

# *Kalyana Mitra*

*“Good Friend”*

*A Monthly Publication  
Volume 53 Issue 3*



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

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*May/June 2021*

Kailua Hongwanji Mission is doing business as Windward Buddhist Temple

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## **On Gotan-e**

As Jodo Shinshu Buddhists we celebrate the birth of Shinran who developed the True Pure Land teaching - gleaned from the sutras, writings of the seven masters and their commentaries, whose spiritual beliefs guide us in our daily lives.

On this day, we think about those, who through the teachings of the Onembutsu, truly followed and led the life of one, thereby showing us the Pure Land path. These wonderful persons of the onembutsu are called *myokonin*. They enjoyed and appreciated the Jodo Shinshu teachings and often expressed this in their work, words and behavior in their daily lives. Through them, we can learn what the teachings of Jodo Shinshu are all about.

One such person was Gensa Ashikaga, who lived in the late 19<sup>th</sup> to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, in a small village in Tottori, Japan. At the young age of 18, he lost his father. He began going to the temple and very seriously listened to the teachings. This changed him and he lived Jodo Shinshu in his daily life.

Gensa's son once heard some loud noises coming from their yard. He looked out and saw the neighborhood boys climbing up their fruit tree, trying to steal some fruits. The son yelled and chased them away. He wrapped a sharp wire around the tree. When Gensa asked who wrapped this sharp wire around the tree? Gensa's son explained that he did, to prevent the boys from stealing the fruits. Gensa immediately took the wire off and leaned a ladder against the tree. His son asked Gensa, "Why in the world did you do that? I'm going to remove the ladder!" Gensa answered, "No, don't take the ladder away. Leave it there!" The son answered, "No, if we leave the ladder there, people will continue to steal the entire persimmon crop." Gensa's reply was, "If they took the persimmon, they will take them home and the whole family can then enjoy them. That's why."

Would you have been like the son, or like Gensa? I think I would be like the son. "No, don't take that! It's all mine. If you want persimmon, grow your own tree! Or, take from those people down the road – they've got more trees."

It was the Buddha Dharma or the teaching of Jodo Shinshu that transformed Gensa. It is said in a sutra, that when we receive the Light of Buddha, we become soft and gentle in our body and mind. This is because, by listening to the teachings, we realize that we are not alone in this world, that we and all life is interwoven and interconnected. We are supported by many people and many lives. With this realization, this "I" that was confined to a rigid ego is transformed and will mindfully think beyond the self. The teaching of Jodo Shinshu brings us to this kind of transformation. What we have taken for granted will no longer be thought of in such a way. We can thus be grateful for what sustains our life and makes our existence possible. We are grateful to be embraced by the Wisdom and Compassion of the Buddha.

On this occasion of Gotan-e, as we celebrate the birth of our founder Shinran, let us all take a moment to reflect on our own lives and the infinite wisdom and compassion that has been bestowed on us through the Nembutsu teachings that has been revealed to us by Shinran Shonin.

Namu Amida Butsu  
Rev. Bert Sumikawa

# May & June 2021



Although there are NO in-person services being held at Windward Buddhist Temple, we do offer Sunday Services that start at 9:00 a.m. and are accessible via:

- 1) Windward Buddhist Temple website: [www.windwardbuddhisttemple.org](http://www.windwardbuddhisttemple.org)  
*(or Google Windward Buddhist Temple)*
- 2) YouTube: [tinyurl.com/watchWBT](https://tinyurl.com/watchWBT)
- 3) Facebook: [facebook.com/windwardbuddhisttemple](https://facebook.com/windwardbuddhisttemple)

Date	Speaker
May 2	Family Service – Speaker: Dr. Michael Jaffe
9	Family Service/ Mother’s Day –Speaker: Rev. Bert Sumikawa
16	<b>Gotane (Shinran’s Birthday) – Guest Speaker: Rev. Tomo Hojo</b>
23	Monthly Remembrance Service - Rev. Bert Sumikawa If you’d like to remember a loved one who passed away in the <u>months of March (of any year)</u> , you will be given the opportunity to do so during this service. Please email the person’s name and photo, if available, to Rev. Sumikawa at <a href="mailto:bertsumi@gmail.com">bertsumi@gmail.com</a> OR mail the information and photo (optional) to Rev. Sumikawa at Windward Buddhist Temple 268-A Kuulei Rd. Kailua, HI 96734 <b>by Sunday, May 16, 2021</b> )
30	Family Service – Speaker: Keiji Kukino
June 6	Family Service – Speaker: Shirley Yanagisawa
13	Family Service / Father’s Day – Speaker: Rev. Bert Sumikawa
20	<b>Family Service – Guest Speaker: Ed Young</b>
27	Monthly Remembrance Service – Rev. Bert Sumikawa If you’d like to remember a loved one who passed away in the <u>months of March (of any year)</u> , you will be given the opportunity to do so during this service. Please email the person’s name and photo, if available, to Rev. Sumikawa at <a href="mailto:bertsumi@gmail.com">bertsumi@gmail.com</a> OR mail the information and photo (optional) to Rev. Sumikawa at Windward Buddhist Temple 268-A Kuulei Rd. Kailua, HI 96734 <b>by Sunday, June 20, 2021</b> )

## Rev. Tomo Hojo Gotane (Shinran’s Birthday) Service – Guest Speaker



Rev. Tomo Hojo is from Wakayama, Japan where his family temple (Myo-do-ji Temple) is located.

He graduated from Ryukoku University in Kyoto, Japan with a B.A. in Jodo Shinshu Studies and also received a B.A. in Buddhist Studies from Musashino University’s Correspondence Course.

In 2005, he received his Tokudo Ordination, followed by Kyoshi Ordination in 2008.

Rev Hojo has previously served at the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Headquarters, Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin and is currently minister at West Kauai Hongwanji Mission.

Rev. Hoji completed the 2019 Honolulu Triathlon! Although the 2020 Honolulu Triathlon was cancelled, he is signed up for this year’s Triathlon scheduled for November. He trains by hiking up to Kokee, swimming at the pool in Waimea and running. Gambate, sensei, we are all cheering for you!

## Edward H. Young, Jr., *Guest Speaker*

Ed is one of the co-founders of the Windward Interfaith 'Ohana. He previously served on the National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the Hawaiian Islands in the late 1990s and has been a member of its Office of External Affairs – Human Rights & Minorities, and more recently, as part of the Office of Public Affairs for the Hawaii Bahá'í Community

In 2013, Ed was awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award for Distinguished Service by the Honolulu Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He was also awarded a Lifetime Award in recognition of his contribution to the development of Meteorological services in the Pacific region by the SPREP Pacific Meteorological Council in August 2019.



Mr. Young retired in early 2016 as the NOAA National Weather Service Pacific Region Deputy Regional Director, after having served a 42-year federal career as a meteorologist.

Ed and his wife, Doris, have two daughters Malie, 21, and Ke'alohe, 19.

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## ⚓ *Mahalo* ⚓ *for your kind monetary donations*

Gary & Annette Tashiro – Spring Equinox	M/M Blake Higa - IMO of Jean Higa & Harry Higa
Leslie & Joanne Yamamoto – Spring Equinox	Sumikawa Family – February Remembrance
Paul Tatsuguchi – Spring Equinox	Tatum Rebelle
Naomi Kaneko – Spring Equinox	Beatrice Kaneshiro – Hoonko & Spring Equinox
Julie Kusumoto – Spring Equinox	Amy Abe
Stephen & Geraldine Ochikubo – Spring Equinox	Isao & Susan Asada – IMO Masao Asada
Thomas Yagi – Spring Equinox	Mitsue Miyamoto - IMO Howard Nakamura
Ryan Miyamoto – Spring Equinox	Jennifer Kane – oshoko/Eshinni Day
Nancy Kikuchi – Spring Equinox	Cynthia Rodriguez
Kiyoko Katagihara – Spring Equinox	David Atcheson
Alex McWilliams	Victoria Leo
Hideo Arakawa – IMO Aiko & Eric Arakawa	Dennis & Merle Tashiro – Buddha Day
Jean Fukumoto – Spring Equinox/Hanamatsuri	Family of Yoshie Iwanaga – Funeral service
Bob & Joyce Nishita – Spring Equinox/Buddha Day/ Remembrance-Taichi Nishita	
Allen & Prudence Kusano – Spring Equinox/IMO Miyoko Kusano	
Roy & Cynthia Miyamoto – Spring Equinox/ IMO Howard Nakamura	
Ronald & Shirley Yanagisawa – Spring Equinox/ March Remembrance	

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**Kailua Houseless Coalition**: Each month, The YMCA's Windward Houseless Service care event in conjunction with several community and religious groups, provide homeless individuals in Kailua a chance to eat, shower, and connect with agencies that could help them get off the streets. A mobile shower van is available. Free clothing and toiletries and a hot meal are provided. On April 27, 2021, for the third year, WBT participated by providing lunch to for 40 homeless people.



# Country Market

**Notecards (3-Pack)**  
Paper notecards with envelopes  
Designs will vary. \$5

The Windward Buddhist Temple pop-up “Country Market” is now open on the WBT website. Once you are on the site, click on “Store.”

Please take the time to browse, and if there is anything of interest to you, give us a call as noted to place your order.

The market features items such as handmade cards, pillowcases, prayer bracelets, ‘surprise’ packages, and gently used merchandise.

New items will be added from time to time, so please visit the site regularly.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

~ Fundraising Committee

Additional items  
and larger photos  
on the website



[windwardbuddhisttemple.org/store](http://windwardbuddhisttemple.org/store)



**Pillowcases (Set of 2)**  
Standard-sized pillowcases in  
assorted designs. \$15



**WBT Bon Dance Towel**  
Cotton fabric towel made in  
Japan. 33 by 14 inches. \$5



**‘Surprise’ Bag**  
The contents are worth more  
than the purchase price. \$5



**Assorted Puzzles**  
Sizes ranging from 300 to 1,000  
pieces. Starting from \$5

## HOW TO ORDER

Call our temple office at (808) 262-4560 on Wednesdays and/or Sundays between the hours of 10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon.

At this time, all orders must be picked up in person at the temple.

Your order will be ready for pick up the following Wednesday or Sunday depending on the day you have placed your request.

Payment is on a cash basis only upon drive-thru pickup of your order.

Exact change is required, and all sales are final.

All items are while supplies last.



## Making a Donation is as Easy as 1-2-3!

It is through the generous donations from our members and supporters that Windward Buddhist Temple is able to continue to spread the Jodo Shinshu teachings. However, with the ongoing suspension of in-person services, having a convenient way to make regular offerings has been difficult.

Through Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, you can now make an offering or donation to Windward Buddhist Temple entirely online in three easy steps.



### Step 1

Visit [windwardbuddhisttemple.org/donate](http://windwardbuddhisttemple.org/donate) and click on the "Donate Now" button

### Step 2

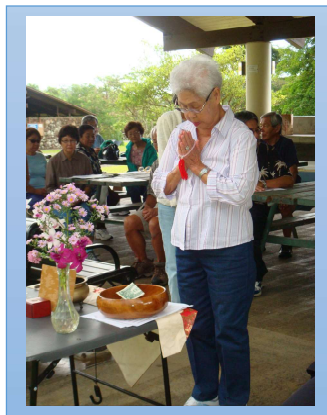
Select "**Windward Buddhist Temple**" from the "Use this donation for" dropdown.

### Step 3

Enter the amount and use your credit card, debit card, or PayPal to pay

happy  
Memories

2011 Service at Hoomaluhia Botanical Garden, Kaneohe



2012 Services at Kailua High School's music room, during temple construction



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Due to the current COVID-19 situation, the Windward Buddhist Temple's **Bon Dance** is being cancelled for this year.

### Reopening Temple for Live Service

The Board is closely monitoring the changes in the COVID-19 guidelines to determine when it will be safe for live services followed by fellowship. Until that time, **on-line services will continue to be available.**