



Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Phone: (808) 522-9200 Fax: (808) 522-9209

Web: www.hongwanjihawaii.com Email: hqs@honpahi.org



November 2021

BISHOP'S CORNER

"Thank you, thank you and thank you!"

Bishop Eric Matsumoto



As we enter the time of the year in which we traditionally offer and express our gratitude with our Eitaikyo Services which is an opportunity for us to express our gratitude to those who supported Buddhism including our temples and also make our commitment to the perpetuation of the Dharma into the future, the Thanksgiving Holiday, and the many other religious and/or spiritual holidays including cultural observances, may I take this moment through this message to express my gratitude to the Buddha, the Dharma and you, the Sangha. Truly it is thanks to all Three Treasures that we are continuing as an organization to carry out our Mission Statement of "To share the living Teachings of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism so all beings may enjoy lives of harmony, peace and gratitude."

In Hawaii, the trend looks very good that the COVID Pandemic is more under control when compared to some other parts of our Nation and the World. However, not without sacrifice, challenges and great effort. I would like to thank you, Members and Friends of Hawaii Kyodan both ministers and lay, for your support, dedication and understanding which enables us to continue especially during this challenging time when, sadly, so many other businesses and institutions in our communities have had to close their doors and many livelihoods have been negatively affected. Lay Members including Staff at temples and Headquarters, thank you for your continued financial support including volunteering your time and energy at temples and with affiliate organizations, and increasing your workload by assuming new responsibilities and contributing to the new Statewide Newsletter. By the way, thank you for the positive comments about Ka Leo Kāhea. Ministers, thank you for continuing to spread the Dharma including providing other spiritual needs for our members like more pastoral care as fellow ministers and members require more guidance, direction and care, in some cases by risking your own health and safety, sacrificing some of your compensation, and increasing your workload with online services and presentations. Lay Members and Ministers, your sacrifices, dedication, and willingness to support enables Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, its temples, affiliates, and programs and projects, to continue and thereby make a difference in one another's life and people's lives all across Hawaii. From the bottom of my heart-and-mind, thank you very much! You, the Sangha of Hawaii Kyodan are truly precious and vital, and essential part of the Three Treasures.

As I observe, I can see the influence of the Dharma in your lives. Thank you, Ministers for sharing the Dharma. It is truly sad that we have lost members and friends to COVID-19, but as I look at our Sangha, I notice that you are, generally, calm and collect, very aware and understanding of the situation and circumstances of the Pandemic, you take the necessary precautions and safety measures so we can all be as safe as we can, and try to make a positive difference by being supportive and caring of each other including the larger community in peaceful ways. I see very clearly the Buddhist teachings like the 4

Kinds of Suffering which includes impermanence, interdependence, equality, the 3 Kinds of Dana (sharing of the Dharma, supporting those who share the Dharma, and the removal of fear), non-violence and compassion to name a few at work as it guides you in your understanding and thus how you live too. Thus, I am very grateful to the wonderful teachings/Dharma which provide you and me with guidance and a balanced healthy perspective for the betterment of one and all.

Finally, we, I, must be grateful to the Buddhas like Shakyamuni for sharing the Dharma with us and especially Amida Buddha for Unconditional Compassion which accepts and embraces promising birth in the wondrous Pure Land of Enlightenment where there is no suffering and our ultimate transformation into a Buddha occurs. No wonder, many of our Sangha Members though living alone, not being able to socially gather with family and friends, or facing economic challenges are still optimistic and filled with joy and gratitude which makes their life meaningful even in these circumstances of the Pandemic. Yes, knowing that Amida Buddha as Namo Amida Butsu is always with us, let us recite, the Nembutsu in grateful acknowledgement of Amida Buddha's love and compassion in awareness, joy and gratitude of Great Wisdom and Compassion.

Once again, to the Three Treasures, "Thank you, thank you, thank you" and Namo Amida Butsu (Entrusting in All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion)!

CONDOLENCE

Mrs. Akiko Kie, wife of the late Rev. Soshin Kie, passed away on July 23, 2021 at the age of 95. The ingo (Posthumous Title) of JOU-KOU-IN 浄香院 which means "Pure Fragrance" was conferred by Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

INTERFAITH SILENT VIGIL

Bishop Eric Matsumoto and Reverends Sumikawa, Furusawa, Baba and Chaplain Alan Urasaki of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii including Bishop Clark Watanabe of the Koyasan Shingon Mission of Hawaii and Bishop Shokai Kanai of Nichiren Mission of Hawaii participated in the Interfaith Silent Vigil to honor those who passed away because of Covid-19 at Central Union Church, Honolulu, on November 1, 2021. There were 916 chairs lined up on the grass lawn at the Church. Each represented a Hawaii resident who died from COVID-19. At noon, a remembrance ceremony echoed through the neighborhood as the church bell rang 916 times, each toll signified a life.



2022 LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

The 2022 HHMH Legislative Assembly (Giseikai) will be held on February 11 & 12, 2022 virtually via Zoom. The registration forms were sent on November 2, 2021 to the Temple & Council Presidents. Please submit your completed registration form by December 31, 2021. Since the event will be held online, there is no registration fee. The 2022 Giseikai documents & Zoom link will be emailed to attendees in early February 2022. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL CONCERNS

The Buddhist Churches of America Social Welfare Committee and the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Committee on Social Concerns are planning a fun Zoom sharing session about food waste -- both the issue and how we can address it. The selected date of Saturday, April 16, 2022, helps tie the event to Earth Day (April 22).

We hope you will join us in a very impactful joint Hawaii Honpa Social Concerns Committee and BCA Social Welfare Committee event. No matter where we live on this Earth, we all enjoy eating!! But, many rarely consider how the estimated 40% of all food produced in the United States is wasted, discarded or never used for a variety of reasons.

We are looking for your ideas in all phases of the food supply chain, including better planning in purchasing, repurposing surpluses, and disposition (such as donation of extras) after your events. We look forward to your experiences and imagination in creating a better world with less food waste. Let's work together to learn and share ideas for controlling our own food waste as well as how we can help those who are less fortunate.

A survey form to share your experiences and ideas is available using the link below:
<https://forms.gle/9FSjHnuGLm3ZUSyMA>

PROPAGATION PROGRAM GRANT

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii's, "Propagation Program Grant Committee" would like to announce that the "Propagation Program Grant" is available to all of you for "New and wonderful ideas for propagating Nembutsu teachings into our community". Would you like to share your wonderful and creative Dharma projects with all of our community? If so, take action right away! We all are looking forward to seeing your innovative ideas!

The committee reviews all grant applications, which meet the following criteria:

1. New, innovative, creative ideas or activities focusing on Buddhist Education and the propagation of the Dharma.
2. Each project may be funded only once within 5 years.
3. The maximum amount of the grant must not exceed \$10,000.00
4. The project would have statewide implications/potential.

For more information regarding this program or how to apply, please check with your resident minister or HQ.

HAWAII DISTRICT NEMBUTSU SEMINAR 2021

Hawaii District Ministers Association will host an online Nembutsu seminar in December 2021.

Date & Time: Saturday, December 11th, 2021, 10 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. (HST)
Place: Zoom
Guest Speaker: Rev. Tatsuo Muneto, Retired Minister of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii
Topic: Ways of living in wisdom and resilience—
"Following the Footsteps of Nembutsu practitioners on the Big Island"
Fee: Free

Registration is required. Please go to the registration link (<https://forms.gle/bQToK62Pi6J2UoD78>). If you already have registered before, no registration is required. If you have any questions, please contact <hawaii.kyogakkai@gmail.com>

SDGS & BUDDHISM

Bishop Eric Matsumoto will be one of the panelists for this "SDGs & Buddhism" online event which is hosted by the Bay Area Buddhist Association (located in California).

Date & Time: Saturday, December 11th, 2021, 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. (HST)
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. (PST)
Place: Zoom
Theme: SDGs & Buddhism
What can we do now for our future? -From Buddhist Perspectives-
Goal No 2, -Zero Hunger-
Speaker: Ven. Bhikkhu Bodhi
(American Buddhist monk and teaches at Chuang Yen Monastery in upstate New York)
Panelists: Bishop Noriaki Ito (Higashi Honganji Mission of North America District)
Rev. Konjin Godwin (Soto Zen)
Bishop Eric Matsumoto (Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii)
Registration: <https://forms.gle/YNpDGGBJQ1me7r3p7> (Free)

To learn more about the Sustainable Development Goals, please visit: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

HQ BOOKSTORE UPDATE

HMMH Bookstore introduces two books which were newly published this year.

"Be The Refuge: Raising the Voices of Asian American Buddhists" by Chenxing Han \$15/each

Published by North Atlantic Books 2021

Author: Chenxing Han is a Bay Area-based writer. She holds a BA from Stanford University and an MA in Buddhist studies from the Graduate Theological Union. After studying chaplaincy at the Institute of Buddhist Studies in Berkeley, California, she worked in spiritual care nearby community hospital in Oakland.

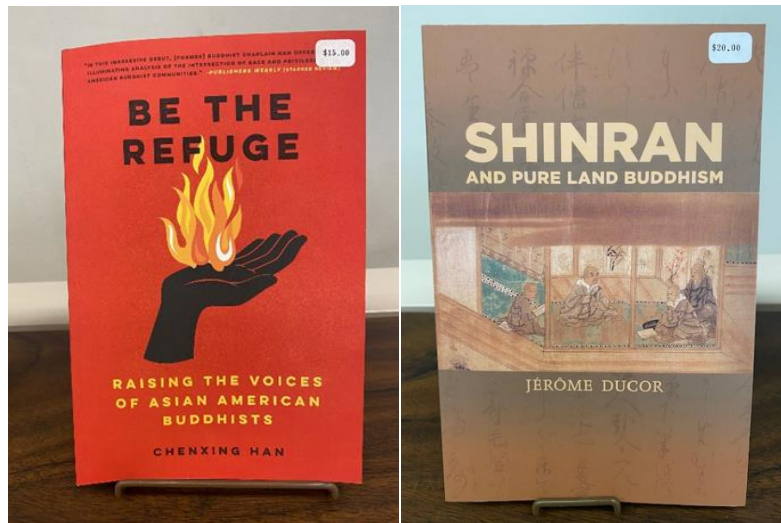
She was a guest lecturer for the 22nd Annual Bloom-Futaba Memorial Lecture which was held on October 16, 2021 at Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin and online.

“Shinran and Pure Land Buddhism” by Jerome Ducor \$20/each

Published by Jodo Shinshu International Office 2021

Author: Jerome Ducor is curator emeritus of the Asia department of the Musee d’ethnographie de Geneve and private-docent at the University of Lausanne. A specialist in Japanese Buddhism, he is permanent visiting scholar at Ryukoku University in Kyoto. In addition, he received ordination and certification from the Pure Land Buddhist School. Through his publications, he strives to present the impact of Buddhism in Asia and its recent extension in the west.

Both books are now available at HHMH Bookstore. If you are interested in purchasing above books, Please email hqbooks@honpahi.org or call (808)522-9202 (Yoshiko Umitani, HQ Bookstore)



2022 HAWAII KYODAN CALENDAR

January 1 (Sat)	New Year's Day
January 3 (Mon)	New Year's Day Observed (HQ closed for holiday)
January 16 (Sun)	Shinran Shonin's Memorial Day (Hoonko)
January 17 (Mon)	M. L. King Jr. Day (HQ closed for holiday)
February 10 (Thu)	Board of Directors Meeting & State Ministers Association Meeting
February 11-12 (Fri-Sat)	110th HHMH Legislative Assembly
February 13 (Sun)	BWA (Fujinkai) Dana Day
February 15 (Tue)	Nirvana Day
February 21 (Mon)	Presidents' Day (HQ closed for holiday)
March 2 (Wed)	Hongwanji Day
March 3-4 (Thu-Fri)	Ryukoku University-BSC Spring Seminar
March 18-24	Spring Higan
March 25-26 (Fri-Sat)	BSC Spring Dharmathon
March 26 (Sat)	Kuhio Day
April 8 (Fri)	Buddha Day (HQ closed for holiday)
April 23 (Sat)	Ministers' Spouses Association Seminar (Maui)
April 23-24 (Sat-Sun)	14th BWA State Conference (Maui)
April 24 (Sun)	BWA (Fujinkai) Eshinni Day/Peace Day
May 5 (Thu)	PBA Baccalaureate Ceremony
May 6 (Fri)	PBA Commencement Exercise
May 6 (Fri)	Sanmu Meeting & Sanmu-Kanji Meeting
May 7 (Sat)	Board of Directors Meeting
May 8 (Sun)	Mother's Day
May 21 (Sat)	Shinran Shonin's Birthday (Gotan-E)
May 30 (Mon)	Memorial Day (HQ closed for holiday)
June 7-9 (Tue-Thu)	63rd State Ministers Association Seminar (Online/Hawaii)
June 11 (Sat)	King Kamehameha Day
June 17-19 (Fri-Sun)	65th State Jr. YBA Convention (Hawaii)
June 19 (Sun)	Juneteenth Day
June 19 (Sun)	Father's Day
June 20-24 (Mon-Fri)	BSC Summer Session
July 4 (Mon)	Independence Day (HQ closed for holiday)
August 19 (Fri)	Statehood Day (HQ closed for holiday)
September 5 (Mon)	Labor Day (HQ closed for holiday)
September 9 (Fri)	Sanmu Meeting & Sanmu-Kanji Meeting
September 10 (Sat)	Board of Directors Meeting
September 16-17 (Fri-Sat)	59th Honpa Hongwanji Lay Association Convention (Oahu)
September 20-26	Autumn Higan
September 21 (Wed)	Peace Day Hawaii/United Nations International Day of Peace
October 7-9 (Fri-Sun)	Minister's Lay Assistant Retreat (BSC)
October 14-21 (Fri-Fri)	Dharma Study Tour (Japan)
November 2 (Wed)	Appreciation Luncheon for Retired Ministers and Spouses
November 3-4 (Thu-Fri)	State Ministers Continuing Education Seminar
November 11 (Fri)	Veterans Day (HQ closed for holiday)
November 11-13 (Fri-Sun)	YESS Camp 40 (Camp Palehua)
November 24 (Thu)	Thanksgiving Day (HQ closed for holiday)
November 25 (Fri)	Family Day (HQ closed for holiday)
December 2 (Fri)	Sanmu Meeting & Sanmu-Kanji Meeting
December 3 (Sat)	Board of Directors Meeting
December 8 (Thu)	Bodhi Day
December 25 (Sun)	Christmas Day
December 26 (Mon)	Christmas Day Observed (HQ closed for holiday)
December 31 (Sat)	New Year's Eve