



JIHO

November 2022



Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Building Healthy Sanghas: Connecting with Others

Dharma Family Services

Please join us for our hybrid services in November. All services will begin at 10:00 am (unless otherwise noted). A Zoom link to join the service will be emailed to you a few days before. Please contact the office to be included in our email list to receive weekly temple updates and information. Wearing of face masks and sanitizing of hands will continue to be required in temple. We look forward to seeing you in person or online!

Veterans Appreciation Service

Sunday, November 6, 2022 at 10:00 am

Sponsored by Kona Hongwanji Cub Scouts Pack 12.

Zoom Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85922234438?pwd=bWJCRnlaSENpbFA3SU9oOEJ3dzRSUT09>

Eitaikyō Sangha Memorial Service

Sunday, November 20, 2022 at 10:00 am

Guest Speaker: Rev. David Fujimoto

Mililani Hongwanji Mission

Zoom Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84736096953?pwd=ZzdlcTMvc3o2TUVMXdtS0xwMFEzQT09>

Eitaikyō means the “perpetual chanting of sutras.” The word “sutra” means “thread” and it is what connects us to the Truth found in the Buddha’s teachings. Buddhism began as an oral tradition with the teachings having been passed down through memorized chanting. The act of chanting connects us to all those who have come before and to all those who will follow as we chant the very same sutras. Eitaikyō is an opportunity to reflect on the lives and the actions of those good teachers and spiritual friends who have enabled us to encounter the teachings and to make donations for the continuing cultivation of the Dharma.

For Assistance

Office Clerk: Ramah DeMello (Phone: 808-323-2993 Email: konahongwanji@twc.com)

Resident Minister: Rev. Blayne Higa (Emergency only 808-383-9153)

Temple President: Linda Nagai (Emergency only 808-936-6079)

KONA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE

P.O. Box 769

Kealahou, HI 96750

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U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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KEALAKEKUA, HAWAII 96750

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

President's Message

Aloha Kona Hongwanji Sangha members,

Thank you for participating in celebrating 125 years of the establishment of the Kona Hongwanji. Our Bon Dance, kicking off the celebration was a great success, even mother nature celebrated with us with great weather, not too warm, not too cold, but just perfect. To our vendors who added to the celebration, your crafts and homemade delicacies that you shared with the community was simply awesome. Everyone could enjoy the dance and a taste of Kona too. I hope you will plan to share your talents with us again at our next event.

In Jodo Shinshu we call the Bon season Kangi e (Gathering of Joy). Although Obon season has past, Saturday night truly embraced the gathering of joy at our bon dance, where everyone joyously enjoyed dancing the night away.

Sunday morning we started off with the Chigo parade, followed by a very auspicious ceremony officiated by our own Kona son, Bishop Eric Matsumoto, which was followed by a delicious lunch and awesome door prizes. And lastly the Affirmation Rites, where 6 people received their Buddhist names, a fitting closure to the celebration.

The success of our celebration would not have been made possible without the hardworking Celebration committee and Chair Claudia Chang. And most importantly you the Kona Hongwanji Sangha, your generous monetary, physical support, and participation was the icing on the cake. It really takes a village, and the Kona Hongwanji village has come through again to continue to perpetuate the teachings and the Kona Hongwanji for future generations.

As we come into November, and the holidays are ahead of us we will be holding a Temple General Cleaning (sprucing up) day, on November 19. If you are available to help please come and help us prepare our Temple for the holidays and 2023.

In Gassho,

Linda Nagai

Arigatai **Rev. Blayne Higa**

*For the rain that brings us life.
For the sun that keeps us warm.
For plants and animals that nourish us, Arigatai!*

The lyrics of the beloved gatha "Arigatai" come to mind as I reflect on this season of gratitude. We have so much to be thankful for as a sangha. The success of our 125th anniversary celebration is just one example of how we are emerging from the pandemic years stronger, more resilient, and ready to face the future together.

Relying on the Buddha's teachings, we have embraced the truth of impermanence skillfully adapting to the continually changing conditions of our lives. Just like our forebearers who struggled to make a life for themselves and who built this temple, we have found our courage to persevere and thrive. In celebrating our rich history, we have focused on building the future of our spiritual home.

As we observe Eitaikyō, we take time to remember the lives of those good teachers who have enabled us to encounter the Dharma and who have inspired us to follow the Buddha's path. Eitaikyō means the "perpetual chanting of sutras." Buddhism began as an oral tradition with the teachings having been shared through memorized chanting. The act of chanting connects us to all those who have come before and to all those who will follow as we chant the very same sutras. This is why sutra chanting is an important spiritual practice because it connects us to eternal flowing of the Dharma in our lives. With our voices joined together as a sangha, we experience oneness with our ancestors and the timeless working of wisdom and compassion.

The Dharma is shared from mind to mind and from heart to heart. It is because of our familial and spiritual ancestors that we can encounter the teachings today and it is our responsibility to share these life-giving teachings with others. So many in our sangha feel this profound sense of *arigatai* which is expressed in the living nembutsu that arises in our thoughts, comes forth from our lips, and is demonstrated by our actions. Our temple is a place of true Dharma learning and practice.



I am grateful to each of you for being a teacher and good Dharma friend. If we attune our lives to truly hearing the calling voice of Amida Buddha, we can live with a profound appreciation for the many Dharma teachers we encounter daily who leads us along the path of self-discovery and to the world of awakening. I'm glad to be on this journey with you.

Living together as a community of fellow travelers relying on the Three Treasures of Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha, we can face the challenges of the coming years unafraid with clear-eyed optimism and resolve. This is the lesson our forebearers continue to teach us as we say the Nembutsu together in gratitude, joy, and awareness. Namo Amida Butsu.

Compassionate Care

The Dharma offers guidance and support for our whole lives, especially during times of difficulty. I am here to be a compassionate presence and companion to you on life's journey. I am available for pastoral care and counseling via phone or video conference. I am also available for bedside end-of-life services and grief care. Please contact me at 808-323-2993 or for emergencies only at 808-383-9153.

*Aloha,
Rev. Blayne*

2023 Calendar Order

Orders are now being taken for the 2023 Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Calendar. Please contact the Temple Office at 808-323-2993

2022-2023 Social Concerns Fund Drive

The month of November is a special time for reflecting on gratitude. Observing Eitaikyo and celebrating Thanksgiving are opportunities to appreciate the innumerable causes and conditions which sustain our lives and how we are deeply connected to the world around us. It is in this spirit of profound gratitude that we begin our Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive. The fund drive will begin November 1, 2022 running till August 31, 2023 and we request that temples submit their collected donations by the end of September 2023.

Through your generosity, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii is able to support worthy organizations and programs making a positive impact in our community. Your support also enables us to provide compassionate aid during times of disaster and the ability to skillfully respond to issues affecting our local and world communities.

Because of your commitment to promoting the Buddhist values of compassion and loving kindness, we have been able to support humanitarian relief efforts for those affected by the war in Ukraine and the volcanic eruption in Tonga. We also sponsored a series of suicide prevention events organized by the Samaritan Counseling Center of Hawaii, supported ongoing disaster relief planning by Hawaii Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (Hawaii VOAD), renewed our support of The Interfaith Alliance Hawaii, and assisted food banks on every island in their mission to alleviate food insecurity.

We continue to award Golden Chain Grants to help nurture Dharma in action as well as COVID-19 Resilience Grants to help temples acquire PPE and cleaning supplies to operate safely during the ongoing pandemic.

Please make all checks payable to KONA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE using the enclosed envelope. We will remit a combined check to the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. Mahalo for your support of the Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive!

In Gassho,

Bishop Eric Matsumoto

Rev. Blayne Higa, Chair
Committee on Social Concerns



125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Thank you to everybody who made our 125th Anniversary Celebration a great success! Thank you to the committee chairs and committee members; thank you to everyone who made a donation; and thank you to everyone who participated in our events...Bon Dance, Chigo Parade, Service, Luncheon and Affirmation Rites.

Thank you to Ramah DeMello for her clerical assistance. Thank you to Kyodan Immediate Past President Joseph Gusman for starting us on this journey and to the current President Linda Nagai for seeing us through this celebration. Thank you to Reverend Blayne for his guidance and assistance in planning this milestone anniversary celebration.

If you were not able to attend the service and luncheon, you can pick up your 125th gift at the Temple Office.

Logo items are still available for sale at the Temple Office.

The Donor Plaque will be completed in a few weeks and will be displayed in the temple.

And remember...in 50 years our time capsule will be opened.

Mahalo Nui Loa, Gracias, Domo Arigato Gozaimasu, Thank you!!

Claudia Chang

125th Anniversary Celebration





We celebrated our 125th Anniversary with a Bon Dance and Craft Fair on October 15 and a Chigo Parade, Commemoration Service and Luncheon on October 16. It was a joyful and festive weekend of events for our entire Sangha and the Kona community. Mahalo everyone for your support!

Affirmation Rites



Our 125th Anniversary celebration concluded with an Affirmation Rites (Kieshiki) Ceremony where six individuals formally took refuge in the Three Treasures of Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha and received their Homyo or Dharma Name. Congratulations to Caden Matsumoto, Karin Nishina, Douglas Pickarts, Jayden Takiue, Kayla Takiue, and Makiko Yamaguchi! Welcome to the fellowship of Jodo Shinshu followers!

125th Anniversary Gift and Souvenir Booklet

Temple members who didn't receive the anniversary gift and souvenir booklet at the celebration can pick them up at the temple office while supplies.



Support Kona Hongwanji by Shopping Online

Amazon Smile is a free and easy way to support your favorite charitable organization. When you shop at <http://smile.amazon.com> Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

We hope you will consider designating Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple as your favorite organization. Please encourage your family and friends to kokua as well. We sincerely appreciate your support during these challenging times. Mahalo!



**HELP US SPRUCE UP FOR THE
NEW YEAR**

***KONA HONGWANJI
BUDDHIST TEMPLE
GENERAL CLEANING DAY***

**We will be sparkling up the Social
Hall and Temple, as well as
cleaning windows.**

***SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19,
8:00 A.M. - PAU***

**Morning Refreshments and
Lunch will be provided.**

***** Please call the office to sign up*****

2022 Sustaining Membership

If you haven't already done so, please remember to submit your annual membership pledge before the end of the year. This is also a great opportunity to update your current contact information with us!

We rely on your support to help ensure our temple is a spiritual home where we can create Sangha together through sharing the Dharma. Mahalo!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS—November 2022

HAKASOJI and NOKOTSUDO

Mr. & Mrs. Russell Everett	Mr. & Mrs. Pedro Poentis	Fumio Murasaki
Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Ikeda	Mr. & Mrs. Kaoru Uyeda	Anonymous
Setsuko Tanaka	Carole Weart	
	Total - \$305.00	

HI KYODAN

Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Yamauchi	Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Ikeda
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CAPITAL FUND

Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Yamauchi	Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Ikeda
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AUTUMN OHIGAN

Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Nakano	Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Kaneko	Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. Takeo Nakasone	Mr. & Mrs. Michael Oshiro	Carol Ichishita
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka	Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Takiue	Mary Katayama
Mr. & Mrs. John Tsue	Mr. & Mrs. Keith Hayama	Kenneth Komo
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Hiraishi	Mr. & Mrs. Bert Maedo	Nora Koyanagi
Jules & Mimi	Janet Lindner	Alan Matsumoto
Ann Matsumoto	Linda Nagai	Morris Nagata
Elaine Nakagawa	Chizu Nakashima	Nishihara Ohana
Sue Suzuki	Lisa Fry	David Johnson
Nobuko Aoki	Rinko Matsuoka	Helen Oishi
Carol Okuna		
	Total - \$613.00	

SUNDAY SERVICE

Thad Estrada, Kristy Nishihara & Keira	Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Nakano	Anonymous
Mr. & Mrs. Clayton Nishina	Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka	Myrna Kunihiro
Mr. & Mrs. John Tsue	Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Kaneko	Janet Lindner
Mr. & Mrs. Edwin Nagata	Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Gusman	Chizu Nakashima
Lisa Ciriako	Wayne Fukunaga	Morris Nagata
	Total - \$382.00	

GRANDPARENTS DAY

Anonymous	Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Nakano	Mr. & Mrs. Clayton Nishina
Mr. & Mrs. John Tsue	Janet Lindner	Alan Matsumoto
Ann Matsumoto	Morris Nagata	
	Total - \$115.00	

Acknowledgements continued:

SERVICES

Emiko Kaneko, Spencer & Lani Kimura, Inurnment Service for Yoshiyuki Kaneko

Mr. & Mrs. Steven Kaneko, Inurnment Service for Yoshiyuki Kaneko

Deborah Ozaki, Kazue Ozaki's 10th Year Memorial & Florence Ozaki's 7th Year Memorial Service

Hanako Sheldon, Robert Sheldon's 30th Year Memorial Service

Janet Lindner, Kumiko Omori's 13th Year Memorial Service

Mr. & Mrs. Vernon Nakamura, Kiyoshi Nakamura's 7th Year Service

Aaron, Dee & Ohana, Kiyoshi Nakamura's 7th Year Service

Alson, Margy & Ohana, Kiyoshi Nakamura's 7th Year Service

Total - \$1,300.00

SPECIAL DONATIONS

Rita Kaku

Maurice Kaku

Leanne Abe

Lori Marcello

Mr. & Mrs. John Tsue, Peace Day

Mr. & Mrs. Atsushi Matsumoto, Obon

Mr. & Mrs. Russell Everett, Jiho

Mr. & Mrs. Aaron Ikeda, Jiho

Mr. & Mrs. Kaoru Uyeda, Jiho

Helen Oishi, Obon, Social Concerns

Total - \$564.00

IN MEMORY OF

Bryan Matsumoto, IMO Asano Matsumoto's 1st Year

Mr. & Mrs. Raymond Takiue, IMO Zane Fujimoto

Anonymous, IMO Kazu Kirihara

Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Nakano, IMO Kumiko Omori

Mr. & Mrs. Pedro Poentis, IMO Sueme Ege's 35th Year

Mr. & Mrs. Steven Waldon, IMO Yasuo & Setsuko Deguchi

Mr. & Mrs. Sukeji Yamagata, IMO Sueme Ege's 33rd Year

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Aoki, IMO Masanori "Windy" Aoki

Nadine Bason, IMO Masanori "Windy" Aoki

Glenn Ezuka, IMO Emiko Ezuka's 17th Year

Nany Fujimoto, IMO Zane Fujimoto's 7th Year

Mr. & Mrs. Keith Hayama, IMO Emiko Ezuka's 17th Year

Mr. & Mrs. Minoru Tashima, IMO Sadaharu Tashima

Carole Weart, IMO Sueme Ege's 33rd Year

Mr. & Mrs. Mark Young, IMO Emiko Ezuka's 17th Year

Jennifer Oba, Cynthia Nakamoto-Tomono, Jennifer Nakamoto-Oba & Ohana, Jonathan Tomono & Ohana, IMO Jean Nakamoto

Total - \$2,154.61

MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR November and December 2022

FIRST YEAR (2021)

11/02 Flora Fukumitsu

THIRD YEAR (2020)

11/12 Ukie Saito

12/17 Yoshiyuki Kaneko

12/24 Carl Taniyama

12/30 Yoshie Tanaka

SEVENTH YEAR (2016)

11/15 Bernice Etsuko Yoshida

12/03 Elaine Sumie Piltz

12/11 Toshie Izuno

12/29 Toshie Shirota

THIRTEENTH YEAR (2010)

11/22 Richard Kitae Tanaka

11/26 Earl Teshima

11/29 George Matsumoto

SEVENTEENTH YEAR (2006)

11/10 Stanley Noboru Nagata

11/16 Moto Nakasone

11/19 Sayoko Murai Sakata

12/12 Richard Hideo Sakamoto

12/26 Toshiko Nakamura

TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR (1998)

11/22 Chiyome Shimamoto

THIRTY-THIRD YEAR (1990)

11/13 Genichi Yukuno

12/08 James Tsugio Kondo

FIFTIETH YEAR (1973)

11/21 Yoshimatsu Fukuzaki

12/22 Gunichi Ohta

NOTE: If you have any questions or corrections regarding the information listed above, please call the office at 323-2993. Thank you.