



Web edition

Jushin 樹心

Volume 8 Issue 4
August – September 2018

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Jushin publication is published bi-monthly by the Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji
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A registered 501(c)3 organization

Helping Homeless Families, Children
 Holomua Na 'Ohana operates two service-enriched clean and sober transitional housing programs for homeless families on O'ahu. Donations made at the Kaneohe Music Festival will go to the Waimanalo program to help Windward clients. The program's primary focus is offering temporary housing, guidance, and job training to unsheltered families with minor aged children who are willing to work a program designed to assist them in removing barriers to employment and permanent housing.



Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji’s The Four Treasures Band – From left to right, Dominic Carlos, Amy Yamashiro, Rev. Aki Nishihori, and Pam Verrey play an exciting and modern musical fusion of jazz, rock, R & B, Hawaiian, Japanese and with a twist of Buddhism!

Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji Hosts First-Ever Kaneohe Music Festival

Benefit concert for the homeless children at Holomua Na 'Ohana, Weinburg Village in Waimanalo

The first-ever Kaneohe Music Festival kicks-off on Saturday, August 18, 2018 from 5:30pm to 9:30pm at the Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji Mission. You, your family, friends, and the public are invited to attend this free event. This is a benefit fundraiser to support homeless children living at the Holomua Na 'Ohana Weinburg Village in Waimanalo. Donations will be accepted by the organization at our festival.

Widely known for its annual summer bon dance, Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji ventures further by featuring a variety of local rock, jazz, pop, R&B, reggae as well as traditional Japanese music. The line-up includes Na Hoku Hanohano award winners **Ten Feet**, the up and coming melodic voices of **City Boys**, the smooth vocals of **Philip Strauss**, the jazz duo **Two Shades of Blue**, and Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji’s very own band, **The Four Treasures**.

Resident Minister and member of The Four Treasures, Rev. Aki Nishihori, fuses his knowledge of traditional Buddhist gathas (songs) with his jazz background to create a refreshingly unique musical experience. Band members are Dominic Carlos, Amy Yamashiro, Pam Verry and Hideaki Nishihori. The Four Treasures was formed in 2017 to perform in temple concerts during Sunday service. They play various types of music; J-pop, R&B, soul and their originals, including Buddhist songs. Although he now plays keyboards and guitar, Nishihori used to play the viola in Japan as a member of his university’s orchestra, and taught brass at a high school orchestra. He is a composer of J-pop music.

The event starts with a traditional Shin Buddhist ceremony at 5:30pm. Food will be sold on site and all are welcome to bring their chairs and mats. There will be no smoking, no coolers and no alcohol allowed. Lots of free parking is located a block and a half away at Benjamin Parker Elementary School.

FREE

KANEOHE MUSIC FESTIVAL

SPONSORED BY
KANEOHE HIGASHI HONGWANJI



*Kaneohe Higashi
Hongwanji Band*



City Boys



TEN FEET

5:30 PM BUDDHIST SERVICE
6:00 PM - 9:30 PM LIVE PERFORMANCES BY

- **TEN FEET**
- **CITY BOYS**
- **PHILIP STRAUSS**
- **TWO SHADES OF BLUE**
- **K.H.H.B. (THE FOUR TREASURES)**

ONO FOOD
DESSERTS BY
EVENTFUL HAWAII

NO SMOKING
NO COOLERS
NO ALCOHOL

PARKING @BENJAMIN PARKER
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

BRING MATS OR CHAIRS TO SIT ON

45-520 KEAAHALA RD. KANEOHE, HI 96744
(808) 247-2661

AUGUST 18, 2018

Benefit for Holomua Na 'Ohana-Weinberg Village Waimanalo

2018 Bon Lots of Fun, Rain, Food and Fun!



Starry, starry lights – The very artistic photo of dancers around the yagura was captured at available light by second-year volunteer and high school senior Emily Kondo.

On July 7, we held our Kaneohe Bon Service and Bon Dance for our Hatsubon families, members, and community. A very sincere Thank You, Mahalo, and Arigatou to everyone who supported the biggest annual event of our temple.

This was my second Bon Dance ever, and I think I am getting to know what I should do. (Last year as your new minister, was my first!) Last year I was nervous all the time, and didn't quite know what was going on... I just followed the script, so to speak. This year, I danced more than last year. Actually, I wasn't so interested in "bon dancing" before, but this year I found out that it was becoming more fun. And, of course, the music was very lively and with a heavy beat. Hopefully, I will dance even more next time.

As some may know, in Japan not all of the Buddhist temples hold bon dances. Instead the ministers visit parishioners' homes for private, family services. However, many of the townships and organizations plan and hold community-wide bon celebrations. Here, it much different. I like the local idea that a temple, like our temple, can be a universal gathering place to celebrate the joy of life, and many people here feel welcome to attend!

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Johanna Tokunaga (above right) from Pasadena, California, returned home to spend quality time with her mother, Eleanor Tokunaga, plus volunteered for two days in our kitchen. Luckily, they were also able to dance on Bon night!

Tolling of the temple's bell at 6pm by Rev. Nishihori signalled the start of Bon and Hatsubon service.



Ten Transgressions and What You Are Really Looking For

By Rev. Hideaki Nishihori



Today, I would like to write about the ten transgressions found in Buddhism. These are, what we might call strict rules or sins in Buddhism. In our Pure Land tradition, we don't usually say, "You should obey this rule," or, "You must not do this." These rules, or sins, are not for punishing us. I feel that these rules/sins are for protecting us.

Let me explain with an example. When I was a university student, I drove my auto-bike while drunk and hit a car. I got hurt and I almost lost my eyesight. Later, the manager of a supermarket that I worked for said, "Traffic rules are not for *punishing* you, but rather for *protecting* you." I still remember what the manager said. I guess we can say that for Buddhism rules, too.

Below are the ten transgressions. The irony is that we are not supposed to act out, talk about, or even think about these transgressions.

- 1: Killing living beings unnecessarily. Hurting someone weaker than you.**
- 2: Stealing. Controlling others by your ego.**
- 3: Obscenity. Having inappropriate relationships.**
- 4: Lying. Deceiving someone including yourself.**
- 5: Flattering words. Complimenting others unnecessarily.**
- 6: Saying different things to different people. Making others conflict with each other.**
- 7: Malicious words. Swearing or hurting others by words.**
- 8: Greed. Craving more and more.**
- 9: Hatred and anger.**
- 10: Ignorance. Foolishness. Not knowing the truth.**

These rules are not what we must obey, but if we don't follow them, we will suffer. For example, if I hate someone, then I will definitely suffer. If I lie to someone or myself, I will suffer. So, these transgressions are true.

However, I am not a saint. It's actually impossible for me or anyone else to stop doing all of these things. For Shin Buddhists, what is important is to realize that we do possess these transgressions from time to time.

I believe the most serious transgression is ignorance. I speak of ignorance as not knowing the truth that is the Buddha's true teachings and not knowing our true selves. When we are ignorant about our true self this is why we suffer or cause suffering to others. Our biggest enigma is our own selves — not the outside of our selves, but the inside of our selves.

In Pure Land Buddhism, our teaching doesn't tell us, "Do good things and stop doing bad things." Of

course, we never say, "Please do bad things." Our teaching's biggest aim is for each of us to discover that we can't do truly good things and can't stop doing bad things, even though we may try hard. Amida Buddha is here to save us when we realize our own foolishness.

Of course, doing good things is really important for a harmonious world. But if we expect something in return or some benefit, then that's not a true good intention. When we do something that we think is good for someone, and if he or she doesn't give us a good reaction as we expected, might we suffer by becoming disappointed or even angry? What's more, if you suffer by doing good things, then it's not true good, either. Even if we thought we did a good thing, sometimes it could be a nuisance to others. True good is doing things without any expectations, without having sufferings, and without hurting others and yourself.

Self-sacrifice — such as driving someone 15 miles out of your way when you don't want to — doesn't work, either. Truly good actions are what you can do without worry or regret. You can enjoy the moment fully and you can make others glad. Simply put, it is something you really want to do from the bottom of your heart. In my case, it's Buddhism and music that I enjoy sharing. I assume that's another aspect of Hongan (the deepest aspiration).

If you can't find what you are really looking for, then it's probably time to have a rest. If you are tired and what you are really hoping to do is just relax, then please relax until

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Ten Transgressions and What You Are Really Looking For

By Rev. Hideaki Nishihori

Continued from page 4

you become satisfied. True good doesn't have to be volunteering or actually helping others directly. If you don't feel like doing anything, then please rest and be lazy.

Do you know what energizes us the most when we are tired? I think laziness can re-energize us. No matter what anybody around you may say, if being lazy can make you feel better, I guess you should do it. We can take it a step further by plunging ourselves into laziness contently. Being lazy is considered a bad thing and being too lazy can cause a lot of problems. However, I do believe that laziness has a positive aspect.

I often listen to what my heart says. I used to ask myself, "Is this what you really want to do?" The late Steve Jobs, the founder of Apple, used to do the same thing when he woke up in the morning. Looking at the mirror, he thought to himself, "If today were the last day of my life, would I want to do what I am about to do today?" Like he did, I sometimes have a conversation with myself. Maybe you can call it a form of meditation. Actually, having a dialogue with myself and observing how my mind works is like a form of meditation for me. I must say that in our Shin Buddhism, we do not espouse any meditation practice. However, I feel that we are already meditating even when we think we can't concentrate on it.

A Zen Master, Dr. Daisetz Suzuki translated the Nembutsu practice as "Living." That is, we Nembutsu believers are already practicing every day. At the moment we wake

up in the morning, our training has already begun. In every moment of a situation, we can find how our minds are reacting to the things that are happening. Having conversations with people, cleaning, cooking, working, hanging out, and

*Truly good actions are
what you can do without
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Rev. Hideaki Nishihori

traveling. While we are doing some activity, we can find ourselves worrying about the future, regretting the past, having anxiety or hatred, having jealousy, looking down on others, or being irritated. We can find happy things, too. Everything and anything can enter our minds.

This is a quote from a Shin Buddhist teacher; "Amida Buddha never dislikes you, selects you, and abandons you. Even if we commit a grave sin and everyone discards you, Amida Buddha never ever discards you."

We usually think that we have to "do" some task, say a prayer, chant a sutra in order to be liberated or to feel good, right? But the Nembutsu teaching is to realize that "we don't have to do" anything with our intention, will or self-power.

One of my revered teachers, Jyoko Takeda said, "Reciting the Nembutsu is a negation of act." So, we don't actually need to "do" anything in this sense. There is no condition that you have to do. Amida Buddha welcomes everyone.

Everything's going to be alright. So, please relax and enjoy the moment. That's what Shin Buddhism is telling us, I think.

Earlier in this dharma message, I talked about enjoying each moment fully and making others glad. Yes, these can be accomplished by doing something you really want to do from the bottom of your heart.

If you are exhausted and don't feel like doing anything, that's totally alright. You don't have to do anything. Just lie down on your sofa and your heart will search something meaningful or fun for you eventually and spontaneously.

No worries, regrets, expectations, or benefits. Amida Buddha is here to save us when we realize our own foolishness.

This is what I want you to remember today. Thanks for reading this and let's enjoy the moment together.

Gassho

TRADE WIND

HIGASHI HONGANJI HAWAII DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

HIGASHI HONGWANJI HAWAII BETSUIN / KANEHOE HIGASHI HONGWANJI / HILO HIGASHI HONGWANJI
PALOLO HONGWANJI / WAIMEA HIGASHI HONGWANJI

SUMMER 2018

LET US DISCOVER THE JOY OF LIVING

I flew to Senegal, Africa at the end of March. Although visiting my friend there was the main purpose of this trip, I found some interesting facts about the country. As you might imagine, people seemed to be poor. I guess their living standard is not high, compared to a more advanced society. But it seemed to me that most of the people in Senegal looked healthy and happy. They seemed not to care about their standard of living, which might be low for us. That's normal for them. They can live well enough as long as they have houses, clothes, and food.

In this respect, I already have enough. As for material belongings, I have everything I want. Residence, infrastructure, clothes, food, two Macintoshes and plenty of musical instruments. However, I do complain every day. I always complain about the weather—this is supposed to be Hawaii, isn't it?—and the taste of the food. I always find fault with others. If others don't do what I expect, I become irritated.

So, I am reminded by these things that possessing material things isn't related to our true happiness. No matter where we go, when we suffer, we do suffer. When I went back to Japan last year for the first time, I realized how I had been blessed with everything while I was living there. The food, the prices, the cleanliness, the convenience, and the nice people. I used to view only the negative aspects of Japan. I took everything for granted. My mom cooked food every day. She did a tons of house chores for me. My dad let me go to a university in Tokyo. I ate cheap and delicious food everywhere in Japan. But I took all these things for granted. That was the cause of my sufferings. I found that my own mind caused sufferings. Even though I had everything in life, I still complained.

A famous Japanese comedian, Sanma Akashiya, said, "It's a big bargain just to be alive." He went through many sufferings in his life. He lost his mother when he was three. His younger brother died in a fire. An airplane he was supposed to take crashed. He said he is happy just being alive. If we are able to think in that way, then don't you think it's an unsurpassed bliss? I can't think of any supreme appreciation or "joy of living" other than this. It's unconditional. You don't need money or material possessions to be happy. Without any conditions, we can

be happy. We can be thankful to everything, including what seems to be a bad situation, because you will find out later that sufferings are actually leading us in the right direction.

Do you still remember the relief you felt after finding out that the alert on our phones was just a mistake? I guess that was the same state that this comedian experienced. We are already happy but we forget this truth. We don't have to do anything to realize this happiness. It's already here. By just hearing the Dharma, the realization will come to us. Although I still take everything for granted, Amida Buddha always reminds me that I forget the truth.

Namu-Amida-Butsu.

— Rev. Hideaki Nishihori

HOONKO

Hoonko Gathering September 15, 2018

The Hoonko Gathering will be held at 1 p.m. at the Higashi Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin. This year we invited Rev. Peter Hata from the Higashi Honganji Los Angeles Betsuin. He will talk on our theme, "Let Us Discover the Joy of Living." Previously, he was a guitarist who played in the famous jazz group, Hiroshima. After the lecture, we will serve dinner. Let's share the time and enjoy the Hoonko Gathering.

Hoonko Service September 16, 2018

The Hoonko Service starts at 10 a.m. at the Higashi Hongwanji Betsuin. The officiant, Associate Abbot Yul Otani from Honzan (son of Overseas District Abbot Choyu Otani). This service is the memorial service for our founder, Shinran Shonin, and the most important service of the year for us. It is done in the traditional style. We hope you will attend the Hoonko Service.

TRADE WIND

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Bon Dance Volunteers Deserve The True Credit



Old-style. Yup, the bon dances of Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji still try to retain much of the flavor of old-style bon dances and introduce this to a new generation. And yet, we need to keep improving, such as technology, a yummy menu with quality and value, and authentic but fun programming.

To create our old-style bon dance takes months of preparations and lots of people to provide a meaningful bon service, and, offer everyone about five hours of truly great fun. I would be remiss to not thank the Sakura Odori Kai, Iwakuni Odori Aiko Kai, and the Hawaii Eisa Shinyuu Kai for their support and performances.

This year, as in past years, from May up to the week after bon dance, over 120 precious individuals have given a total of hundreds of hours of their full effort. I would like to acknowledge these most wonderful volunteers. Most of the people whose names appear below actually have come in many times over the seven or eight weeks. Without their talent, skill, perseverance and open hearts, we cannot have an old-style bon dance.

Thanking you in gassho, Jim Dote

Bon Volunteers: Toshimasa Arai, Reiko Marino, Laverne Tokunaga-Tarumoto, Margaret Hamachi, Wendy Tachikawa, Karen Hayashida, Cheryl and Terry Tyler, Stan Sato, Leighton Sakamoto, Tom Fujimoto, Neal Matsushima, Dennis Kajiura, Spencer Mukai, Light Ruth, Craig Kagawa, Julian and Susan Ng, Yasu and Nora Takeno, Kenyon and Jenny Wong, Dennis Kam, Mashino Family, Sherry and Juan Limosa, Paul & Liane Briggs, Walt Herring, Jane Sasabuchi, Patricia Kalahiki, Robin Tokunaga, Eleanor Tokunaga, Johanna Tokunaga, June Takeno, Christopher Takeno, Eugene Mukai, George Kodama, Rev. Koen Kikuchi, Rev. Hidesato Kita, Rev. Noriaki Fujimori, Rev. Aki Nishihori, Dylan Balough, Jeanne Kawawata, Kevin Kawawata, Cy Takeno, Jodi Fujimoto, Alexis Cheong, Brandon Kondo, Emily Kondo, Renee Kondo, Katherine Lau, Stella Kam, Brandon Yim, Kevin Nakamura, Marjorie Kuniyoshi, Kats Ishihara, LaVina, Shirley Ishihara, Debra Saiki, Dennis Saiki, Sandra Kawate, Bruce and JoAnn Kanda, Verna Koyanagi, Norma Yara, Darryl and Jessica Nitta, Christopher Yara, Sonya Yara, Nicholas Yara, Robert Yara, Scot and Jennifer Matayoshi, Ron and Coralie Matayoshi, Chelsea and Christian Kimura, Carnation Castillo, Reggie Castillo, Jennie Young Lee, Harry and Ann Akagi, Gladys Sakata, Sandra Kawate, Carl Okuda, Ria Bartolome, Karen and Mits Higashi, Richard Barrett, Mary Matsuda, Mary Kagawa, Brandon Hee, Gayla Tarumoto, Scott Muraki.

Honolulu Japanese Junior Chamber of Commerce: Joel Kutaka, Lori Higashi, Mari Fujimoto, Rachel Fukumoto, Jon Watase, Korey Tsubota, Ryan Inouye, Tyler Lam, Lara Karamatsu.

Cherry Blossom Festival Court: Mika Nakashige, Kaydi Azure Hashima, and court advisor Tiffany Mitani.

Businesses: John Schneck of Custom Audio, Dr. Henry Yim, Dan Whitford and Ce Flood of Rainbow State Paint, Bart Kihara of the Makule Club, Issei Kazama of Ala Moana Produce.

Donated meals for volunteers: Nora and Yasu Takeno, Carl Okuda, Mary Kagawa, Jane Sasabuchi, Cheryl and Terry Tyler, Gayla Tarumoto.

Web edition

Left – Families of loved ones lost, cooks, dancers and princesses alike attend Rev. Nishihori's service.

Right – Hang with care Spencer Mukai (left), Stan Sato and Rev. Nishihori carefully hang the ceremonial Shimaku banner across the front entry.

Below – A “queen” among two princesses. Faith Kaneshiro (center) whose late mother, Lillian Kuroiwa had run our bon dances for many years, poses with 2018 Cherry Blossom 1st Princess, Mika Naka-shige (left) and Princess Kaydi Azure Hashima (right).



2018 Bon Dance Fun

Continued from page 3

Anyway, we all worked hard and we did what we could for this event. Although we had some troubles, like rain and several short black outs, I hope everyone enjoyed this Bon Dance. I hear that people enjoyed the taste of our foods and that is nice to hear...our kitchen volunteers worked very hard for you.

Thank you, everyone, for all your efforts. I'd like to thank Jim Dote, especially, who is our Bon Dance chairperson, for his tremendous hard work. To our many kind and generous donors, our profound gratitude for your Dana and support that we may continue to share the word of the Buddha and Shinran.

Thanks again to everyone who supported this Bon Dance, and even to people who couldn't come on that day but have been supporting our temple. On behalf of the temple, I do appreciate everyone's gracious Dana.

With Gassho, Rev. Aki



It's great to see Kaneohe's diverse community participate in our joyous bon dance!

Temple Service & Activities Calendar

August

September

1	Wed	Ann Pearl Visitation	2	Sun	9am	Sunday Service
4	Sat	2pm Bon Dance at Byodo-In We are having our temple's booth.	9	Sun	9am	Fall Ohigan Service
7	Tue	7:30pm The temple band will perform live on KZOO Radio	15	Sat	1pm	District Hoonko Gathering at Betsuin 1 to evening. Guest speaker is Rev. Peter Hata from Los Angeles Betsuin
5	Sun	9am Sunday Service	16	Sun	10am	District Hoonko. Guest speaker is Rev. Peter Hata to around 1pm No Sunday Service at Kaneohe.
12	Sun	9am Sunday Service, Board Mtg. follows	18	Tue	3pm	Oko at Kaneohe
15	Wed	Ann Pearl Visitation	19	Wed		Ann Pearl
18	Sat	5:30pm Kaneohe Music Festival to 9:30pm	23	Sun	9am	Sunday Service
19	Sun	No Sunday Service	25	Tue		Hale Nani
21	Tue	3pm Oko at Betsuin	30	Sun	9am	Sunday Service
25	Tue	10am Hawaii District Meeting at Betsuin				
26	Sun	9am Sunday Service				

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