



# The Messenger

***Building Healthy Sanghas: Embracing Generosity & Openness***

## Calendar of Events

### December 2022

04 Sun 9:30 am Hybrid Hawaii Buddhist Council Bodhi Day Service at Jodo Mission of Hawaii and Zoom  
 04 Sun 9:30 am - 10:30am LAST Food Drive  
 11 Sun 9:00 am No Service - Clean Up & General Membership meeting  
 18 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service  
 25 Sun No Sunday Service  
 31 Sat 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm Joya no Kane (bell hitting)

### January 2023

01 Sun No Sunday Service  
 08 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service  
 15 Sun 9:00 am Hoonko Service - Guest Speaker Rev. Bert Sumikawa followed by WHM Board Installation  
 22 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service  
 22 Sun 10:30 am WHM Board Meeting on Zoom  
 29 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service

## Columbarium Notes

**Our Columbarium is open Daily 10:00am - 3:00pm.** As we head into the holiday season, please note the following about our WHM Columbarium.

**Please bring only fresh, cut (not potted) flowers** - Our Buddhist tradition acknowledges the transient nature of existence, and the value of appreciating beauty in this moment. Please bring only fresh (not artificial) cut (not potted) flowers. Artificial flowers or potted plants will be removed on the weekly cleaning schedule, if brought in. (From WHM's Guidelines for Columbarium Flowers, October 21, 2009)

Our volunteer shortage continues. Our 2 regular volunteers have a difficult time lifting vases from the floor when they clean. If you plan to bring a flower offering, we kindly ask that you come back in a week's time to remove your flowers and wash the vase or please come on Saturday, January 7th at 8:00am - 9:00am to help with columbarium cleaning. Thank you!

## Mochi Sale

We are planning to have a small mochi sale and are accepting a maximum of 70 orders with pick up on December 17th 2:00 - 4:00 PM..

Mochi is \$16 for 2 pounds of ko mochi. If you are interested in ordering, please email [amy.kanemaru@wahiawahongwanji.org](mailto:amy.kanemaru@wahiawahongwanji.org) or leave a message at 808-621-8893 by December 9th. Please allow 24 hours for your call to be returned.



## Mahalo for Your Support

Thank you to everyone who supported our Kahala Mall "The Very Merry Event" fundraiser. Don't forget to use your shopping pass at Kahala Mall from Friday, December 9th - Sunday, December 11th!

If you didn't get your shopping passes yet, its not too late! This holiday shopping pass gives you access to discounts, sales and giveaways from participating shops and restaurants at Kahala Mall. You may buy passes for your family and friends for them to take advantage of the discounts and chances to win prizes. Tickets are \$5.00 each. The best part is, WHM keeps 100% of the ticket sales. Please contact Karen Pang at 808-291-3102. Happy shopping!

# Minister's Message - Amida Buddha is always with me

I would like to share the article written by Mr. Takahisa Kanai.

*“Although I forget about the Buddha from time to time, the Buddha never forgets about me”*

This quote shows how we are all the time, buried in the secular world. When I listen to the Buddhist teaching, I feel that I am in the midst of the teaching, but when I return to the reality of everyday life, the teaching seems to go somewhere.

Simply said, there is a dualistic type of thinking that Buddhist teaching is the Buddhist teaching and everyday life is everyday life. A person who had come to a temple said, “I like coming to the temple. It feels to me like it cleans my mind and heart. But when I return to the routine of my everyday life, I once again become brutal and mean.” The reason for this thought is that people going to the temple to hear the teaching is a place to escape from their lives.

I believe that there are many people who feel this way, that the Buddhist teaching is for things involving the teaching only and everyday life is for things involving everyday life only. So, they adeptly decide and divide everything in this manner. I feel that no matter how much I would hear the Buddha's teaching, if I were to listen in this manner, it would never become the reliable foundation upon which I could base my life.

An acquaintance of mine who had resided in the United States for a long period and graduated from an American university taught me the term “Nightstand Buddhist.” This refers to people who maintain an occupation in society during the day, then in the bed at night read the Buddhist scriptures. When the morning comes again, they return to the harsh conditions of their workplace. It is a term that really makes you think. No matter where I may be, I am who I am. Even when I am at work or listening to the Buddhist teaching, I am who I am. I am not someone else. No matter where I may be, I want to encounter the Truth teaching that penetrates my being.

When I read this article, I remembered Shinran Shonin's poem.

*“When we say Namu-Amida-Butsu, the earth-goddess called firmness reveres and protect us constantly, day and night, accompanying us always just as shadows do things”*

The Amida Buddha is always with me no matter how I change. That is why I can feel the Buddha when I relook at the Buddha.

We are getting old, but we should remember that someone is always with us. That is Amida Buddha. Amida Buddha's compassion to us never changes.

The year 2022 is almost gone. Thank you for supporting the temple. Have a great new year.  
Yoi Otoshiwo!

Namo Amida Butsu

In Gassho,



Reverend Kojun Hashimoto



<p><b>White Way Radio Program</b> White Way is a public service radio program of Moiliili Hongwanji. The programs are on KZOO radio 1210AM or Spectrum channel 888 on Saturdays from 7:45am-8:00am.</p>	<p><u>December 2022</u> 3 Rev. Blayne Higa 10 Rev. Charlene Kihara 17 Rev. Shinji Kawagoe 24 Rev. Satoshi Tomioka</p>	<p><u>January 2023</u> 7 Gomonshu &amp; Bishop Eric Matsumoto 14 Dr. Warren Tamamoto 21 Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani 28 Mrs. Joanne Kealoha</p>
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# President's Report



On the last Sunday in October, Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin had its inaugural "Aloha Service." It was a very good attempt to be all-inclusive in a very different kind of service. Featured in the service were Udi Barr-David, a cellist from the Philadelphia Philharmonic, and his daughter, Erika, a professional violinist. I was honored to be invited to be part of the service. Their music was so beautifully emotional. The service will become available on YouTube soon. Hawaii Betsuin, under the leadership of Rimban Rev. Yuika Hasebe, will be doing this kind of service monthly to open Sunday Service to their affiliate organizations and the public.

Election day was quite exciting! It restored my confidence in our democracy knowing that we still have a long way to bridge the gap of some very hostile feelings.

We had a small contingent of participants on our first Veterans Day Parade in three years! Like everything else, it is taking time to "return to normal" from a pandemic that continues to inflict infections. The Wahiawa Veterans Day parade has always been one of the biggest events on the island. Sensei performed the invocation as our key role in the community. We were represented by our Bon Dance Team.

Clean-up Sunday was well attended with around 30 volunteers helping. It's been over 3 years since we've had a concerted effort, and everyone had a wonderful time. We had volunteers from the Kendo Club and the Aikido Club as well. A light lunch was served afterward. Thank you to all the hard-working volunteers!

Invitations to our Eitaikyo Service were sent out to all of our points of contact (POC). We wanted to make sure that this special service recognized our ancestors and provided a venue for families to get together as we have in the past. Rev. Thomas Okano was our featured speaker, and members of the Shakuhachi Club played during that special time when families are called up to offer incense. Mrs. Okano also attended the special event!

Thanksgiving kicks off the holiday season! It seems that the holidays are moved up earlier and earlier. We are having our Antiques, Treasures, and Treats fundraiser on November 26th. Buddhism is about Gratitude and being interconnected. We are well-positioned for the holiday season as we have another cleanup day on December 11th and our General Membership meeting. Hope to see you soon!

In gassho (gratitude),



Rodney S. Moriyama, President



**Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission Office Hours: By appointment 808-622-4320**

**[www.wahiawashinbuddhists.org](http://www.wahiawashinbuddhists.org)**

**Columbarium Hours: Daily 10:00am - 3:00pm**



Thank you to the 36 volunteers who came out on Sunday, November 13th to our WHM Clean Up Day. Everyone worked together to clean the temple, columbarium, kitchen and the social hall's deck.

If you and/or your family are able to help on our next cleaning day on Dec. 11th, please call the WHM office at 808-622-4320 or sign up online at <https://bit.ly/3Dx3t3B>



## Thank You for Your Donations

During the last few years as we weathered the pandemic, we were able to help others and maintain our campus with your help. Your donations have helped Hoshia install security gates and repair the wooden railing around the minister's residence and near the columbarium, make repairs in our social hall and buff social hall floors. Your donations help to maintain and replace tools and equipment that Hoshia uses to maintain our landscaping, parking lots, sidewalks and buildings.

As our campus continues to age, will be repairing termite damage and making improvements to our campus. We appreciate your generosity and support.

# Happenings at Wahiawa Hongwanji

By Carolyn Uchiyama

## Activity #1

On October 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Mililani Hongwanji Temple Dharma School students and parents attended our morning service and activity. Since the activity involved the use of washi paper, Rev. Hashimoto shared a video about washi paper making process at the morning service.

In the Social Hall, everyone received a sheet of washi paper that they folded accordion style. Then they dipped the corners or edges in diluted food coloring in either pink, green, blue or yellow. Carefully unfolding the paper, they were hung to dry.

Waiting for the paper to dry, the group created a haiku about their paper dyeing experience. The group came up with words, put them together, and created the haiku below.

Spending time with friends  
Folding, dipping, washi fun  
Rainbow mindfulness

The poem was mounted on black paper and their hand dyed washi paper. A fun experience for all with visitors at our temple.

## Activity #2

The Wahiawa Hongwanji Food Drive was held on November 6<sup>th</sup> for the St. Stephen's Church. As I passed the church on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays, there are still many cars in line for the food. The need continues in our community.

We appreciate the monthly donations from members for this wonderful cause. This month we collected **70** items and **30** pounds of rice. The Mililani Hongwanji Temple visitors also donated food and we are grateful for their generosity.

December will be our last Food Drive. We have been collecting since June of 2020. We will see you next month.

## Activity #3

In the previous issue of the newsletter, it was reported that members of the temple had participated in a haiku activity. BJ Soriano from Hilo Betsuin solicited for poems throughout the state. We sent our haikus, and a book has been published and all our haikus with pictures are in the book.

Copies of the book are available for purchase. If you would like to purchase a copy, please fill out the form below and bring or mail it to the temple. Books will be delivered in early 2023.

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### “Building Healthy Sanghas: Connecting with Others” Haiku Collection

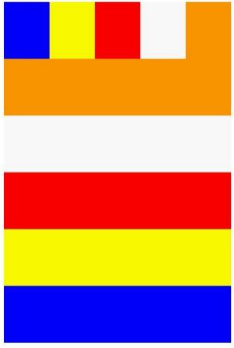
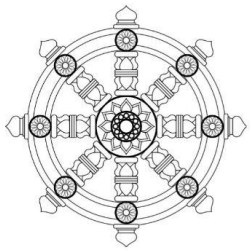
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Haiku book _____ copies x \$15	\$ _____
Make check payable to Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission. Please send your payment to Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission, 1067 California Avenue, Wahiawa, HI 96786 by <b>December 15, 2022.</b>	

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For Office Use

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash / Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Chk \_\_\_\_\_ Rec by \_\_\_\_\_



## Hawaii Buddhist Council 2022 Bodhi Day Service Guest Speaker

President of Hawaii Association of International Buddhists (HAIB)  
**Roshi Michael Kieran, Palolo Zen Center**  
“*Bodhi - The Way of Awakening*”



Michael Kieran, the primary Zen teacher at the Palolo Zen Center, worked with Robert Aitken Roshi for many years and began teaching at Koko-an Zendo in the 1980s. He withdrew from teaching to focus on his family and growing business. Later, after Aitken Roshi's retirement, he began to work with Nelson Foster, a dharma heir of Aitken Roshi. Michael was authorized to teach by Nelson Foster in 1999 and received full transmission in 2004, ascending the Mountain Seat in 2006. While he is a fully qualified “Roshi” he prefers to be addressed simply as Michael. He is an O’ahu resident and offers regular dokusan and sesshin at Palolo Zen Center.

**Date/Time: Sunday, December 4, 2022 @9:30am (In-person)**  
**Place: Jodo Mission of Hawaii**  
**1429 Makiki Street, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814 Phone: (808)949-3995**

**\*Masks are highly recommended. No refreshments will be served.**



You may join us on Zoom.  
Please scan this QR code or use ID & Passcode below.  
Meeting ID: 847 6316 5946  
Passcode: HBC  
Email Address: [mail@hawaiibuddhistcouncil.org](mailto:mail@hawaiibuddhistcouncil.org)

HBC consists of 7 Buddhist denominations: Higashi Hongwanji, Honpa Hongwanji, Jodo Mission, Koyasan Shingon Mission, Nichiren Mission, Soto Mission and Tendai Mission.

## Wahiawa Veterans Day Parade It was a beautiful day for a parade! November 11, 2022



**Honoring  
ALL WHO  
served  
THANK YOU  
VETERANS**