

# *Kalyana Mitra*

*“Good Friend”*

*A Monthly Publication  
Volume 52 Issue 1*



*Windward Buddhist Temple  
268-A Kuulei Road  
Kailua, HI 96734  
Phone: 262-4560*

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*January 2020*

Kailua Hongwanji Mission is doing business as Windward Buddhist Temple

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## **It's Cleanup Time!**

It seems like only a few days ago ,we celebrated the New Year. As the old year was winding down it is a long-held tradition in many cultures to have a general cleanup as we prepare for the New Year. I am reminded of a story about a certain Cuuda-pantaka, one of the Buddha's disciples who had difficulty in learning the teaching and the ways of practices. It was extremely hard for him to memorize all kinds of information.

One day, frustrated and about to give up the practice and being a disciple, went to see Shakyamuni Buddha to inform him of his intention. However, the Buddha told him that he didn't need to think about the teachings and the practices. He then gave Cuuda a broom and asked him to use it every day to clean the monastery while reciting the phrase, "Sweep dust, Remove dirt." Cuuda was an eager person, so he concentrated on doing as instructed, daily.

After a period of time, Cuuda realized what the Buddha wanted to teach him. He went to the Buddha and said, "I now realize. I was sweeping every day, but the dust and dirt builds up again and again. The same goes for my mind. Dust and dirt of my blind passions arise again and again. But I realized that the Buddha's Teachings can purify them." Thus, he realized the Buddha's intention and came to be regarded as an excellent disciple by others. Shakyamuni Buddha taught Cuuda the essence of the Teachings by the simple act of sweeping.

This story provides some lessons. It would be easy for us to find dust and dirt when we clean our surroundings. However, it would be hard to notice the dust and dirt of our blind passions accumulated in our minds. It built up within our minds without us being aware. Through the Teachings of Buddhism, we can reflect on ourselves and become aware.

The Founder of Jodo Shin Buddhism Shinran said, "The radiance of enlightenment, in its brilliance, transcends all limits; thus, Amida is called the "Buddha of the Light of Purity." Once illuminated by this light, we are freed of karmic defilements and attain emancipation."

Likewise, as we clean our surroundings, we sometimes are able to see the dust particles as through the ray of the sun. Without the sun, it is difficult to see the dust. Through self-reflection we are able to see the Light of the Buddha.

Namu Amida Butsu.

Rev. Bert Sumikawa

# January 2020

5	<b>First Sunday Family Service</b> (Activity to follow – see article)	Speaker: Rev. Bert Sumikawa M.C.: Jean Rubanick
8	Board Meeting	6:30 p.m. @ the temple
12	<b>Hoonko (Shinran's Memorial)</b> <b>Special Service</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>Guest Speaker: Rev. Ryoso Toshima</b> M.C.: Cynthia Rodriguez
19	Family Service 9:00 a.m.	Speaker: Jennifer Kane M.C.: Gerry Ochikubo
26	Monthly Remembrance Service 9:00 a.m.	Speaker: Rev. Bert Sumikawa M.C.: Gerald Matsuda
<p><b>Remembrance:</b> If you'd like to remember a loved one who passed away in the month of January (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.</p>		

Temple Prep: January 1 - 5 Pikake (Shirley)

January 12 - Feb. 2 Camellia (Janet)



Tuesday, January 28, 2020  
**1<sup>st</sup> Windward Interfaith Service**  
 At Windward Buddhist Temple  
 7:00 p.m.

**DHARMA SCHOOL resumes on  
 January 12, 2020.**





Many people start off the new year by making resolutions for the upcoming year; eating healthier, starting an exercise regimen, or cleaning up clutter. The list is usually based on your interests and chosen to be manageable but sometimes gets lost on the wayside. As you plan for your resolutions for the upcoming Year of the Rat, please include a kupuna in your community who could use your time and help by becoming a Project Dana volunteer. The rewards are immeasurable, and you will gain a new “friend”. Contact Jean Fukumoto at (808) 382-8333 or e-mail [jmfukumoto@yahoo.com](mailto:jmfukumoto@yahoo.com) to make your resolution a reality.

----- Jean Fukumoto

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## Family Promise

There will be 3 sessions of Family Promise for 2020.

1. March 15 – March 22 (at Betsuin)
2. May 31 – June 7 (at Hawaii Betsuin)
3. August 9 – August 16 (at Jikoen).

Volunteers are needed for **each** session:

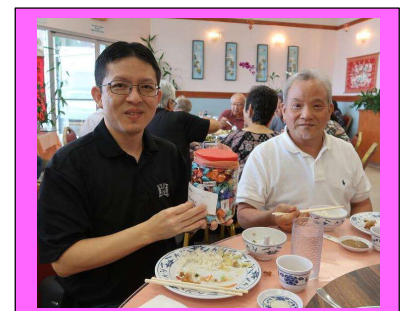
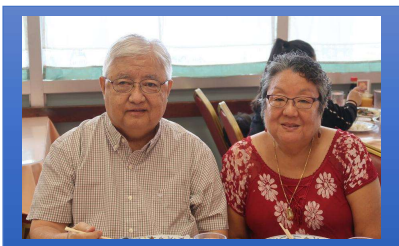
- 4 people each for dinner and breakfast
- 2 people for set up and 2 people for dismantling the sleeping areas
- 1 or 2 people to sleep over night
- 1 or 2 people launder our share of the linens

Windward Buddhist Temple ohana has actively participated in this wonderful project that helps homeless people with children until Family Promise is able secure housing. Mahalo for your continued support!

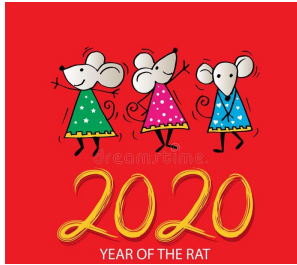
----- Shirley Yanagisawa

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## WBT Annual General Membership Luncheon, December 1, 2019 Yen Yen Chinese Restaurant



## Activities Corner



## January's **Inter-Generational** Activity: Chinese Year of the Rat Craft-----

2020 Windward Buddhist Temple  
Board of Directors  
Installation  
December 1, 2019



### EXERCISING, STRENGTHENING & WALKING



Tuesdays & Thursdays  
**(Begins January 7, 2020)**  
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](mailto:dhtashiro@gmail.com) or call 226-0339.

### MEDITATION

**Mondays 6:30-7:30 pm**

Guided meditation, walking meditation and offering of incense, and chanting of a sutra. Followed by a short "talk story" section. Meditation is conducted by Rev. Dr. Bert M. Sumikawa. All are welcome to participate.



### IKEBANA

**(Flower Arranging)**

January's Ikebana classes are **Jan. 18 and Jan. 25** at 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.



# Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii



## HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

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December 2019



As I mentioned last month, as Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, we will for the next five years focus on the Sangha. A Sangha that is nurtured by the Buddha-Dharma.

Today, let me share wise and insightful guidance that we receive from our Teachings which explains to us how the Sangha can grow. In the book, "The Teaching of Buddha," it emphasizes the importance of sincerity of thoughts, words and actions and harmony in/of the Sangha.

Further it shares *"There are two sets of seven rules to be followed if the Sangha is to be a success. The first is, as a group: (1) they should gather together frequently to listen to the teachings and to discuss them; (2) they should mingle freely and respect one another; (3) they should revere the teachings and respect the rules and not change them; (4) elder and younger members are to treat each other with courtesy; (5) they should let sincerity and reverence mark their bearing; (6) they should purify their minds in a quiet place which they should, nevertheless, offer to others before taking it for themselves; (7) they should love all people, treat visitors cordially, and console the sick with kindness. A Sangha that follows these rules will never decline.*

*The second is, individually each should: (1) maintain a pure spirit and not ask for too many things; (2) maintain integrity and remove all greed; (3) be patient and not argue; (4) keep silent and not talk idly; (5) submit to the regulations and not be overbearing; (6) maintain an even mind and not follow different teachings; and (7) be thrifty and frugal in daily living. If its members follow these rules, the Sangha will endure and never decline."*

Another important Teaching is, in the words of His Eminence Koshin Ohtani, Monshu (Spiritual Leader) Emeritus found in his book "The Buddha's Wish for the World," what is referred to as *"the seven gifts that require no possessions."* The seven gifts are: 1-The gift of gentle eyes, looking at others kindly. 2-The gift of a smile and kind expressions. 3-The gift of words, speaking kindly to others. 4-The gift of the physical body. Acting properly yourself, and treating others with respect. 5-The gift of heart, touching others with a heart full of love. 6-The gift of a resting place, offering a place to sit and rest. 7-The gift of shelter and lodging, providing others with a room or a warm place to stay."

As the Sangha at our temples and in our individual lives as Buddhists, let us see how we might try to do or make manifest some of what is mentioned above in our lives and at temple including programs and projects. As His Eminence continues to say that as a bonbu or "foolish being," *"Of course, we cannot live the way the Buddha did. However, we can emulate the Buddha. When we do so, we can better appreciate what a truly wonderful heart the Buddha must have had in order to accomplish what he did."*

In Shin Buddhism, we aspire in grateful response to Amida Buddha's Great Unconditional Compassion which embraces this imperfect me just as I am, fully acknowledging my limitations including the fact that I am, many times, directly or indirectly and totally or partially, a cause and/or condition of others' and/or my own suffering. In all of Buddhism, the goal is not to be a cause, condition and/or result of ignorance and suffering and realize true liberation or freedom which is Nirvana or as we would say in Jodo Shinshu attain birth in the Pure Land of Enlightenment.

As the Old Year draws to a close, let us deeply reflect so that we start the New Year with new aspirations. I encourage everyone and ask that you to encourage those closes to you to visit your Hongwanji Temple for New Year's Eve Service and/or New Year's Day Service. Have a peaceful and meaningful New Year!

Namo Amida Butsu/Entrusting in All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion (Amida Buddha, the Buddha of Immeasurable Life and Infinite Light).

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**268-A Kuulei Road**  
**Kailua, HI 96734**  
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 ***Mahalo*** 

*for your kind monetary donations*

Joanne Yamamoto in memory of Janet Hiramoto (funeral, inurnment and 49<sup>th</sup> day memorial service)

David Kagawa in memory of Tomiko Kagawa

Patsy Michihara in memory of Kiku Hishimuma and Hanami Michihara

Isao and Susan Asada in memory of Masuno Asada

Yoshiaki & Kiyoko Kimura in memory of Masuno Asada

Allen and Prudence Kusano in memory of Alden Kusano

Dennis & Merle Tashiro in memory of Taeko Tashiro

Gary & Annette Tashiro – Memorial service and Family Sunday

KLM Corporation

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Nichiren Sect Mission of Hawaii

Eitaikyo donations: Louris Hayashida, Naomi Kaneko

Bodhi Day donations: Jean Carroll, Ryan Miyamoto