



The Messenger

Building Healthy Sanghas: Embracing Generosity & Openness

Calendar of Events

<p><u>August 2022</u></p> <p>07 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service 07 Sun 9:30 am - 10:30am Food Drive 14 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service 21 Sun 9:00 am Obon & Hatsubon Service 28 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service & Peace Day Activity</p>	<p><u>September 2022</u></p> <p>04 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service 04 Sun 9:30 am - 10:30am Food Drive 11 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service & 9/11 Bell Ringing 18 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service with Rev. Kevin Kuniyuki 21 Wed 9:00 - 9:05 am Peace Day Bell Ringing at WHM bonsho 25 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service</p>
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Obon and Hatsubon Service

Whether you are near or far, please join us on Sunday, August 21st at 9:00 am for our Obon and Hatsubon service. You join us in person, or you may join us on Zoom using the link on our website, or online at: <https://zoom.us/j/93378547577?pwd=UzFsZGo2Q0Z0UmpZRUdiemhjzBmZz09>
Meeting ID: 933 7854 7577 Passcode: p19ApJ

Give Aloha at Foodland Sept. 1 - 30



Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission is participating in *Give Aloha, Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gifts Program*. This program honors Foodland's founder, Maurice J. "Sully" Sullivan, and continues his legacy of giving back to the community.

From **September 1-30**, customers are invited to make donations of up to \$249 to participating Hawaii non-profit organizations at checkout. Donations are accepted at any Foodland, Sack N Save or Foodland Farms checkout. Foodland and the Western Union Foundation will match a portion of each donation. Individuals must use their own Maika'i membership to make a donation. Donations made without a Maika'i membership will not be matched.

At checkout, present your Maika'i card (or provide your member number), or enter your phone number and inform the cashier that you would like to make a donation to **Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission** code number **79089**. If you do not have a Maika'i card/member number, you can establish one by entering your phone number at checkout. Your donation will be added to your grocery purchase total. You may donate up to \$249 per organization; any portion exceeding \$249 will not be matched. The amount you donate and the name of our organization will appear on your receipt. Donations must be payable to Foodland or Sack N Save.

Minister's Message - Blind Golfer



This story is a good joke story to tell us about Shinjin and Buddhist teaching. Stevie Wonder and Jack Nicklaus are in a bar. Nicklaus turns to Wonder and says, "How is the singing career going?"

Stevie Wonder says, "Not too bad, the latest album has gone into the top 10, so all in all I think it is pretty good. By the way how is the golf."

Nicklaus replies: "Not too bad, I am not winning as much as I used to but I'm still making a bit of money. I have some problems with my swing but I think I've got that right now." "I always find that when my swing goes wrong I need to stop playing for a while and think about it, then the next time I play it seems to be alright," says Stevie.

"You play golf?!" asks Jack.

Stevie says, "Yes, I have been playing for years."

"But I thought you were blind; how can you play golf if you are blind?" Jack asks.

"I get my caddie to stand in the middle of the fairway and he calls to me. I listen for the sound of his voice and play the ball towards him. When I get to where the ball lands, the caddie moves to the green or further down the fairway and again I play the ball towards his voice." explains Stevie.

"But how do you putt?" Nicklaus wondered.

"Well," says Stevie, "I get my caddie to lean down in front of the hole and call to me with his head on the ground and I just play the ball to the sound of his voice."

Nicklaus says, "What is your handicap?"

"Well, I play off scratch," Stevie assures Jack.

Nicklaus is incredulous and says to Stevie, "We must play a game sometime."

Wonder replies, "Well, people don't take me seriously so I only play for money, and I never play for less than \$100,000 a hole."

Nicklaus thinks it over and says, "OK, I'm up for that. When would you like to play?"

"I don't care - any night next week is OK with me."

In case of Stevie, even though he could not see, he just believes and follows the caddie without doubt. It is like the Shinjin which we follow the Buddha's voice.

On the other hand, in the case of Nicklaus, he just sees the outward appearance of Stevie and decided to play with him. This is a teaching of eight-fold path. As a Buddhist, we should see, think, and treat others without prejudice.

By the way, which one won the game, Stevie or Nicklaus?

Namo Amida Butsu

In Gassho,



Reverend Kojun Hashimoto

White Way Radio Program 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.	August 2022 06 Mr. Pieper Toyama 13 Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara 20 Ms. Rene Mansho 27 Rev. Mieko Majima	September 2022 03 Rev. Tomo Hojo 10 Mrs. Barbara Brennan 17 Rev. Richard Tennes 27 Rev. Al Hironaka
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Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission Office Hours: By appointment 808-622-4320

www.wahiawashinbuddhists.org

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

President's Report



May the Force be with you!

Recently a group of retired executives from various backgrounds got together for our periodic discussions on foreign policy. This month, it was my turn to provide a venue, and dinner and facilitate the discussion. It occurred to me that we've been meeting via zoom or personally for many years, but we really didn't "know" each other. The criterion for selection into the group was to have been at some executive level in a foreign country. It was by invitation only and I feel very privileged to be part of this group.

To begin the evening, each of us would describe a significant moment in our lives that impacted our future dramatically. We were all close in age and attended college on the mainland during the Vietnam War era. One of the greatest stressors attending college during this time was the imminent threat of being drafted if your grade point average dropped. I have always believed that I have been so lucky and grateful in life.

The first story was by a college professor who spent many years overseas with Reuters before settling in Hawaii. He was not a remarkable student in college and elected to drop out and enlist in the Army before being drafted so he could have a choice to delay being assigned to the war zone. Having a long training period for a military specialty was his criterion. Preliminary tests for qualification were amazingly easy for him to pass. He ended up with cryptography, a budding new specialty. It was so new, that there were not too many people qualified to teach it. After training was "complete," he was assigned to Korea with practically nothing to do. His life lesson had given him a perspective that he was fortunate and special to have this opportunity. He returned home to continue his education, became a writer/editor for a multinational news service, and ultimately a college professor.

The next person was a retired scientist from Naval Research in Maryland. He was a UH high graduate who attended the University of Illinois as a physics major. Approaching graduation and knowing military service was around the corner, he attended a Job Fair and walked past a recruiting table from Naval Research. He applied for an Oceanography position and was accepted soon after. He really felt lucky that he happened to sit down at the recruiting table AND they were recruiting at that time. He didn't go to Vietnam either.

The third person was a retired IBMer who worked all over the US and in Japan. He came from the ghetto in Cleveland, graduated as an engineer, and was hired by IBM right out of college. His draft notice came up. IBM was not a company that kept its employees from going into the military. He went to his interview, took his physical, and expected to be drafted. He had written a letter to the draft board requesting deferral prior to his interview. His interviewer was an African American woman from Cleveland. She felt that it was a pity that he had accomplished so much in his life already and worked for a good company. She thought it was wrong to draft him into the military and so granted the deferral! He also didn't go to Vietnam!

The fourth person was a graduate of Yale University when he joined the Peace Corps and was assigned to Tunisia. As a teacher in Tunisia, he was highly regarded. After two years, he expected to resume his education in law at Boalt Law School (UC Berkeley). He was eligible for the draft and would have been drafted. After deep self-reflection, he felt that the war in Vietnam was wrong, and applied as a conscientious objector (CO). If this wasn't granted, he would refuse to be inducted and face a prison term. At the final hour, while standing in line to be inducted, the approval for his CO was granted. He also did not go to Vietnam.

My own journey through college was very different. I was determined that if I was to serve, it would be as an officer. By doing well in school, I was awarded the privilege of getting a three-year deferral into graduate school and a choice for my first assignment location...Germany! Prior to being activated, I was hired by IBM and trained as a Systems Engineer. I wrote a letter to the Department of Defence suggesting that the Army take advantage of my training. When I arrived in Frankfurt, a general staff car greeted me to take me to headquarters in Heidelberg for my assignment overseeing Division Logistics Systems. How lucky was that!!

Continued on the next page

President's Report - Continued

When we talk about karma and all the forces in the universe that determine our fate, one's self-centeredness only considers one's own life. Hearing these stories from others made me realize that there are so many unexplainable happenings in our lives that work in our favor. The most important lesson is to have a positive mindset to ensure that you don't miss the opportunity. This is the meaning of "spiritual growth."

In gassho (gratitude),



Rodney S. Moriyama, President

Message from the Treasurer.....

Thank you for your generous donations throughout the year. Effective July 2022 we will be sending out an acknowledgement letter for your tax-deductible donations quarterly, i.e. July-Sept, Oct-Dec, Jan-Mar, Apr-June. If you made a donation, you may expect to receive your letter the month following the end of the quarter.

If you would like your donation applied to a specific area, please make a note in the memo area of your check or attach a note to your cash donation, i.e. Eitaikyo, Obon, Columbarium, etc. If there is no notation, your donation will be applied as a Temple Donation. Thank you.

CANCELLATION AND TIME CHANGES

BUDDHIST STUDY CENTER (BSC) 50th ANNIVERSARY PRESENTATION

Due to COVID related issues, the BSC has had to make changes to the BSC 50th Anniversary Presentations. BSC has cancelled Prof. Charles Hallisey's lecture on August 13th.

BSC has moved Prof. Dennis Hirota's workshops on August 6th and 20th to 2:00 - 3:30 PM Hawaii time for both dates. Prof. Dennis Hirota will be giving a workshop about "Encountering the Words of Shinran" as a part of the 50th Anniversary for the BSC. Both of these workshops will be held online, via ZOOM so please make sure to register for his workshops if you are interested. This workshop will introduce materials designed to help readers interested in understanding what Shinran Shonin said in his own words. Through the provided materials, it will be possible to become familiar with important passages from his writings as he wrote them. No prior knowledge of Japanese language is necessary.

During each workshop, we will practice reading sample passages from Shinran Shonin with the help of romanization, literal translation, and simple grammar notes. After the workshop, it will be possible to continue using the materials for a number of important passages selected from Shinran Shonin's writings. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe-kduXvdbYljzEhld2RemjO-5Lzybgfd_ojShH2dNG2pVaA/viewform

If you have any questions about this announcement, please contact by emailing kwong@honpahi.org or calling BSC 808-973-6555.



Century 21 iProperties Hawaii Charity Donation Program

Are you planning on selling or buying a home or real estate? Please consider participating in the CENTURY 21 iPROPERTIES HAWAII CHARITY DONATION PROGRAM. The agent will donate 10% of his/her gross commission to Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission when the transaction closes. For more information, please call (808) 772-1904 or (808)791-1020 or go online to <https://www21.c21ipropertieshawaii.com/iph/charities.html>



HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

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July 23, 2022

Statement on the Right to Reproductive Freedom

We deeply lament the recent decision by the United States Supreme Court to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, curtailing the ability of individuals especially women to make reproductive healthcare decisions for themselves.

The issue of abortion should not be seen in dualistic absolutes. The Dharma teaches us to value the preciousness of all life or existence regardless of the form. However, we also know there are various causes and conditions, some beyond the immediate control of any one individual, which factor into the personal and private decision to end a pregnancy. Thus, we should refrain from unfairly judging the decisions made by another. As such, we believe the agency of an individual should be respected and honored, as we each have the capacity to make informed and responsible decisions for ourselves based on circumstances.

Shinran Shōnin, the founder of Shin Buddhism affirmed the complexities of life and how difficult it is for us to discern the wholesome from the unwholesome. This is why we go to the Dharma (Teachings) for guidance and are unconditionally embraced by the non-discriminative Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha which surrounds one and all beyond the distinctions that our human minds may make.

The Court's decision to eliminate federal protections for abortion will deepen inequality in our country, as many individuals and communities already face inconsistent access to quality health care services. Especially at risk are Black, Latino, Indigenous, and other communities of color who will encounter worsening health and economic disparities. Women's reproductive health services should be considered basic health care.

We acknowledge the pain, fear, and hurt that so many in our country are experiencing. We will continue to support the spiritual and bodily autonomy of women and others to make informed decisions about their own reproductive health.

Guided by the Buddha's Teachings, we believe complex and difficult decisions should be made with compassion, empathy, responsibility, humility, and an understanding of an individual's sometimes extraordinary circumstances.

May we live with a vision of mutuality and act from an understanding of our profound interconnectedness with kindness and respect for all.

In Gassho,
Bishop Eric Matsumoto
Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, a Shin Buddhist Denomination of Pure Land Buddhism

Rev. Blayne Higa, Chair
HHMH Committee on Social Concerns

www.hongwanjihawaii.com

Jr. YBA Happenings

Aloha and Happy Summer! If you are looking for a way to have fun and meet other Buddhist Youth, please join us as we have some stuff coming up that you may want to check out.

- Sunday, August 7, 10:00am at Aiea Hongwanji: New officer installation, manju making and meeting.
- Friday, August 19
 - 6:00pm at Mililani Hongwanji: Lantern Parade for Mililani's Bon Dance!
 - 7:00pm – 10:00pm Beverage Booth at Bon Dance (shift times available)
- Saturday, August 20
 - 10:00am at Mililani Hongwanji: Sort recycling and take to Recycle Center (Hi-5 monies go toward Jr. YBA)
 - 7:00pm-10:00pm Beverage Booth at Bon Dance, night 2! (shift times available)
- Saturday, August 27, 6:00pm at Aiea Hongwanji: Shave Ice Booth for Aiea Bon Dance

We hope that you are having a nice summer vacation and we are looking forward to meeting more young people! Jr. YBA is open to students from 7th grade to one year after graduation so if you would like more information, please don't hesitate to contact Aunty Aryn at Arynn.M.Ishikawa@gmail.com or come to any of our upcoming events.

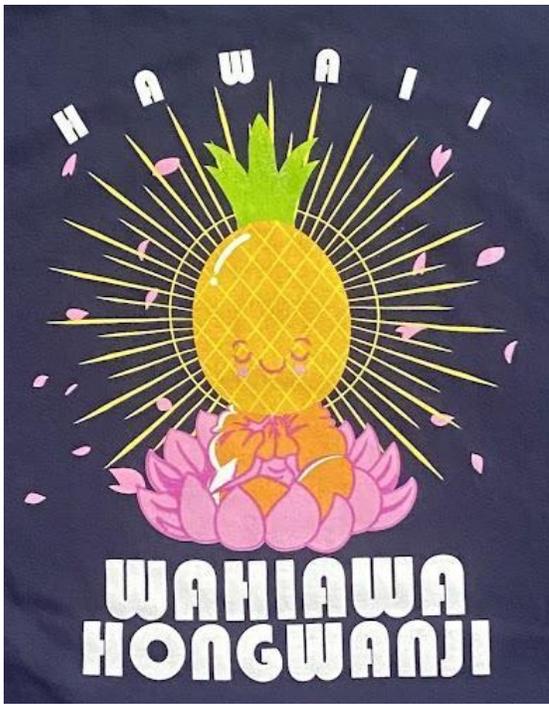
You can also follow us on Instagram:

United of Oahu: [@jrybaofaohu](https://www.instagram.com/jrybaofaohu)

Hawaii Federation of Jr. YBAs: [@hawaiifedjryba](https://www.instagram.com/hawaiifedjryba)

Website: www.hawaiijryba.com





New Wahiawa Hongwanji Shirt

We are excited to present a new WHM shirt! Our new design was created by our very own Rev. Hashimoto! Proceeds from this sale will be used to help us maintain our buildings, improve security on our campus, and to grow our endowment fund.

All shirts are Navy Blue with the design on the back and are available in 3 styles; a Cotton T-shirt, Dry Fit T-shirt and Dry Fit Polo Shirt and are available in 4 men's sizes; Small, Medium, Large and Extra Large.

To order, send the completed order form below with your payment to Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission, 1067 California Ave, Wahiawa, HI 96786 by **August 31, 2022**. Anticipated to arrive in November.



Wahiawa Hongwanji Shirt Order Form

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

All shirts are navy blue, adult mens sizes with the design on the back.
Write the quantity ordering in the spaces below.

Type of Shirt	Small	Medium	Large	Extra Large	Cost Per Shirt	Total
Cotton T-Shirt					x \$15	\$
Dry Fit T-Shirt					x \$20	\$
Dry Fit Polo Shirt					x \$25	\$
Temple Donation						\$
The WHM Office will contact you to let you know when the shirts are ready for you to pick up OR						Grand Total \$

_____ Contact me to let me know shipping costs.

----- For Office Use -----

Date Received: _____ Cash / Check # _____ Date of Chk _____ Rec by _____