



樹心



APRIL– MAY 2022

A registered 501 (c) organization

Volume 12 Issue 2

Minister's Message

By Rev. Marcos Sawada

Travel: A Journey to Review Myself

After 3 years, I could finally, in February, travel to my hometown in Brazil as part of my vacation. Since my father passed away last year, I couldn't visit my mother and my brother and sisters. I confess that to travel in this time of crisis in the world wasn't a simple task. There were so many criteria to surpass and when we got to our travel destination, more conditions were added. When we came back, the conditions were the same, too.

My mother is 91. She lives alone and can do almost everything by herself. I realized her condition is quickly getting worse and her legs and cardio are becoming weaker. She knows about this but doesn't try to reverse the situation. The pandemic makes her more isolated and lonelier. During the time she isn't sleeping, the TV becomes her partner. That loud sound of the TV bothers me, but for her, it is a way to mask her solitude. I felt her semblance was sad. I was seeing an elderly lady without friends, spending most of her time inside a small apartment in a big metropolis São Paulo. Like my mother, a lot of people around the world are in the same situation.

My mother is a wise lady, educated and a devoted Buddhist, but she cannot escape from the reality of age and death even if she has a deep knowledge about Buddhism and much experience of life. Her world is a place where she wants assurance, but it is impossible. I'm looking at my mother from my point of view, but this is also my path. I try to keep my body and my health by doing things to change, but every attempt from my wishes and will is out of my control.

In the big picture of society, we live in the world of pandemic. The media changes the focus to Russia and Ukraine conflict. What a crazy time we are living!! Parts of this planet can be extinguished in a few minutes if a missile is launched. What is the central focus of every happening right now? Uncertainty of the next day or the next moment? Feeling of sadness, hopeless, anxiety? No. Whether we live in the isolated jungle or in the big metropolitan area, we are afraid of the most crucial concern of all humans: DEATH.

Listening to the Buddha's teaching brings me temporary comfort about death. However, because I still live in this world of my judgment of life and death, I cannot escape from sufferings. My ego self wants to only live in a complacent world. The idea of good, pleasant sensation creates greed and my attachment for the pleasant goes deeper and deeper. If it isn't pleasant, I become angry and frustrated. This going back and forth is the endless cycle of transmigration, SAMSARA.

SAMSARA is the dualistic view where my passions and my mind only project images and expectations to the future and bring records from the past along with attachments of feelings and sensations. We really cannot escape from this trans migratory mind from the time our self was created into this world till the last day of life.

My travel to encounter my father, who passed last year in Brazil, started where he was living with my mother. He wasn't there. What was I expecting to find? When I went to São Paulo Higashi Honganji Columbarium, his ashes were there, but he wasn't. Where is my father right now was my question and why couldn't I see him when my mother says he is with her. In the big city of São Paulo, the energy was pulsing, there were plenty of people, and in the richness of Brazil, I could see in the streets, food stalls, farmers markets, groceries, restaurants, but in contrast many homeless people were asking me to give money and food. Those chaotic and contrasting scenarios were real or only my judgment of poverty, richness, pandemic and non-pandemic. Every time my feelings and judgment of things were changing, this is SAMSARA. My mother in her apartment, the beggars asking me for money, the imminent third world war, people moving energetically wearing masks. As these scenarios came to my mind, I continued judging them as good or bad.

My mother suffering the loss of dad, the louder sound of TV, the voice of a beggar, everything that led me to that sadness, hopelessness, fears of death, the kindness of my mom trying to give me the best feast, laundering my clothes, and her tears when we said farewell, opened my heart to a big compassion that embraced me even with my judgmental mind of like, accept, don't accept and more. Being plus and minus, good and bad, right or wrong, happy and unhappy, sad and fun, they are in my world of constant change. No one told me to feel that way or this way, but it just comes to me working as one big awareness. I realized that everyone, good or bad, my father, my mother trying to protect me, generosity or conflict, everything was there, in my mind. They were my samsara. Everything in my judgmental mind was nothing more than the external world with my inner world. The reality I was trying to find was only for me. But that big awareness working to something that transcends my will is the working of the Dharma, the Hongan or the aspiration of Buddha to make me to be born in this ultimate reality that never abandons me, here and now. NAMUAMIDABUTSU!

April Member's Voice (Guest)

By Coleen Kasamoto (Dharma friend from Hilo Higashi Hongwanji)

What Shakyamuni Buddha Represents

A few years ago, I was asked what Shakyamuni Buddha represents to me. I thought of the days as a child when I attended temple and will admit to not understanding much about his teachings so he probably did not mean anything to me at that time. Besides, my attendance at temple was for purely social reasons.

Now, maybe because I am getting older, I am seeking something beyond myself. Over the past eight years, I have paid more attention to the teachings and have come to accept that Shakyamuni Buddha represents the Truth. What is this truth? That life is suffering. No one will deny or attempt to refute this truth because truth is reality and reality is truth. Daily we see and hear of such reality: senseless death of a child; pandemic; homelessness; starvation; war that ravages innocent lives; prejudice toward others who are different; abuse of the young and elderly; inhumane treatment of animals. As a result, we constantly ask, "Why? Why did this happen? What could have been done to prevent it?"

Shakyamuni Buddha had the perfect response—that there are causes and conditions which lead to suffering. This, too, is the truth. Whatever happens in our lives is due to causes and conditions. You can take any experience and trace its path. I did this, so this happened. I said this, so this resulted. I didn't do this, so this occurred. Most probably would not cause us deep suffering so we tend to slough it off and not think about it again. And sometimes this causes others to suffer.

Shakyamuni Buddha never claimed to be a god or a superior being with powers to create miracles. He simply understood the underlying causes for suffering—our ignorance and our attachment to our egos. This is another truth. Each of us will admit at least to the attachment to our egos. So, in order to free ourselves from ignorance and attachments, Shakyamuni Buddha set forth the Eightfold Path, a set of guidelines anyone can follow if one is truly sincere about seeking freedom from suffering.

It is not destiny, God or chance that causes people to suffer. Our human ignorance leads us onto the wrong path. This is what Shakyamuni Buddha revealed to us. So, if we accept reality as it is, we can begin to understand the truth of life is suffering.

Namuamidabutsu

DHARMA BON DANCE CLASS IN APRIL 2022

The temple will restart the Bon Odori class in April. The laughing and camaraderie of the group is great and the dancing is good exercise. For about 2 hours twice a month, Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Instructor Jean Crosier sensei for the Sakura dance group, will teach us TANKO BUSHI and more other dances. She first demonstrates the steps and movements of the new dance and announce the movements while we dance. She makes learning the dances easy and fun. She also takes the time to write the names and movements of the dance on the board for us to copy so we can practice on our own. The class will be held on Saturday, April 16 and 30. Namuamidabutsu

By Karen Higashi treasurer

EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS



Sunday Services February 6 & 13, 2022

Reverend Okada & Bishop Kawawata



Sunday Service March 6, 2022



Spring Ohigan Service & Board Meeting March 20, 2022



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: As of January 14 to March 15, 2022

Memorial Service: Lois Miyamoto (IMO Junichi Miyamoto); Amy Abe (IMO Koichi Yoshihara)

Nokotsudo: Joyce Matsumoto, Roy & Mary Matsuda

Gojikai (Membership Fee): Joyce Matsumoto, Dayle Chock, Roy & Mary Matsuda, Myles Miyazaki, Julian & Susan Ng, Clifford Fukuda, Lynn Tsuji, Helen Maki, Douglas & Jean Crosier, Darin Chung, Kerri Kahapea, Ernest & Misao Oda, Harriet Yamada

Calendar: Joyce Matsumoto, Dayle Chock, Roy & Mary Matsuda, Myles Miyazaki, Amy Abe

Kyodan: Roy & Mary Matsuda, Michael Takashita, Higashi Hongwanji Hawaii District, Lois Miyamoto, Robert Evans

Ohigan: Coleen Kasamoto

Ho on ko: Glen & Reiko Hatakeyama

Shusho E New Year Day: Sandra Kawate

Other: Higashi Hongwanji Shinshū Ōtani-ha (Japan)

Items & Food Donation: Ricky Matsushima (kimonos); Robert Evans (food); Darin Chung; Michael Kinoshita; Rev. Akiko Okada; CharlAnn Nakamoto; Norma Sawada; Jean Crosier; Stan Sato; Karen Higashi;

Altar's flower donation: Stan Sato; Harriet Yamada; Gladys Sakata; Karen Higashi; Dayle Chock, Norma Sawada, Lois Miyamoto, Mr. Ho

Total: Gojikai dues & Donations (including Offertory) = \$ 2,931

Thank You!

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

We are accepting flower donations for decoration of Little Buddha's Altar "HANAMIDO" Bring them by Saturday, April 9 at morning.

OMIGAKI DAY

We ask your help on Sunday, April 3 at 9:00 a.m. after SS for polishing our Altars ornaments.



Every Wednesdays and Fridays
Dharma Health Morning Service .

*Health Tips Exercise from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. with Rev. Sawada

MEMORIAL SERVICES

1 Y (Passed on 2021) Mr. Howard Yim 03/ 14/2021; Mr. Francis Isao Tachiyama 04/ 12; Mr. Michael Tadashi Onomoto 10/30; Junichi Miyamoto 01/25 (2023)

3Y (Passed on 2020) Mr. Eugene Satomi Mukai 01/18; Mr. Koichi Yoshihara 1/29; Mr. Neil Masahisa Honda 02/24; Mr. Kurato Nakamoto 4/30; Mrs.Charliet Tsutayo Nakanishi 5/16; Mr. Minoru Higa, 07/ 21; Mr. Ayano Miyazaki 08/19; Mr. Mitsuji Higashi 10/26; Mr. Jon Sakae Horikawa 12/10

7 Y (2016) Mrs. Miyoko Imai Hamaguchi 01/06; Mr. Yoshito Kanemitsu 03/07; Mr. Kenneth Yoshio Sakuma 04/16; Mrs. Irene Louise Tachiyama 04/ 16; Mr. Harry Masatsugu Sakaguchi 07/30; Mr. James Seiken Shiira 11/11; Ms. Chiyo Fukumoto 11/19

13 Y (2010)Mr. Masami Kasadate 12/30/2009; Mrs. Alice Kimiko Toyofuku 4/2010; Mr. Harry Masaru Kunihiro 08/02; Mr. Walter Iwao Furuya 10/28; Ms. Miyuki Yasuda 11/22;

*The above dates reflect the memorial services for the entire year 2022. 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.*

First proceed when a loved one almost going to pass or just passed away for Bedside service: Call immediately to Rev. Sawada at 808 247-2661 or 808 217-7325

17Y (2006) Mrs. Lillian Shizue Komoda 12/17/2005; Mrs. Doris Fujiko Tsuchitori 03/27/2006; Mrs. Loretta Misao Sato 04/14; Mr. Toshio Ishida 10/11; Mr. Taro Shinsato 11/25; Mr. Shizuo Murabayashi 12/05; Ms. Kimie Ozeki Kasadate 12/26;

25 Y (1998) Mr. Takashi Kiichi 03/14; Mr. Masakichi Aniya 5/26; Mr. Misato Yoshihiro 09/01; Mrs. Tazu Oda 12/15

33 Y (1990) Mr. Harry Masao Uyemura 01/20; Mr. Mitsuru Yoshizaki 06/28; Mrs. Megumi Takishita 08/03; Mr. Tomeki Takishita 10/03

50 Y (1973) Mr. Takashi Tamekichi 01/25; Mr. Katsuki Nakamura 04/27; Mr. Katsuhisa Nakamura 04/27; Mr. Rengo Okamoto 05/16; Mr. Yoshiharu Hasebe Nakamura 08/07; Mr. Masaru Otsubo 09/28/1973;



**Karen Higashi, Norma Sawada, Stan Sato, Gladys Sakata
Flower arrangement March 26, 2022**

KANEOHE HIGASHI HONGWANJI MISSION

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2022 Board of Directors– Officers

Chairperson - CharlAnn Nakamoto Vice Chair - Stanley Sato

Treasurer - Karen Higashi; Assistant Treasurer- Darin Chung;

Secretary - Kerri Kahapea; Assistant Secretary - Douglas Crosier.

Thanks, visitors & helpers!!

March 26, 2022 Brent Miyamoto
(Hilo) and Karen Higashi



Rev. Ritsuko Sawada
Guest Speaker
Ohigan March 20, 2022

The temple needs much maintenance to keep running. Since December of last year to March we have been doing several improvements in the temple's sewer line system, roofing, parking in the lot and garden. We were happy doing those. The cost of everything is so high. We really appreciate it if you can send any monetary donation for the future maintenance. Gassho, Namuamidabutsu!

自分の在り方に痛みを感じず

るときに人の痛みが心が

開かれる

宮城 巽

*When you feel the pain deep in
your heart, you will be able to
open to others' pain.*

Rev. Shizuka Miyagi



CALENDAR APRIL, MAY, & JUNE 2022

APRIL 2022

- 3 (Sun) Omigaki 9:00 am
HBC Buddha Day Hanamatsuri
9:30 am HBC * YT
- 6, 13, 20 27 (Wed) 5:30-7:30 p.m. ZOOM
District Joint Dharma Gathering Series
Rev. Dr. Nobuo Haneda (Maida Ctr.)
"The Contemplation Sutra"
- 10 (Sun) Kaneohe Higashi Buddha Day
9:00 am YT live stream
- 14 (Thu) Ministers' meeting 1:00 pm
- 16 (Sat) Bon Dance Practice 10:00 am
- 17, 24 * (Sun) Sunday Service 9:00 am
* YT live stream
- 30 (Sat) Bon Dance Practice 10:00 am

MAY 2022

- 1, 8 (Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m.
- 10 (Tue) Larger Sutra Study
6 p.m.*Zoom
- 15(Sun) Tanjo-E & Mother's Day Service
9:00 am YT live stream
- 19 (Thu) OKO Tea time 6 pm * Zoom
With Betsuin

MAY (cont.)

- 22 (Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m.
Board Meeting 11 a.m.
- 29 (Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m.
* YT live stream

JUNE 2022

- 5, 12, 19 (Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m.
- 14 (Tue) Larger Sutra Study
6 p.m.*Zoom
- 25 (Sat) Hatsubon Service
12 p.m. * Live Stream ZOOM
- 26 (Sun) Ulla Bon Service 9:00 a.m.
9:00 a.m.* Live Stream YT

- ZOOM Live Stream Need get Link
- YT YouTube Channel live Stream at
Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji YT Channel

Every Wednesdays and Fridays
Dharma Health Morning Service .
* Health Tips Exercise from 7:30 a.m. to
8:30 a.m.

UP COMING SERVICES & EVENTS

April, 6; 13; 20; 27(Wednesday) District Dharma Gathering
with Rev. Dr. Nobuo Haneda (Maida Center)
Theme: "The Contemplation Sutra Series"
from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. By Zoom
Contribution: fee \$40 for 4 times; Once \$10
(Payable to Higashi Honganji Hawaii District)
For further information ask Rev. Okada at (808) 531-1231

April 3 (Sun) 9:00 am OMIGAKI (Polishing)
9:30 am HBC Hanamatsuri YouTube (YT) live

April 10 (Sun) 9:00 am Kaneohe Higashi HANAMATSURI YT live.

* We are accepting flower donations for decoration of Little Buddha's
Altar "HANAMIDO" - Bring them by Saturday, April 9 at morning.

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

JUSHIN EDITORIAL MEMBERS

Contributors: Rev. Marcos Sawada, CharlAnn Nakamoto,
Jean Crosier, Stan Sato, Karen Higashi, Norma Sawada.

Assembling and Sending: Gladys Sakata, Karen Higashi,
Dayle Chock, Norma Sawada, Rev. Marcos Sawada