

Kalyana Mitra

“Good Friend”

A Monthly Publication
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Windward Buddhist Temple
268-A Kuulei Road
Kailua, HI 96734
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April 2019

How Do We Look At Buddhism?

In general, there are two ways in which we look at the definition of Buddhism. The first is that Buddhism is a teaching or doctrine that we study objectively; and the second is that Buddhism is a teaching that we experience subjectively in our own lives.

The word “Buddhism” in Japanese is called “*bukkyo*.” This word consists of 2 Chinese characters, *butsu* 仏 (Buddha – Awakened One) and *kyo* 教 (teaching.) On this basis then, we can talk about the following 2 definitions of Buddhism:

1. Teaching as taught by the Buddha – taught by historical person, Shakyamuni. Here, the teaching is an object of our intellectual or academic pursuit. It is a way to appreciate the Buddha’s teaching.
2. Teaching for us to become Buddhas – it is a teaching that enables us to become Buddhas. In this second way, we learn to appreciate Shakyamuni Buddha’s teaching within the context of our own lives and to eventually become a Buddha, an awakened one, just like Shakyamuni.

What is the relationship between the two? Nobuo Haneda says that the first Buddhism is a preparatory stage for the second Buddhism. The ultimate goal of Buddhism does not exist in the first Buddhism, in the mere intellectual appreciation of a doctrine, or ideas, or concepts; it exists in the second Buddhism – in our becoming a Buddha.

We can compare the first Buddhism to collecting recipes and the second Buddhism to actual cooking and eating. Or, we could compare the first Buddhism to learning about love by reading romantic novels and the second Buddhism to actually loving someone.

I feel that it is perfectly okay to pursue the first Buddhism as much as we want to if we do not forget that our goal is the second Buddhism. There are many Buddhists who feel that the goal is the first Buddhism. They remain in the first Buddhism thinking that learning about a doctrine, or ideas or concept is good enough. In other words they mistake recipe collection for actual cooking and eating or reading about love for actual loving. Those who are satisfied with the first Buddhism are not true Buddhists but are collectors of knowledge.

They do not know that Buddhism is nothing but a teaching of self-examination and do not realize that their self must be examined by the Buddha’s teaching – that it must be challenged, doubted and negated by it. The true Buddhist initially studies the first Buddhism and uses the knowledge acquired in it for examining the self and the reality of the Dharma. When one has this deep realization, he is said to become a Buddha, and awakened one.



In the next issue of the Kalyana Mitra, we will continue this discussion with two stories that teach us what the Buddha said or did, and our self-realization that is directed to us through the teachings.

Namu Amida Butsu,

Rev. Bert Sumikawa



April 2019

7	Hawaii Buddhist Council – Buddha Day Service 9:30 a.m. At Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin on Pali Highway (everyone is encouraged to attend) NO SERVICE at Windward Buddhist Temple	
10	Board Meeting	6:30p.m. @ the temple
13	Decorate the <i>hanamido</i> (flower pavilion) 1:00 p.m. Saturday afternoon at the temple Please bring your donations of sturdy flowers (orchids, plumeria, bougainvillea, small chrysanthemums) and greens to the temple by 12:30 p.m. that day.	
14	Special Buddha Day Service (Happy Birthday Buddha!) 9:00 a.m.	 Guest Speaker: Rev. Kazunori Takahashi M.C.: Gerald Matsuda
21	Eshinni/Kakushinni Day (St. Shinran's wife & daughter will be honored) 9:00 a.m.	Guest Speaker: Mernie Miyasato-Crawford M.C.: Geraldine Ochikubo
28	Monthly Remembrance Service Earth Day 9:00 a.m.	Speaker: Rev. Bert Sumikawa M.C.: Jean Fukumoto
Remembrance: If you'd like to remember a loved one who passed away in the month of April (of any year), you will be given the opportunity to do so during this service. A sign-up sheet will be available at the reception desk.		
Temple Prep: April 1-7 by Team Ginger (Shirley) April 8-28 by Team Camellia (Janet)		

Buddha Day Guest Speaker Rev. Kazunori Takahashi

Our Buddha Day guest speaker Reverend Kazunori Takahashi is the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii's Executive Assistant to Bishop Eric Matsumoto.

Rev. Takashi was born in Nagato City, in Yamaguchi, Japan. He graduated from Ryukoku University in Kyoto with a B.A. and M.A. in Buddhist Studies.

Since his arrival in Hawaii in 2007, he has served at Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin, Kappa Hongwanji Mission and Lihue Hongwanji Mission.

Rev. Takahashi enjoys, traveling, photography and reading.





Eshinni/Kakushinni Day Guest Speaker Mernie Miyasato-Crawford

Born and raised in Honolulu, with intervening growing up years spent in Pahala & Hilo on the Big Island, and in Los Angeles, Mernie graduated from Roosevelt High School in Honolulu, received her B.A. in Sociology from the University of Hawaii at Manoa and an M.A. in Social Work specializing in gerontology (the comprehensive study of aging and the problems of the aged). Mernie is currently the Medical Social Work Service Chief at Tripler Army Medical Center. She is active in the community

and is the Vice Chair of Project Dana.

She is a member of Jikoen Hongwanji Temple, where the Miyasato family has worshiped for 4 generations. Mernie is married to husband David, an electrical engineer/computer network consultant. They have a son, Nicholas and a daughter Maya, both living and working on the mainland. She has 4 cats, Hazey, C.J., Olivia and Molly and she loves to knit, bake/cook, enjoys regular get-together with friends, and power-walking for exercise with NPR podcasts!

Albert Camus quote: "We haven't time to be ourselves. All we have time for is happiness." Practice compassion and you will make yourself and someone happy. Smile and share your happiness with everyone.

----- Jean Fukumoto



Windward Buddhist Temple (WBT) participated in Family Promise project housing three families at the Hawaii Betsuin on March 17-24, 2019. WBT's volunteers helped setup the families' sleeping area on the afternoon of Sunday, March 17, provided dinner on Tuesday, March 19, and breakfast on Wednesday, March 20. We also had a volunteer sleep over Tuesday night. Other volunteers helped to dismantle the families' sleeping area Sunday morning, March 24 and washed the linens. The volunteers included: Roy Miyamoto, Ryan Miyamoto, Mike & Linda Jaffe, Allen & Prudence Kusano, Cynthia Rodriguez, Patty Migita, Dennis Tashiro, Joy Nishida, Annette Tashiro, Gerald Matsuda, Bob Nishita, Ron & Shirley Yanagisawa and Dana Arakaki. Great Job! Mahalo for supporting Family Promise.

----- Dennis Tashiro

Dharma School

We are here to awaken from the illusion of separateness ~Thich Nhat Hanh

The wheel of Dharma School is turning at the Windward Buddhist Temple! These next few months our keiki sanghas (3 to 7yr olds and 8yr olds to teens) will explore the important Buddhist teaching of interdependence. We will meet TWICE in April: 4/14 to celebrate the birth of Shakyamuni Buddha and on 4/28 Earth Day.

4/14: We ask students to bring a *copy* of a baby photo of themselves and contemplate this question with their 'ohana - "How are we connected in our 'ohana?"

4/28: Dharma students will meet at the Kailua Beach boat ramp at 8 am for a beach clean-up activity. Gloves will be provided, but students are asked to bring a bucket and a mesh sieve (see photo). Let's think about "How does what I do affect our Island Earth?"



----- Kathy Takakuwa

Activities Corner

FAMILY SUNDAY ACTIVITY

Providing Dharma Education is a primary goal of Kailua Buddhist Temple. We have planned activities focused on providing engaging activities for youngsters. Please join us each month:



April: Earth Day – Beach Clean-up activity

Sunday, **April 28, 2019** 8:00 a.m. at Kailua Beach boat ramp. Bring a bucket and a mesh sieve. Gloves will be provided.

March: Balance & Harmony Wishing Tree



EXERCISING, STRENGTHENING & WALKING



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

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

This month's Ikebana classes are on the following Saturdays: **April 6** and **13** both 1:30 p.m. at the temple. Cost is \$5 per class plus the cost of the flowers/foilage (\$5-8). Instructor needs a count of participants as flowers are purchased for each class

GARDENING

Gardening class will be on Sunday, **April 14, 2019** at 2:00 p.m. There is no sign up – everyone is welcome to attend.





Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

HEADQUARTERS UPDATE



1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
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April 2019

COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL CONCERNS

Donation to A Cup of Cold Water



A donation of \$1,000 was made to A Cup of Cold Water (ACCW) on March 5, 2019. ACCW is a community Care-Van outreach program on the Island of Maui. The program is a food and clothing distribution service for the poor and needy in the community.

From left to right:

Kit Hart (ACCW), Jeanne Abe (ACCW), Janet Shimada (Kahului Hongwanji), Paula Baldwin (ACCW), Rev. Richard Tennes (Kahului Hongwanji) Charlotte Wilkinson (Kahului Hongwanji). and in front, Mele, the ACCW Mascot

Donation to Project Dana

A donation of \$12,000 was made to Project Dana on March 7, 2019, in support of their 30th Anniversary event which is planned to be held in September 2019. The donation will help Project Dana to plan a celebration to express their appreciation to their many site coordinators and volunteers, and used for other related expenses in support of their program.

Donation presentation by
Dean Sakamoto, Chair, Committee on Social Concerns
to Cyndi Osajima, Project Dana Executive Director



Donation to Honolulu Hongwanji Council

A donation of \$1,000 was made to the Honolulu Hongwanji Council in support of their participation in the Family Promise Program to host homeless families. The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, through the CSC, have also provided donations to Family Promise Hawaii. Information on the Family Promise Program can be founded at familypromisehawaii.org.

Donation to Hawaii Food Bank, Kauai Branch



A donation of \$5,000 was made to the Hawaii Food Bank, Kauai Branch. The donation from the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii will help the food bank to support the families on Kauai as the need is continuous and food supplies require replenishment, especially after the Kauai flood disaster. Lihue Hongwanji also conducted a food drive and donated over 300 pounds of food to the food bank.

From left to right: Wes Perreira (Hawaii Foodbank Kauai Branch manager), Reverend Arthur Kaufmann, Gail Shibuya, and Carol Valentine (Lihue Hongwanji), and Michelle Panoke (Hawaii Foodbank Kauai Branch office manager). Carol is a member on the Committee on Social Concerns representing the Kauai District.

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☸ ***Mahalo*** ☸

for your kind monetary donations

Patsy Michihara in memory of Tokutaro & Haru Higuchi

Thomas & Mae Yamamoto Family in memory of Akiko Sumikawa

Brian & Faye Yamauchi in memory of Chisae Sumikawa (3rd year memorial)

Dean Sumikawa for Dharma School

Donna Higashi – Congratulations on your new temple name

Jean Carroll in memory of K. Izumizaki & H. Bode

Stanley Toyama in memory of David J. Toyama

Hideo Arakawa

Windward Buddhist Temple's service to celebrate the Buddha's birthday will be on **Sunday, April 14, 2019**. (Details in this newsletter) Please join us for this joyous occasion!