



# The Messenger

Building Healthy Sanghas: Embracing Generosity & Openness

## Calendar of Events

### October

03 Sun 9:00 am ONLINE Tsuito-E Service - Please check [www.wahiawashinbuddhists.org](http://www.wahiawashinbuddhists.org) for the link

03 Sun 9:30am - 10:30am Food Drive

10 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service

17 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service

17 Sun ONLINE Dharma School Gathering - Please see last page for more information

24 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service

31 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service

### November

06 Nembutsu Seminar (see flier attached)

07 Sun 9:00 am Eitaikyo Service with Rev. Okano (tentative)

07 Sun 9:30am - 10:30am Food Drive

14 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service

21 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service

28 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service

**There is no need to make a reservation to attend Sunday Service. Please attend!**

## Peace Day - September 21st

In 2007 Hawaii established Peace Day Hawaii, a non-holiday observed on September 21 of each year “to promote peace programs, improve international relations, and

increase educational awareness of peace.”

This year people all over Hawaii, the United States and the world joined together on Zoom to ring bells to promote listening and learning and healing our planet for a peaceful future.

Rev. Kojun Hashimoto,  
Rev. Takako Hashimoto,

Vivian Murayama, her grandchildren, Colton Murayama and Skyler Oshiro, along with students from Ho’ala School rang bells for peace at WHM. You may view the Zoom bell ringing at <https://bit.ly/2XQMkyO>



# Minister's Message - Peace

We have two kinds of Peace ceremonies in September. The first ceremony is on 9/11 known as the Peace Bell ceremony and the other is Peace Day on 9/21. Each ceremony is titled, for Peace, but do you know what is our peace or who makes our peace?

Here is the definition of a Peace by the dictionary:

1. freedom from disturbance; tranquility
2. a state or period in which there is no war, or a war has ended

Everyone understands what peace is, but is knowing simply the definition enough to make peace?

I would like to share how I perceive peace.

P - Produce

E - Equality

A - Affection

C - Compassion

E - Ease

My understanding of Peace is "To produce equality, affection, compassion and ease."

Who makes such a peace? As a Buddhist, we should see the Buddha and listen to the Buddhist teaching. This is the definition of peace as a Buddhist.

*"Wherever the Buddha comes to stay, there is no state, town, or village which is not blessed by his virtues. The whole country rests in peace and harmony. The sun and the moon shine with pure brilliance; wind arises, and rain falls at the right time. There is no calamity or epidemic, and so the country becomes wealthy, and people enjoy peace."*

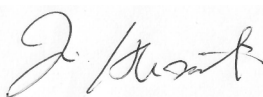
This definition is an explanation that we should listen to the teaching and put in our efforts to understand and hence, truly enforce or encourage peace. Our Buddha promotes equality, affection, compassion, and ease for the welfare of our own and others.

Listening to the teachings and sharing the practice of compassion and the virtues will then bring depth into the meaning behind the peace we celebrate not only for this month, but in our daily lives. Shinran Shonin said. *"May there be peace in the world, and may the Buddha's teaching spread."* (By corrected works of Shinran P560)

May we take these words and reflect Buddha's teachings in our gratitude and actions.

Namo Amida Butsu

In Gassho,



Reverend Kojun Hashimoto



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

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

**\*Please, no flowers until further notice\***

We are looking for people to help clean the columbarium on a weekly basis so families may resume bringing flowers to the columbarium. Please call the temple office (622-4320 or 392-3253) if you are able to help.

# President's Report

*As the delta variant continues to infect hundreds of people daily, we urge that people get vaccinated for the sake of the children if not themselves.*

September began very quickly with the Labor Day Weekend and the 20th anniversary of 9/11. For those of us reliving those moments on news and television, it seemed like only yesterday. How dramatically our lives were changed with that incident! It reminds us once again of the dharma, that only LOVE can combat HATE.

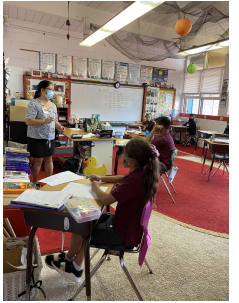


The 2021 Lay Convention was free to anyone interested via zoom. It was tremendously successful and very well-coordinated by Maui District. President Chris Richardson and his team did a wonderful job with excellent speakers, panel discussions, and breakout reflection sessions with over 100 people attending. It was a very historic session and readily viewable on YouTube at: [Shin Buddhism: A Response to Anti-Asian Racism and Hate in 21st Century America \(Keynote Address via YouTube\) – Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii \(hongwanjihawaii.com\)](https://bit.ly/3kGfgmk) <https://bit.ly/3kGfgmk>

Here are some highlights:

- Bishop Eric's comments: "The visibility of Buddhism has to be with the Sangha...the well being of the Sangha should be with the whole community."
- Warren Tamamoto: "In this world, HATRED doesn't stop with HATRED, only by LOVE!"
- Chris Richardson: "LET IT GO; LET IT COME" Whenever we worry about the future of our temples, we have a self-centered expectation. Act with the right intention and no expectations. The Dharma will take care of itself.
- Rick Stambul, Keynote - former BCA President, lawyer, Civil rights activist
  - Shin Buddhist ministers ought to help make sense of all that is occurring in America through the teachings. The teachings must speak to us; otherwise, Shin Buddhism will fail to energize our children and grandchildren. It must be relevant!
  - Roots of Anti-Asian Racism stem far back in American history. It is all about White Supremacy and FEAR. In the month of August alone, there were over 9,000 anti-Asian incidents. Dr. Jon Okamura (UH professor) says: "Hawaii's institutions are riddled with systemic racism."
  - Shin Buddhism teaches us to speak against discrimination and conflict.
  - Rev. Dr. T. Shigaraki: "The Pure Land is the "ideal" we want for our planet, our human society, to become." This is what we must STRIVE for!
  - Shinjin allows us to "aspire to peace and equality in ourselves and in the world."
  - Do we have the courage to ACT? ENGAGEMENT: Many vivid examples of courage to act during the Civil Rights Movement,
  - **SILENCE ENABLES HATE!**
    - **NOT TO SPEAK....IS TO SPEAK!**
    - **NOT TO ACT.....IS TO ACT!**
  - Start with small groups and gain an interest in doing SOMETHING!
- Panel Discussion with Brent Izutsu, Michelle Suyama, Sean Higuchi, Dan Thompson. Very frank discussion about growing up in the temple setting, leaving for college, and mixed realities of returning and supporting the temple. What does the temple provide? "A family feeling of home." We must provide relevance for all generations. Social connections are very important. Partner with other communities/ organizations to broaden scope. OBON is very important!!
- Increasing Membership - Terri Omori, President-elect of BCA and President of Vista Buddhist Temple
  - From a small membership of 55 in 1980, it has grown to 155 members through all kinds of activities

Continued on next page







## Hearts for Peace

By Carolyn Uchiyama

Peace Day is celebrated on September 21<sup>st</sup> of each year. It became a legislated holiday by the State Legislature in 2007 and signed into law by Governor Linda Lingle. How did it happen? The Jr. Young Buddhist Association members sponsored the resolution, and with the help of legislators, it became law.

This year the Oahu District Peace Committee decided to create a wall hanging with the use of origami hearts. Each temple was supplied the materials and sign designed by Wendy Fukuhara and Roy Higa. One Sunday service at Wahiawa Hongwanji, Reverend Hashimoto had the members fold the origami papers into hearts. The eager ones brought home the extra papers to finish.

On September 9<sup>th</sup>, Doris Matsuoka, Taeko Nakasone, Tsuki Kitagawa, and Ethel Yamamoto got together to assemble the hearts on the poster board. They brainstormed words connecting to peace and wrote them on the heart. Working collaboratively, the ladies experimented with various designs before deciding on their masterpiece. The center of their design contained the four special hearts designed by Takako Hashimoto. She wrote a kanji with a pronunciation and the definition of the kanji. Her calligraphic skills made it look very special.

Then on September 18<sup>th</sup>, the ladies returned to decorate the temple pews with the extra hearts. They strung the hearts on a piece of twine, hung them on the pews, and blocked off the pews so members could not use them due to the physical distancing rules.

The completed origami heart board hung in front of the minister's podium and the temple was decorated with origami hearts filling it with the feeling of peace.

## Wahiawa Hongwanji Food Drive

By Carolyn Uchiyama



On September 5<sup>th</sup>, the first Sunday of the month, Wahiawa Hongwanji held their monthly Food Drive for Our Wahiawa. The support to help the people in our community is truly commendable.

This month we were able to collect **177** items of canned goods, noodles, and cereal. We also had **45** pounds of rice. That would go a long way to feed many families.

You have read in the newsletter that St. Stephen's Church provides food items on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays and Fridays of the month. People are still lining up for the food pick-up on those days. We're happy to provide a solution for some of the difficulties confronting people.

Let's support Engaged Buddhism!

## White Way Radio Program

White Way is a public service radio program of Moiliili Hongwanji. The programs are on KZOO every Saturday for 15-minutes from 7:45am-8:00am. Guest speakers are ministers from the state and abroad, as well as lay speakers who have an interest in Buddhism. You can also go to: [www.moiliilihongwanji.org](http://www.moiliilihongwanji.org) for past Dharma messages.

Speakers for October 2021 are:

10/2 Rev. Ai Hironaka	10/9 Mrs. Yoshiko Umitani	10/16 Rev. Kerry Kiyohara
10/23 Rev. Shinkai Murakami	10/30 Kauikawa Kahu Sherman Thompson	

Speakers for November 2021 are:

11/6 Rev. Alan Urasaki	11/13 Rev. Shindo Nishiyama	11/20 Rev. Daido Baba
11/27 Rev. Joshin Kamuro		



## Open Invitation to All...

### 2nd Dharma School Gathering

#### "Building Healthy Sanghas"

Sunday, October 17, 2021



#### PROGRAM

9:30 am - Service: Dharma Message by  
Reverend Satoshi Tomioka - Puna HM  
10:00 am - DS Breakout Rm Sessions, Adult  
Breakout Rm Session: Speaker Rev. Kerry  
Kiyohara, Makawao HM  
10:50 am - DS Families/ Adult Sessions End  
11:00 am - DS Teachers/Educators  
Gathering: Guest Speaker- Mr. Pieper  
Toyama  
12:00 pm - End

Any questions? Please contact  
Debbie Kubota  
[dekub88@gmail.com](mailto:dekub88@gmail.com)

RSVP Deadline: October 10

Gathering Zoom link will be emailed  
to participants by October 15.

*A Commission on Buddhist Education (CBE) Project of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Temple/Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
What are the names & grades of your Dharma School children who will be participating? \_\_\_\_\_

I grant permission for the State Honpa Hongwanji Dharma Schools to take screenshots of me and/or my family during this virtual gathering to use these photos or recordings for fellowship or promotional purposes in media such as, but not limited to, brochures and flyers, newsletters, the temple website, online photo galleries and social media. ☐ Yes ☐ No, I do not wish photos to be taken & will turn off my video during the event

Will you be attending the DS Teachers/Educators Gathering (11:00 am - 12:00 pm)-ALL ARE INVITED! ☐ Yes ☐ No  
If you have a media resource to share, please share the link below so we can share it with the other participants. This will be via email, not during the session: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this registration form to Debbie Kubota 1218 Kahili St. Kailua, HI 96734 or email info to [dekub88@gmail.com](mailto:dekub88@gmail.com)

## 2021 FALL NEMBUTSU SEMINAR

Sponsored by the Honolulu & Oahu Hongwanji Councils and the Office of Buddhist Education

# MINDFULNESS

## in Today's World

WITH REVEREND MATT HAMASAKI  
Buddhist Church of Sacramento



FOCUSING ON:  
LGBTQIA+, Stop AAPI Hate & Black Lives Matter

Saturday November 6  
9 am - 11 am (HST)

### agenda

9:00 - 9:05am: Welcome  
9:05 - 10:05 am: Rev. Hamasaki  
10:05 - 10:10 am: Break  
10:10 - 10:55 am: Q&A Session  
10:55 am: Closing

FREE Registration

Deadline: Sat. October 30

Please note that the seminar will be recorded & uploaded. If you do not wish to be shown, please keep your video off during the seminar.

## Donations are welcome.

Your donations will help to support the following groups:

The Popolo Project <a href="http://thepopoloproject.org">thepopoloproject.org</a>	Hawaii LGBT Legacy Foundation <a href="http://hawaiilgbtlegacyfoundation.com">hawaiilgbtlegacyfoundation.com</a>	Stop AAPI Hate <a href="http://stopaapihate.com">stopaapihate.com</a>
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Scan here

OR

Please visit link to donate  
[bit.ly/hhmhdonate](http://bit.ly/hhmhdonate)

Please make donation checks payable to: Honolulu Hongwanji Council  
Mail registration form & checks to: Hawaii Betsuin 1727 Palu Hwy, Honolulu, HI 96813

QUESTIONS? Please contact Hawaii Betsuin (808) 536-7044.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Temple/Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
How did you hear about this Seminar? EMAIL | TEMPLE NEWSLETTER | TEMPLE WEBSITE | SOCIAL MEDIA  
Circle one above OR if other, pls indicate here: \_\_\_\_\_  
Questions for Rev. Hamasaki: \_\_\_\_\_