



The Messenger

Building Healthy Sanghas: Embracing Generosity & Openness

Calendar of Events

REVISED May

02 Sun 9:00am Sunday Service - Please call WHM office for a reservation by April 29th

02 Sun 10:00am -10:30am Food Drive

09 Sun 9:00am Sunday Service - Please call WHM office for a reservation by May 6th

16 Sun 9:00am Baccalaureate Service - Service is open only to our graduates and 9 of their family members. The service will be recorded and made available online at a later date.

23 Sun 9:00am Gotan-E Service - Please call WHM office for a reservation by May 20th

23 Sun 10:00am WHM Board Meeting

30 Sun 9:00am Sunday Service - Please call WHM office for a reservation by May 27th

June

06 Sun 9:00am Sunday Service - Please call WHM office for a reservation by June 3rd

06 Sun 10:00am -10:30am Food Drive

13 Sun 9:00am Sunday Service - Please call WHM office for a reservation by June 10th

19 Sat 6:00pm Hatsubon Service - Please check our website <https://www.wahiawashinbuddhists.org/> for the online link

20 Sun 9:00am Sunday Service - Please call WHM office for a reservation by June 17th

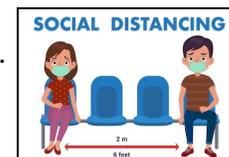
26 Sat 7:00pm Virtual Bon Dance - Please check our website <https://www.wahiawashinbuddhists.org/> for the online link

27 Sun 9:00am Sunday Service - Please call WHM office for a reservation by June 24th

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.

- Please call the office for a reservation if you would like to attend a Sunday Service.
- 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.
- The offertory collection bowl will not be passed during the service. Please place your monetary offering in the offering slot on the altar.
- Only members from the same household may sit together.
- To prevent the spread of germs through singing and chanting, there will be no chanting or singing by the congregation, only the minister will be allowed to do so. You may meditate or follow along quietly in your mind.
- 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.



Minister's Message - Shinjin

Shinjin is one of Jodo Shinshu's teachings.

I found Shinjin with the book entitled **A Glossary of Shin Buddhist Terms**. This book said about Shinjin, "Entrusts oneself, Faith, Heart of Faith and Mind of Faith." However, I could not completely understand the meaning. Therefore, I read the Gobunshyo (a letters of Rennyō Shōnin) "Attaining the Entrusting Heart."

So, Shinjin means understanding the 18th vow, understanding the essence of Nembutsu, Namo Amida Butsu. Therefore, we hear about why Amida Buddha made the Nembutsu, Namo Amida Butsu. Amida Buddha wanted to save Shinjin for everyone.

I looked up the word "E-Ko" which means transference of merits to us.

The point here is "to us." Yes, Shinjin is not "I" gained it from Amida Buddha. It is not my action. Amida Buddha's wish is already given to us. What I realized about Shinjin is that I already have received Shinjin.

It is not my spontaneous heart. If, however, I try to believe Shinjin or Amida Buddha, then the action of trying to believe is evidence of doubt.

We can say trust. But we do not need the word trust or believe about Shinjin. We just leave ourselves to Amida Buddha as we are. We already were given Amida Buddha's wish. It is not necessary that we do something special to receive Shinjin. That is why Jodo Shinshu teaching is never about your trusting or your believing Buddha's teaching. We just listen to Buddha's teachings seriously because we were already saved since we were born.

Realizing Amida Buddha's wish is Shinjin.

Namo Amida Butsu

In Gassho,



Reverend Kojun Hashimoto



Altar Flowers Needed

Every Saturday flowers are needed for our altar. If you are able to donate flowers for our altar, please call the office at 622-4320 or email hashimoto@wahiawahongwanji.org to arrange pick up or drop off.



Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission Office Hours: By appointment 808-622-4320
Columbarium Hours: Daily 10:00am - 3:00pm

President: Rod Moriyama

Minister: Reverend Kojun Hashimoto

Vice Presidents: Karen Pang, Dale Shimaura, Carolyn Uchiyama

Treasurer: Alan Kakazu

Assistant Treasurer: Vivian Murayama

Secretary: Amy Kanemaru

Assistant Secretary: Wendy Fukuhara

Board of Trustees:

Charlene Acohido

Brian Fukuhara

Brian Kimura

Barbara Ladao

Jackie Nakamura

Jack Tsujihara

President's Report

The month of April was kicked off with a very well-organized Hawaii Buddhist Council Hanamatsuri service. Rev. Dr. Jeff Wilson gave an excellent talk on the significance of "Buddha Day." It was the first time I ever heard anyone mention that on mankind's timeline, Shakyamuni Gautama's birth, as celebrated as the "beginning," is actually the end of "many kalpas" of reincarnations as Buddha perfected his life as the "Awakened One." See the talk on our website at: www.wahiawashinbuddhists.org



Starting April 5, every first and third Mondays at 4:30-5:30 PM, Dr. Patrick Jichaku is leading a zoom group in Mindful Meditation. He had been doing this in person at the Buddhist Study Center but had to be halted. If you are interested in devoting some dedicated time for quiet reflection, please join us. It is proven to be good for mental and physical well-being.

The Kauai District held their Nembutsu seminar with Rev. Dr. Kenneth Tanaka from Japan. It was very informative. It was an "Introduction to the Essence and Practice of Shin Buddhism." He addressed Nembutsu Meditation, The Meaning of Amida Buddha, and Pure Land. His presentation included a brief discussion about some of the concerns facing us in America today such as the Anti-Asian sentiment. He closed his talk with a brief perspective of "shinjin" and how Shinran may have thought of it in light of the violence during his time. He urged that we are all on this path of learning together and attending these discussions with a pure sincerity of learning and expanding our own horizons, are part of "Oneness."

On April 16, the Buddhist Churches of America (Continuing Buddhist Education) featured a discussion (250 attendees) on the "Future of Shin Buddhism" with three Bishops from Canada, America, and Hawaii. All three bishops gave a very realistic presentation of the need to resonate with our members and the general public. There is no question that Buddhism in America will be sustained and expanded in the future. The question remains as to whether Jodo-Shinshu will be part of the many schools of Buddhism that thrive. The use of technology has already changed how our religion presents itself during the pandemic. There will be no turning back! How we define "members" and provide a meaningful way to connect will be critical to our future success.

We have been challenged with two different homeless persons frequenting our campus and just outside our campus. This has been a real concern for the safety and security of our own property and the Hashimotos, but also the safety and security of the students of Ho'ala school. Please keep on the alert for individuals who have "visited" us often and littered and defaced our property. We are working with the police to control this issue.

The good news is that over 1 million Hawaii residents have been vaccinated. The not-so-good news is that we continue to be faced with weekly infection rates above 50/day. This is what triggered our reluctance to have a face-to-face Hanamatsuri service. At Tier 3, we are still limited to 10 people in a gathering. We hope that the month of May will provide us with a better opportunity to open up.

In gassho (gratitude),

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Rodney S. Moriyama".

Rodney S. Moriyama, President

Columbarium Flowers May 5-9

In observance of Mother's Day, families may bring flowers to the columbarium between May 5th-9th. 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.



Food Drive for Our Wahiawa

By Carolyn Uchiyama



Mahalo to all our members and friends. We truly appreciate your participation monthly in the temple's food drive for Our Wahiawa community. On April 4th, we collected **368** items of canned corn and beans as well as oodles of noodles from spaghetti to ramen. The donation of rice will feed many mouths with the collection of **95** pounds.

The needs of our community members linger on and St. Stephen's Church continues their hot meals and food distribution on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays and Fridays of the month. Your contributions assist them in their efforts to care for the people of our community.

Next month's Food Drive will be on May 2nd from 10:00 am after the Sunday service. If you are attending service, your donations may be brought to the service.

Everyone be safe and healthy!!!

WHM Office News from Dale's Desk

By Dale Shimaura

1) We are expanding our Fundraising Campaign to now include "household and kitchen items". Please donate your gently used pots and pans, dinnerware, silverware, cups, mugs, small appliances, Tupperware, radios, plants, and the list goes on and on! Please be sure no item is chipped, cracked, broken, or without a matching lid or cover.

New and unused items still in original boxes or with tags may be set aside for our Silent Auction. Watch for details of our Silent Auction to be released at a later date in an upcoming newsletter. Please pack HOUSEHOLD and KITCHEN items in BOXES and drop off at the temple office with your name and phone number inside of the box. If the office is closed you may leave your box on tables right outside the Columbarium.

CLOTHING donations should still be tied in 13-gallon kitchen BAGS. They may also be dropped off at the office if open, or left on tables in front of the Columbarium.

We thank you in advance, and hope that this might be a win/win project for both you, as well as the temple! You clean your house, while funds raised will be used to help pay some of our temple bills.

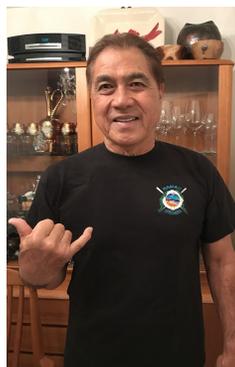
2) Looking for all able-bodied men and women to help clean and maintain the temple and grounds. The Hoshu Gang meets every other Thursday from 7:30am. Please call the office if you can lend a helping hand.

3) If you are in need of help, please call the temple (622-4320 or 392-3253).

2021 WHM KEIROKAI CELEBRATION HONOREES



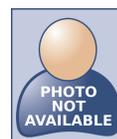
June Ibara with Rod Moriyama, Kyodan President and Rev. Hashimoto.



Dr. Randall Yoshida



Rod Moriyama and Stanley Uesugi with Rev. Hashimoto



Allison Uesugi