

1924 ~ 2019

Our 95th Anniversary

Minister's Message

Climate Change and Buddhism

inside your Jushin

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Sushi Chefs Tada (left) and Kazu (right) beam with pride as the sushi class ends.

Aloha Members and Friends,

Almost a half year has passed since I joined as a member of Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji. I have spent wonderful times with you, such as, Buddha Day Service, Bazaar & Plant Sale, Bon Dance, and our September Sushi Cooking Class! Even Sunday services were and are enjoyable times. Moreso, these were all meaningful and impressive times for me. Everybody worked hard and helped each other to make those events successful. I saw the tie among 'ohana - members, families, friends, and community. I can say with a loud voice that our Bon Dance is the best in Hawaii!! Ours is not the biggest; there are no games, and not the variety of foods like at other bon dances. But our Bon Dance is the one that our ojiichan and obaachan, (grandpa and grandma) inherited from the past and passed to us as a joyous family and community event. Our Bon Dance is not "one of the best" but the "only one!" Our family enjoyed it so much. What about you?

Luckily, in my life at Kaneohe, I have more opportunity to talk with members in the temple. One day, one of our members said that sea level is rising day by day, so we need to think about that. At that time, I politely listened to his words because I thought I knew of that problem. As a student, I learned the situation of the rising ocean at Tuvalu, an island in the South Pacific. Tuvalu has an average elevation of only 6.6 feet above sea level. I just thought some other areas or countries are facing with this problem. I felt it was not my serious problem.

However, very recently I was walking along Waikiki Beach from the Hilton lagoon towards Diamond Head. I like walking on the beach and I have frequently walked there since I came to Hawaii for almost four years. On this recent stroll, I started walking as usual and enjoyed watching the people and scenery. But I saw something shocking after walking past the Hale Koa Hotel. The ocean invaded the walk way and waves came into the property of hotels. The hotels put up wooden plywood barriers to prevent the ocean waves and sand from washing into the hotels. Some parts of the beach walk were closed and, in some places, strong waves were crashing. Although it was the time of the highest tide, what I saw was totally different from what I knew. Suddenly, I could envision there will be no more Waikiki Beach in the future.

I imagine hearing Greta Thunberg, the brave Swedish teenaged activist for climate action, saying to me, "How dare you!" Did you view her September 23rd speech at the United Nations? I did! Her words were so strong and what she said hit me. If you haven't seen it, please Google it. You still can find her 2019 UN speech on the Internet. What I learned from her was

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**Special Guest Speaker
George J. Tanabe, Ph.D.**

**You are Cordially Invited to
the Dedication Service of
Prince Shotoku's Scroll
and a Special Talk**



**Sunday 9am
October 6**

Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji
Light Refreshments to follow.

**Please join us as
Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji
installs and commemorates
the scroll of Prince Shotoku
(524 – 622 AD) an important
figure of Buddhism in Japan**

George Tanabe, Jr., is professor emeritus in the Department of Religion at the University of Hawai'i. As a specialist in the study of Japanese religions, he has published with the Harvard University Press, coauthored, edited and coedited with the Princeton University Press, University of Hawai'i Press, and Columbia University Press. In 2013, Dr. Tanabe and his wife, Willa Jane Tanabe, Ph.D., coauthored the definitive book, *Japanese Buddhist Temples in Hawai'i - An Illustrated Guide*, with the University of Hawai'i Press. He received the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Ray with Neck Ribbon, in 2014. He has been a most sought-after presenter and lecturer in Asian religions and especially Buddhism.

Source: Japanese Buddhist Temples in Hawaii

Minister's Message

Continued from page 1

not only about how fast our climate is changing and how much danger we are in, but also how I was so insensitive to this global issue. My earlier thinking - when I heard about it from our member - was that the problem wasn't so serious, someone else would fix it. But when I faced the situation at Waikiki Beach and felt the danger directly, I finally realized I am in danger. How foolish I was. This is what I learned from her words.

Of course, WE are in danger, so we need to think about reversing climate change, but that is not the reason I was motivated to start thinking about that. Perhaps, I will not be affected as much from the changing climate as our children, your children, and future generations. They will be affected more by climate change. I don't want my children to be in danger as much as possible. That is the main reason for me. I have to and I want to think about this problem for my family. Whether we are in Hawaii or Japan, we are living on islands. What about you? What can we do about this?

Shin Buddhism's teaching is about looking inward at ourselves. I learned more about myself through experiencing the climate warming problem firsthand. While the climate problem is not directly connected to Buddhism, it is through Buddhism that I began to understand how connected I am to the problem. I realized I am such a foolish person that I cannot see things as they are (reality).

What I learned from Greta was how foolish I am because climate change will affect my family's future, every family's future, and the generations that will follow. I feel all things must be *arigatai* things, a feeling of true gratitude and humility. Yet, our human nature keeps us away from seeing the truth. We need to be shaken up and our fixed ideas to be broken so we can see things in a truthful way, released from our fixed ego-self. This is how Buddhist teaching liberates us. Myself, I have to do more about climate change for future generations. Do we feel arigatai for this Earth we are living on? What can we Buddhist followers do about this?

In Gassho, Koen Kikuchi

Photo of storm surge, North Shore, Oahu



Japanese Culinary Class

by Chef Kazu ~ October 19 10am to 1pm

The second cultural culinary class is set for Saturday, October 19, with Chef Kazu, with a lesson plan of hand-rolling sushi, the fine art of cooking egg, and cutting a whole fish. It promises to be educational, hands-on, and fun-filled. As of Sept. 28, 24 people signed up. The temple has only a maximum of 30 places. A \$25 fee goes to ingredients and Chef orei. Donations to the Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji are appreciated. More information: call 247-2661.



At September 22 Class

Culture and Sushi to Next Gen

It was full-on, roll up your sleeves and roll up your bamboo makisu (sushi mat) at the Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji's Sushi Class on September 22. A group of 27 people attended a class on sushi-making from two experts. Many participants said they had not made sushi before and were "kind of scared." Auwe! (literal translation, Oh My!)

Expert Chefs Tada and Kazu of Wagaya Ramen restaurant were the instructors who carefully shared recipes, and secret "behind the sushi bar" techniques making a wide variety of popular sushi.

Diane Miho of Mililani said a week later, "It was so much fun,

but it was my first time making sushi. Today I bought my own bamboo mat and maybe will make sushi for dinner. I was so inspired. My mother (Sandra Kawate) and daughter Alyssa all attended together, it was great!"

Ray Uyema and wife Fay, of Honolulu, attended. Ray said the class was, "Excellent! ...the ingredients were unbelievably great. It was my first time making sushi... Fay was very happy to learn how to make reverse sushi."

Karen Kajiura created a picture-perfect plate and she quickly (and



Top – Master Chefs Tada and Kazu oversee the eager participants. Above – Three generations learn together, Alyssa and Diane Miho, with grandmother and mother Sandra Kawate.



Above, Karen Kajiura proudly shows her handmade yummy sushi plate that included slices of tako, cuttlefish, ahi, egg, and then topped with layers of nori, tobiko and salmon roe. (Like many participants, this was her first time making nigiri sushi.)



Fay Uyema slices her roll as husband Ray seems eager to taste it.

proudly) snapped a cellphone photo to her daughter in San Francisco.

The class was the brainchild of board member CharlAnn Nakamoto and Rev. Koen Kikuchi. It evolved into a cultural and educational series teaching and sharing such cultural heritage and artistry with younger generations.

Temple Service & Activities Calendar

October

2	Wed	10 am	Ann Pearl Care facility visitation
6	Sun	9 am	Eitaikyo Memorial Service & Prince Shotoku scroll dedication service Special guest speaker, Dr. George Tanabe, Professor Emeritus UHM
13	Sun	9 am	Sunday Service Guest Speaker Bishop Kawawata
16	Wed	10 am	Ann Pearl Care facility visitation
19	Sat	10 am	Japanese Cullinary Class
20	Sun	9 am	Sunday Service
20			Omigaki
27	Sun	10 am	Hoonko Service, Guest Speaker Rev. Steve Toyoshima
29	Tues	10 am	Hale Nani Care facility visitation

November

3	Sun	9 am	Sunday Service
6	Wed	10 am	Ann Pearl care facility visitation
10	Sun	9 am	Sunday Service
17	Sun	10am	Palolo Hoonko Service (No Service at Kaneohe, let's carpool to Palolo)
20	Wed	10 am	Ann Pearl care facility visitation
24	Sun	9am	Sunday Service
25	Mon		Rev. Kikuchi to attend Hoonko Service in Kyoto and will be Hawaii Group Escort (Minister returns 12/2)

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 telephone our temple at 247-2661 for current information. Our sincere apologies our website is under repair. Mahalo

Jushin 樹心

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“Gassho has two meanings; respect and peace. Gassho stands for the world where Buddha and people are together. Gassho shows the mind of seeking a peaceful world and also shows respect for others.”

June 9, 2019 Dharma Talk

Rev. Koen Kikuchi