

**KANEOHE HIGASHI
HONGWANJI MISSION**

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Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji



JUSHIN

樹心



JUNE– JULY 2022

A registered 501 (c) organization

Volume 12 Issue 3

Minister's Message

supported by Buddha's Wisdom.

OBON: ENCOUNTERS and REALIZATION

Bon or Obon season (June to August) starts when we have our Hatsu Bon and Ulla Bon services. Obon is a time when you encounter your loved ones who passed. During this season, it is said that the dead people come back to our parallel world via the home altar or the gravesite. Family members use this time to gather and to honor the deceased by going to gravesites, cleaning them up, and going to services. This celebration was a way to express something unexplainable about death. They were able to re-encounter their ancestors to clarify their journey as mortal beings and to think more about the meaning of their own death.

The big concern of humans is the unavoidable "we are all going to die." Whether I deny or agree, day by day I am closer to it! So, this creates the illusion of enjoying life while fulfilling my ego. If my desires are satisfied, I want more; if not, I hate them and reject everything that goes different from my preference. The three poisons, (desire, hatred and ignorance) work into my mind making my ego shell.

I invest in myself, trying to be my best. I wear different clothes, complete a formal education, have titles and certificates, social status, abilities and skills, family honor, health, religion, financial and material life. But, no matter what, the result is the same--I'm going to die! I want to be free of my fears and liberated from those "ghosts" that make me insecure and unhappy. But those kinds of searching for meaning in life make us feel hopeless, lifeless, vacuous (empty), as if we are taking life in vain because the focus every time is the self with dualism in everything.

My mother is very friendly and everything she engaged in was done professionally. She has a good family background and she was a Japanese and kindergarten teacher, traditional dance teacher, leader, and speaker. I was influenced by her and followed her example to invest in my career and be successful professionally and socially. I got a good education, speak four languages, worked in diverse professional background with world famous people, and I had a good international network of people. This diversity of situations created in my mind an illusion of I deserve more than others because I built my profile by meritocracy.

And my son--I expect he can be an example of success. I want him to have a higher education and higher salary. But I'm not sure about it because my model of being successful in this society and my son's behavior are completely opposite.

Obon is an opportunity to break this ego-centered life by "listening" to the people who suffered for us and gave their lives as a way to teach us about our journey as humans. The best teachers to encounter Buddha's wisdom to clarify our human journey here and now are our ancestors. By "listening" to them, I can realize, in that moment, the true reality. I am able to reflect on my current journey! I can confront my world with the world of things I cannot avoid and realize all is represented and

My father passed away last year. Before, I thought he was a very selfish man, doing things that I didn't like or agree with. He was a very hard worker and quiet. He used to deliver almost the same theme for his Dharma talk, and wasn't good at socializing with people. He was an authentic person who didn't pretend or try to speak highly of others or himself. My father was a very devoted Buddhist. The people who liked him really liked him and, in reverse, those who didn't like him, treated him as the reason for their unhappiness. Now, I realize my feelings about my father were selfish thinking.

My mother, who is going to be 92, lives alone and can do almost everything by herself. I realized when I was there a few months ago, that her audition is quickly getting worse and her legs and cardio are becoming weaker. She knows that she cannot reverse those situations. 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 used to bother me, but for her, it was a way to mask her solitude. Where is that lady who used to be a leader, socially active and confident? She says she is really happy because my father follows her as wisdom. What she was saying I could not grasp. I only saw an elderly lady, very wise, but with a sad semblance. We met each other in our sadness which transformed in my heart to gratitude for the taste of the dishes she cooked for me, for having washed my clothes, and for sharing memories of Dad. I realized from her pain that Dad was "alive" and I was working to awaken in me something I wasn't realizing. From that connection of big love and compassion wrapping us and mixing with the suffering of my departure to Hawaii, it called me back to the oneness. Her happiness, her suffering, her pain and her vitality for living right now were all like mine. Dad constantly works with me to realize my human condition. I will continue to be a guy with plenty of ignorance, greed and hatred, but their big compassion never abandons me.

My father, my mother, my son, they are my Buddhas working here and now to take me to the true reality by showing me my own endless ignorance, greed and desires. They are the power to make me realize something I cannot realize by myself. They give me insight to live a meaningful life right now. This is Buddha's work or NAMUAMIDABUTSU. Namuamidabutsu is the interaction of ego and something bigger than our perspective which brings us new perspectives.

Obon is the time to remember people who had suffered before us and to realize that events cannot be avoided. On this occasion, my father comes to me bringing light and compassion. He is here now bringing new perspectives for living! Through the light of wisdom, Buddha shows me my true self. Sadness and suffering are sources for me to encounter and stay together with others. I continue to choose my mind as the base for judgment. I cannot abandon this ego! However, Buddha continues to work on me to awaken me to the True Reality.

Join us for Obon Services on July 30 (Sat) and 31(Sun). Don't let the Memorial Services and temple services be absent in your transient life. Keep them working as a source of your path to liberation. **NAMUAMIDABUTSU!**

"I continue to choose my mind as the base for judgment. I cannot abandon this ego! However, Buddha continues to work on me to awaken me to the True Reality. "
Rev. Marcos Sawada

CALENDAR JUNE – AUGUST 2022

JUNE 2022

- 5 (Sun) Short service and Yard Clean up 9:00 am
- 9 (Thu) OKO Tea time 3 pm * Zoom With Betsuin
- 12 (Sun) Sunday Service 9:00 am * YT live stream
- 14 (Tue) Larger Sutra Study 6 p.m.*Zoom
- 19 (Sun) Sunday Service Father's Day 9:00 am
- 23 (Thu) Ministers MTG 10:30 am
- 26 (Sun) Local Dharma Gathering from Hilo Higashi, Guest speaker Rev. Steve Toyoshima 10:00 am By Zoom

JULY 2022

- 3, 10 *YT (Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m.
- 12 (Tue) Larger Sutra Study 6 p.m.*Zoom
- 14 (Thu) OKO Tea time 3 pm * Zoom

- With Betsuin
- 17 (Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m. & Board MTG 10:30 a.m.
- 24 (Sun) Ehime Maru SVC & Cleaning up 10:00 am
- 30 (Sat) Hatsu Bon Service 2 p.m. By Zoom
- 31 (Sun) Ulla Bon Service 9 a.m. * YT live stream

AUGUST 2022

- 7;14 *YT; 21; 28 *YT(Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m.
- 9 (Tue) Larger Sutra Study 6 p.m.*Zoom
- 11(Thu) OKO Tea time 3 pm * Zoom With Betsuin

- 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

May 29 (Sun) Local Dharma Gathering with Rev. Sawada at Hawaii Betsuin at 10 am in person and by Zoom . June 26 (Sun) with Rev. Steve in Hilo.

Bon Services were changed July 30 (Sat) Hatsu Bon 31(Sun) Ulla Bon

Kaneohe Higashi Bon Dance at WIND WARD MALL Oct. 1 (Sat)

Dear members who live on Oahu are receiving an OBON VISITATION from- Rev. Sawada to do a short service at your home from June to August 2022. The visit will be short and sensei doesn't ask to make it inside of your house.

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

RUMMAGE AND PLANT SALES

Our temple will be making a rummage sale on September 4, 2022. We need your help in donating items which include rummage, plants, hardware, baked goods, etc. We ask for donations. Could you please call sensei about items of donation? Bring to temple. 808 247-2661 Volunteers will be needed. Thanks.

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

Chairperson's Message

By CharlAnn Nakamoto

Dear Dharma Friends,

By the time you receive this Jushin, we will be approaching the middle of 2022; which means...soon there will only be six months remaining until the start of another new year. OMG! Time is clicking by so fast; and we can't blame it on the pandemic, the economy, the labor shortage, the Ukraine war or the record-breaking gas prices. As we all know, we all have the same number of minutes and hours that accounts for a 24 - hour period that make up a single day in our lives. With that in mind I hope you are doing well, living each day as best as you can; nurturing your body, mind & spirit, and living each day with no regrets.

For myself personally, I've realized that these past eight months has been an on-going struggle in managing my time, fulfilling responsibilities & feeling in control of the 24 hours that make up my day. Keeping up with my Monday through Friday job responsibilities has required a lot more hours and much more brain power than in the past; challenging me to create strong plans to keep up with my household chores, stick to my exercise schedule and spend time seeking the dharma. Namu Amidabutsu. Buddha, Dharma and our Sangha have provided me the spiritual strength to make it thus far.

In reviewing our calendar of events, please stay tuned for our Bon dance; which will not take place in July. Because our active membership has dwindled, we approached the Windward Mall to see if we could hold our bon dance there. We are now looking at working together with the Windward Buddhist Temple to hold a bon dance for the community on October 1st, Saturday. And on another note, we are also planning to have our annual Mottainai Sale (plants & rummage) on September 4, 2022. So please consider dropping off your donations at the temple by August. Stay tuned for more details on both of these big events!

In gassho,

EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS

TANJO—E Shinran's Birthday SVC.
May 15, 2022



Member's Voice

KANEOHE HIGASHI HONGWANJI MEMORIES

By Kerri Kahapea

I walked into a temple that is located in the town I grew up in.

I walked into the smell of incense and the sound of a bell that echoes in your skin. I walked in because I was curious. When I entered, I felt it was different but, in many ways, the same as other places that have felt special to me. It felt like a place that held people together with a sense of appreciation.

An appreciation for our presence. A sense that we are all searching for a place where we can learn and understand ourselves a little better. In the process of life, it feels as if you learn only to unlearn and learn again. It seems to be at times an up and down and sideways path.

The temple brought new faces on my path. It also brought the singing of songs, Bon dancing, mochi making, graciously shared after-service food, and friendship.

Service at the temple is not all that different from the lessons of other religious or spiritual teachings. The temple is a place to learn about who you are as a person and to trust beyond what you can "see".

I walk out of the temple with feelings of kindness, compassion, and love.

As I head home in my car, I am filled with gratitude when I look up to see Sensei Sawada standing with hands together saying goodbye. Thank you! NAMUAMIDABUTSU!



HANAMATSURI preparation and Svc. April 9 & 10, 2022



Temple's Yard Clean Up

Can you help us clean up the temple's yard? If yes, please come on June 5 (Sun), 2022 at 9:00 a.m. after our short Sunday Service. Bring your papale and gloves. Thanks.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: As of March 16 to May 15, 2022

Memorial Service: Lois Miyamoyo (IMO Junichi Miyamoto); Amy Motooka

Gojikai (Membership Fee): Ann E. Akagi

Calendar: Ann E. Akagi

Kyodan: Roy & Mary Matsuda, Michael Takashita, Higashi Honganji Hawaii District, Lois Miyamoto, Robert Evans, Dharma Bon Dance Practitioners

Ohigan: Coleen Kasamoto, Douglas & Jean Croiser, Harriet Yamada, Julian & Susan Ng

Hanamatsuri: Sandra Kawate, Coleen Kasamoto, Anonymous, Liane & Paul Briggs, Dennis K. Kajiura, CharlAnn Nakamoto, James K. Hirakawa, Catherine A. Kosora, Edith Y Miyasato, Julian & Susan Ng, Janet Mukai, Dale T Takanishi, Eleanor T Tokunaga, Claudia Uyeda, Tokie Yoneshige, Joyce K Matsumoto, Bill T Yamana

Building Maintenance: Anonymous

Items & Food Donation: Darin Chung; Michael Kinoshita; Robert Evans; CharlAnn Nakamoto; Norma Sawada; Jean Crosier; Stan Sato; Karen Higashi; Dayle Chock; Jeanette Hanakami, Claudia Uyeda, Coleen Kasamoto, Akiko Tapp

Garage Sale: Ricky N. Matsushima; Robert Evans

Altar's flower donation: Stan Sato; Harriet

Yamada; Gladys Sakata; Karen Higashi; Dayle Chock, Norma Sawada, Lois Miyamoto, Taylor

HANAMATSURI FLOWER DONATION: Taylor, Dayle Chock, Harriet Yamada, Gladys Sakata, Stan Sato

Total: Gojikai dues & Donations \$ 1155

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.

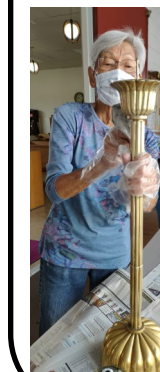
HATSU BON SERVICE FAMILIES JULY 30, 2022 . 2 p.m.

Family members and friends of:

Mr. Francis Isao Tachiyama 04/ 12, 2021; Mr. Michael Tadashi Onomoto 10/30, 2021; Junichi Miyamoto 01/25, 2022.

Please attend the service in person and bring the Memorial Book. Zoom will be available who cannot attend in person.

OMIGAKI DAY, April 3



**Taylor Darling;
Robert Otsubo;
Nathan Sawada;
CharlAnn Nakamoto;
Gladys Sakata;
Stan Sato; Norma Sawada
Thank you!!**



MEMORIAL SERVICES

1 Y (Passed on 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 Nakani-shi 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. 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;

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 situation. We are having in person's service at the temple, at home or by Zoom by requesting. Please call Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji (808 247-2661) for your service appointment, even if 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.

Thanks, visitors & helpers!!

April 11, 2022 Akiko Tapp (Hilo) and April 24 Rev. Kumika Soga (Waipahu Hongwanji)

