



# ONENESS

**KAPAA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE**

October 2019

## BISHOP'S CORNER

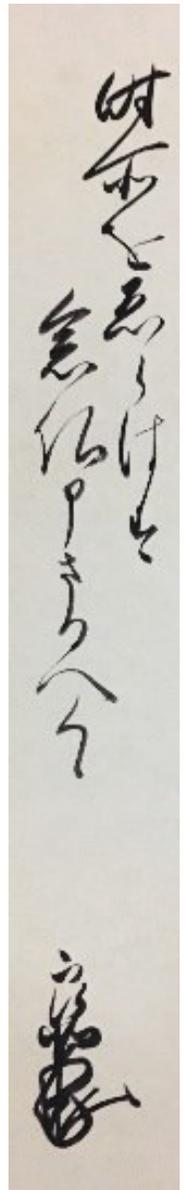
Bishop Eric Matsumoto



The month of September (usually, but not this year as the hot weather continues) is when we find respite from the scorching heat of Summer especially as we approach the Fall Equinox. Traditionally, together with the Spring Equinox, it is the time of the year which is said to be ideal for religious practice or training when compared to harsh cold of winter and, again, the scorching heat of the summer months. Thus, in many other Buddhist denominations, it is seen as an ideal time for monks and nuns to engage in religious practice(s) that will lead to Enlightenment.

Every year at the time of the Equinoxes, a quote by our 13<sup>th</sup> Spiritual Leader, Ryonyo Shonin (1612-1662) comes to my mind. He said, “(If you have attained Shinjin or the Endowed Awakened Mind of True Entrusting,) without regard of time and place, recite the Nembutsu.” It makes me appreciate the ease and simplicity of reciting the Nembutsu, in awareness, joy and gratitude of Buddha’s Compassion, in which we do not have to worry about where we are and under what conditions like the seasons or circumstances we find ourselves in. It makes me appreciate the Great Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha.

Shinran Shonin exclaimed, “The Universal Vow difficult to fathom is indeed a great vessel bearing us across the ocean (of pain and suffering) difficult to cross. The Unhindered Light is the sun of Wisdom dispersing our ignorance. (omit) ... the Auspicious Name (Namo Amida Butsu)...and that diamondlike shinjin so difficult to accept is true reality that sweeps away doubt and brings us to (the) attainment of enlightenment.” Amida Buddha does not provide us with material wealth like a new car, a smartphone, a good job, not even good health and good luck, but Amida Buddha does promise to



always be with us! This is Amida Buddha's promise that no matter what happens or wherever we are, the Buddha will always be with us and that as "Namo Amida Butsu" promises to lead us to Perfect Peace and Happiness, Enlightenment. Now this may not sound like very much, but believe me it is! Namo Amida Butsu is the most reliable and the ultimate gift. It is a gift which includes everyone and embraces everything. It is what supports us in the here and now as we live day to day, and also into the future when we attain birth in the Pure Land (at the end of this finite life) and even beyond as we return from the Pure Land of Enlightenment to samsara as enlightened beings for the sake of leading others to Enlightenment.

As testament to the wondrous workings of Namo Amida Butsu in daily life, I would like to share two experiences which I had the good fortune of experiencing which exemplifies one aspect of the life of a person of Shinjin-Nembutsu. These two lay individuals were experiencing, health wise, a traumatic point in their lives. However, they calmly accepted their circumstances, but not at all in a defeatist way. They acknowledged their condition and circumstances as a reality, but did not struggle in anger or despair. As one person stated "I have befriended my illness and live together with it." "One should not complain, but be grateful to those helping me." "I am not afraid to die." Further, this person said, "Sensei, I just want to say 'Namo Amida Butsu' with you." How remarkable I thought. More often than not, people say "Please pray for me" "Please help me," but she was affirming her life just as it was including the fact that she was embraced by Great Compassion.

In the case of the other person, instead of asking for a blessing this person asked me if I could do him a favor. I was intrigued as to what he might request. "Sensei, would you allow me to read a Gobunsho or a Letter of Rennyō Shōnin?" Without hesitation, I said, "Of course, you may." As I joined him in gasshō, he beautifully from memory recited a letter of Rennyō Shōnin. As he recited and after he was done, we both rejoiced in gratitude at the wondrous Compassion of Amida Buddha.

In both cases, I thought to myself, this is the power of "Namo Amida Butsu." The acceptance, the inner strength/courage, the peace, the guidance, the assurance, and the gratitude!

This is what happens when "Namo Amida Butsu" becomes a part of one's life and the Dharma becomes integrated into one's life. We are guided and assured by All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion (Amida Buddha). We are enabled to live and die with strength and courage from within for Amida Buddha as "Namo Amida Butsu" is always supporting and embracing us and we know that our life will joyously culminate with birth in the Pure Land of Enlightenment. This strength and courage, also, impacts all those around us too. This is the gift of Namo Amida Butsu which Shinran Shōnin shared. Our life can be good, our life can be challenging, but one thing is for sure, Namo Amida Butsu is right here and always with us, now and forever!

At this time of the year at the Equinox when Nature is in balance, may we experience harmony in life too. Namo Amida Butsu.

## HMH 130TH ANNIVERSARY SERVICES & EVENTS

The following districts are holding the services and events of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii 130<sup>th</sup> anniversaries.

### Maui District Service & Event

Date & Time: September 8, 2019 at 9:00am

Location: Wailuku Hongwanji Mission

### Kauai District Service & Event

Date & Time: October 6, 2019 at 10:30am

Location: West Kauai Hongwanji Mission

### Hawaii District Service & Event

Date & Time: October 12, 2019 at 10:00am - 2:30pm (Public Event)

October 13, 2019 at 10:00am (Special Sunday Service)

Location: Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin

## HONGWANJI SANYOKAI VISIT

Hongwanji Sanyokai (Hongwanji Councilor Association) came to Hawaii from Japan for their study from September 13-16, 2019. Since Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii marked its 130th Anniversary this year, a total of 6 members visited temples such as Moiliili Hongwanji Mission, Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin and Waipahu Hongwanji, and Pacific Buddhist Academy. They developed their knowledge and understanding about the history of the propagation in Hawaii.



## RSG EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

Ryukoku Sogo Gakuen (RSG) held the Educational Program for International Understanding at Pacific Buddhist Academy (PBA) from August 1 - September 12. This is the second time for RSG and PBA to hold this program. The object of this program was to nurture individuals with an international orientation founded on Buddhist values and perspectives through deepening their mutual understanding of differing cultures and societies. 21 students from 13 RSG high schools in Japan had a homestay in Hawaii and attended PBA with the PBA students. The closing service of this program was held at Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin.



## **SOUL SHOP SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING**

The statewide Suicide Prevention Training will be held on October 18-19, 2019 at Saint Louis School (3142 Waialae Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96816). Live webinar will be available at the five locations such as West Kauai Hongwanji Mission Hanapepe Temple, Kahului Hongwanji Mission, Kamuela Hongwanji Mission, Puna Hongwanji Mission and Mililani Hongwanji Mission.

Soul Shop is a national movement focused on helping communities and faith leaders develop skills and strategies for the prevention of suicide.

### **Soul Shop for Youth Leaders**

Date & Time: Friday, October 18, 2019 6:00pm to 9:00pm

Registration Fee: \$10\* (includes workbook)

Soul Shop™ for Youth Leaders is a half-day, interfaith training designed specifically to equip leaders and educators to minister to youth who are impacted by suicidal desperation. Special attention is focused on youth specific issues of impulsivity, contagion, and confidentiality. It includes how to recognize warning signs, how to engage in life-saving conversations, and how to keep youth safe.

### **Soul Shop for Community and Interfaith Leaders, Clergy, and Mental Health Professionals**

Date & Time: Saturday, October 19, 2019 9:00am to 4:00pm

Registration Fee: \$20\* (includes workbook and bento lunch)

Soul Shop™ is a one-day training to equip community leaders, interfaith leaders, and mental health professionals, including clergy, volunteers, and those who are passionate about doing ministry, to help those who are desperate due to any type of experience with suicide. The training includes the creation of worship resource, training in suicide awareness and basic conversation skills, and the invitation to those who have been suicidal in the past to share their stories.

This event will be presented by Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii together with BDK Hawaii, Chaminade University-BDK Hawaii Rev. Fujitani Interfaith Program and Samaritan Counseling Center Hawaii. For more information and registration, please visit the following links:

#### **Suicide Prevention Training:**

<https://soulshophi19.eventbrite.com>

#### **Suicide Prevention Training Webinars:**

<https://soulshophi19webinars.eventbrite.com>

## FROM THE ARCHIVES COMMITTEE

*In recognition of the recent World Buddhist Women's Convention in San Francisco, the HHMH Archives Committee provides below the text of Lady Ohtani's message in the 1967 World BWA Convention booklet. You may contact the Archives Committee at [archiveschair@honpahi.org](mailto:archiveschair@honpahi.org). - David Atcheson*

### Lady Yoshiko Ohtani's Message in the 1967 Booklet

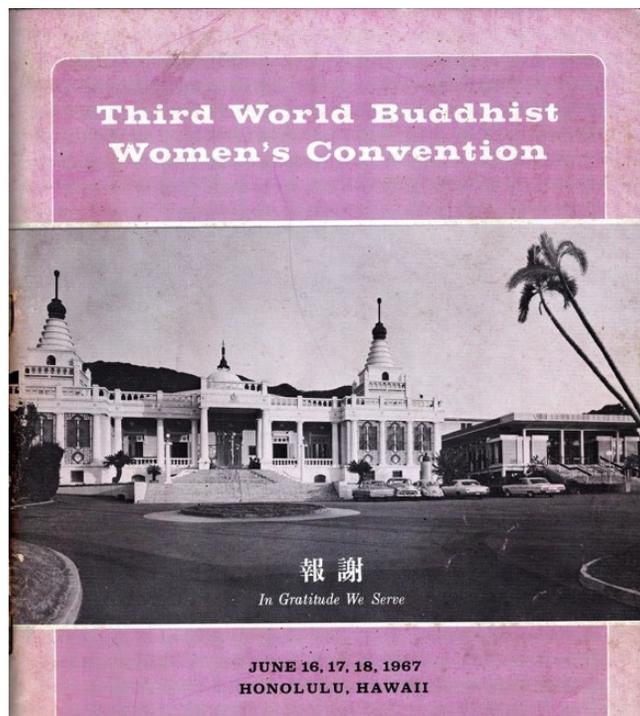
I am extremely happy to see the Third World Buddhist Women's Convention become a reality. This Convention, under the combined auspices of the Hawaii Buddhist Women's Association and the Hongwanji Kyodan, represents the coming together in one assembly of many members of Buddhist women's associations from various parts of the world, who come implemented with the year's slogan, "Grateful Service for a Better World."

As I recall, the Second World Buddhist Women's Convention, held in New York two years ago, stipulated an annual Dana Day and unanimously resolved to support observance of this Day. I have been deeply moved and gratified to learn that observance of this Day is now firmly established and is being widely practiced throughout the world by tens of thousands of our members on the same day in the same generous manner. Moreover, I am very much impressed by the fact that this assembly will now advance towards discussions bearing in mind the theme it has adopted for this Convention: "With the intent of realizing a better world, let us offer our services."

During the previous convention also, a hope was expressed that we have a song to be sung in unison by all participants. As a result, two songs, entitled "Kokoro Yutaka-ni" and "Doko-ni-mo Hikari-ga," have been composed, and I am anxiously looking forward to hearing them sung with much enthusiasm at this time.

May I voice my sincere wish that all you members participating in this happy occasion take this opportunity to listen to the words of the Buddha and that having fully entrusted all in the Compassionate Buddha you make every effort to lead your lives as mothers of the Nembutsu faith.

Before closing, I should like to express my sincere appreciation and gratitude to the members of the Hawaii Buddhist Women's Association and the Hongwanji Kyodan for their untiring efforts.



このたび、ハワイ仏教婦人会のみなさまと教団あげ  
てのご苦労によりまして、『すんでこ地謙・明るい  
世界』とのスローガンのもとに、世界各地からなつ  
しい婦人会員の方々が一堂に集つて、第三回世界仏教  
婦人大会をもつことの出来たのは、私の深くよろこ  
びとするところでもあります。

思えば、一昨年ニューヨークの大会において、デー  
ナ「布施」の日を制定して、みんなで実践しあうこと  
を約束いたしました。本年は各地で大きな運動とな  
つて展開されておりますことを承り、幾十方の婦人会  
員が、同じ意識で、同じ日に、同じ行爲を実践される  
ことのすばらしさに、深い感謝と感謝を捧げておる次  
第でございます。そして本年はまた、『よりよき世界  
を願つて、進んで躍進行ないそしめよう』という  
テーマを掲げて、躍進しあうを定められますこと、この  
意義の深さを感ずっております。

また、親大会で、共通にうたえるうたをとの希望が  
ありましたが、『心ゆたかに』と『どにもひかりが』  
の二曲が出来し、来しにのたまひながら声高らかにう  
たわれ会員のみなさまには、この大会を期してますますか  
らやかなご縁を深められ、お一人一人が真実信心の行人  
となられ、み法の母としてお念仏生活にいそしまれま  
すよう、企願してまいります。

最後に、ハワイ仏教婦人会のみなさまのご苦労と、  
教団ご一同のご協力を深く感謝して、私のご挨拶とい  
たします。

浄土真宗本願寺派  
世界仏教婦人会連盟  
総裁 大谷 嬉子

### Lady Yoshiko Ohtani's Message

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### from the president's corner...

**130<sup>th</sup> Commemorative Events** - We will be celebrating the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii's 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on October 6, 2019 at West Kauai Hongwanji. Everyone is invited to attend the following:

- 10:30 130<sup>th</sup> Commemorative Service  
Guest Speaker: Bishop Eric Matsumoto
- 12:00 Luncheon
- 1:00 Panel Discussion: Manifestation of Peace, Various Perspectives  
Guest Speakers: Bishop Eric Matsumoto, Kahu Sherman Thompson, Kamehameha School Chaplain, Reverend Kosen Ishikawa, Koloa Jodo Mission Minister

**Food Sale Fundraiser** - The annual Food Sale will be held on November 9, 2019. We need your help to make this a successful fundraiser so we can maintain the temple and facilities. Donations of baked goods, preserves, pickled vegetables, fruits, vegetables, hand crafted items, etc. are gratefully accepted. We will also need volunteers to assist with preparations and on the day of the sale. Each of you will be receiving (3) Nishime plate lunch tickets to sell/buy. The plate lunch will consist of nishime, tsukemono, and rice. Please let us know if you need more tickets.

**Kapaa Interfaith Thanksgiving** - Kapaa Hongwanji will be participating in this annual community service event with seven other churches. Many thanks to the Honpa Hongwanji Mission Committee on Social Concerns for its generous contribution each year to support this event. We will be providing home deliveries to the elderly, home alone and disabled. Volunteers are again needed to assist with various tasks and collecting soda/juice trays for lunch deliveries.

**Help Wanted** - Volunteers needed for the following:

1. Board of Directors- We are currently accepting nominations for 2020. We need new ideas and individuals who would like to contribute their time to help the temple survive and succeed. Please call me to submit your nominations.
2. Temple Cleaning - Need more individuals who are able to assist with temple cleaning on Saturday mornings at 7:00 a.m. Some of our groups have only a few members. The temple is Amida Buddha's home. We need to take pride in keeping it clean and respectable.
3. Yard Cleaning - The temple grounds are currently maintained by 4 senior men. They need more help from physically able individuals. Please kokua.
4. Refreshments - Refreshments are served after the major services. The same people are always preparing and serving. Please kokua when you are available.

### Women's Association

The annual **Kauai United BWA Fall Conference** will be held at Lihue Hongwanji on October 27, 2019. We will be offering incense in memory of our late BWA women who passed away in the past year. Rev. Alan Urasaki, will also be conducting a workshop on intergenerational activities. Please join us for fellowship, lunch and fun-filled activities.

## Memorial Services

### October

Mark-Iwao	Morita	3rd	10/30/2017
Edith Matsuyo	Nishimura	23rd	10/6/1997
Hatsuyo	Hironaka	23rd	10/14/1997
Seiichi	Osaki	27th	10/22/1993
Yumeno	Munoz	27th	10/1/1993
Munoz Umeno	Takiguchi	27th	10/1/1993
Wataru	Maeda	33rd	10/3/1987
Sharon Tokio	Nishida	33rd	10/21/1987
Muraichi	Torii	50th	10/24/1970

### November

Kawamura	Doris Makie	13th	11/6/2007
Jerrett	Kano	27th	11/28/1993
Masako	Ogawa	33rd	11/22/1987
Haruo	Shimada	50th	11/10/1970

### From Minister's Desk

Away: 9/24–10/3

I would like to thank the members and friends for the generous donation for repairs, supplies and events. I also would like to thank the family for the donation of Koden and generous donation for the memorial services. Thank you again for your thoughtfulness. Namo Amida Butsu

### *In Memoriam...*

Mr. Masami Oda

1/14/1925 - 6/26/2019

Kapaa Hongwanji Mission extends its deepest sympathy to families who have recently lost their loved ones.

Namo Amida Butsu.



## Temple Cleaning & Flower Arrangement

10/5/2019	Group 3	Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Takekuma - Chair Mrs. Erin Takekuma, Mr. & Mrs. Roy Nishida, Mr. Stanford Iwamoto, Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Yanagawa	Ruby
10/12/2019	Group 4	Ms. Gloria Shimizu - Chair Mr. Haven Kuboyama, Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Sunada, Mr. Lane Sunada, Mrs. Pat Yamamoto	Rona & Joan
10/19/2019	Group 5	Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Sakai - Chair Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Koerte, Mrs. Sally Okamoto, Ms. Carol Saiki	Kay & Roberta
10/26/2019	Group 6	Mr. & Mrs. Keith Tsukamoto - Chair Mrs. Joan Slingerland, Mr. & Mrs. Brian Yamamoto, Mr. Winston Kawamoto	Roberta

## MAHALO FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS AND SUPPORT

August 22 - September 23, 2019

### Funeral Service

*In memory of...*

Masami Oda - Richard Oda & Family  
Kikuno Wakumoto

### Disurnment/Inurnment

Columbarium - Frank & Arlene Harada  
Kalapaki Bay - Saiki & Harada Family

### Obon

Bryan Tanaka

### Miscellaneous Donations

*In memory of ...*

Masami Oda - George Naito  
Chiyoko Takabayashi Wakumoto - Grace Yoon  
Happy Haraguchi - Haraguchi Family  
Edward & Leslie Tada - visitation

### Autumn Ohigan Service

Kohtoku Hirao  
Nancy Masada  
Kim & Yasuko Murakami  
Gloria Shimizu  
Dennis & Sadie Sunada  
Kathleen Yamamoto  
Sidney Yanagawa

### Volunteer Support

Josh Borden  
Marie Hashimura  
Robert Hiraoka  
Stanford Iwamoto  
David & Ruby Ishida  
Paula Hulme  
Jim Jung  
Dimples Kano  
Reverend Mieko Majima  
Yasuko Murakami  
Milton Nakamura  
Francis Nishizawa  
Ray Paler  
Carol Saiki  
Calvin & Rona Sakai  
Gloria Shimizu  
Joan Slingerland  
Isobel Storch & Florence  
Clyde & Kay Takekuma  
Keith & Thelma Tsukamoto  
Alison Yamamoto  
Brian Yamamoto  
Kathleen Yamamoto  
Sidney Yanagawa

## HMH MINISTER'S LAY ASSISTANT RETREAT

Place: Buddhist Study Center

Date: October 11-13, 2019

Anyone who is interested and recommended by their Hawaii Kyodan minister mentor is welcome to apply.

Note: Anyone who is a member of a temple must be recommended by their resident minister. Purpose: To review and enrich the knowledge of the participants in the rituals and traditions of the Nishi Hongwanji, General Buddhism and Shin Buddhism. All of the knowledge and skills that are associated with functioning as a Minister's Lay Assistant will be covered during the retreat. The retreat is an opportunity to learn and/or refresh one's skills and knowledge that is associated with the role of a Minister's Lay Assistant, but completion does not result in certification. The conditions of certification are presented in the document Shin Buddhist Ministry in Hawaii. This retreat can be taken many times so long as it remains meaningful and helpful to the participant. Completion does not imply an obligation to become a minister's assistant. For more information and registration, please contact Buddhist Study Center at 808-973-6555.

*Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii 130th Commemorative Seminar*

## **Manifestation of Peace, Various Perspectives**

October 6     1:00pm – 3:00pm:     West Kauai Hongwanji Mission  
Hanapepe Temple

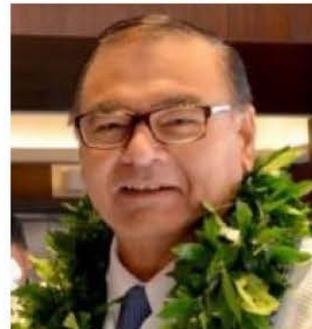
Registration:     Registration begins at 12:30pm  
Donation will be Appreciated

Join us for a lively discussion on October 6 to discuss various topics of peace in celebration of H.H.M.H. 130th Commemorative event, hosted by Kauai Hongwanji Council. This is an excellent opportunity to hear the views of our faith communities and develop a mutual understanding of peace, friendship, and harmony.

### **Panel Discussion Speakers**



Bishop Eric Matsumoto  
Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii



Kūikawā Kahu Sherman Thompson  
Kamehameha School



Rev. Kosen Ishikawa  
Koloa/Kapaa Jodo Mission



**Moderator**  
Shaku Arthur Kaufmann  
Lihue Hongwanji Mission

*For further information please contact:  
Lihue Hongwanji at 245-6262, West Kauai Hongwanji at 335-3195 or Kapaa Hongwanji at 822-4667.*

KAPAA HONGWANJI MISSION

4-1170 Kuhio Highway

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# ONENESS

The Newsletter of

Kapaa Hongwanji Mission

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Web: [www.kapaahongwanji.org](http://www.kapaahongwanji.org)

## Upcoming Events in October 2019

10/6/2019	10:30 AM	HHMH 130th Commemorative at WKH Hanapepe Temple
10/7/2019	6:00 PM	JAPANESE CONVERSATION
10/13/2019	8:00 AM	CHANTING
	9:00 AM	FAMILY SERVICE
10/14/2019	6:00 PM	JAPANESE CONVERSATION
10/20/2019	8:00 AM	CHANTING
	9:00 AM	FAMILY SERVICE
	10:00 AM	TINY TOT JAPANESE
10/21/2019	6:00 PM	JAPANESE CONVERSATION
10/27/2019	8:00 AM	CHANTING
	9:00 AM	FAMILY SERVICE
	10:00 AM	TINY TOT JAPANESE
10/28/2019	6:00 PM	JAPANESE CONVERSATION