



JUSHIN

樹心



OCTOBER – NOVEMBER 2021

Volume 11 Issue 5

A registered 501 (c) organization

Minister's Message

By Rev. Marcos Sawada

Members, HOONKO & EITAIKYO

The Three Treasures starts this way: "Difficult is it to receive life in human form, now we are living it. Difficult is it to hear the Buddha Dharma, now we hear it. If we do not receive awakening in the present life, then in what life can we hope to receive it? Let us reverently take refuge in the Three Treasures of the Truth."

In October, we have two services that can represent our legacy and foundation as followers of Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji. They are Eitaikeo and Hoonko services.

EITAIKYO (永代経), as an analogy, can represent the facility like a school. Hoonko (報恩講) represents the teachers and teachings, and finally us, as its students.

The Japanese word for perpetual is Eitai, and Kyo is Sutra, the content of Buddha's word or teachings: EITAIKYO means Perpetual Sutra. There isn't a Sutra called Perpetual, but the meaning is to continue to transmit the teachings of Buddha from generation to generation. It is a memorial service in which we honor all the deceased members of this temple - our ancestry.

The altar and HONDO (hall of worship), where we all sit and listen to the sermons of the ministers, arose from the heartfelt adoration of the temple's members who found spiritual strength in the Nembutsu teachings.

The temple provides an important function of serving the needs of the community. The essential part of this beautiful altar provides us opportunities to deepen our understanding of life and gives us spiritual strength through the guidance of the Nembutsu. Those unselfish devotees who passed away after living their lives in the Nembutsu were our parents and grandparents whose efforts made today's status of this temple possible for our gatherings. They want you to support this temple as a place where you and your future generations can continue as seekers to be awakened to the truth.

As Rev. Makoto Ichiraku says, "In encountering those who have passed on before us, we become able to truly contemplate what life is."

Master Rennyo in his works says: Into a whole village, a man only! We can imagine how hard it is to encounter and to listen to the teaching, and harder still to incorporate it into our individual lives. We, each as individuals, need to realize that the works of Amida Buddha's Wisdom assure everyone to be born in the Pure Land.

Master Shinran in Chapter VI of the TANNISHO, affirms that he never had any disciples, because "all disciples" included himself, are all disciples of Amida Buddha. This is "御同朋御同行 ONDOBO ONDOGYO." We are all Dharma friends, disciples of Amida Buddha, including Shakyamuni, the Seven Masters, Shinran, your ancestors and you.

HOONKO (報恩講) *Ho-on* means "return to gratitude" and *Ko* means "to clarify the meaning of." So, Ho-on-ko is a time to show gratitude to our founder, Shinran Shonin, for showing us how to walk along the path of the Nembutsu's teaching.

It is the service in which we give gratitude to the teachers who brought us the teaching of the NEMBUTSU, represented by Master Shinran Shonin, our denomination's founder. His memorial date is celebrated on November 28. On that occasion, we, Shinran's followers, do his memorial service so we can pay tribute and spread the Nembutsu's teaching by sharing with others. The principle of the benefit of the Wisdom of Buddha works on me and must be shared with others (JIRI RITA自利利他). The Other Power, the Buddha's Wisdom working on me and others is in universal way, without any kind of discrimination, never abandoning me or leaving me alone.

In our daily life, we are so attached to our strong ego that we don't realize how we are connected to all things we can and can-not see. The ego makes us blind to things we should see. Our strong blind passions create a comfort zone where it is easier to stay. However, life isn't shaped to our comfort but to reality - the nature of As It Is. Things happen on the way and we cannot avoid them. They make us feel despaired, insecure and confused. We cannot accept them, but the more we try to reject them, more sufferings arise, then we get lost. In Buddhism we called this state the Darkness (MUMYO 無明), we don't know what is the correct or right way.

Confused about what is going to happen? My mind I cannot control on creating more expectations and judgements based on past events and records. This is the SANSARA - the karmic cycle of life and death, my mind creates, recreates constantly going out of my control.

The world is not the creation of a higher power or something objective and external; it is constantly created by perceptions, thoughts, and actions (Karma). That is why one can liberate oneself by developing beyond-personal insight. Instead of blaming original sin or looking for a guilty one to something otherworldly, one simply looks at the given circumstances / effects and focuses on the development of that which is, both, in life and after life (death).

This moment, impermanence, is here right now! Usually, we aren't aware about it! Thus, on listening to the Dharma is crucial.

Reverend Yutai Ikeda says, HOON, or paying gratitude to Shinran, actually becomes meaningful when it becomes CHION (智恩 WISDOM), the Buddha's teaching becomes a practical part of us.

This is the realization of the Buddha's Wisdom working on us, returning us to the Ultimate Reality or the *As It Is*. It is like Amida Buddha tells us: "Sorry, I cannot do anything about your suffering with advancing in age, becoming ill and dying. But I can understand you. Come here!" Then a big hug of compassion with winds of reality come for everyone on universal way.

(Please see page 2)

Chairperson's Message

By CharlAnn Nakamoto

Aloha Members & Friends,

We are very happy to welcome back Mrs. Sandra Kawate and Mrs. Tokie Yoneshige, both deep Shinshu followers and long-time residents of Kaneohe; so great to see you back on Sundays!

I hope this newsletter finds you in great health—physically, mentally, spiritually and socially. Yes, I mention socially too because being born human and never having to change my social habits overnight and for so long; I can feel how this has taken a toll on me. And I can't recall ever feeling this tapped out and drained of energy. Digging deep, I think I'm feeling this way because I had high hopes and big plans once the vaccine arrived. With so much anticipation of the vaccine, I expected our lives to have returned back to normal by now. Wow, that was a surprise! Nonetheless, I'm remaining hopeful that we could return to our old ways of gathering with friends outside our bubble, talking story without masks, sharing meals, sharing a ride together, kids play together, and not to forget hugging, part of our normal practice of saying "hi"...

I am very thankful that our temple has been able to remain open and is here for us. It has been the reason that I've been able to thrive during these difficult times. I look forward to Sundays when I am able to listen to the teachings and share with our sangha. I look forward to seeing the beautiful florals arranged by Gladys, Harriet, Norma & Dayle, hearing our temple bell rung by Stan, receiving Rev. Sawada's dharma message & joining in his chanting.

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to all of the members that have served on the Board of Directors over the past few years: Mary Matsuda, Julian Ng, Karen Hayashida, Karen Higashi, Stan Sato, Dennis Kajiura, and Douglas Crosier. Thanks to these individuals who have dedicated their personal time in ensuring that the temple programs, com-munications, facilities & building, grounds and special services & events have been able to flourish until recently.

While many of us are going through our own individual challenges which may be preventing us from attending or participating in temple activities as we did in the past or as much as we would like to now; I would like to inform everyone that the health of our temple board is also at stake at this time. We currently have 5 active members on the board. Our minimum requirement to have a quorum for voting is 5, so we are just getting by. In January 2022, we anticipate losing another board member. Therefore, considering that we are in a critical time in terms of having a healthy, viable Board of Directors to continue the temples existence, please consider volunteering to serve on our Board of Directors. We welcome your participation! Please contact Rev. Sawada or myself by calling or stopping by the temple on Sundays.

In gassho,

CharlAnn Nakamoto, Chairperson

Minister's Message (continued from page 1)

Buddha doesn't change the facts of our reality. But, from its light of Wisdom and Compassion, the direction of being humans, is clarified again. It takes to become aware of the Ultimate Truth or the True Reality working among us on breaking my beliefs and my own small world of judging everything as good or bad.

Kaneohe Higashi is a DOJO, a place for learning Buddhism, which means to learn about our true self.

We hope you continue supporting this temple in your way, but the most important support would be you continuously find yourself from the perspective of Buddha's Wisdom without illusion or any fantasy.

Buddha's right is to go to harmonious perspective, it is to listen to the Dharma. When we really listen, we realize that each one of us are unique, but at the same time, equal.

Awaken to the true reality! Doesn't matter, if we are all ignorant moved by worldly passions. As Shinran says: More ice, more water! We as a drop of water, finally, we go to the ocean. More defilements, more virtues. On overcoming the self, we get the perpetual-infinite life or eternal life! But, listen to the Dharma is crucial!

HOONKO is to pay gratitude for the ignorance that transforms into Wisdom. Eitaikyo is the structure for transmitting the teachings from generation to generation to transcend this judgemental mind, the Sansara (Life and Death).

Take refuge in Buddha, in the Dharma and in the Sangha! Join us for listen to the truth!

Keep doing Namuamidabutsu even gesturally and listen to the Dharma. Come to the service, do your donation and do your Namuamidabutsu! The NAMUAMIDABUTSU itself works for you to realize its true reality.

Aloha and big Mahalo for your support!!! Namuamidabutsu, Namuamidabutsu, NAMUAMIDABUTSU!!!

EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS



Great Connexion Hawaii - Brazil. International Dharma Dialog, August 22



FALL OHIGAN SERVICE live streamed on YT Channel

September 19, 2021

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: July 15 to September 19, 2021.

Gojikai (Membership Fee): Eileen Onomoto

Memorial Service: Jeannie Higa, Linda Honda (in memory of Neil Masahisa Honda), Suanne Miyata (in memory of Frances Tachiyama & Irene Tachiyama), Susan Tamanaha (Misao Yoshihara 3-year service)

Calendar: Eileen Onomoto

Kyodan: anonymous (in memory of Shigeki Fukuda), Mabel Ishimoto (in memory of Dorothy & Henry Haitzuka, Asayo & Kichitaro Takagawa), Perez Kaipo, Sharon Kawagoe, Roy & Mary Matsuda (in memory of Reverend Nobuo & Mrs. Tomoko Matsumoto), Michael Takashita, Claudia Uyeda

Hanamatsuri: Helen Tanaka, Majel Toyofuku

Bon: Karen Hayashida, Mary Matsuda, Eileen Onomoto (in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Yoshio & Ayano Miyazaki), Carolyn Towata, Majel Toyofuku

Ohigan: anonymous, Glen & Reiko Hatakeyama, Coleen Kasamoto, Mary Matsuda, CharlAnn Nakamoto, Julian & Susan Ng, Gladys Sakata, Stanley Sato

Total Donations: \$4,642

Rummage-Plant Sale, Food Donations: Stan Sato, CharlAnn Nakamoto, Harriet Yamada, Gladys Sakata, Karen Higashi, Dayle Chock, Norma Sawada, Claudia Uyeda, Dennis Kajiura

Altar's flower donation: Stan Sato, Harriet Yamada, Gladys Sakata, Karen Higashi, Dayle Chock, Norma Sawada, Jeannie Higa

Thank You!

We appreciate your generous donations. Please contact Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji for inadvertent omission of donors or if you want hold as anonymous, please inform us in your mail.

Thanks, visitors & helpers!!

Temple needs volunteer helpers. Ask Sawada Sensei if you are able to come and help. Mahalo!!

MEMORIAL SERVICES

1 Y (Passed on 2020) Mr. Koichi Yoshihara 1/29; Mrs. Charliet Tsutayo Nakanishi 5/16; Mr. Kurato Nakamoto 4/30; Mr. Eugene Satomi Mukai 01/18; Mr. Mitsuji Higashi 10/26; Mr. Jon Sakae Horikawa 12/10;

3Y (2019) Mr. Mineo Nagata 1/1; Mrs. Julie Koto Toriki 3/10; Mr. Frank Masakatsu Nomura 3/26; Mrs. Bertha Tsuruko Hong 4/6; Mrs. Hatsuko Sugioka 4/30; Mr Edward Isao Sakamoto 5/2; Mr. Pedro Datuin Imus 5/28; Mr. Richard Toshiharu Tsuyama 6/14; Mrs. Helen Kimiye Fukuda 6/27; Masaru Sakata 11/26; Haruko Asato 11/23; Misao Yoshihara 10/1; Katherine Momoe Orita 8/24;

7 Y (2015) Mrs Jean Sumiye Tanaka 1/7; Mrs. Jane Misao Fujimoto 4/9; Mrs Toyoko Joanne Kusano 4/12; Mrs. Lillian Matsuko Kuroiwa 4/14; Mrs Misao Yokote 04/21; Mrs. Tsuyako Higa; 4/29; Mr. Michael Noboru Nakamura 07/6; Mr Shigeaki Inoue 08/24; Mrs. Sueno Teraoka 09/2; Mrs. Haruno Moritsugu Kato 08/17; Mrs. Helene Kazuyo Yomono 10/11; Mrs. Julia N. Matsui 11/5;

13 Y (2009) Mr. Eddie Kazuno Nakanishi 2/4; Mrs. Caroline M. Nishiyama 2/15; Mrs. Tsuyako Inoue 3/8; Mrs Sumie Murata 4/12; Mrs. Hatsumi Fukumoto Yamada 5/12; Mrs Fusako Itaki Okazaki 8/17; Ms. Jessie Chiyoko Takara 9/2; Mr. Masayoshi Fukuda 9/24; Mr. Masami Kasadate 12/30

17Y (2005) Mrs. Tomoko Matsumoto 3/8; Mrs. Emlyn Nobuko Uehara 8/17; Mrs. Joyce Kinue Nishimura 8/23; Mr. Tatsuo Kanda 10/12; Yoshio Miyazaki 9/6; Mr. Hisashi Yamaoka 9/19; Mrs. Lillian Shizue Komoda 12/17;

25 Y (1997) Mrs Teruyo Ikeda 9/9;

33 Y (1989) Mr. Masami Sumida 4/18; Mrs. Hatsue Horie 11/30;

50 Y (1972) Mr. Yoshio Tanaka 8/20

The above are dates for the memorial services. This year, we are keeping for the whole year because the pandemic's shutdown. We are having in person's service at the temple, striving to keep every member and visitor safe. Wear mask, keep physical distance and assuring the comers not having the Flu symptoms. Please call Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji (808 247-2661) for your service appointment, even the date has passed. You can consult the resident minister for any information you need. Also please feel free to come and join our Sunday Services, starting from 09:00 am. For further information call Rev. Sawada at 808 247-2661.



Rev. Marcos was the guest speaker invited by Rev. Dr. Bert Sumikawa at Kailua WINDWARD HONGWANJI's Ohigan Service on September 26, 2021. Service on WINDWARD HONGWANJI YT Channel



OHAGI RICE CAKE made by Norma Sawada on the occasion of OHIGAN SERVICE on September 19, 2021

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SANGHA'S DANA MAHALO!!!

OMIGAKI



May we ask for your assistance on Sunday, October 10, 2021 beginning at 9:00 a.m. to polish the altar ornaments. Wear mask and bring your own gloves. Mahalo!

"The truth is the distinction of what it is, of what it seems to be. Words are not the facts, just ideas about the facts. It is irrelevant what you think or not about the truth, the truth requires only your recognition. Disrupt your belief system!"

WU HSIN

EITAIKYO, as an analogy, can represent the facility like a school. Hoonko represents the teachers and teachings, and finally us, as its students.

Rev. Marcos Sawada



CALENDAR OCTOBER-DECEMBER

OCTOBER

- 2 (Sat) MAP Class 10 a.m.
* Zoom
- 3 (Sun) Eitaikyo Service 9 a.m.
* Live Stream YT
- 10 (Sun) Omigaki 9 a.m.
- 12 (Tue) Larger Sutra Study 6 p.m.
* Zoom
- 17 (Sun) HOONKO Service 9 a.m.
* Live Stream YT
- 21 (Thu) OKO Tea time 6 p.m.
* Zoom with Betsuin
- 24 (Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m.
- 31 (Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m.

Every Wednesdays and Fridays
Dharma Health Morning Service

Health Tips Exercise from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

* Zoom Live Stream - call for link
* YouTube Channel live stream at
Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji
YT Channel

NOVEMBER

- 7 (Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m.
* Live Stream YT
- 9 (Tue) Larger Sutra Study 6 p.m.
- 13 (Sat) District Hoonko Service
& 14(Sun) 10 a.m.
* Live Stream (Zoom)
Guest Speaker: Rev. Michael Conway
- 18 (Thu) OKO Tea time 6 p.m.
* Zoom with Betsuin
- 21 (Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m.
* Live Stream YT
- 28 (Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m.

DECEMBER

- 5 (Sun) HBC Bodhi Day Service
11a.m. * Live Stream YT
- 12 (Sun) Bodhi Day Service 9 a.m.
* Live Stream YT
- 19 (Sun) Temple's Cleaning up 9 a.m.
- 26 (Sun) MOCHI POUNDING 10 a.m.
- 31 (Fri) New Year Eve Service JOYA-E 5 p.m.

JANUARY 2022

- 1 (Sat) New Year Service 9 a.m.

UP COMING SERVICES

OCT. 3 (Sun) EITAIKYO 9 a.m.* Zoom YT

Perpetual Sutra Service. Representatives of traditional family members of KHHM will be welcomed to join. Please call Rev. Sawada

OCT. 17 (Sun) HOONKO Service (Shinran's Memorial)
9 a.m.* Zoom YT It is a time to show gratitude to our founder, Shinran Shonin at his Memorial service. He was the master who introduced the Nembutsu's teaching to us.

Join us in person. We are doing the best to keep every member and visitor safe following the safety guidelines.

Please remember... if you didn't pay your 2021 Gojikai dues (membership fees), please send it in before the end of this year 2021. Gojikai dues is an important way to keep our temple alive. Mahalo! NAMUAMIDABUTSU

JUSHIN EDITORIAL MEMBERS

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