

KANEOHE HIGASHI HONGWANJI MISSION

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Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji



JUSHIN 樹心



AUGUST- SEPTEMBER 2023

A registered 501 (c) organization

Volume 13 Issue 4

Minister's Message

By Rev. Marcos Sawada

OBON REENCOUNTER

“Although my eyes, blinded by passions, do not see the brilliant light which embraces me, the Great Compassion never tires, always casting its light upon me.” Shinran

I just came back from South America where I was born and grew up. I went there to do the three-year Memorial Service for my father. In addition, I did some MS for two of my friends who are my age and have passed since last year. I can say it was a trip to encounter them since they aren't in this world any more. The Memorial Service was the way that I could meet them after they passed.

Master Rennyō tells us that the loved one's death reflects onto us to be more aware about our own death. Sincerely, I think even if I tried, I couldn't get it. But, when I went to the gravesite of one of my friends who passed away recently, while I was reading the Sutra, memories of him started to come and I cried without any self-control. Only feelings of sadness and memories of him like a slideshow were in my mind. The same thing happened when I was at the Columbarium of my father's niche: sadness, a feeling of loneliness and something guiding me into an introspective journey.

Even though I was thinking that ceremonies and symbols don't work as reality, the unexplainable symbols worked as the truth without me realizing by myself. Even that realization was working by itself on me.

I am the kind of guy who becomes excited about things from the point I consider right or wrong. So, I try to argue every time that I'm right. Such a posture very often takes me to confrontation with others because of imposing my position on them. My ignorance feeds some conflicts.

On this trip, I was very angry because something wrong happened and I had to pay almost \$800 extra from Honolulu to São Paulo. My eyes every time stands as I'm right and others are wrong. This is the source of conflicts, my own ignorance. I expected everyone to follow me and it made me angry for most part of my trip, until my mother, who is 93 years old, asked me to ask my father and my father, who isn't in this world, sent through my mother's mouth some light to awaken me.

My mother talked to me very softly and politely telling me the origin of my suffering was believing every time that I'm right. Actually, I think listening to the Buddha is the way I

usually do to put myself in the path of righteousness. But I didn't realize it till my mother's mouth and my father's writing made me realize about the big hatred I was taking in this trip.

Since those few words from my wise mom came, my trip became lighter even though I have been losing money. It made me realize my own ignorance, hatred and desires in trying to make things my way was the big source of my suffering.

My Obon trip from the eyes of my father, my mother, and my friends made me realize that my hell and my paradise was in my mind.

Death becomes living, come to OBON Services!!!

Namuamidatsu!!

“Although my eyes, blinded by passions, do not see the brilliant light which embraces me, the Great Compassion never tires, always casting its light upon me.” Shinran

CALENDAR AUGUST - OCTOBER 2023

AUGUST 2023

6 (Sun) SS 9:00 am
10 (Thu) Ministers Mtg at 10 am
13 (Sun) Svc. 10:00 am *YT
19 (Sat) Higashi Hongwanji Hawaii District Mtg. at Betsuin at 10 am
20 (Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m.
27 (Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m. *YT

SEPTEMBER 2023

3 (Sun) SS at 9 am
9 (Sat) Rummage & Plant Sale 9:00 am
10 (Sun) Fall OHIGAN Svc. At 9 am *YT
14 (Thu) OKO Tea time Shinran's Wasan 3 pm * Zoom With Betsuin
17 (Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m.
24 (Sun) Sunday Service 9 a.m. *YT

OCTOBER 2023

1 (Sun) SS at 9:00 am *YT
7 (Sat) Kaneohe Higashi & Windward Buddhist temple Windward Mall Bon Dance from 4 pm to 8:15 pm
8 (Sun) SS at 9:00 am
10 (Tue) Larger Sutra Study 6p.m.*Zoom
12 (Thu) OKO Tea time Shinran's Wasan

3 pm * Zoom With Betsuin
15 (Sun) Eitaikyo Service SS 9:00 am *YT
22 (Sun) SS 9:00 am
29 (Sun) SS 9:00 am

- * ZOOM Live Stream Need to get link. It will be sent by email.
- * YT YouTube Channel live Stream at Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji YT Channel



New Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji Bon Towel for 2023

UP COMING SERVICES & EVENTS

July 29 (Sat) HatsuBon Sv. 2 pm, Refreshment after service *Zoom ;
30 (Sun) Bon Service. 9 a.m. Rev. Ritsuko Sawada Guest Speaker by online from Brazil.
Aug. 19 (Sat) Higashi Hongwanji Hawaii District Mtg. at Betsuin at 10 am
Sept. 9 (Sat) Rummage & Plant Sale 9:00 am.
10 (Sun) Fall OHIGAN Svc. At 9 am *YT
Oct. 7 (Sat) Kaneohe Higashi & Windward Buddhist temple Windward Mall Bon Dance from 4 pm to 8:15 pm.

RUMMAGE AND PLANT SALES

Our temple will be making a rummage sale on September 09 (Sat), 2023. 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 before and on the day. Thanks.

JUSHIN EDITORIAL MEMBERS

Contributors: Rev. Marcos Sawada, CharlAnn Nakamoto, Jean Crozier, Stan Sato, Mary Matsuda, Norma Sawada, Coleen Kasamoto, Bill Yamanaka,

Assembling and Sending: Stan Sato, Norma Sawada, Rev. Marcos Sawada, Eleanor Tokunaga, Joyce Matsumoto, Roy Matsuda, Bill Yamanaka, Cheryl Tyler

EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS



Sunday Service
Members of Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji attended the service on July 2, 2023. Guest Minister Rev. Akiko Okada



2024 Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji 100-year anniversary

Member's Voice

By CharAnn Nakamoto

Highlights from Shinran Shonin's Pilgrimage Tour

My husband and I were very grateful we were able to be part of this pilgrimage tour this past April in celebration of the 850th birthday of Shinran Shonin and the 800th anniversary of the establishment of Jodo Shinshu. Our 5-day bus tour was packed with seeing and learning about many historical sights which included where Shinran landed, lived during his period of exile and after he was pardoned. It was during this exile period of his life that Shinran was known to have deepened his understanding of the Nembutsu teaching and resulted in many of his major writings which included the Kyogyoshinsho (*The True Teaching, Practice and Realization of the Pure Land Way*).

ESHINNI MEMORIAL – On the 3rd day of our bus tour we visited the Eshinni Museum.

Eshinni was the foremost woman devotee of the Nembutsu. She was born in 1182 in Echigo, (Niigata prefecture). Shinran Shonin married Eshin-ni when she was about 30 years old in Echigo during the period that he was exiled from Kyoto. With the Nembutsu as the foundation in their family life, she was the mother of 6 children and eventually moved to the Kanto district together with Shinran Shonin. And together they were known to have widely spread the joy of living life to the utmost wherever they lived.

During her later years, she returned to Niigata alone, and in her letters from that time, she mentioned a five-tiered, seven-foot stone pagoda, known as "Toita-no-maki". It was reported that an excavation conducted there in August 1957 led to the discovery of a six-hundred year old magnolia tree, together with a stone pagoda matched what she had written in her letters. Hence, it was decided that this location in Niigata, as the memorial site dedicated to Eshinni. It was reported that she passed away in 1268; which would have made her 86 years old. Also at this site, a Kobushi Grove, which was her favorite blossom was designated in her honor.

FUTURE GENERATIONS AT THE HOBUTSUJI TEMPLE – We had a very nice visit at Bishop Kenjun Kawawata's beautiful family temple located in Mito. I was overcome with a sense of calmness and peace when I entered the temple grounds. The natural path led us to a beautiful, all encompassing temple grounds with a tranquil garden highlighted by an outpouring lavender wisteria trellis in full bloom, pristine hondo, meeting & tea rooms, and family burial grounds all located within the large temple property. From time to time we hear about how the family temples are passed down from generation to generation and in this case, it was so impressive to actually see how the generations have kept the temple alive, passed to the next generation within the same family. If I recall correctly, Bishop's older brother is the 27th generation in the family lineage to be entrusted with the historical Hobutsuji Temple. He has a son (which would be the 28th generation), and he also has a grandson who would become the 29th generation. So in keeping with the family temple traditions, it was so impressive to realize that the next two generations of ministers within the Kawawata family are already in place. Coincidentally, this is the same number of generations that the current Monshu title has been passed down, among the current Ohtani family. With my background in human resources, I couldn't help but think...what would our Hongwanji temples in Hawaii be like if we had the same practice in place; passing on our temple responsibilities from generation to generation rather than having to recruit ministers...I know, it's just a thought.

As I've expressed my appreciation to Bishop Kawawata, Rev. Okada, Rev. Toyoshima and Rev. Sawada in making this pilgrimage trip so enjoyable and enlightening; I hope the temple continues to offer this trip in the near future. In gassho,

EVENTS HIGHLIGHTS



HONZAN & SHINRAN'S PILGRIMAGE TOUR Japan April 2023.

Members attended the Sunday Service on July 16, 2023. (below)



Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji's ANNUAL RUMMAGE & PLANT SALE will be held on SATURDAY SEPT. 9, 2023 from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm.

We will be accepting clothing, kimonos, aloha shirts, shoes, housewares, toys, & books, etc. No furniture or heavy items. Please call (808) 247-2661 or drop off your donations between 9-5 pm. Mon.- Fri.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: As of May 8 to July 15, 2023

MEMORIAL SERVICE - \$675.

IMO of Janet Akie Waki - Melvin & Glenn Waki and Lena Kanemori

IMO of Neal Matsushima - Leighton Sakamoto, Thomas Fujimoto, Julian & Susan Ng, Laverne Tarumoto

DONATION - \$952.

Lynn Tsuji; Melvin & Glenn Waki and Lena Kanemori; Castle High School - Class of 1974;

Mike Takashita; Anonymous

OBON - \$2,250.

Eleanor Tokunaga; Jean Yoshizaki; Joyce Kawakami; Sakiko Nishimura; Richard & Kelda Kakisako; Mary Kagawa; James Hirakawa; Harriet Yamada; Glen & Reiko Hatakeyama; Lynn Tsuji; Patricia Nitta; Clyde Nojima; Edith Miyasato; George & Susan Fujimoto; Gordon Fujimoto; Susan Tarumoto; Jean Kanda; Liane & Paul Briggs; Clifford Kanda; Doug & Jean Crosier; Betty Nishida; Ryan Miyamoto; IMO of Matsuo, Masa & Nabe Tamashiro - Emeline & George Tamashiro; IMO of Karen Higashi - Wynette Nagai; IMO of Katsumi Nishida - Betty Nishida; IMO of Stanley & Caroline Kiyotoki - Eric Kiyotoki; IMO of Charliet & Kazuo Nakanishi - CharAnn & Alan

Nakamoto.

Items Food Donation & Helpers: Harriet Yamada; Lloyd Antonio Vasquez; Setsu Meyer; CharAnn Nakamoto; Kerri Kahapea; Norma Sawada; Darin Chung; Doug Crosier; Mary Matsuda; Dennis Kajiura; Lisa Hoang; Joyce Matsumoto; Cheryl Tyler; Eleanor Tokunaga; Yukie Ifuku; Bill Yamanaka; Coleen Kasamoto; Stan Sato; Dennis Kajiura; Leighton Sakamoto; Susan and Julian Ng; Norma Sawada; Taylor Darling.

Rummage Donation: Joyce Masada; Jeannie Higa;

Altar's flower donation: Stan Sato; Setsu Meyer; Harriet Yamada,

Grand Total: \$ 3,877.

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.

Thanks helpers!!

Mrs. Harriet Yamada & Setsu Meyer volunteering on Fridays for making Altars Flower Arrangements



Helpers Volunteers needed

For all kinds of temple's daily life as cleaning up, hondo, rest rooms, yard, and kitchen; polishing; flowers; Newsletter mailing and; any kind of temple events.

Please call Rev. Sawada 808 247-2661 or 808 800-7006.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

1 Y (Passed on 2022 & 2023) Mrs. Milicent Misao Lurito 08/03/22; Mrs. Helen Mieko Maki 09/24/22; Karen S. Higashi 11/18/22; Kenneth T. Oka 11/27/22; Harumi Furuya 12/24/22; (2024) Jerry Kasamoto 01/06/23; Tsuneaki Shimizu 01/15/23; Thomas T. Hama-da 01/25/23;

3Y (2021) Mr. Howard Yim 03/14; Mr. Francis Isao Tachiyama 04/12; Mr. Michael Tadashi Onomoto 10/30;

7 Y (2017) Mrs. Lily Yuriko Horii 11/14;

13 Y (2011) Mrs Helen M Fujii 02/17; Mr Ryan Masanori Suenaga 04/24; Mrs. Chiyoko Onishi 05/23; Mrs Ruth Midori Nojima 07/23; Mr. Larry Isao Hayashida 08/23;

17Y (2007) Mr. Roy A. Sakata 02/17; Mrs. Hatsue Tanaka Urata 03/08; Mrs Midori Tsuyama 03/06; Florence Fusako Miyamoto 04/04; Mrs. Sumiyo Morioka 07/10; Mr. Hiroshi Yuhara 07/10; Mr. John M Yokote 07/28; Mr. Ralph Noboru Fujimoto 11/19; Mr. Edward Masuo Miyashiro 12/23/2007.

25 Y (1999) Mrs. Tazu Oda 12/15/98; Mr. Wallace Takayuki Hayami 02/06;

33 Y (1991) Mr. Masayuki Michibata 05/18; Mr. Harry T Watanabe 07/28;

50 Y (1974) Mr. Sotaro Arano 07/07; Mr. Fred Sakamoto 10/20; Mrs. Keiko Okabayashi 12/28/1974.

#The above dates reflect the memorial services for the entire year 2023. This year, we are keeping for the whole year because the pandemic's situation wasn't resolved. We are having in person's service at the temple, at home or by Zoom if 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 808 247-2661 or 808 800-7006.

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Thank you for attending and sending your donation in the Bon Season.

Connecting with our ancestors brings us some feelings of being participative humans in the process of own nature.

Action, word and thought represent you in this dimension. Gassho!!

Thanks, visitors & helpers!!



Rev. Jeffrey Soga from Waipahu Hongwanji visited us. July 15, 2023.



Rev. Okada at SS on July 2, 2023.



Mary, Roy and Eleanor helping the NL mailing on May 24, 2023.