



# Jushin 樹心

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### Dharma Gathering with Dr. Haneda February 4

The Hawaii District has asked Dr. Nobuo Haneda to lead the 2017 District Dharma Gathering on February 4. Jushin readers are encouraged to attend the 10AM to 4PM retreat, "Awakening to Your Deepest Wish" to be held at the Betsuin. There is a \$10 fee.



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## Aloha Message

by Hiroko Maeda

Five years of my life in a lovely, rainy, and green town of Kaneohe will be soon pau (finish). I am very surprised at the fact that I am now writing my aloha message to the Jushin readers. As you may know, I am going to resign from my position and move back to Japan in December. Thank you to those who have helped me and also always encouraged me through past years. Without your support, I would not have been able to accomplish my work in



Kaneohe.

I came to Hawaii as a minister in 2012. I still remember the day I arrived in Honolulu. I was welcomed with a beautiful bouquet of flowers



delivered by a Kaneohe

Higashi Hongwanji member. I was quite amazed and happy by the warm hospitality. But then, very soon after my arrival, my crazy busy days began... my transition to the Hawaii Betsuin and Kaneohe temples. Since a Betsuin minister was leaving at that time, I had to do quick learning to cover the two temples. What a responsibility for the new-born minister! Now, it is very difficult for me to recall my transition in those days—lots of note taking, meeting new people, and agonizing over my poor English.

Even though I experienced various things which I would probably never have had opportunities if I stayed in Japan — dharma-talks at Sunday services, monthly

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## Aloha Message

*Continued from page 1.*

visitation at the daycare centers, and exciting Bon Dances — I wish I could have done more for the temple members and especially the Kaneohe community. As I recall my life here, one passage comes across to my mind, “learning Buddhism is very simple. It is ‘to perceive the fact that there is a human being right in front of you.’ Indeed, it is the awareness of that

there is a human being who is living in the middle of suffering, struggling, or various difficulties just like the way that you live. Through the realization, we are awakened to the truth of life that others and we live in the world of interconnectedness.” From the viewpoint of the Buddhist teaching, there is no absolute existence of “the I” in the world. My body is nourished by food, and my mind is nourished by experience and teaching. “The I” can be changed as conditions change. Thus, Shakyamuni Buddha spoke metaphorically that a net is made up of a series of knots, and each of knot (a single person) cannot be an isolated thing. Although I understand this fundamental teaching of Shakyamuni Buddha in my mind, the above passage reflects my way of life here in the temple. As I go through my bubbling thoughts and memories of Kaneohe, I truly appreciate those who taught me the importance of connecting with one another beyond nationalities, races, gender, and differences. Also, thank you to all the dharma friends for sharing your precious time to learn and listen to the teachings of Namu Amida Butsu together.

Last but not least, I want to express my sincere appreciation for everyone’s warmth and kindness, your AlohaAmida spirit that always embraces me. It has been my pleasure working at the Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji and being part of the sangha for such a short period of time. Thank you very much for all your help.

A hui hou...  
Namu Amida Butsu.

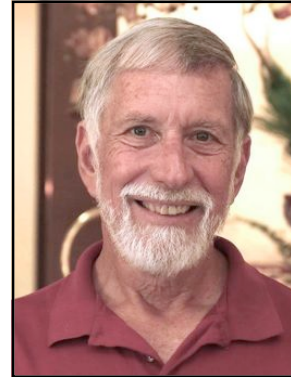


## *No Better Word Than Aloha*

### **Message From the Chairperson**

Greetings,

With the greatest of humility and compassion, your Board of Directors and I thank each and every one of you - our Dharma friends and 'ohana - for joining with us on our Jodo path at the Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji this year.



I just cannot imagine that 12 months have zoomed past us. Can you?

Under the forward direction of Reverend Hiroko Maeda it has been a very busy year for our temple with a major event, sometimes two, every month. As your Board, we met to set out our 2016 strategic goals to be more connected with the larger community and share the Dharma with those who are open to receive. We participated in the Blue Zones Project kickoff for Windward Oahu, coordinated a bon dance lesson at Kaneohe Public Library, hosted a public event on the history of the local bon dance, and, Rev. Maeda participated in various multi-disciplinary forums and educational events. About twice a month, Rev. Maeda held mini-services at two senior care facilities.

We were saddened to have lost several Dharma friends this year, and realize that each moment is to be cherished like Rennyō Shōnin expressed in his epistle, "On the White Ashes." New friends have joined us for Sunday service and generously helped us with their labor, time and Aloha. To me there is no better word than Aloha here in these islands - even at our Buddhist temple. Aloha expresses love, compassion, respect, sharing, giving and more.

I must admit that I am happy but sad that after five years our energetic, "sparkplug" leader, Reverend Hiroko Maeda, will soon venture forth to a new beginning back in Japan. It is an understatement to say we shall sorely miss her guidance and ever-buoyant spirit, her sensitivity, her curry cooking, and great humor. Her studious effort enlightened us as we traveled on our Buddhist path and she most recently helped to welcome three Kaneohe members to accept their Kikyōshiki confirmation vows. Even hiking or running the Ekiden were mixed with Buddhist overtones. Maeda Sensei, you took good care of us and we wish you well from the depth of our hearts. Please come back to visit us.

As a worker-volunteer, temple member, a board member, and chair, I know this temple can only exist and thrive by serving your needs and the needs of our community. As 2016 comes to a close please be mindful and enjoy a safe holiday season. Let us greet 2017 with renewed vigor and spirit. And let us seek and learn each day, each moment, all year 'round as a Sangha community, loving and enriching this community.

In gassho,

Walt Herring



**Ring  
Out  
2016**

**and**

**Mochi-In 2017**

Help ring-out 2016 on December 31 at our 5 PM *Joya-e* (Year-end Service). We'll ring the bell 108 times. Then mochi-in the new year with us at *Shusho-e* (9 AM New Year's Day Service). We'll serve ozoni soup with mochi after our service!

## ***Mochi Making the Fun Way***

*Please join us on December 26, 10am, to make unflavored mochi for your Butsudan (altar) and yummy, flavored mochi for your family (or for yourself).*

But wait! You'll need to know some important things first. Wash then soak your sweet rice covered with water from Saturday, December 24! Change the water every 24 hours. Bring your drained rice in zipped gallon plastic bags and your fave peanut butter, jellies, chocolates, or strawberries for the filling.



## **Annual Meeting Sunday, January 29, Service and New Year's Party to Follow**

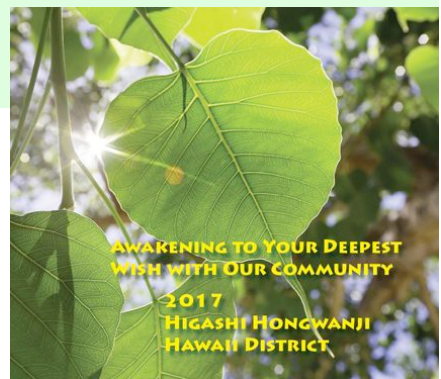
The Board of Directors will hold its Annual Membership Meeting at 9 AM on January 29. Our bylaws require us to hold a general membership annual meeting in January of each year. If you have paid your \$60 Gojinkai dues for 2017 by January 29, please plan to attend to elect the board of directors and vote on measures. Non-members may observe but may not vote. Our temple service follows at 10 AM and the New Year Party will begin at 11 AM.

## ***Get Your Unique 2017 Calendars From Us***

Our beautiful, full-color 2017 calendars produced by our Hawaii District have arrived and are now available at our temple!

It conveniently lists major events for all five Higashi temples, including the Bon Service and Bon Dance schedule for 2017. The calendar features colorful photos from each temple highlighted by Buddhist sayings. It will be great for your den or kitchen and will make thoughtful gifts.

A donation to cover the \$5.00 printing and related cost is appreciated. If possible it is advisable to pick up the calendar at the temple as the



**AWAKENING TO YOUR DEEPEST  
WISH WITH OUR COMMUNITY**

**2017  
HIGASHI HONGWANJI  
HAWAII DISTRICT**



**We cannot be truly happy, if beings,  
which surround us, such as grasses,  
trees, and animals, cannot be happy.**

Ven. Phra Prachak

mailing cost will be about \$2.00 to Hawaii locations.

# Temple Service & Activities Calendar

## DECEMBER 2016

4	Sunday	9:30am	<b>No Kaneohe service</b> - HBC Bodhi Day Service held at Jodo Mission
5	Monday	6:00pm	Ukulele Stars
10	Saturday	8:30am	Flower Arrangement
11	Sunday	9:00am	Kaneohe Bodhi Day Service
17	Saturday	8:30am	Flower Arrangement
18	Sunday	9:00am	Sunday Service (Minister from Betsuin)
20	Tuesday	7-8:30pm	Oko Night @ Betsuin
24	Saturday	8:30am	Flower Arrangement
25	Sunday		<b>No Kaneohe Service</b>
26	Monday	10:00am	Mochi Making - <i>see article on page 4</i> (w/mochi machines)
31	Saturday	8:30am 5:00pm	Flower Arrangement <i>Joya-e</i> Year-End Service and Ringing of Temple Bell 108 times

## JANUARY 2017

1	Sunday	9:00am	<i>Shusho-e</i> New Year's Day Service
7	Saturday	8:30am	Flower Arrangement
8	Sunday	9:00am	New Year's Family Service
14	Saturday	8:30am	Flower Arrangement
15	Sunday	9:00am	Sunday Service
17	Tuesday	7-8:30pm	Oko Night @ Betsuin
21	Saturday	8:30am	Flower Arrangement
22	Sunday	9:00am	Sunday Service
28	Saturday	8:30am	Flower Arrangement
29	Sunday	9:00am 10:00am 11:00am	General Membership Meeting Sunday Service New Year's Party

**Editor's note about our calendar:** Because the Jushin is printed every 2 months, events and dates appearing on our calendar may change or might not be ready in time for our printing deadline. Please check our website for current information, or telephone our temple at 247-2661. Mahalo.