



The Messenger

Building Healthy Sanghas: Embracing Generosity & Openness

Calendar of Events

July 2024

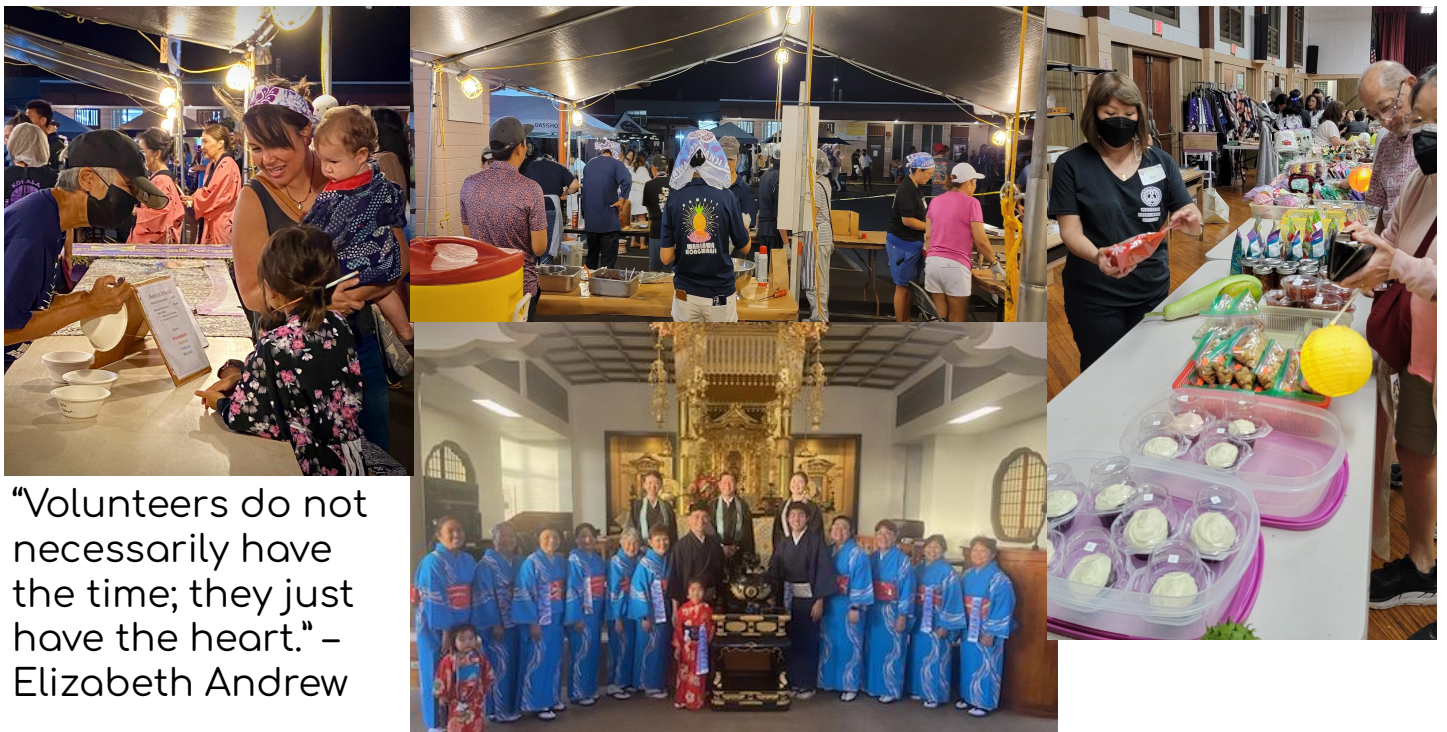
04 Thurs. WHM Office CLOSED
 07 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service
 07 Sun 10:00 am Ko Discussion Group
 14 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service
 21 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service
 28 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service

August 2024

04 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service
 11 Sun 9:00 am Obon Service
 18 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service
 25 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service

Thank you!
 TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to all the wonderful people who gave their time, craft items, baked goods, supplies, flowers, produce and help! Our members, families and friends working together made it possible to hold our 2 night bon dance. We are grateful to all the volunteers who worked countless hours, so that many people could enjoy dancing, delicious foods and shopping.



“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart.” – Elizabeth Andrew

Minister's Message - Ho-Sha

I often hear that it is hard to understand Buddhism or Nembutsu teachings in our daily, but I do not think so. Buddhism and Nembutsu teachings are already in our life. I would like to introduce one of the Eightfold Path which we should try to do in our daily life. These practices are not basic Shin Buddhist practice, but it is a good understanding of how Buddhist teachings are in our life.

One of the eightfold paths is Right Livelihood. It means what we should do in our daily life. We can hear the word "Service" everywhere. As you know, we have Ho-Sha (Service) people cleaning the temple property twice a month. I really appreciate their help. Without them, we cannot keep the temple clean. So, we need more people to keep the temple clean. Onegai Shimasu.

Let's go back to the main subject. As a Buddhist, it is important to understand "SERVICE" means.

S- Sincere: We should do all things **sincerely**.

E- Endure: We should sometimes **endure** what we do or what we see.

R- Respect: We **respect** each other.

V- Vigor: We live **vigorously** with words and action.

I- Interest: We should have **interest** in others or new ideas.

C- Compassion: We give our **compassion** to others.

E- Encourage: We **encourage** people who need help.

These are basic practices in our daily life as a Buddhist.

Please remember and do your best as a Buddhist.



Namo Amida Butsu

In Gassho,

Reverend Kojun Hashimoto

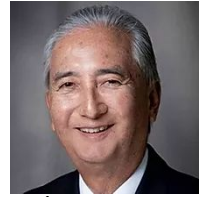
Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission 808-622-4320
Office Hours Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturday from 9:00am - Noon
www.wahiawashinbuddhists.org

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

We are currently experiencing a volunteer shortage. 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. If you are able to volunteer, volunteers meet on Saturday mornings at 8:00 am.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

President's Report



Our Obon season officially started on June 15 at 6:00 PM. We held our Hatsubon service which was well attended. Hatsubon is the first-year memorial service for those who passed the previous year. The service was beautifully conducted with families offering incense in gratitude for their loved ones. Families were presented with special lanterns and enjoyed delicious anpan after the service.

“What a wonderful community event!” This was the comment most heard at our successful Obon Festival on June 21, and 22. We had huge crowds both evenings with only a light sprinkling of showers. People came from all over Oahu and we enjoyed a wonderful turnout each night..

Our theme of Gratitude and Joy was evident throughout the event! Over 135 volunteers contributed handily with their time and efforts starting in early June. Independent vendors were invited to participate with us providing a variety of delicious foods. Both evenings were successfully “SOLD OUT!” The Wahiawa/Waialua Rotary Club helped sell drinks and Ho’ala School had a very popular arts and crafts table.

Ewa Fukushima Bon Dance Club provided LIVE music for both nights. They provided their sophisticated sound systems for the WHM Bon Dance team to play their song list. Their sound system enabled Marcus Oshiro, our MC, to connect our roving, wireless mic to make announcements and interview people while Lynette Hirota announced song titles. On Saturday evening, the Okinawan Dance Troop, Hawaii Eisa Shinyuu Kai, played live music and led the dancing for 45 minutes!

Our own Wahiawa Hongwanji Bon Dance Team led the dancing throughout each evening while friends and family from all over the island came to celebrate with us! Our Wahiawa Hongwanji booths included Shave Ice, Mochi, Taiyaki, Country Store, drinks, Let’s Go Fishing game, and Choba. The Country Store was especially profitable with so many donations of fresh produce (fresh papaya from Kahuku, and fresh Opo squash - hyotan from Wahiawa), baked goods, antiques, and clothing.

The special feeling of FAMILY was prevalent throughout the evening! Friends and family reunited with old friends and made new friends. A whole generation of young people danced throughout the evening!! Parking was available at the Value-Added Resource Center and Wahiawa Park till 10:00 PM. The true meaning of friendship, compassion, and joy permeated before, during, and after the event. We are so grateful to everyone for their generous giving and participation.

Wahiawa Hongwanji’s Obon service will be conducted on August 11, Sunday, at 9:00 AM. Hope to see you there!!

Namo Amida Butsu!

In gassho (gratitude),

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

Rodney S. Moriyama, President



Check our next issue (August 2024)
for photos from our WHM bon
dance



Wahiawa Hongwanji Hatsubon Service



Dharma-Centered Living 101 – Session 2

Please join us for Session 2 of Dharma-Centered Living 101 on Saturday, August 3rd from 9:30 am - 12:30 pm. D. Trinidad Hunt will be presenting IN PERSON at the Hawaii Betsuin in the Social Hall for the Oahu and Honolulu districts. Neighbor Island districts will be via Zoom at designated locations. The focus of this workshop will be on kindness and caring. Please see the attached flyer for more details. Please contact Debbie Kubota, Chair, Commission on Buddhist Education if any questions arise (dekub88@gmail.com)



Bon Dance Preparation "Many hands make happy work!"



**THANK
YOU
VOLUNTEERS**



**Thanks
to Our
Volunteers!**



Happenings at Wahiawa Hongwanji Oahu District Poster Contest

The Oahu District Buddhist Education Committee sponsored the 2024 Poster Contest. The theme for this year is “Building Healthy Sanghas: Sharing Nembutsu Moments.” This year’s poster contest celebrates the experience of appreciation and gratitude for the Boundless Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha, that all of us go through that causes us to say Namu Amida Butsu, thank you for this moment.

Students from Preschool through grade 12 participated in this poster contest following the theme: “I Say Thank You for This Moment.” We received many entries and below is the list of winners in each category. We want to thank the Oahu District Buddhist Women’s Association for sponsoring the prize monies.



Division I: Preschool – Kindergarten

First Place: Skylar Oshiro – Wahiawa Hongwanji

Second Place: Hinata Kagawa – Aiea Hongwanji

Third Place: Sueko Quinn – Aiea Hongwanji

Honorable Mention: Akemi Quinn – Aiea Hongwanji



Division III: Grades 3 - 5

First Place: Erin Wakahiro – Mililani Hongwanji

Second Place: Julia King – Mililani Hongwanji

Third Place: William Agader – Wahiawa Hongwanji

Honorable Mention: Tanner Nakamoto – Mililani Hongwanji



Division IV: Grades 6 – 8

First Place: Emma Agader – Wahiawa Hongwanji

Second Place: Dayton Uehara – Mililani Hongwanji

Third Place: Brennan Uehan – Mililani Hongwanji

Honorable Mention: Mari Nakamoto – Mililani Hongwanji

Division V: Grades 9 – 12

First Place: Courtney Uehara – Mililani Hongwanji

Second Place: Maya Nakamoto – Mililani Hongwanji

The posters will be circulating among the Oahu District temples during their obon. Look for them at Waipahu Hongwanji, Waianae Hongwanji, Pearl City Hongwanji, Mililani Hongwanji, and Aiea Hongwanji

Jr. YBA Happenings



Upcoming Meeting: Sunday, July 21, 11:30am at Aiea Hongwanji

As mentioned last month, we had a few juniors attend Young Enthusiastic Shinshu Seekers (Y.E.S.S.) Camp on Friday-Sunday, May 25-27. There were many icebreakers and activities that allowed the teens to learn about each other and forge friendships. They had fun making connections with neighbor island teens and several of the attendees were not involved in a temple but they enjoyed YESS Camp!

Four of our members attended the 67th State Convention in Maui June 21-23. We had a wonderful experience and we always enjoy connecting with our friends across the state.

It's BON DANCE season and we are looking for some additional help for our District's bon dances:

- Waipahu Hongwanji – July 13
- Waianae Hongwanji – July 20. Looking for help in the food booth.
- Pearl City Hongwanji – August 10
- Mililani Hongwanji – August 16 & 17. We will have 2 beverage locations this year.
- Aiea Hongwanji – August 24. We will be running the shave ice booth.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Auntie Arynne (information below) and she will put you in touch with Ty and Diandra who will be organizing our volunteers.



Do you have a set of reusable flatware? No? Well guess what? You can purchase one from Jr. YBA! As an on-going fundraiser, we are selling sterling steel utensil sets which includes a fork, spoon, knife and chopsticks. The carrying case comes in red, blue, or black. Each set is \$7. Please contact a Jr. YBA member if you would like to purchase one of these sets! We want to encourage you to bring your own utensils and plate (or bento box or bowl, etc) for after service refreshments on Sunday. Available while supplies last!

We would also like to encourage you to attend the Triple Celebration in September! We want as many young people to attend as possible so please let us know if you are interested. We are having a Panda Express Fundraiser on Friday, July 19th to help our Juniors attend. Please see the flyer in the newsletter and Thank you for all your support!

Anyone youth who are entering 6th grade through 2 years after high school graduation are welcome to join Jr. YBA! You do not need to be a member of a temple so bring your friends! Please contact a Jr. YBA member or Auntie Arynne Ishikawa (advisor) at arynn.m.ishikawa@gmail.com if you'd like more information.

Follow us on Instagram! @jrybaofahu and @hawaiiifjryba



Jr. Young Buddhist Association (Jr. YBA)
United of Oahu



PANDA EXPRESS FUNDRAISER

Nationwide, Friday - July 19, 2024

ONLINE ORDERS ONLY - CODE: 924033

Visit www.pandaexpress.com or use the app
Apply code during online checkout

To learn more about Jr.YBA visit <https://www.hawaiiifjryba.com/>





50th Annual Buddhist Study Center Summer Session August 5-9, 2024

“Shifting From ‘Please’ to ‘Thank You’ – A Path to Awakening” A contemporary interpretation of Shin Buddhism

In ancient times, the unknown world was explained in mythical form with deities and the afterlife being prominent. Relating traditional myths to our modern life has its limits. We will reverse this method of going from the past to the present. By using our current knowledge from science and psychology, we will reveal the practical and spiritual benefits of Shin.

For those seeking solutions to common concerns, Shin has provided a path for ordinary people for 800 years.

Each session will be an interactive workshop that leads to an experience of the benefits of Shin Buddhism. This is a practical guide of how being a Shin Buddhist in the 21st century can resolve many issues.

Rev. Akahoshi’s retreats and workshops use innovative methods that he learned from leading philosophers, psychologists, and Buddhist teachers. Using these interactive methods, he will share an effective, simple practice of gratitude.

Come learn how to bring joy into the flow of ordinary life. For more information and registration, select this link: <https://bschawaii.org>, or contact the Buddhist Study Center. (Times are Hawaii Standard Time)

Held In-person and via Zoom

Aug. 5 (Monday) - 6-8pm	Why & How of Gratitude Practicing the non-practice of gratitude.
Aug. 6 (Tuesday) - 6-8pm	Truth: Now and Then Our understanding of truth has expanded from the Buddha’s time to now.
Aug. 7 (Wednesday) - 6-8pm	Who Am I in the World? Finding my authentic self.
Aug. 8 (Thursday) - 6-8pm	Benefits of Shin Buddhism Current interpretations of ancient rituals.
Aug. 9 (Friday) - 6-8pm	Being Sacred in the Profane Being whole, not holy.

Rev. Dr. Kenji Akahoshi

Education: Univ California San Francisco Dental School (DDS), Institute of Transpersonal Psychology (MATP), and the Institute of Buddhist Studies (MBS).

Experience: USAF Capt. In Misawa, Japan. 30 years private dental practice in San Jose, California. San Jose Betsuin Board President. Chaplain at the Santa Clara County Juvenile Hall. Former head minister of the Buddhist Temple of San Diego. Retreat leader, author, teacher.

Suggested tax-deductible donation, 5 sessions \$50, single sessions \$10. Checks made out to HHMH.

Direct questions to: **Buddhist Study Center, 1436 University Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96822, Phone: (808) 522-9200**