



The Messenger

Building Healthy Sanghas: Embracing Generosity & Openness

Calendar of Events

UPDATED March 2022

- 06 Sun 9:00 am - 12:30 pm Sangha Day at Neal Blaisdell Park
- 06 Sun NO Sunday Service at WHM
- 13 Sun 9:30 am - 10:30am Food Drive
- 13 Sun 9:00 am Spring Ohigan Service
- 13 Sun 11:00 am Talk Story on Zoom
- 20 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service
- 20 Sun 10:00 am WHM Board Meeting on Zoom
- 25 Fri 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm Buddhist Study Center Spring Seminar on Zoom
- 26 Sat 10:00 am - 11:30 am Buddhist Study Center Spring Seminar on Zoom
- 27 Sun 9:00 am Dharma Talk by Luanne Bongiorno & Activity

April 2022

- 03 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service
- 03 Sun 9:30 am - 10:30am Food Drive
- 10 Sun 9:00 am WHM Buddha Day/Hanamatsuri Service
- 17 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service & Activity
- 24 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service



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.

March 5	Ms. Linda Nagai
March 12	Rev. Toyokazu Hagio
March 19	Dr. Dexter Mar
March 26	Rev. Shingo Furusawa

Antiques and Treasures Sale

Did you miss our sales in August and November? Are you looking for something special for your home or as a gift? This month we are featuring a few treasures that are currently for sale. Please contact the WHM office 808-622-4320 if you are interested in any of these items.



Obi
\$40



Minister's Message - Cause and Effect:



Basic Buddhism is about cause and effect. Everything has a cause and an effect. If we do not understand the nature of a cause, we cannot understand its true effect. So, right view of Eightfold path is the first practice of the Eightfold path. It is important to see or understand the cause of a calamity or happening.

I would like to tell you that it is a very common occurrence .

One day, when I was in traffic in Wahiawa, at the corner of Kamehameha Highway and California Avenue, the traffic light on California Avenue had just changed to green. Suddenly many horns started tooting because a car driven by a lady on Kamehameha Highway had stopped in the center of the intersection. You have probably seen such a similar situation before. She had entered intersection, even though there was no space in front of her, and the signal on her side had changed to red. As a result, she had blocked both sides of the road. This caused an even greater traffic jam. To make matters worse, the irritated drivers expressed their frustration with her by continuing to sound their horns. She was so nervous and embarrassed.

At that time, I remembered a story of The Jātakas which is the tale of old India.

It goes like this:

There was a snake. He had two mouths - one in front and one at tail. One day, the tail said to the front head, “You always go to your side first and I always have to follow your direction. It is unfair. I want to go first today and follow me!” The head replied, “It is impossible because you do not have eyes. You do not know where we should go or which area is dangerous for us.” But the tail never listened. He went wherever he wanted to go. He made a mess wherever he went that day. The animals in the jungle were so upset. Eventually, not noticing he was approaching a cliff, the snake fell to his death.

The common theme behind both stories was that both did not notice how their actions affected others. How often do we think of only ourselves and not realize the impact of an action? We should not forget that we are connected to others.

We should remember the first phrase of the *Golden Chain of Love*. “I am **a link** in Amida Buddha’s Golden of Love that stretches around the world.” Let us remember this principle of interconnectivity in all our actions as we remain open in our thoughts to others.

Namo Amida Butsu

In Gassho,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kojun Hashimoto', written on a light-colored background.

Reverend Kojun Hashimoto

President's Report



The weather has been perfect! The COVID infection rate appears to be dropping dramatically across the nation and in Hawaii! Let's all hope that this latest "bump" will not be repeated again!

Alan Kakazu has served 8 years as Treasurer on the Board. We were so lucky to have him as he was instrumental in implementing our new financial system while participating at both the Board and Oahu Council levels. He carefully balanced our funds through the pandemic and paid our costly maintenance projects as they became due. Recently, Alan and his partners started a new accounting firm during these stressful years which is demanding (in a good way) more of his time. We wish Alan all the best in his new endeavor as he helps us to transfer his systems and knowledge. Thank you, Alan, for your service and commitment to the Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission.

We are happy to welcome Gaylen Yonamine, our new Treasurer. Gaylen is a new member and retired from a position in finance with the U.S. Postal Service in California. He will be working with Karen Pang, Vice President, and Vivian Maruyama, Assistant Treasurer, to learn our financial processes from Alan.

The 110th Giseikai was held via Zoom. Over 140 people participated over two days to hammer out and approve a new budget and start new programs. Some of the Highlights were the approval of:

- The quarterly newsletter, Ka Leo Kahea.
- Consolidation of Papaaloha Hongwanji and Honohina Hongwanji.
- A Honpa Hongwanji Statewide Online Calendar.
- An Annual Endowment Campaign supported at the HQ level.
- A subsidy of \$50,000 to the Pacific Buddhist Academy for 2022.
- Finally, a line of credit for \$1 million in support of the building of a new, \$4 million Pre-Kindergarten of Hilo Betsuin.

We also had a wonderful Talk Story on "Managing through Challenging Times" with Luanne Bongiorno. The Talk Story was amazing! Thank you, Luanne, for facilitating a wonderful session AND teaching us the value of Gratitude for our community!

As we approach the end of February, we had our annual Pet Memorial Service and our New Year's Party Drive-by. Did you drive by? The food was excellent!

On March 6, from 9:00 AM- 12:30 PM the Oahu Hongwanji Council will be sponsoring Sangha Day, Fellowship for Peace at the Neal Blaisdell Park on Kamehameha Hwy in Aiea, across from Burger King on Ka'ahumanu. Please see the Sangha Day flyer included in this newsletter if you're interested in participating. Carolyn Uchiyama is coordinating this.

Thank you for your early contributions and donations! We have had a number of funerals and memorial services that had been delayed for many months. Our Gojikai dues are coming in nicely and we hope to continue being on track with our Eitaikyo Endowment Fund for 2028. Every little bit helps!! Thank you again!

In gassho (gratitude),

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rodney S. Moriyama". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Rodney S. Moriyama, President

MARCH

6

2022



“FELLOWSHIP FOR PEACE”

Sangha Day

sponsored by Oahu Hongwanji Council

Neal S. Blaisdell Park

9:00 am to 12:30 pm (Set up at 8:00 a.m.)

Fully Vaccinated and Masks are required

9:00 am Service

9:30 am Entertainment - Pacific Buddhist Academy Taiko Ensemble

9:45 am Walk to the Peace Bell, Luggage Tags, Painting Peace Rock

11:15 am Bingo and Prizes

11:45 am Lunch - Bento (see order form)

12:00 pm Clean up - Everyone

Bring your own: Lawn chairs, Sunscreen, Goza or other ground cover

OPEN TO ALL AGES. . . LET’S GROW AND ENJOY THE DAY TOGETHER!

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BENTO ORDER FORM

KARAAGE CHICKEN, TERI-BEEF, FRIED FISH, WHITE RICE,
ASSORTED VEGETABLES GARNISH AND BOTTLED WATER

TEMPLE: Wahiawa- Carolyn Uchiyama **NAME:**

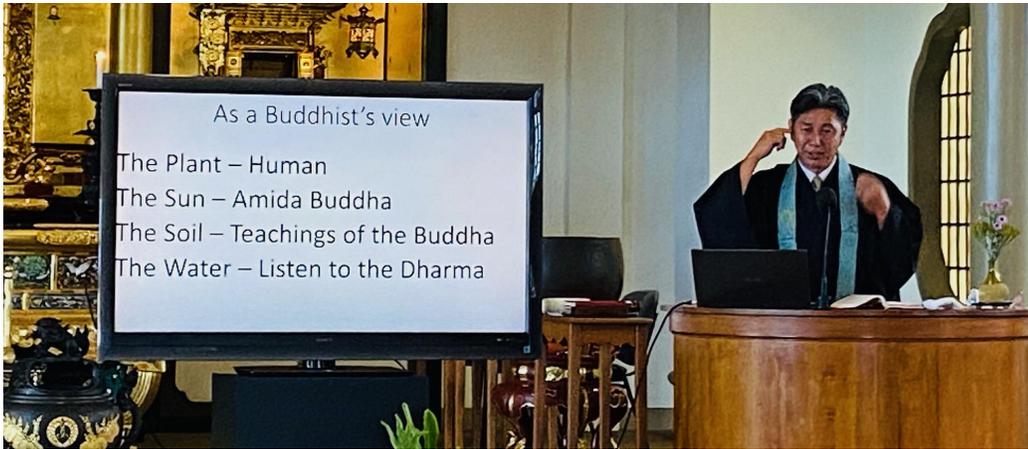
CONTACT PHONE #/EMAIL ADDRESS:

BENTO ORDERS **X \$10 =** **TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED**

Checks Payable to: Aiea Hongwanji Mission, Submit orders to WHM office
Order Deadline: February 27, 2022 **ATTN: CAROLYN UCHIYAMA**

Happenings at Wahiawa Hongwanji

By Carolyn Uchiyama



Activity #1 Something New for 2022

On January 30th at temple service, Reverend Hashimoto shared in his dharma message how the plant is related to our human body. He said that the plant needs many things to grow like the sun, air, water, and soil. Otherwise, it will not flourish and wither away.

Our human body is similar to a plant and we also need nourishment to survive. We need the sun physically, but spiritually we need Amida Buddha. The soil is the plant's foundation and our's is the Teachings of the Buddha. As we partake of the water to quench our parched throats, we listen to the Teachings of the Buddha to whet our hearts and minds to be at peace.

After service, the temple members met in front of the office to participate in a planting activity. Each person received a container, bark, media, and a choice of a succulent plant for their container. They placed some bark at the bottom of the container for drainage and added some media. Carefully taking out their succulent from the pot, they placed it in their container and added more media. The finishing touch was covering the soil with colorful gravel. What a great way to greet



the New Year and Chinese New Year on February 1st. Kung Hee Fat Choy!!!

Activity #2 February Food Drive

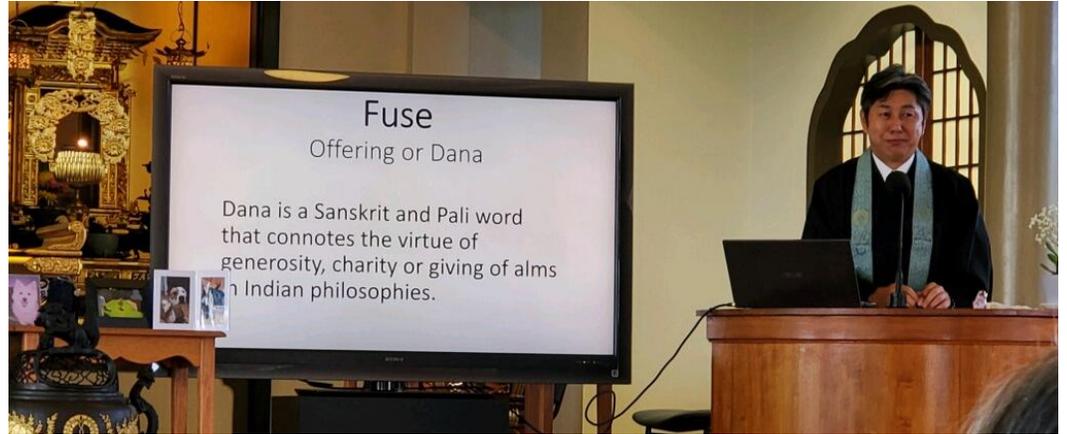
On February 6th, we conducted our monthly food drive. Thank you to the members who dropped their items off at the temple office. They were brought out on Sunday by Rev. and Mrs. Hashimoto. You may continue to drop items off at the office for future months. Please attach your name to the package so we may recognize member's participation. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

This month we had an assortment of items that will be helpful to everyone. We had toothpaste, almond and soy milk, breakfast bars, and coffee, as well as the usual ramen, tuna, Vienna sausage, and other canned goods. I'm sure the arare, prunes, and sour patch candy will be enjoyed. In total we had **224** items and **45** pounds of rice.

As the Omicron numbers have been decreasing, the numbers of people needing food are decreasing. At St. Stephen's Church, they are passing out food and hot meals on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays only. It's certainly great news but the need has not subsided completely. We continue to appreciate your donations until we beat the hunger in Our Wahiawa.

Pet Memorial Service

On Sunday, February 20th, WHM held its annual Pet Memorial Service. Thank you to Alan Kakazu for being the MC for this meaningful and heartwarming service to remember our pets who have enriched our lives with their companionship and love. People who attended the service received delicious dog shaped cookies made by Vivian Murayama.



We  Our Pets!





Spring Ohigan

Please join us for Spring Ohigan on Sunday, March 13th at 9:00 am. For those of you who have called to ask, below is a brief explanation we hope will give you an idea about Spring Ohigan.

Spring Ohigan (Spring Equinox) means the "Other Shore." It is when we can see and feel the harmony in the world around us. Jodo Shinshu Buddhist gather to welcome in a new season. Ohigan occurs twice a year in the Spring and the Fall, generally in March and September. The sun rises directly from the East and sets directly in the West. The length of day and night are equal and the weather tends to be very mild. This is when conditions are right for the practice of selfless sharing, discipline, diligence, patience, loving kindness and wisdom. As Jodo Shinshu Buddhist it is a time for deep self reflection on all that we have received from others as well as from the world.

We hope you will join us for this in person service. If you are planning on attending this service, or any Sunday Service, please read our in person service rules below. Please call the WHM office at 808-622-4320 if you have any questions.

Rules for Sunday Services

Please understand that these rules are for everyone's wellbeing and safety. COVID-19 is highly contagious, with one person able to infect many others. In order to keep the temple doors open, please help us and follow the guidelines. Please be patient as things could change as we receive updated guidelines. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

- Everyone must wear a face mask at all times
- Please enter from the ramp and keep a 6ft distance from those in front of you.
- Please sanitize your hands before entering the temple. There will be hand sanitizer at the entrance.
- Please oshoko before sitting.
- The offertory collection bowl will not be passed during the service. Please place your monetary offering on the altar.
- To ensure social distancing, only members from the same household/family may sit together.
- To maintain good social distancing, bow, wave or show a shaka. Please do NOT hug, handshake, fist bumps or high five. We know everyone misses seeing each other, but please do not congregate and socialize before and after temple service to maintain social distancing.

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

www.wahiawashinbuddhists.org

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

We are often asked when families may resume bringing flower offerings to the columbarium. We, too, would love to see flowers in our columbarium once again. However, in order for that to happen, everyone wishing to bring flowers for their loved ones must also be willing to come back in a week's time to remove their flowers and clean up their own areas. Water left over a week begins to smell and petals and leaves begin to fall, leaving a mess and sometimes stains on the floors. If you are unable to return in a week, please call the WHM office at the phone number listed above.

Please observe all posted rules during your visit. You must wear a face mask at all times and sanitize your hands before and after going into the columbarium, sink and vase areas.



BUDDHIST STUDY CENTER PRESENTS
2022 SPRING SEMINAR



DHARMA THROUGH the Eyes of Youth

MARCH 25 & 26

Friday, March 25 | 7:00 - 8:30pm

Panel Discussion
Jr. YBA Youth-led activity
Q&A after Discussion



Manami Alspach



Chihiro Okawa



Kana Suzuki



Jay Yokoyama



Naho Umitani

JR. YBA PANELISTS

Saturday, March 26 | 10:00 - 11:30am

Guest Speaker: Jacob Chang
Panelists

Dharma School / New Member: Wayne Yoshioka

YESS Camp: Dwight Matsuo

Temple Leadership: Wayde Toyama

Q&A

SATURDAY SPEAKERS



Jacob Chang



Wayne Yoshioka



Dwight Matsuo



Wayde Toyama

REGISTER NOW | <https://bit.ly/bscspringseminar2022>