

Kalyana Mitra

“Good Friend”

A Monthly Publication
Volume 49 Issue 6



Kailua Hongwanji Mission
268-A Kuulei Road
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June 2017

In June we honor our fathers at Father’s Day. Let me share some thoughts about Amida Buddha and Father.

Amida Buddha has three main qualities or characteristics, Great Wisdom, Great Compassion and Great Power. These are inseparable but the Great Wisdom quality of Amida Buddha is most often compared to a father. Just as a father’s wise guidance of his children is unselfish and directed solely toward their welfare, present growth and future, Amida’s wisdom is pure, perfect and unlimited - it will never fail us. A father’s wisdom, though great and unselfish, is limited; whereas Amida’s Wisdom is infinitely powerful. Amida’s Great Wisdom shows the best way to save us from ignorance and suffering, and he vowed he would not “attain the title of Buddha until and unless he can save all beings in the universe.” His Great Wisdom and Compassion give us faith which guarantees our future enlightenment unconditionally and therefore, makes possible a happy, fruitful present life.

In Rev. Tatsuo Muneto’s book “Dharma Treasures”, there is the following poem by Masato Fujikawa:

If the rain of harsh karma has to fall on me, let it fall.
Amida shields me under the huge umbrella of compassion.
Having overcome suffering of birth and death
My greediness and ignorance
Like thin ice,
Amida sees right through.
The root of willful calculation was severed,
This autumn equinox.
How grateful to be
A single child of Amida,
Like being on a treasure boat.

Chiyono Sasaki shares part of her poem:

How shameful, how shameful
For not knowing Amida’s true compassion
Looking at myself alone, I worried and calculated
About this understanding and that understanding.
I listened, believed and calculated
With my self-power mind.
Not realizing that I was the self-power mind
That pushed true compassion away from myself.

The teachings stress the importance of listening sincerely and with deep gratitude. The purpose of listening or *monpo* is to awaken to our fundamental blindness and ignorance. By listening we come to realize that as human beings we cannot escape our own earthly greed and passions. The knowledge of our powerlessness leads us to entrust ourselves to Amida Buddha and his Primal Vow.

As we observe Father’s Day, let us be cognizant of the interdependent nature of life that is an integral part of our teachings; that challenges **our relationships with our families**, friends, co-workers, our community, as well as our interactions with one another.

Happy Father’s Day!

Rev. David Nakamoto

(Republished from the June 2015 Kalyana Mitra)



June 2017

4	First Sunday Family Service (Activity to follow – see article)	Speaker: Shirley Yanagisawa M.C.: Linda Jaffe
11	Family Service 9:00 a.m.	Speaker: Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani M.C.: Lisa Fujikawa
14	Board Meeting	6:45p.m. @ the temple
18	Family Service / Father's Day 9:00 a.m.	Guest Speaker: Pieper Toyama M.C.: Merle Tashiro
25	Family Service 9:00 a.m.	Speaker: Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani M.C.: Gary Yamamoto
	KHBWA Meeting following the service	At the Temple
Temple Prep: June 10 – July 2 by Team B (Prudence)		

Pieper Toyama Guest Speaker (June 18)

Pieper Toyama was born and raised on a sugar plantation on the Big Island. He graduated from the University of Massachusetts-Amherst with a BA in English and Northeastern University with a Masters of Education Degree. His teaching experiences include teaching in high schools and at the University of Hawaii at Hilo.



Pieper is the founding head of the Pacific Buddhist Academy. It is the first Shin Buddhist high school in the Western Hemisphere. One of the primary missions of the school is to develop students with the courage and skills to nurture peace within themselves, in their communities and in the world. Every facet of the school's curriculum and operations is driven by the values of gratitude, compassion, mindfulness, and unconditional acceptance of others. Along with values, its peace education program is firmly based on the importance of critical and independent thinking among its students and faculty.

He is retired and currently serves as president of the Honpa Hongwanji Missions of Hawaii (state organization of Hongwanji's 34 Buddhist temples).

He is married to Lois and has two daughters, Malia and Eily, and three grandchildren.

With Bon Dance next month, BWA members are asked to sign up to bring food for the meal at the conclusion of the night for the performers and temple members. The temple will purchase a few main dishes, but everyone is encouraged to bring side dishes, vegetables and desserts. Members will also be assisting in numerous aspects in preparations leading up to and including the Bon Dance on July 22, 2017.



KHBWA NEWS

KHBWA is working with Moiliili BWA on the fall Honolulu United BWA general membership and educational workshop day. Joy Nishida is representing our group on the planning committee. KHBWA members are interested and eagerly hope to be doing something in line with the "Green Hongwanji Initiative".

---- Merle Tashiro



A Project Dana volunteer is your friend or family member who gives of their time to support the elderly and disabled in our community. Their support is instrumental in helping the elderly and disabled maintain their dignity, independence and overall well-being. This is done through respite services, friendly and telephone visits, and transportation. Working with the State of Hawaii Office on Aging and Elderly Affairs Division, Project Dana is able to assist and support diverse members in our community. We are not social workers but a friend helping another friend. If you're

interested in spending an hour a week helping a friend give me a call at 247-0514 or send me an email jmfukumoto@yahoo.com

----- Jean Fukumoto

Bon Dance is Coming Soon & We Need Your Help!

Kailua Hongwanji Mission's Bon Dance is just around the corner and we will be needing help in various ways, the most critical are the following:

FIRST: MAN(or WOMAN) Power. Especially needed are tall and young people to supplement the senior members in setting up and the take down of the *yagura* (musicians' tower). Small tools (socket wrench, power drill) and a pick-up truck. Please ask your family (siblings, children, grandchildren, nephews and nieces, etc.) and friends to help with this project.

SECOND: Donations of greenery and hearty flowers to decorate the *yagura*.



Here's the work schedule:

Saturday, July 15, 2016: 9:00 am - **Yagura set up.**

Saturday, July 22, 2016: 8:00 am - Drop off donation of greenery and flowers. **Decorate yagura with greens and flowers, set-up food booth, tent, chairs, and trash bags/bins and string lights.**

Sunday, July 23, 2016: 9:00 am - **Dismantle yagura and tent.** Haul away trash.

If you are able to assist, please inform Allen Kusano or if you need more information, contact Dennis Tashiro at 226-0339.

Contact Merle (247-5309) if you can help with the concession booth food prep and/or work in the booth.

Activities Corner

FAMILY SUNDAY ACTIVITY

Providing Dharma Education is a primary goal of Kailua Hongwanji Mission. We have planned family activities focused on providing fun activities for youngsters. Please join us the first Sunday of each month:



June 4th Activity

Making Summer Sun Visors

Photos of
May's activity



Tai Chi

Tai Chi classes continue at the temple as follows: **Tuesday 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.**
Friday 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

If you're interested and have not already signed up for tai chi class, please contact Dennis Tashiro by email at dhtashiro@gmail.com or call 226-0339.

IKEBANA

Ikebana classes have been suspended indefinitely. Stay tuned for more information in our next newsletter.

GARDENING

Gardening class will be on Sunday, June 18, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. There is no sign up – everyone is welcome to attend.

EXERCISING, STRENGTHENING & WALKING



Tuesdays & Thursdays
8:30 a.m. at the temple

Adult Japanese Language Classes

Beginner Tuesday 10 a.m. class is on vacation for the months of June & July and will resume in August. Advanced class meets on Mondays at 2:30 p.m. Classes are held at the temple and the cost is \$10.00 per class.

GREEN Corner:

You can save our coral reefs by selecting the correct sun screen. The ingredient **oxybenzone** leaches the coral of its nutrients and bleaches it white. It can also disrupt the development of fish and other wildlife. So please read the ingredients listed on the sunscreen bottle and do your part in saving our reefs.





Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

HEADQUARTERS UPDATE



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May 2017

GREEN HONGWANJI INITIATIVE

65 Shades of Green: How much do we love our planet?

Survey Score	Temple	Island
42	HMS	Oahu
34	PBA	Oahu
31	Kahului	Maui
30	Jikoen	Oahu
30	Mililani	Oahu
29	HI Betsuin	Oahu
24	Kohala	Hawaii
22	Kona	Hawaii
19	Aiea	Oahu
19	Kamuela	Hawaii
19	Papaikou	Hawaii

At the 2016 Hongwanji Legislative Assembly, the temples voted to try and become more environmentally responsible and, as an expression of our Buddhist values, take actions to save our planet. At the recent 2017 Hongwanji Legislative Assembly, held in February, the first “Green Hongwanji Survey” was shared for all temples to assess how they are doing and get ideas on how to improve. Twenty-two temples (about 65%) have completed their surveys so far. Hopefully, 100% will join in this effort.

Here are the results for the top 11 temples (plus Pacific Buddhist Academy & Hongwanji Mission School). The total possible points are 65, so even for the top scoring temples there are plenty of new ideas to implement in the coming year. The survey is a self-assessment to help temples determine “their shade of green”.

KIKYOSHIKI CONFIRMATION CEREMONY BY HIS EMINENCE GOMONSHU KOJUN OHTANI

Confirmation Ceremony, or “*Kikyoshiki*”, is a solemn ceremony performed before Amida Buddha and Shinran Shonin to officially confirm your entry into the Path of the Nembutsu. Participants will affirm their reverence toward the Three Treasures of the Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha. “Buddha” is not simply in reference to Shakyamuni, but refers more importantly to Amida Buddha, the Buddha of Immeasurable Wisdom and Boundless Compassion. “Dharma” is the teaching of Amida’s Compassionate working to embrace all beings without any discrimination. “Sangha” refers to the community of people who have entrusted themselves to Amida Buddha and its Nembutsu teaching.



By participating in the Confirmation Ceremony, you will receive a Dharma Buddhist Name (*Homyo*). These names are in the form of “*Shaku*” and two Buddhist terms which follow. The word “*Shaku*” means “disciple of Shakyamuni” and signifies that the person has joined the followers of the teachings of Shakyamuni Buddha, a community that transcends race or nationality.

His Eminence Gomonshu Kojun Ohtani, the Head Priest and the Spiritual Leader of the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha Organization, will be officiating the Confirmation Ceremony at the **Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin (1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu) Sunday, September 10, 2017, 2:00pm**

Please note that the Confirmation Ceremony is open to anyone throughout the State. There is no minimum or maximum age limit however the individual must be able to participate in the ceremony at the temple. We sincerely hope that you will take this wonderful opportunity and participate in the Confirmation Ceremony.

<http://hongwanjihawaii.com/blog/2017/04/10/confirmation-ceremonies-0917/>. Please contact your resident minister for application instruction. Application deadline is June 30, 2017.

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☸ ***Mahalo*** ☸

for your kind monetary donations

Igarashi and Horita Ohana in Memory of Yaeko Igarashi

Mrs. Daryl Kuioka

M/M John Ishikawa

Cheryl Tanaka Inurnment Service for Makoto & Haruko Tanaka

Ryan Miyamoto for Gotan-e

Jean Carroll in Memory of Kuniyo Yonemori

Family of Elaine Kawasaki – Memorial Service

Kagawa Family – Memorial Service for Hiroshi Kagawa (13 Year) and
Agnes Kagawa (3 Year)



Save the Date:
Bon Dance Sat., July 22, 2017