



# ONENESS

## KAPAA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE

March 2021

### BISHOP'S CORNER

#### Excerpts from Bishop's Messages of the 109th Legislative Assembly

Bishop Eric Matsumoto



Aloha Kakou! Welcome to the 109<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii! I would like to extend a special warm welcome of Aloha to our guests from the Buddhist Churches of America, the Jodo Shinshu International Office and, for the first time, the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada. E Komo Mai!

Let me emphasize that we are continuing to focus on the Sangha. The Sangha lives guided and inspired by the Buddha-Dharma. In Shin Buddhism, we fully acknowledge our limitations and imperfections. I am aware that, many times, directly or indirectly and totally or partially, a cause and/or condition of others' and/or my own suffering. However, even such a limited person like myself in this imperfect world, can certainly try to live according to the ideals of Buddhism.

Just as the COVID vaccine is giving us hope in our battle with COVID-19, Amida Buddha's Light also provides us with guidance and gives us hope as it tempers our blind passions (bonno)! I firmly believe that we need more of the Buddha-Dharma to inspire and guide us as a Sangha. We have a whole host of challenges to face that has been brought on and/or aggravated by COVID-19 including our financial situation (similar to what many others in our communities are facing). Let us be guided by the Dharma or Teachings. The key to solutions for us (a Buddhist organization) is connected to the Buddha, the Dharma and the Sangha. Once again, I ask for especially the help of the ministers to share the nurturing aspect of Jodo Shinshu Teachings and the values, perspectives and behaviors that come about from encountering the Nembutsu Dharma. Gomonshu's "Our Pledge" summarizes some of the dynamics. For me, our trying to follow "Our Pledge" is not a self-power effort, but rather, our responding in gratitude to Amida Buddha and made possible by Amida Buddha. Even Rennyō Shōnin attributes our being able to control our minds to Amida Buddha's Other Power. To me, from feelings and thoughts of mottainai, mooshiwakenai and arigatai that we experience, due to the Unconditional Compassion of Amida Buddha we find embracing us arises the aspiration to try to live a life that is more in accord with the Dharma (highly imperfect as it may be).

This year, I would like to direct the entire Hawaii Kyodan including all State Committees as we

engage in our individual projects, endeavors and committee work to see how we can make manifest in some measurable way our Theme and Slogan “Building Healthy Sanghas: Nurturing Empathy and Respect.” How can we promote and make manifest empathy and respect in our Sangha and larger community? It is not hard to see that what our world really needs is more empathy and respect for all. Ultimately, it is Amida Buddha that is doing the nurturing, but I believe as recipients of that nurturing, we can try, imperfect as we may be, to promote empathy and respect in the world starting with our own actions.

Regardless of whether your temple is currently open or not, let us remain diligent in our efforts to contain the virus, stop the unnecessary suffering and deaths from COVID-19, help our healthcare system and professionals nearing exhaustion, better the conditions such so that our economy will be able to get back on its feet by continuing to practice safety measures for a while longer. Together with our President, I would like express my gratitude to all temples and affiliates for following the safety directives, guidelines and recommendations. Ministers and Temple Lay Leaders especially, thank you for putting so much of your time and energy into keeping our temples and members safe, secure, and still try to fulfill our purpose of sharing the Dharma including helping those who need help physically with your mask-making projects, food delivery, cooking of meals for the young and elderly, and assuring our members that they are not alone in this time of severe isolation. To all of our preschools, schools, and adult care facilities and other affiliates and programs too, thank you for doing your best to maneuver through this pandemic and still provide care and/or continue your activities. Ministers and Temple office staff, thank you for being on the forefront to continue serving our membership. Of course, I cannot leave this topic without acknowledging the tremendous effort put forth by the HQ Staff.

As we all know, COVID-19 has direly affected our Hawaii Kyodan. Most acutely, in the area of finances and our traditional in-person method of sharing the Dharma. The greatest short term hurdle our organization faces is overcoming the financial crisis brought on by the Pandemic. In these precarious times, Headquarters including the Office of the Bishop, will continue to make some decisions based on the fact that we are right now in a crisis situation and facing extraordinary circumstances. I ask for your understanding and cooperation. We must all work together, ministers and lay people, to find ways in which we can regain and even better our financial foundation so that we can continue to carry out our mission or purpose of sharing the Dharma. It can also be the other way around that the more people are touched by the Dharma the more they will support us. It behooves us to become more creative, innovative and flexible and open in this time of crisis and even beyond.

Online and social media is not perfect and has limitations, but we have entered a new age of propagation and fundraising with the internet and social media an integral part of it. It is clear that there is a significant group of people out there in the world that are hungry for the Dharma, but they do not live near a temple, are unable to come to a temple or the internet is their preferred way of receiving the Dharma. We should look into this idea of an Online Sangha. It might even be a new category of members for Hawaii Kyodan or temples.

I gratefully note that even in these difficult times, various entities of Hawaii Kyodan are continuing to work on providing meaningful resources in hopes that more people will come to know the Great Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha. Please look forward for announcements for our State Ministers Association and BSC-OBE. At Headquarters, in the spirit of empathy and respect, we will continue to do our best to get us through this Pandemic. If you need assistance, please contact us.

In two years, in 2023, we will be observing the auspicious 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth and 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching. Also the next World Buddhist Women's World Convention, will be held at the same time. We need to start planning and thus in the first half of this year I will be calling a meeting so we can start preparing for these auspicious events.

A special word of appreciation to the HQ Staff: Derrick Inouye, Rev. Takahashi and Dianne Sumida including Joy Nishida for their help with our first ever Virtual Online Regular Giseikai.

To conclude, truly, it is because of the support, dedication, commitment and generosity of all of you, Ministers and Lay Members, which makes it possible for Hawaii Kyodan to not only exist, but also share the Nembutsu Teachings and contribute to the betterment of our Hawaii. I express my deepest appreciation to one and all including our State President Dr. Warren Tamamoto. Once again, "Everyone, thank you" and "Namo Amida Butsu."

### **HHMH 109<sup>TH</sup> GISEIKAI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The 109<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly (Giseikai) of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii was held on February 12-13, 2021 virtually via Zoom. All programs such as Opening Service, Plenary Session, Workshops, Installation of Officers, Directors, Advisors, Sanmu, and Kanji ministers, and Special Recognition of the retirement of Rev. Bruce Nakamura were conducted using Zoom.

Delegates from the Hongwanji temples discussed and passed the following resolutions:

2021 HHMH Budget , Communications Strategic Team, Ewa-Kapolei Merger, Condolence and Appreciation - Reverend Shoin Hoashi, Rose Sadako Nakamura, Reverend Arthur Marutani, and S. Stanley Okamoto

In the workshop, we were fortunate to have a guest presenter Reverend Marvin Harada, the Bishop of Buddhist Churches of America (BCA). He did the presentation and addressed the issues of membership and emphasized the development of Buddhist Education programs.

Reverend Kiyonobu Kuwahara, a guest from the Jodo Shinshu International Office (JSIO), did the presentations about the organization, projects, and activities. Makawao Hongwanji Mission, Moiliili Hongwanji Mission, Puna Hongwanji Mission, and Windward Buddhist Temple did presentations about the effective ways of using the website, social media, online tools for online services, temple activities, fundraising, etc.

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii expresses our deepest gratitude to all those who attended and supported the first virtual Legislative Assembly.

## 2021 OFFICERS, ADVISORS, AND DIRECTORS OF HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

**President:** Warren Tamamoto (H)

**Immediate Past President:** Pieper Toyama (H)

**Vice Presidents:** Dennis Tashiro (H) Carolyn Uchiyama (O) Lynne Matsumura (K)  
Michael Munekiyo (M) Earl Tanaka (H)

**Secretary:** Russell Nonaka (O)

**Assistant Secretary:** Sharon Nohara (M)

**Treasurer:** Wayne Toma (H)

**Assistant Treasurer:** Wendy Harman (H)

**Advisors:** Alan Goto (H) Dexter Mar (H) Keiji Kukino (H)  
Stanley Sasaki (O) Rodney Moriyama (O) Wayne Fujioka (K)  
Floyd Nagoshi (M) Ivan Nakano (H) Frederick S. Nonaka (H)  
Harold Uyeno (H)

**Honorary Advisors:** Roy Miyamoto (H)

**Directors:**

Honolulu (6)	Benjamin Bruch Wayne Toma	Joel Determan, Raymond Takiue Jr.	Wendy Harman Dennis Tashiro
Oahu (5)	Russell Nonaka Carolyn Uchiyama	Rene Mansho Evan Watarida	Miles Tamura
Kauai (2)	Lynne Matsumura	Fay Tateishi	
Maui (4)	George Borg Michael Munekiyo	Sharon Nohara	Sharon Higuchi
Hawaii (7)	Arthur Taniguchi David Oshiro Clifford Furukado	Burt Tsuchiya Linda Nagai	Earl Tanaka Helen Shiota-Benevides

### MINISTERIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Rev. Mieko Majima, currently serving at Kapaa Hongwanji Mission as its Resident Minister, was assigned to the Headquarters as the Office of Buddhist Education Assistant as of February 1, 2021. Rev. Majima will continue her assignment to Kapaa Hongwanji Mission as its resident minister.

Rev. Shindo Nishiyama, currently serving at Jikoen Hongwanji Mission as its Resident Minister and Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin as its Acting Rimban (Chief Minister), will be relieved of his duties at Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin as of February 28, 2021.

Rev. Kazunori Takahashi, currently serving at the Headquarters as the Executive Assistant to the Bishop, will be assigned to Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin as its Acting Rimban from March 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021 while he continues his duties as the Executive Assistant to the Bishop. Rev. Takahashi will be assigned to the Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin as its Rimban as of July 1, 2021.

Rev. Masanari Yamagishi, currently serving at the Headquarters, will be assigned to Kamuela Hongwanji Mission as its Resident Minister as well as Honokaa Hongwanji Mission, Kohala Hongwanji Mission, and Paauilo Hongwanji Mission as their Oversee Minister as of May 1, 2021.

Rev. Daido Baba, currently serving at Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin as its Associate Minister, will be assigned to the Headquarters as the Executive Assistant to the Bishop as of July 1, 2021.

## *Kauai Hongwanji Council Nembutsu Seminar*

### **An Introduction to the Essence and Practice of Shin Buddhism (2)**

### **Nembutsu Meditation and the Meaning of Amida Buddha and**

### **Pure Land for Everyday Understanding**

Saturday, April 10, 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm (HST): Zoom

Guest Speaker: Dr. Rev. Kenneth Kenshin Tanaka

Professor Emeritus, Musashino University, Tokyo Jodo-Shinshu Priest

Register at

<https://forms.gle/39JArh9rJzWGs3AE8>



**For further information, please contact:**

Kapaa Hongwanji at 822-4667, West Kauai Hongwanji at 335-3195 or Lihue Hongwanji at 245-6262.



- Nembutsu meditation: a way to better appreciate the teachings of “impermanence” and “interdependence”
- Shinjin realization and entrusting: an experience in our lives that give deep meaning to our lives
- Rational and “everyday” ways to talk about Amida and Pure Land, which is sought by many people today who are educated with a scientific outlook on life and the world.

Rev. Dr. Kenneth Kenshin Tanaka grew up and attended Dharma School at the Mt. View Buddhist Temple. While being an active member of the Young Buddhist Association (YBA), he aspired to study Buddhism, which he did at Stanford Univ. (B.A.), a temple in Thailand, Institute of Buddhist Studies (IBS)(M.A.), Tokyo University (M.A.), and Univ. of California at Berkeley (Ph.D.).

After serving as Associate Professor and Assistant Dean at IBS for 10 years and a resident priest for 3 years at the Southern Alameda Country Buddhist Church, a Jodo Shinshu temple in California, Dr. Tanaka taught as Professor of Buddhist Studies at Musashino University for 20 years. He currently serves as Chairman of the Editorial Committee of the Chinese Buddhist Canon English Translation Project sponsored by the Society for the Promotion of Buddhism (BDK). He was recently appointed Adjunct Researcher at the Hongwanji Comprehensive Research Center. He is the former President of the Int. Assoc. of Shin Buddhist Studies as well as the Japanese Assoc. for the Study of Buddhism and Psychology.

His publications include *The Dawn of Chinese Pure Land Buddhist Doctrine* (The State Univ. of New York, 1990), *Ocean: An Introduction to Jodo Shinshu Buddhism in America* (Wisdom Ocean Publication, 1997), *The Faces of Buddhism in America* (co-editor) (Univ. of California Press, 1998), *Amerika bukkyo* (in Japanese, meaning “American Buddhism”) (Musashino University, 2010), *Buddhism on Air: Kaleidoscope of a Growing Religion* (Buddhist Education Center, 2015) and edited *Chi'e no ushio - Shinran no chi'e, shutaisei and shakaisei* (in Japanese, meaning “The Tide of Wisdom: Shinran’s Wisdom, Subjectivity and Social Dimension”) (Musashino University, 2017). His books have been translated into Japanese, Chinese, and Portuguese.

He is the 2017 recipient of the 27th Nakamura Hajime Eastern Study Prize, awarded in conjunction with the Indian Embassy in Tokyo to scholars who distinguish themselves in the field of Indian and Buddhist studies. He was the object of a one-hour NHK Educational Television documentary series entitled “The Age of Kokoro (heart/mind)” on April 8, 2018 (to be aired again on August 11, 2019).

**Registration Fee:** Free (Registration Required)

Donations can be made to the Kauai Hongwanji Council. Please make a check payable to Kauai Hongwanji Council and send it to West Kauai Hongwanji Mission P.O.529 Hanapepe, HI 96716.

# 2021 SPRING VIRTUAL NEMBUTSU SEMINAR

Sponsored by the Honolulu & Oahu Hongwanji Councils and the Office of Buddhist Education

## Buddhism & Everyday Life

Seeing Buddhism in our everyday life by looking at examples from Shin Buddhists whose everyday life experience was their greatest teacher, but based on their deep listening and foundation of the Dharma.

**Saturday March 27**

9 am - 11 am (HST)

**FREE Registration**

Deadline: Sat. March 20

**Featuring Bishop Marvin Harada (BCA)**

of Orange County Buddhist Church where he has served since 1986.

### agenda

- 9:00 am: Welcome/Opening
- 9:05-10:05am: Bishop Harada
- 10:05 am: Break
- 10:10 am: Q&A
- 10:55 am: Closing/Mahalo



### donations

We welcome your donations, which will be earmarked to provide a copy of Bishop Harada's book, "Discovering Buddhism in Everyday Life" to all Honolulu/Oahu Hongwanji temples.

Please make donation checks payable to: Oahu Hongwanji Council. Mail registration form & checks to: Mililani Hongwanji, Attn: Nembutsu Seminar, P.O. Box 893308, Mililani, HI 96789

QUESTIONS? Please contact Mililani Hongwanji office (808) 625-0925

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Temple/Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about this Seminar? EMAIL | TEMPLE NEWSLETTER | TEMPLE WEBSITE | SOCIAL MEDIA

Circle one above OR if other, pls indicate here: \_\_\_\_\_

Questions for Bishop Harada: \_\_\_\_\_

## from the president's corner ...

*Aloha Everyone!* March is here and Spring has sprung.

It's been a year since we have been facing the challenges of the Covid pandemic. We have all learned many valuable lessons during this difficult and rather stressful time. Please continue to stay healthy and safe while everyone patiently wait their turn to be vaccinated.

**Laulau Plate Fundraiser - Saturday, April 3, 2021, 10:30-12:00**

Once again we humbly ask for your kokua to sell 3 laulau plate lunch tickets which are \$12 each. The plate will consist of a pork laulau, lomi salmon, cucumber kimchee and rice. You will receive three tickets in the mail soon. **Please return any unsold tickets by Wednesday, March 24. If you need more tickets please call me at 822-4667.** Thank you so much for your assistance to raise the funds needed for the temple's operational expenses

**Bon Dance** - Due to the uncertainty of the Covid situation, a decision has not been made regarding the Bon Dance. The Kauai Buddhist Council will be meeting on March 22 to decide if we will have the Bon Dance. The concern is for the health, safety and well-being of all.

**Rev. Dr. Tanaka's Lecture - Saturday, April 10, 2021 @ 3:00-5:00 p.m. on Zoom**

Title: An Introduction to the Essence and Practice of Shin Buddhism (2): Nembutsu Meditation and the Meaning of Amida Buddha and Pure Land for Everyday Understanding.

Registration deadline is on: Sunday, April 4, 2021. The seminar is free.

**Board of Directors** - A BIG MAHALO to the directors for their dedication and commitment to serve and manage the operations of the temple. Their dedication and support are greatly appreciated. Please let us know if you have any suggestions, ideas or concerns to improve. This is your temple so we welcome the opportunity to hear from you.

**Gojo Presentation and her new assignment** - The Gojo from the Sangha was presented to Rev. Majima. We are truly grateful for the opportunity to listen to the Dharma and we sincerely appreciate her selfless contributions to improve and sustain the temple so the Nembustu Teachings will continue to be heard. As of February 1, 2021, she was also assigned to the Headquarters as the Office of Buddhist Education Assistant. She will continue to serve at Kapaa Hongwanji Mission as its resident minister.



This year's theme & slogan is "Building Healthy Sanghas: Nurturing Empathy and Respect." Let us remember the theme and do our best to understand the feelings and needs of others.

Namo Amida Butsu

Mahalo for Your Contribution and Support  
January 22 - February 18, 2021

**Memorial Services**

*In memory of ...*

Hisao Maeda

Sharyl Lam Yuen

Take Fujita

Arthur Fujita,

Ellyn Fujita

Ruth Oshita

Mitsuko Higashiyama,

Clyde & Kay Takekuma,

Roy & Leila Nishida

Patsy Sugita

Joan Sugita

Hazel Yanagida

Linda Naea

**Interment Service**

*In memory of...*

Hazel Yanagida

Linda Naea

**Hoonko Service**

Carol Saiki

Gloria Shimizu

Sidney Yanagawa

Grace Yoon

**Special Services**

Grace Yoon

**Sunday Services**

Jim Jung

Ralph Kitashima

Phil O'Rourke

Carol Saiki

Gloria Shimizu

Roberta Yanagawa

**Fundraising Donation**

Grace Yoon

**Donations**

Fusako Harada

Dr. Jay Hiramoto

Robert Hiraoka

Jim Jung

Ralph Kitashima

Itsue Okada

Clyde & Kay Takekuma

Brian & Wendy Yamamoto

**Membership**

Laura Asari

Sharon Contrades

Fusako Harada

Roy Morita

Hideaki & Yasuko Murakami

Teri Murata

Evelyn Nakamura

Phil O'Rourke

Raymond Paler

Clint Saiki

Gloria Shimizu

Clyde & Kay Takekuma

Erin Takekuma

Keith & Thelma Tsukamoto

Mildred Tsukuda

Barbara Tsunehiro

Alice Yamada

Brian & Wendy Yamamoto

Grace Yoon

**Friends of KHM**

Linda Naea

Alison Yamamoto

**Social Concerns**

Mildred Tsukuda

**Volunteer Support**

Madison Doo

Marie Hashimura

Robert Hiraoka

David & Ruby Ishida

Stanford Iwamoto

Jim Jung

Winston Kawamoto

Ralph Kitashima

Haven Kuboyama

Rev. Mieko Majima

Milton Nakamura

Phil O'Rourke

Ray Paler

Taryn Ramil

Tami Ramil

Carol Saiki

Rona & Calvin Sakai

Gloria Shimizu

Pearl Shimizu

Joan Slingerland

Dennis & Sadie Sunada

Erin Takekuma

Kay & Clyde Takekuma

Keith & Thelma Tsukamoto

Alison Yamamoto

Wendy Yamamoto

Sidney Yanagawa



**2021 Sunday Service Schedule**

1st Sunday Monthly Memorial Service  
2nd Sunday Family Sunday Service  
3rd Sunday Special Service (Major Service)  
4th Sunday Shoshing Chanting  
5th Sunday No Service

**Sunday Service Schedule**

February

3/ 7 Monthly Memorial Service  
3/14 Family Sunday Service  
3/21 Spring Ohigan Service  
3/28 Shoshing Chanting

## Memorial Service

March				April			
Shiyo	Tone	27th	3/3/1995	Shigeru	Osaki	27th	4/13/1995
Kesa	Takahashi	3rd	3/4/2019	Albert	Oshita	3rd	4/14/2019
Satsuki	Kodani	1st	3/5/2020	Tsutomu	Morita	27th	4/16/1995
Fusano	Sugita	50th	3/6/1972	Nancy Chizuko	Matsuda	7th	4/21/2015
Yukiko	Iwamoto	27th	3/7/1995	Bert Hideo	Muraoka	23rd	4/22/1999
Shizuo	Higashiyama	7th	3/11/2015	Kichiji	Sugibayashi	33rd	4/24/1989
Kiyoshi	Kawamura	3rd	3/13/2019	Harumi	Inagaki	17th	4/26/2005
Yoshito	Yamaguchi	13th	3/14/2009	Shiro	Hirata	50th	4/27/1972
Machie	Kubota	3rd	3/15/2019				
Kikuyo	Nishimoto	50th	3/17/1972				
Nisaburo	Nishizawa	23rd	3/22/1999				
Sakai	Osaki	27th	3/26/1995				
Satomi	Hadama	3rd	3/31/2019				

### Spring Higan Service

**March 21, 2021 from 9:00 am**

Kapaa Hongwanji Mission invites you to Spring Higan service. It is an excellent opportunity to show your gratitude to Amida Buddha and to show respect to those left for the Pure Land before us.

Namo Amida Butsu.

### From the Minister

It was my honor to receive the Gojo at the 2021 installation service. This beautiful handmade Gojo took craftsman almost a year to make it from the thread. Kapaa Hongwanji values it for major services. We plan to have a dedication service soon. Thank you again for your selfless donation.

Namo Amida Butsu

### Temple Cleaning & Flower Arrangement

Group 4	3/6/2021	Ms. Gloria Shimizu - Chair Mr. Haven Kuboyama, Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Sunada, Mrs. Pat Yamamoto	Ruby Ishida
Group 5	3/13/2021	Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Sakai - Chair Mr. Leslie Tada, Ms. Carol Saiki	Joan Slingerland
Group 6	3/20/2021	Mr. & Mrs. Keith Tsukamoto - Chair Mr. & Mrs. Brian Yamamoto, Mr. Winston Kawamoto	Kay Takekuma
Group 1	3/27/2021	Mrs. Marie Hashimura - Chair Mr. & Mrs. Robert Hiraoka, Mr. Milton Nakamura, Mr. Ray Paler	Rona Sakai
	4/3/2021	<b>No cleaning</b>	Ruby Ishida
Group 2	4/10/2021	Mr. Francis Nishizawa - Chair Mrs. Yasuko Murakami, Mr. Clint Saiki, Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Yanagawa	Joan Slingerland

KAPAA HONGWANJI MISSION

4-1170 Kuhio Highway

Kapaa, Hawaii 96746



## ONENESS

The Newsletter of  
Kapaa Hongwanji Mission  
Minister: Rev. Mieko Majima  
[www.kapaahongwanji.org](http://www.kapaahongwanji.org)  
Phone (808) 822-4667  
Email: [mail@kapaahongwanji.org](mailto:mail@kapaahongwanji.org)

*In Memoriam*  
*of*  
*Your Loved One...*

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

Namo Amida Butsu.

