work schedule for garage sale out and also available in office.
 - 2) Additional items for sale on Saturday: Biscuit, chili and rice, hot dog, teri chicken bowl, spam musubi, coffee, tea, water, plants, crafts.
 - 3) Additional items for sale on Sunday: Chow fun, biscuit, spam musubi, sweet potato, manju, Coffee, tea, water, sambaizuke, maki sushi, plants, crafts.
 - 4) Gail will make posters to put in stores retail stores.
6. Photo Voltaic System Lease Continuation: Council voted to not exercise option to purchase. Current lease agreement will continue with Strategic Alliance.
7. Ad for YBA Convention Booklet: Council voted to purchase a 1/2 page ad for the booklet.
8. Enhance Fitness: Request to restart Enhance Fitness. Before decision is made, Sharon Nagoshi will contact County regarding details such as liabilities, cost to participate, rental fee to temple, insurance requirements.
9. Food Safety Program: Makawao kitchen received the GREEN PASS card.
10. Makawao Parade: Parade is scheduled on the same day as Garage Sale, June 24.
11. Buddhist Education: The recent LGBTQIA+ Seminar was excellent and very informative. Rev. Kerry volunteered Makawao Hongwanji to be associated with the Interfaith Alliance of Hawaii and publicly offer a safe place where LGBTQ+ and others can gather.
12. Repair & Maintenance Project Team: Report submitted.
13. Membership: 108 sustaining families paid. Reminder letters will be sent in September to members who have not yet paid.
14. Funeral/Columbarium: Almost done with finalizing Perpetual Dharma Fund document.
15. Properties: Report submitted.
16. HHMH Board of Directors:
 - 1) Farewell party for Bishop Matsumoto will be held in July at Ala Moana Hotel.
 - 2) Party for Rev. Umitani as the new Bishop will be held on August 5 at Sheraton Waikiki.
17. Karen Izhizu reported World Convention in Japan was EXCELLENT!
18. Scouts & Cub Scouts: With Ray's help, scouts did a small batch of peaches.
19. Dharma School: Students made clothes pin magnets and cards of Mother's Day.
20. Judo: Kaylie Okuni represented MIL in the State Jodo Tournament.
21. Project Dana: Senior Program made price tags for Garage Sale. Senior Fair will be at Kaahumanu Center this year because of renovation of the gym.

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

JUNE 24 & 25, 2023 PLANT SALE

Plant donors, don't forget that our Garage Sale/Bazaar has been moved from the traditional 4th of July weekend to Saturday June 24 and Sunday July 25. **Please deliver any donated plants to the temple by Thursday June 22 or at the latest on Friday June 23. They need to be priced and organized. Leave your name and list of plants at the office so we know who donated what. The summer Plant Sale is located by Makawao Avenue under the monkey pod tree and there is no security so do not drop the plants too early in the week.**

Thank you for keeping Maui green and beautiful. Remember, even one plant is appreciated by Makawao Hongwanji Buddhist Temple. This event is the largest fundraiser for the temple and draws in the whole community.

Sharon & Calvin Higuchi

MAKAWAO HONGWANJI PICKLED PEACHERS: THE NEXT GENERATION

Ray Nakagawa showing scouts and parents of Troop 18-G how to wash and brine freshly picked Makawao peaches, the first step in making the world-famous Makawao Hongwanji Pickled Peaches!



SENIOR PROGRAM

The Seniors were busy as bees this month. First, we made price tags for the furniture, garage sale and toy departments. Our second project was to help price the crafts made by the sewing group. When it was lunch time we were ready and hungry! We all had a good time while being productive. That's how the seniors like it! We help in ways that we can. If you have a project that seniors can help with, let us know.

Our next meeting will be on the 2nd Thursday of August. We will be taking a break in June and July so we can participate in the preparations for the bazaar and the Obon festival. Come join us in August for a good time and good food.



OBON DANCE PRACTICE

Obon season is here! Makawao Hongwanji Obon will be held **July 21 (Fri) and 22 (Sat)**. We will be having a one-night practice on **June 6 at 7 p.m.** in our Social Hall. Come join us and LET'S DANCE!



HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Phone: (808) 522-9200 Fax: (808) 522-9209
Web: www.hongwanjihawaii.com Email: hqs@honpahi.org

BISHOP'S CORNER

May 2023

“Go forth...for the good of the many...”

Bishop Eric Matsumoto



On Sunday, May 7, 2023, the Pacific Buddhist Academy held Commencement Exercises for 17 Graduates of PBA's Class of 2023. It was held at the beautiful 700-seat Moanalua Performing Arts Center which is equipped with state-of-the-art audio-visual systems and LED lighting not to mention air-conditioned. As is the unique tradition of PBA, the Head of School gave a tribute to each individual Graduate. Further, each Graduate expressed their appreciation by acknowledging the support they received from their families by giving a kukui nut lei to them as families were called onstage. The feeling of sangha was strong. The following is the Benediction of the Commencement Exercises delivered by Bishop Eric Matsumoto, the 16th Bishop of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii.

Benediction for Pacific Buddhist Academy's Class of 2023 Commencement Exercises

Today, as Pacific Buddhist Academy's Commencement Exercises for the Class of 2023 draws to a close, in the presence of Amida Buddha, All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion, let us reflect.

As we congratulate our Graduates, we hope that some of the universal Teachings and Virtues of the Buddha will guide our Graduates for the rest of their life. The most fundamental Teaching or Truth that the Historic Buddha, 2600 years ago, became aware of is that all life, all existence is interconnected and interrelated and nothing exists in total isolation by itself as depicted by the beautiful metaphor of Indra's Jeweled Net meaning we should mutually respect, care and appreciate one another.

A virtue of an Enlightened Person is that the Buddha's very existence benefits both the Buddha and also everyone (and everything) else. It is not that one does something for oneself and does something else for someone else, but whatever one does brings benefit to (both) self and others, together, simultaneously. May our Graduates live their life and continue their endeavors guided by this virtue of the Buddha.

We hope our Graduates will be guided and inspired by Enlightened Wisdom and Compassion for more peace and harmony in the world. As encouragement, I would like to share the exhortation of the Historic Buddha to the monks and nuns of Ancient India to our Graduates (as they go forward themselves). The Buddha said *“Go forth...for the good of the many, for the happiness of the many, out of compassion for the world, for the welfare, the good and the happiness of gods and people.”*

To slowly conclude, may we express our gratitude to one and all. Let us express our gratitude to each other. As we thank our Graduates for their endeavors, let us all express gratitude to all others who played a part in our lives.

Finally, to conclude this Benediction, for those who wish to join me, please join me in gassho/anjali, a gesture of reverence and respect in Buddhism, to recite Namu Amida Butsu, The Buddha's Name That I Call in Gratitude in response to Namu Amida Butsu, The Buddha's Name Which Calls Me to Entrust.

Namu Amida Butsu, Namu Amida Butsu. Namu Amida Butsu/ Entrusting in All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE FOR 2023 PBA BACCALAUREATE

Congratulatory message to the Pacific Buddhist Academy Class of 2023 on behalf of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii .

Bishop Matsumoto, Head of School Josh Morse, Former Head of School Pieper Toyama, ministers, teachers, parents and most importantly, the Pacific Buddhist Academy graduating class of 2023, good evening. It is my privilege to offer congratulations on behalf of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii to you, the Pacific Buddhist Academy class of 2023.



Today, I would like to share with you one of my favorite stories (it must be a favorite since I shared it last year). You may know it. I have enjoyed reading this story again and again to my children and grandchildren. It is Momotaro, the Peach Boy-one of the best loved folk stories of Japan. It is the story of an older couple who dream of having a child of their own. Their dream comes true in the form of a giant golden peach floating down the river into the arms of Obaa-san. Planning to feast on the peach, they are surprised when the enormous peach bursts open and inside the peach is a tiny baby boy. Their dreams of having a child are fulfilled and they named him MOMOTARO, the Peach Boy. Momotaro grows up to be smart, strong and brave. He helps with the work of the village and he learns the skills of a samurai.

As he grows into a young man, Momotaro learns that for many years, evil ogres (oni) would arrive at the village to rob, kill and plunder. Momotaro announces that he will go to the Inland Sea and defeat the ogres so that they would never return to the village. His parents prepare him, as best they can, for his journey. They prepare kibi-dango, a special Warrior's food. Ojii-san laid out Momotaro's knife, sword, sash and tessen-iron fan, the garb of a samurai. Then, armed with all that he knew and all that he was, Momotaro set out. This line from the story has always been particularly meaningful to me, and perhaps your parents as we see you attain this milestone in life and move forward to a future that is still unwritten. Notice the careful choice of words. "Then, armed with all that he knew and all that he was, Momotaro set out."

On his journey, Momotaro encounters a giant dog, a monkey and a pheasant. These animals become his friends and allies in the battle against the evil oni. Momotaro crosses the Inland Sea to arrive at the home of the evil oni. With the help of his brave companions, Momotaro defeats the ogres. He recovers stolen treasure and returns home. Along the way, Momotaro returns stolen treasure to all of the villages. He finally arrives at his home village with the unclaimed treasure and he is able to care for his parents for the rest of their lives.

This story is much more exciting than the abbreviated summary that I've shared with you today. It is a good choice for this occasion. Momotaro's parents cared for him and loved him. They were concerned for his future, but they prepared him the best way that they knew. Your parents and family are always thinking about you.

Hopefully none of you will be headed for real battle, but we know that this journey of life doesn't always go exactly the way that we think it will. You will have your own challenges in life. The saying goes, "Life is a bumpy road". Your "weapons" and your "armor" are the skills, knowledge and values that you have gained through your hard work, nurtured by your parents and your school community. You will meet new people along the way. Like Momotaro did, choose your close friends wisely. You will face difficult choices in your life. I suggest that you ask yourself a few simple questions along the way. Did I do my best? Did I do what is right? Did I care for and help others?

Finally, Momotaro returns to his home village. Returning home in this context means maintaining connections-with your friends, family and school community. Remember the Buddhist teaching of interdependence. We are interconnected and interdependent with everyone and everything around us.

In closing, I'd like share that special line from the story of Momotaro with minor changes: Then, armed with all that they knew and all that they were, the Class of 2023 set out.

Aloha and Best Wishes,
Namo Amida Butsu.

May 4, 2023
Dr. Warren Tamamoto
President, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

BSC Summer Session 2023



Buddhist Study Center Summer Session 2023

June 5-9, 2023 ~ 6:00–8:00 p.m. (HST)

“Shinran’s Challenge: A Shin Buddhist in the 21st Century”



What does a Jodo Shinshu Buddhist look like? It is a difficult question to answer. However, if we go back and investigate the works of Shinran Shonin, there is a wealth of suggestions and themes presented by our founder. He enables us to envision what the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist identity looks like, even today. Shinran Shonin is challenging every one of us to think about what it means to be a Jodo Shinshu Buddhist.

As the American Buddhism movement develops, there is a growing challenge to sustain the teaching brought to us by Shinran Shonin. Let us delve during this weeklong session into

these suggestions and themes to have a better understanding of being a Shin Buddhist in the 21st Century.

Our Summer Session speaker is Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji. Since August 2020, Rev. Miyaji has been the minister of the Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church. In addition to his ministerial duties, he teaches at the Institute of Buddhist Studies located in Berkeley, California.



Rev. Dr. Miyaji graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a bachelor’s degree in philosophy and Japanese language and literature. He received a master’s degree in Buddhist Studies from the Institute of Buddhist Studies in Berkeley, California. Rev. Miyaji received a master’s degree in Shin Buddhist Studies and completed the doctoral coursework at Ryukoku University in Kyoto, Japan.

Everyone is Welcome! Please see Summer Session brochure [here](#) for class schedule & other details. Register online at: <https://bit.ly/bscsummersession2023> (also go to www.bsawahii.org for brochure & registration links or use QR code provided).

Or, fill in the form below & mail to the BSC. **Please register by Saturday, May 27, 2023.**



Donations Welcome: Suggested tax deductible donation is \$10/session. All gifts received will be donated to the BSC & go toward furthering Buddhist education. Give online at <http://bit.ly/hhmhdonate> Or, checks can be made payable to HHMH & mailed to the BSC (note BSC Summer Session on check).

✂ ~ Registration Form for BSC Summer Session 2023 ~

Name: _____ Temple (if applicable): _____

Email/Phone: _____

I will be attending: In-person -or- Online

Mail to: Buddhist Study Center 1436 University Ave. Honolulu, HI 96822 **Questions?** Call the BSC office at 808-973-6555.

GARAGE SALE and BAZAAR

MAKAWAO HONGWANJI

SATURDAY JUNE 24

GARAGE SALE & PLANT SALE

7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

SUNDAY JUNE 25

BAZAAR & GARAGE SALE & PLANT SALE

7:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon

**Bazaar has Chow Fun, Sushi, Sanbaizuke,
Vegetables, Baked Goods**

COME EARLY FOR BEST SELECTIONS!!

Makawao Hongwanji
1074 Makawao Avenue

Phone: (808)572-7229



June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 9:00 am First Sunday Dharma Family Service & Baccalaureate Service	5 6:00 pm ~ 8:45 pm Judo	6 7:00 pm Bon Dance Practice	7 10:00 am Monthly Service Kula Hospital	8 9:30 am ~ 12:00 pm Senior Program 6:00 pm~ 8:45 pm Judo	9	10
11 9:00 am Family Service	12 Office Closed *King Kamehameha Day 	13	14	15 6:00 pm ~ 8:45 pm Judo	16	17
18 9:00 am Family Service Father's Day	19	20	21	22	23	24 7:00 am ~ 2:00 pm Garage Sale
25 7:00 am ~ 12:00 pm Garage Sale & Bazaar	26 6:00 pm ~ 8:45 pm Judo	27	28	29 6:00 pm ~ 8:45 pm Judo	30	

