



the Messenger

*Embrace Change:
Action (Open Communication)*

MAY 2017

5 Fri	8:30a	Quilting (BWA Room)
6 Sat	7:30a	Temple/Columbarium Cleaning
	8:00a	Pineapple Festival Parade
7 Sun	9:00a	Sunday Service
	9:00a	Food Drop Off for Pantry
	10:00a	BWA Mtg (BWA Room)
	1:00p	Public Bon Dance Practice (Social Hall)
9 Tue	10:00a	Waiialua Monthly Service
11 Thu	7:30a	Hosha Kai
13 Sat	7:30a	Temple/Columbarium Cleaning
14 Sun	8:00a	Special Mother's Day Breakfast & Sunday Service
18 Thu	11:00a	Hospital Visitation (Project Dana)
	7:00p	Dance Team Practice
19 Fri	8:30a	Quilting (BWA Room)
20 Sat	7:00a	Blood Drive (Blood Mobile on WHM Parking Lot)
	7:30a	Temple/Columbarium Cleaning
21 Sun	9:00a	Gotan-E Service-Guest Speaker: Rev. Marvin Harada (video telecast from California)
	12:00p	Public Bon Dance Practice (Social Hall)
25 Thu	7:30a	Hosha Kai
	7:00p	Dance Team Practice
26 Fri	9:00a	Monthly Buddhist Service at The Plaza at Mililani
27 Sat	7:30a	Temple/Columbarium Cleaning
	8:00a	Graveyard Cleaning at Waiialua
28 Sun	9:00a	Sunday Service
	10:00a	Sangha Strummers (BWA Room)
	1:00	Public Bon Dance Practice (Social Hall)
29 Mon		Memorial Day – HOLIDAY

June

1 Thu	7:00p	Dance Team Practice
2 Fri	8:30a	Quilting (BWA Room)
4 Sun		No Sunday Service
	8:00a	General Temple Cleanup, Yagura Setup
	8:30a	Waiialua Grave Service
	1:00p	Public Bon Dance Practice (Social Hall)
8 Thu	7:30a	Hosha Kai
	7:00p	Dance Team Practice (BWA Room)
10 Sat	7:30a	Temple/Columbarium Cleaning
	6:00p	Hatsubon Service, Speaker Rev. Hashimoto
11 Sun	9:00a	Sunday Service
	10:00p	BWA Meeting (BWA Room)
	1:00p	Public Bon Dance Practice (Social Hall)

Weekly Activities

Mon	9:00a	Calligraphy
	6:00p	Meditation
	6:30p	Tai Chi for Health
Wed	7:30a	Columbarium Cleaning
	7:00p	Kendo
	6:00p	Conversational Japanese
Thu	6:00p	Aikido
Fri	1:00p	Mahjong



Reverend's Message

MOTHER'S DAY

Why should we thank our mothers? Because mothers give us many treasures. What kind of treasures? It is not money, jewelry, or fame. True treasure is when we feel happiness in our hearts. True treasure never disappears from our hearts.



Do you remember when your mother took your hand to walk with you when you were a child? Do you remember when you were sick, your mother took care of you and you were relieved when you saw her face?

Our mothers taught us about "compassion" so now we understand the importance of loving kindness. Knowing this compassion is a true treasure.

Buddhism teaches us that the "link" or a "relationship" is a treasure -- "*Engi*."

Let me share a story.

One day, a grandchild and a grandmother went to the graveyard to offer flowers and incense. On that occasion, the grandchild said to the grandmother, "Grandma, I appreciate that you were born here. You were born here and you married grandpa. That is why my mother could be born here and I, too, could be born here. Thank you, grandma."

Grandma was happy when she heard what her grandchild had said even though it was not an easy life for Grandma having been born here at the time she was born.



Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission

Embrace Change: Action

(Open Communication)



PRESIDENT: Rod Moriyama

MINISTER: Reverend Kojun Hashimoto

Vice Presidents: Dale Shimaura
Carolyn Uchiyama
Damon Bender

Recording Secretary: Arlene Ogata

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<https://www.facebook.com/WahiawaHongwanji>

How would you feel if you had heard such wonderful words from your child or grandchild?

May is a good month for you to tell your mother how much you appreciate her.

In Gassho,

HAPPY 
Mother's
Day

President's Report

Spring is definitely here and the weather is perfect! Cool breezes, sunny days make up most of the beautiful days in April. Many members including the Hashimoto family, went to the Ascension Ceremony in Kyoto. Viewing the pictures, it looks like everyone had a great time!

When going on a trip together, does time go slower or faster? For those of us who didn't go, the time certainly passed quickly. For those who did, it seemed to really move slowly as people enjoyed the camaraderie of traveling together and seeing so many beautiful sights.

On April 2, we held our own "special service," with Jesse Strelow as our guest speaker. Jesse retired from the military officially in February 2017. He is originally from Wisconsin, and raised as a Catholic. When I first met Jesse, I thought he was a college student. He looked so young and yet mature. He just got his Bachelor of Arts degree and pursuing a Master's degree in counseling. He got interested in Buddhism during his career in the military as a medic having witnessed both good and bad times in Afghanistan and Iraq.

It was there among the people that despite their tough living conditions, they truly knew what was important in their lives. Preparing food and eating together there as a family made him realize that all the material wealth and technology that we are accustomed to, weren't as significant as developing values and realizing the interdependencies of friends and family. He was impressed with Wahiawa Hongwanji members who welcomed him. It was this welcoming atmosphere that keeps him coming back. He participates in Calligraphy classes and just started leading the Sunset Mindful Meditation classes on Monday evenings.

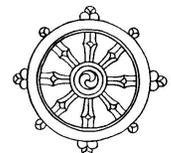
We celebrated Hanamatsuri (Buddha's Birthday) on April 9. Our Dharma Shaka children, as well as students participating in the Oahu District Youth Retreat Program hosted by WHM, helped to decorate the Hanamido and also took part in the service. We also had two guests from Schofield who were really impressed with our welcoming atmosphere. They were Sierra and Kassie Harrelson who are scheduled to be transferred to West Point in July. Sierra is a Military policeman, and Kassie is a holistic chef and trained in the Army as a carpenter!

Three Punahou students, Jessica Sawai, Kaitlin Tsuchida and Kevin Nguyen volunteered to help with the cleaning of the temple on a Saturday. They then returned a couple weeks later to help with the set up and decorating of the Hanamido and setup of the BWA room for the Youth Retreat.

On April 16 (Easter Sunday), we had a surprising number of people attend service. Sensei talked about his family's travels to Japan and related them to the ups and downs of everyday life. In the process, he addressed the term "Bonbu" as something one realizes about himself as a "foolish being." It is not used in judgement of others. It is only through our own realization of our "Bonbu-ness" that we can truly appreciate BOTH the high points and the low points in life. Life is like a candle that constantly flickers and gets shorter as it burns. It is the candle holder/stand that is the metaphor for Amida Buddha (Universal compassion and wisdom) that sustains us through life.

On April 23 we celebrated the lives of Eshinni and Kakushinni, the wife and youngest daughter of our founder, Shinran Shonin, in a special service put on by our BWA ladies. Rev. Takako Hashimoto was our guest speaker and officiant. She did a wonderful job telling the stories of Eshinni and Kakushinni while providing a touching perspective to her own life coming to Hawaii. She talked about the importance and joy of attending weekly Sunday services and relating to all the people. She reminded all of us that none of us truly know what the future may bring. Do we make an effort to say a "heartfelt good-bye" with all of our loved ones daily when we part?

(cont'd on pg 7)



Rod's Thoughts

Two Sides of the Same Coin

Bishop Eric Matsumoto held his first “Talk Story” or Ko, in March. His intention was to bring a small group together and really get to know each other. It is in this getting to know each other that the lessons of Jodo Shinshu become real. It also solidifies the concepts of interdependence and interconnectivity.

There were about 25 participants in the session. Each shared a little portion of his/her life. Some shared many memories of their childhood before WWII, and the trials and joys in their lives. Bishop Eric referred to the Larger Sutra as a narrative that is the unfolding of compassion into our lives. It tells the story of Bodhisattva Dharmakara becoming Amida Buddha, as a way to explain “The Truth.” It is the foundation of the Jodo Shinshu sect of Buddhism.

To explain this in another way, he gave another metaphor. If the fruits (Pure Land) were on the tree called Buddhism, the Jodo Shinshu branch is the lowest and most accessible. There are many ways to attain Nirvana (the fruits), but the Compassion of Amida reaches down to help all of us. This compassion is for all sentient beings regardless of age, race, religion, gender or gender preference, strong or weak. There is no judgement as each journey is an individual one.

We cannot force people to be Buddhists. We can share these ideas as a guide for their own way of living. One person suggested that the highest branches have the greatest visibility. These branches could be those sects in Buddhism that extol mental discipline in practices like meditation, which happens to be a very popular wave in our country. Shinran did this for twenty years before accepting the simpler path of Amida Buddha. Perhaps the appeal of the “rugged individualism” is popular as it is the foundation of our American principles. Buddhism provides us the freedom to make a choice.

Jodo Shinshu provides a realistic tradition. It doesn't have unlivable expectations and encourages the positive aspects of life. Through understanding and compassion, we live our lives in balance. Before Shinran, the “joy” part was postponed till the moment of death. Because birth in the Pure Land, or Nirvana, is assured, we can live this life with gratitude and joy.

When asked about his own life, Bishop Eric said that it wasn't like he had a grand plan, and followed it. Life “unfolded” and presented him with many opportunities upon which he was able to act. It was due to so many people's help that got him to where he is now.

When the group was asked, “How many of you see life as an ‘unfolding’?” it was evident that older people all saw life as unfolding. We wondered if younger people saw life the same way. I can't remember when I was young, whether life was “unfolding” or a series of “lucky happenstances.” It's only in reflection many years later, that all of these interdependencies and connections become very evident. Would this concept be a way to help the younger generation live their lives in a more “balanced way”? The struggles they are seemingly facing in “react mode” have purpose and direction even when they don't see it now.

Namo Amida Butsu!

In Gassho,



TEMPLE NEWS

WHM BOARD HARD AT WORK . . . In an effort to insure continuous uninterrupted service to the temple and its members, the Board is moving toward "team leadership," rather than depending on one individual to carry the full burden of a committee.

Few years ago the loss of an active Obon dance instructor nearly crippled bon dance at WHM. A team of four willing individuals working together successfully brought back the fun and joy of dancing again! We look forward to the leadership of Char Acohido, Karen Pang, Stephanie Murayama and Vivian Murayama and the Bon Dance Team they formed consisting of Elaine Fukuda, Judi Kakazu, Barbara Ladao, Doris Matsuoka, Carol Murakami, Chad Nohara, and Mildred Segawa. These are the individuals leading the dances around the Yagura at every Obon.

More recently we experienced temporary loss in the kitchen which had an even greater impact on the temple with the many activities which involve food preparation. But here again five willing individuals stepped forward to continue this important work for us. Karen Pang, Barry Chun, Doris Matsuoka, Barbara Tsujimoto and Ethel Yamamoto have kept the kitchen "open for business" and have even taken it a step further for us.

Although these five individuals make up the core group responsible for organizing and maintaining the activities in the kitchen and for answering to the Board, they have an "open team" policy. This means that anyone interested not only in cooking but in any work that goes on in the kitchen (prepping of ingredients, setting up, cleaning up, etc.), is encouraged to volunteer to "serve" his/her temple.



Do this by simply contacting the office, letting them know you wish to volunteer in the kitchen and leaving your phone number. You can volunteer to help once a month, every day or at every activity. Any help you can offer will be much appreciated by your fellow temple friends. But even more important is the feeling of satisfaction YOU will receive when you come out to help "your" temple.

One last note about what is going on in the kitchen. We are very fortunate and very grateful that Elaine Kawamoto and Alfred Paulino are both back and able to continue to help in the kitchen. Both have been placed on the line-up of cooks. This translates into a great benefit for the Hosha men and women who get to sample the different foods from the many different cultures.

P.S. Kitchen help is much needed, but Hosha men and women are also needed to help with the maintenance of our temple grounds. Hosha meets every other Thursday at 7:30am. Call the office and leave your name and phone number.



Alfred did a pineapple Demo for the kitchen helpers at a recent Hosha



Flower Alfred used in making a salad.

TEMPLE NEWS – cont'd



A special Eshinni (L) and Kakushinni (R) Day Service put on by the BWA ladies on April 23, 2017.



Rev. Takako Hashimoto was speaker at BWA's Eshinni and Kakushinni Day Service.



Lots of help decorating our hanamido for our annual Hanamatsuri Service held on Sunday, April 9, 2017. We had our Dharma Shaka children, students participating in the Oahu District Youth Retreat Program hosted by WHM, three volunteers from Punahou High School, as well as members from the temple working and having fun together.



Jenny Yanagida (L) and Emma Agader (R)



Joe Acohido and son, Cy



The Meditation Corner

By: Jesse Strelow



A few weeks ago, I was privileged to speak and give the dharma talk at the Wahiawa Hongwanji temple. I sought through prayer and meditation in order to help guide me toward the right path. The answer to my questions came in the form of a book that I recently purchased at a Buddhist store in Haleiwa--a book that was written by the Dalai Lama, called, *The Four Noble Truths*. This book is relatively short and to the point. It helps to explain the world of Buddhism. I will do my best to portray what I took from the readings and shared during the Dharma talk. Again, this is purely my own interpretation into the world of the Buddha and not necessarily the path for all to follow.

In Buddhism, we talk of the three jewels: 1) the Buddha, 2) the Dharma, and 3) the Sangha. We seek guidance and continually take refuge in the three jewels. A better understanding will help us to unlock the doors to the four truths. I will talk briefly of these truths and go into more detail in later writings. The first truth is the “*Truth of Suffering*.” Depending on the realm and type we currently live in, we see that there is suffering through that of ignorance. The second truth is the “*Truth of Origin of Suffering*.” It is here that we find karma and that all negativity in the worlds have a cause and effect and are a source of suffering. The “*Truth of Cessation*” is the third noble truth. It is here that we begin to know emptiness or ‘no self’ and an opportunity to begin to know peace-of-mind. The path to liberation begins and is found here. This leads us to the fourth truth, the “*Truth of Path*.” Through continued meditation, training, and practice we develop direct insight and wisdom that will lead us into acceptance. It is through acceptance that we will be delivered to permanent state of liberation and enlightenment.

These are the very foundations of all the Buddhist teachings, and I will end my talk on the word *compassion*. Compassion is the focal point of all Buddhism and will open the door to all others. As we meditate this week, let us focus on compassion and how this will help to bring us a respect for all sentient beings. It is through compassion that we reach Buddhahood and our enlightened state. I want to thank all those that helped me in the coming weeks while I prepared for this venture. I appreciate the love and support that I have received throughout by all the members of the temple.



(cont'd from pg. 3)

Most importantly, she talked about “passing the baton” (like at Ekiden) to the next generation so they also can feel the joy of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. She ended her talk by asking everyone, “What can you pass to the next generation?” There were many misty eyes that morning.

May looks like another fun-filled month. We will be finalizing our Obon plans, celebrating Mother’s Day with breakfast by our Dharma Shaka children, celebrating the birthday of Shinran Shonin with a special guest speaker, Reverend Marvin Harada of the Orange County Buddhist Church, via teleconference, and featuring Roy and Barbara Higa, Elaine Kawamoto, Carolyn Uchiyama, and others on their travels along the path of Shinran in Japan on the last weekend.

In gassho,

BWA

Just a friendly reminder...

- ♥ Next meeting date is May 7 at 10:00am in the BWA room.
- ♥ Special Mother's Day Breakfast and Sunday Service in the Social Hall at 8:00am. Call temple office @ 622.4320 to sign up.
- ♥ Blood drive on May 20 at 8:00am on WHM campus. Please sign up. Call 392.3253.
- ♥ Gotan-e Service on Sun, May 21, at 9:00am. Speaker is Rev. Marvin Harada (video telecast).
- ♥ No Sunday Service on June 4. General temple cleanup at 8:00am
- ♥ BWA meeting on June 11 at 10:00am.
- ♥ No Sunday service on June 18. Chochin setup at 8:00am. Please sign up to help.
- ♥ No Sunday service on June 25. Obon cleanup at 8:00am. Please come out to help.

Join Us!

Takako-sensei's

CONVERSATIONAL JAPANESE CLASS

May 3, 10 and 17 (Wednesdays)
6:00-7:00pm
BWA Room

NEW CLASS SESSION

begins on
May 24, 2017



CLASS TUITION:

WHM member: \$25.00
Non-member: \$37.50
Continuous open enrollment
Contact temple office at 622.4320



Lunch will be served
in the Social Hall
following the parade.

Calling all marchers and cheerleaders!

Join us in the

Pineapple Festival Parade

Date: Saturday, May 6, 2017

Time: 8:00am - Marchers meet in WHM parking lot.
9:00am - Cheerleaders check-in at the temple office (bring your own chairs).

Reminders: Wear purple temple shirt or black shirt, covered shoes, sunscreen, and hat or visor. Don't forget to bring water.

Call the temple office 622.4320 to sign up.



Dharma Shaka say farewell as the Bender family move to their next assignment in Maryland. "Aloha" and the very best to all of you! We will miss you and look forward to your return!



WHM

BWA Blood Drive

Date: Saturday, May 20, 2017

Time: 8:00am-12:00 noon

Place: Blood Mobile on WHM
Campus

Meals and refreshments will be served throughout the day

Contact Dale at 392.3253
or email dshimaura@yahoo.com



WHM Public Practice Bon Dance Schedule

Dates:

May 7	1:00-3:00p
May 21	12:00-3:00p
May 28	1:00-3:00p
June 4	1:00-3:00p
June 11	1:00-3:00p
June 18	1:00-3:00p

Place: WHM Social Hall

Bring your own water
(no refreshments)



Resident minister of the Orange County Buddhist Church in Anaheim, CA. Co-Director for Buddhist Education at the Buddhist Churches of America Buddhist Study Center.

MAY 21, 2017

GOTANE SERVICE

Celebrating the birthday of Shinran Shonin, founder of Jodo Shinshu (Pureland sect)

Shinran Shonin, born May 21, 1173, is the founder of Jodo-Shinshu sect of Buddhism. We annually celebrate his birthday in gratitude.

Reverend Marvin Harada is known for his lectures on Buddhism as a way to cope with life's many challenges. He has been a minister for over thirty years and has grown his temple, the Orange County Buddhist Church, to over 900 members.

Reverend Harada was born and raised on his family's farm in Ontario, Oregon. He received his B.A. in Religious Studies from the University of Oregon, an M.A. in Buddhist Studies from the Institute of Buddhist Studies and also an M.A. from Ryukoku University in Kyoto, Japan.

In Chicago, Rev. Harada studied under Rev. Gyomay Kubose at the Buddhist Temple of Chicago from 1980-1981. Following this, he studied in Kyoto, Japan from 1981 through 1986.

Public is invited!

—
Internationally Celebrated Speaker
 —

Understanding Life's Challenges through Buddhism

—

Video Telecast from California

—

Service will begin at 9:00 AM

WAHIAWA HONGWANJI MISSION

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Wahiwashinbuddhist.org

Acknowledgements

Columbarium

Jean Nishikawa IMO George Nishikawa
Jerry Ogata IMO Alice C Ogata
Linda Yoshikami IMO Kelly Yoshikami

Gojikai

Wesley Aihara
George Akiyoshi
Terry Jean Arakaki
Jean Fukeda
Roy Higa
Betsy Honmyo
Hisako Igarashi
Yoshio Isobe
Hiram Itamoto
Helen Kanbara
Nancy Kunimitsu
Carl Matsuura
Hajime Miyahara
Allen Murayama
Edwin Nakamura
Dean & Terri A F Nakasone
George Nakayama
Emiko Rodby
Edna Saifuku
James Sakane
Calvin Takeshita
Steven Tarr
Paula Tolentino
Hirotaka Tsujihara

Ohigan - Spring

Miyo Abangan
Amy Abe
Andy Abe
Wallace Abe
Jon Acohido
Kiyoshi (Richard) Adaniya
Masanobu Arakaki
Terry Jean Arakaki
Barry & Lori Chun
Harry Endo
Roy Enomoto
Gary Fukuyama
Glenn Hamamura
Ian Hanakahi
Donald Hashimoto
Roy Higa

Happy
Father's
Day

Howard Hisamoto
Toshiko S. (Patsy) Ibara
Hisako Igarashi
Yoshio Isobe
Terry Iwanaga
Jean Iwasaki IMO Henry Iwasaki
Tomoe Kajiwara
Judith Kakazu
Barbara Kawakami
Richard Kawamoto
Edwin Kawane
Diane Kawashima
Cynthia Kimoto
Brian Kimura
Margaret Kimura
Yukio Kitagawa
Sachiko Kiyan
Sylvia Koike
Sachiko Komata
Sam Komori
Edna Kondo
Betty Kono
Kenneth Kumasaka
Meryle Lee
Florence Matsuda
Katherine Matsuda
Yoshimi & Janet Matsunaga
Doris Matsuoka
Jane Matsusaka
Carl Matsuura
Tsugio Miyahara
Betsy Miyamoto
Rodney Moriyama
Ethel Nakagawa
Edwin Nakamura
George Nakamura
Richard Nakasone
Eleanor Nishi
Masako Nishimura
Jerry Ogata
Edna Saifuku
Elaine Sato
Iwao Sato
Rachel Sato
Sadao Sawai
Mildred Segawa
James Shimokusu
Robert Soma
Louise Stevens
Ruth Sugai
Chiyoko Takata
Shigemasa Tamanaha
Emiko Tamayose
Phyllis Tanaka
Isamu Tatsuguchi

有難う
ございます

George Terao
 Matsuye (Barbara) Tsujimoto
 Carolyn Uchiyama
 Sumiko Yaji
 Gary Yamaguchi
 Ethel Yamamoto
 Ethel Yanagida
 Linda Yoshikami
 Tomoyo Yuruki

Temple Donation

Family of Mitsuko Kaitoku IMO Mitsuko Kaitoku
 Family of Ernest Chew Ki Lau IMO Ernest C.K. Lau
 Allen Murayama IMO Vernon Masao Tanaka
 Dean & Terri A F Nakasone IMO Virginia M. Fujiura
 Claudia Higashi IMO Yukie Murata
 Heather Ho IMO Betty Umeyo (Saito) Ho
 Chance Hookala IMO Lori Hookala
 Yoshio Isobe IMO Alice Fusako Isobe
 Ellen Jinbo IMO Walter Jinbo
 Karl Kakehi IMO Shinayo Kakehi
 Family of Joyce Kaneko IMO Joyce Kaneko
 Kenneth Kumasaka IMO Reiko Tanaka
 Florence Matsuda IMO Edna Mitsuko & Henry
 Kanichi MATSUDA
 Allen Murayama IMO Vernon Masao Tanaka
 Lane Otsu IMO Tsuyuno Otsu
 Bridget Sawai IMO Masao Gushi
 Donald Segawa IMO SHIMO SEGAWA
 Casendra Tsujihara IMO Ayame Terao
 Earl Wakamura IMO Ralph Tamotsu Kuraoka
 Mabel Gushi
 Amy Hirasuna IMO Mashiro & Misae Hirasuna
 Allen Murayama IMO Vernon Tanaka
 Melvin Oshiro IMO Jensho, Sadano & Roy Oshiro
 Mildred Segawa IMO Shimo Segawa
 Wahiawa Okinawa Kyo Yu Kai - donation for use of ice

Capital Campaign

January
 Yoshiro Nakamura
 James Shimokusu
 Feb
 Sadao Watanabe
 Terry Jean Arakaki
 March
 Terry Jean Arakaki
 Sadao Watanabe



Donation Information

Members and friends often ask what might be an appropriate amount of donation for the various services provided by the Wahiawa Hongwanji. The following recommendations may help answer such concerns.

Recommended Minimum Donation

	Member	Nonmember
• Funeral service may include the Seventh Day Service (held immediately after the service)	\$300	\$700
• Memorial services	\$100	\$300
• Wedding ceremony	\$300	\$700
• Other religious services such as infant initiatory rites, new home, car, or business dedication, etc	\$100	\$300
• Appreciation gift to the minister is optional		

Hall Rental Information

	Member	Nonmember
New rates for Social Hall rental	\$300	\$800



Every effort has been made to accurately present these records. Please call the office to report any errors. If you do not want your name published, please note on your donation, "Do not publish." Thank you very much.