



# JUSHIN

# 樹心



## FEBRUARY– MARCH 2022

A registered 501 (c) organization

Volume 12 Issue 1

### Minister's Message

By Rev. Marcos Sawada

### Bringing Meaning into My Life, Every Time Is New

The year 2021 is gone and a month has passed since 2022 started. I would like to thank you for supporting the temple as we cross one more journey together in the history of our congregation.

Each one of us has been feeling how things in life are not designed by our wishes, will, or aspirations. Last year, 2021 showed me that my body became weaker than expected and meeting people was very limited and restricted due to keeping physical distance to avoid the contagious virus. These episodes were pushing me to not agree with lots of situations. Everything has changed very fast!

The forced social distance showed me impermanence from the perspective of my fear of getting sick and my body dying day by day. Others aren't enemies but suspecting them can take me to death. It's like I started to create zombies around me.

On the other hand, my ethical and moralistic actions haven't been enough to be a balanced person, but the opposite. I have to pretend and to lie in different situations to convince me that others are the villains, not me. The rules of keeping safe created an inner emotional struggle that depressed me while living in uncertainty and anxiety. Creating feelings of discrimination within, I became more distant and isolated from others. This contrasts with my deepest desire for people to be closer and involve me as an important person to them. "Don't leave me alone!" is what my profound desire is yelling, but my actions and mind do things mostly to be in solitude.

The base of all religions has two points: the practice and the belief or faith. The practice is doing and engaging in tasks to get salvation, but to do this practice (actions), one needs to first believe that the result will be for me to get to "Paradise" or to be my salvation.

Looking at everything happening now in the USA and in the world makes me feel angry. What kind of news can I trust? So much manipulated news is isolating us more into our individual "ego-shells." I feel angry, yelling, "Why don't others listen to me?" But I create my own world and my own hell or paradise from the calculated perspective of my ruler. It is like 10 people with 10 perspectives.

Ego-shell creates a parallel world despite reality, as if everything created in my mind was real. As a result, our individual ego is reflected in the bigger dimension of our society and vice versa. The individual ego is the same as the societal, it's the collective ego.

We can believe, but the belief represents something that is questionable or dubious. So, doubt and believing are the same. It's not the truth but a discriminative concept from the dualistic human perspective. So, our beliefs are not the truth, they are projections of the mind and we are not sure about their veracity.

The main sutra of the Pure Land Buddhism (Jodo Shinshu) is the Larger Sutra, its essence, humans having lots of illusions and deluding themselves constantly based on concepts created in their mind. The self, existence, and span of time are images we humans create and live as experience.

The Larger Sutra teaches us, "We were born alone, come alone, go alone, and die alone." What we call life is only made by concepts represented by

words. The words make us feel good or bad depending on our individual perspective which doesn't represent the true reality.

Only by breaking them can liberation come. Shakyamuni Buddha realized that every manifestation in nature was absent of his judgment of "I accept or deny, good or bad." Truth is the absence of self-judgment. Everything manifests independently of our sense of time as past or future; things exist and don't exist; everything arises from relationships to others. Everything is "the right now" and represents the eternal is here and now.

Shakyamuni, after extinguishing himself, he realized he couldn't yet complete the path to enlightenment if this truth wasn't the universal truth for everything and everybody.

Many years later, Master Shinran struggled because even after doing all kinds of practices like meditation, respecting precepts, and studying hard, he couldn't feel liberated from the struggles in life. Doing good deeds and being ethical took him to more struggles, isolation, and solitude. He realized doing good things for others wasn't enough. Every action of humans is unable to clarify human's anxieties. He asked, "What is the aspiration Buddha has for me?" Everything he used to do was to be accepted by others, to his self-benefit. But his discriminative mind only took him into more solitude, to hopelessness and darkness (things don't have any substance/ emptiness). So, he felt that good deeds and worldly desires actually were the same thing, looked at from different angles to try to self-benefit. Those took him to aspire to the truth. He was thinking of salvation and being compassionate with others was centered in himself. Humans think doing something to help others, feeling their pain, and helping them provides a solution from the human point of view. But it made him uncertain because his actions of making others happy actually was to help himself. That made him feel lost and more hopeless.

What is the true aspiration of Buddha for me? It is the Buddha calling me to awaken to the true reality that is expressed in human's birth in the Buddha's land. It means to aspire to be connected with everything—the cosmos or true reality. By calling Buddha's name NAMUAMIDABUTSU we realize that the path of BUDDHAHOOD is working right now. It is proof that SALVATION isn't determined by this self-power, but by realizing the great power working into us here now. The Darkness or emptiness is the place to be awakened. It means I take refuge in the Buddha of countless lives and countless light or wisdom. The countless lives, it is to realize the "as it is" for everything and everyone without any discrimination in the perspective of being the same, uniform and universal for everyone. So, Buddha suffers in my place and stays with me, never abandons me, calling me constantly to awaken to the ultimate reality. It is like you as a chick trying to break the human ego shell to come to the world of truth and where the hen as mom (Buddha) is trying to break the shell calling you to come to the world of true reality which overcomes the human judgmental mind!

Standing in the true reality of right now is listening to the call of the Buddha (Wisdom and Compassion) to take us to a meaningful life right now. Nothing in our life will be wasted! We as humans look at others, we find my true self!

What we call New Year is the moment right now, impermanent, every time new! Let's listen to the Dharma and realize the Wisdom of Buddha working now! In gassho, NAMUAMIDABUTSU !



## Chairperson's Message

By CharlAnn Nakamoto

### **Aloha Members & Friends,**

I hope this brand new year 2022 has started off on a positive note and finds you in good health.

We were pleased to have been able to hold our mochi tsuki event with 26 members and friends; scattered in attendance throughout the day. By the end of the day we had prepared a total of 50 pounds of sweet rice and had lots of happy faces departing with their sweet treats to welcome the new year. Thank you to all the members who worked hard the entire day preparing the rice, washing the steamer pots, welcoming our guests & cleaning up. Also, thank you to Earl Tsukamoto, Mike Kauhane, Cheryl Tyler, Stan Sato, Gladys Sakata, Harriet Yamada, Dayle Chock, Karen Higashi, Norma Sawada and others for your donations made towards this event.

We hope all of our members will be able to join us on Zoom for our Annual General Membership meeting on Sunday, January 30. We will open the Zoom meeting from 9:00 am. to allow everyone ample time to log on and to "talk story" & catch up with each other, prior to starting the meeting at 9:00 am. If you are planning to attend this meeting in person, please sign up with Rev. Sawada so we can plan for lunch. And yes, we are continuing to look for additional board members and welcome your participation!

During the month of February while Rev. Sawada is on vacation, Sunday services and funeral services will be provided by Bishop Kawawata and the Higashi Hongwanji Mission team. Please call (808) 531-9088 for assistance.

Thank you everyone for your kind donations, valuable time and energy in keeping our temple active, as a viable Shinshu resource and a gathering place in our Kaneohe community. Looking forward to your continued support during the year! In gassho,



### **MEMBER'S VOICE**

*By Karen Higashi*

#### **DHARMA BON DANCE CLASS**

The temple started a Bon Odori class in November. The laughing and camaraderie of the group was great and the dancing was good exercise for 2 hours once a week on Wednesdays from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Instructor Jean Crosier sensei for the Sakura dance group, taught us TANKO BUSHI and 8 other dances. She would first demonstrate the steps and movements of the new dance and announce the movements while we dance. She made learning the dances easy and fun.

She also took 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.

Due to the sudden increase of COVID cases this class has been temporarily canceled. We will notice when the dance will resume. Stay tuned! Namuamidabutsu

## **EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS**



**HBC Bodhi Day and Kaneohe Bodhi Day Services, Dec. 5 & 12**



**Mochi Making Dec. 26, 2021**



**Temple's Cleanup Dec. 19, 2021**



**New Year Eve Svc. JOYA NO KANE Dec. 31, 2021**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: November 19, 2021 to January 13, 2022**

**Memorial Service:** Noreen Nitta ( IMO Michael Onomoto), Eileen Onomoto IMO Michael Onomoto, Anonymous ( IMO Mrs. Edna Fukuda & Mrs. Tazu Oda), Gerald Taira (IMO Danny Taira), Jane Wakatake (IMO Masao Wakatake)

**Nokotsudo:** Joyce Otsubo

**Gojikai (Membership Fee):** Paul & Liane Briggs, George & Sue Fujimoto, Thomas & Suk Cha Fujimoto, Jean Fukumitsu, Glen & Reiko Hatakeyama, Elsie Hataye, Karen Hayashida, Linda Hayashida, Karen Higashi, Ethel Ikeda, Dennis Kajiura, Richard & Kelda Kakisako, Yoshiko Kawakami, Clifford Kanda, Jean Kanda, Sandra Kawate, Thomas & Evelyn Nagano, CharlAnn Nakamoto, Gertrude Nakamura, Clyde Nojima, Leighton Sakamoto, Stanley Sato, Eleanor Tokunaga, Majel Toyofuku, Ronald Toyofuku, Earl Tsukamoto, Barry & June Weled, Tokie Yoneshige, Eileen Onomoto

**Calendar:** anonymous, Kevin Azama, Paul & Liane Briggs, Harune Chun, Lillian Chung, George & Sue Fuji-moto, Gordon Fujimoto, Thomas & Suk Cha Fujimoto, Yoshiko Hamaguchi, Violet Harada, Elsie Hataye, Glen & Reiko Hatakeyama, Karen Hayashida, Linda Hayashida, Karen Higashi, Elaine Hirayasu, Ethel Ikeda, Joyce Ito, Dennis Kajiura,

Richard & Kelda Kakisako, Jeannette Kam, Clifford Kanda, Jean Kanda, Joyce Kawakami, Sandra Kawate, Eric Kiyotaki, Roy Kodani, Alan Koide, Edith Miyasato, Patricia Nitta, Thomas & Evelyn Nagano, Alan & CharlAnn Nakamoto, Gertrude Nakamura, Julian & Susan Ng, Sakiko Nishimura, Patricia Nitta, Clyde Nojima, Eric Okazaki, Joyce Otsubo, Harold Sakaguchi, Leighton Sakamoto, Stanley Sato, Miyoko Shimoda, Linda Shinsato, David Suehiro, June Takeno, Amy Taniguchi, Eleanor Tokunaga, Gainor Tomokiyo, Majel Toyofuku, Earl Tsukamoto, Janet Waki, Barry & June Weled, Gail Yamamoto, Tokie Yoneshige

**Kyodan:** anonymous, Harry & Ann Akagi, Haruko Asato, Paul & Liane Briggs, Cynthia Hara, Ethel Ikeda, Taylor Darling, Indigo, Iwakuni Odori Aiko Kai, Yoshiko Kawakami, Alma Kidoguchi, Marjorie Kuniyoshi, Joyce Masaki, Gertrude Nakamura, Julian & Susan Ng, Eileen Onomoto, Leighton Sakamoto, Aiko Iris Sato, Wilfred Shiroma, Michael Takashita, Eleanor Tokunaga, Laverne Tokunaga-Tarumoto, Earl Tsukamoto, Barry & June Weled, Bill Yamanaka, Nadine & Gwen Yamanaka, Ethel Yoshimura, Aiko Sato, Coleen Kasamoto, Mary Matsuda

**Shusho-e:** Thomas & Suk Cha Fujimoto, Mabel Ishimoto, Mary Kagawa, Coleen Kasamoto, Rhoda Kawamata

**Ho on ko:** Jean Fukumitsu, Margaret Goodheart, Dennis Kajiura, Jean Kanda, Gladys Sakata,

**Bodhi Day:** Dennis Kajiura, Coleen Kasamoto, Sandra Kawate, Stanley Sato,

**Other:** Higashi Honganji Shinshū Ōtani-ha (Japan)

**Items & Food Donation:** Stan Sato; CharlAnn Nakamoto, Harriet Yamada; Gladys Sakata; Karen Higashi; Dayle Chock, Norma Sawada, Dennis Kajiura, Susan & Julian Ng, Kerri Kapahea, Cheryl Tyler, Mike Kauhane, Joyce Masaki

**Mochi making donation:** Earl Tsukamoto

**Altar's flower donation:** Stan Sato; Harriet Yamada; Gladys Sakata; Karen Higashi; Dayle Chock, Norma Sawada, Earl Tsukamoto

**Total: Gojikai dues & Donations (including Offertory) = \$7,400 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.**

**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;

**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;

**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. Me-gumi 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;

**#** *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

\* Rev. Sawada will be on Vacation on February till March 9. If you need any kind of service , please call to Hawaii Betsuin at 808 531-9088 Bishop Kenjun Kawawata

**Thanks,visitors & helpers!!**

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

**KANEOHE HIGASHI  
HONGWANJI MISSION**

45-520 Keaahala Road  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744  
Phone: (808) 247-2661

Email: [Kaneohe@hhbt-hi.org](mailto:Kaneohe@hhbt-hi.org)



**2022 New Year Services:  
Shusho-E Jan. 1; New Year Jan. 2 & New Year Family Jan. 9**

“Ego-shell creates a parallel world despite reality, as if everything created in my mind was real. As a result, our individual ego is reflected in the bigger dimension of our society and vice-versa. The individual ego is the same as the societal, it’s the collective ego.”

*Rev. Marcos Sawada*



**CALENDAR FEBRUARY- MARCH 2022**

**FEBRUARY 2022**

- 6 (Sun) **Sunday Service 9 a.m.**
- 8(Tue) Larger Sutra Study  
6 p.m.\*Zoom
- 13 (Sun) **Sunday Service 9 a.m.**
- 18(Thu) OKO Tea time 6 pm \* Zoom  
With Betsuin
- 20 (Sun) **No Sunday Service**
- 27(Sun) **Sunday Service 9 a.m.**

**MARCH 2022**

- 6 (Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m.
- 8(Tue) Larger Sutra Study  
6 p.m.\*Zoom
- 12 (Sat) District Dharma Gathering with  
Rev. Dr. Nobuo Haneda (Maida Center)  
“The Contemplation Sutra” 10 a.m.  
By Zoom Contribution fee \$ 10
- 13 (Sun) Sunday Service 9:00 a.m.  
\* Live Stream YT
- 20 (Sun) Spring OHIGAN Service 9 a.m.  
\* Live Stream YT
- 27 (Sun) Sunday Service 9:00 a.m.

**APRIL 2022**

- 3 (Sun) HBC Buddha Day Hanamatsuri  
9:30 am HBC YT
- 13 (Sun) Kaneohe Higashi Buddha Day  
Hanamatsuri Svc 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 . No  
classes in February , it will resume  
from March 16 (Wed)  
\* Health Tips Exercise from 7:30 a.m. to  
8:30 a.m.

\* Rev. Sawada will be on Vacation on Febru-  
ary till March 9. If you need any kind of ser-  
vice, please call to Hawaii Betsuin at 808 531  
-9088 Bishop Kenjun Kawawata



**UP COMING SERVICES & EVENTS**

March 12 (Sat) District Dharma Gathering with Rev. Dr. Nobuo Haneda  
(Maida Center) Theme: “The Contemplation Sutra” 10 to 11:30 a.m.  
By Zoom Contribution fee \$ 10 (Payable to Higashi Honganji Hawaii District)  
For further information ask Rev. Okada at (808) 531-1231

March 20 (Sun) Spring OHIGAN Service 9 a.m. \* Live Stream YT  
*Join us in person in KHHM. We are doing the best to keep  
every member and visitor safe following the safety guidelines.*

**2022 Gojikai dues (membership fee)**

**Please don’t forget to send the 2022’s Gojikai  
dues if you don’t make it. It is an important  
way to keep our DOJO (place to learn) alive.  
Mahalo! NAMUAMIDABUTSU**

**JUSHIN EDITORIAL MEMBERS**

Contributors: Rev. Marcos Sawada, CharlAnn Nakamoto,  
Jean Crosier, Stan Sato, Julian Ng, Norma Sawada.  
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