

KONA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE



E - JIHO
January 2017



Theme & Slogan 2017: Embrace Change: Action (Open Communication)

JR. YBA MOCHI SALE

Friday, December 30, 2016---12 noon to 4:00 p.m.
Volunteers for mochi making at 7:00 a.m.

NEW YEAR 'S EVE SERVICE

Sunday, December 31, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.
Speaker: Reverend Bruce Nakamura

HOONKO CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE

Saturday, January 21, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
Speaker: Reverend Toyokazu Hagio, Rimban Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin
Sponsored by Dharma School

GOSHOKI HOONKO SERVICE

Sunday, January 22, 2017---English Service at 9:00 a.m.
Japanese Service at 10:45 a.m.
Speaker: Reverend Toyokazu Hagio
Sponsored by Kyodan

Hoonko (Memorial Honoring Shinran Shonin) as the most important Jodo Shinshu observance, this is the date chosen to commemorate Shinran Shonin's passing. Traditionally seven days of services are conducted at Honzan, culminating on January 16. During this period numerous activities are held, recalling the legacy the Founder has left. This gives practitioners a chance to "hear the light" through listening to sermons, talks, ritual and sangha fellowship. Generally temples conduct their own Hoonko observances in the fall so that so members can attend the service at Honzan.

Jodo Shinshu A Guide

Sunday, January, 29, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. -----31st -Memorial for Ellison Onizuka and Challenger

NEED THE ASSISTANCE OF THE MINISTER, contact Rev. Bruce Nakamura at 323-2993 or Emergency only 987-9900 or Morris Nagata at 987-0119.

To schedule services or activities, call the church office at 323-2993 Monday thru Friday - 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed on weekends and holidays. If unable to contact the office clerk, leave a message on the answering machine.

E-MAIL ADDRESS: Church – konahongwanji@twc.com

Rev. Bruce - brucejunshin@gmail.com

JANUARY

1 Sunday ...	-----	NO SUNDAY SERVICE
4 Wednesday ...	9:30 AM ...	Service @ Hualalai Regency
	11:00 AM ...	Service @ Life Care Center
6 Friday ...	6:00 PM ...	Judo Club Kagami Biraki
8 Sunday ...	9:00 AM ...	English Family Service – Joint Birthday/Memorial
13 Friday ...	8:30 AM ...	Senior Activity Program
15 Sunday ...	9:00 AM ...	English Family Service
17 Tuesday ...	10:30 AM ...	HAIB Meeting
18 Wednesday ...	7:00 PM ...	Round Table Forum
21 Saturday ...	7:00 PM ...	Hoonko Candle Light Service
22 Sunday ...	9:00 AM ...	Goshoki Hoonko Service
	10:45 AM ...	Japanese Service
28 Saturday ...	2:00 PM ...	Pre-Giseikai Meeting in Conference Room
29 Sunday ...	9:00 AM ...	English Family Service & 31 st Observance of Memorial for Ellison Onizuka and Challenger Disaster
31 Tuesday ...	9:00 AM ...	Preschool Temple Visitation

FEBRUARY

1 Wednesday ...	9:30 AM ...	Service @ Hualalai Regency
	11:00 AM ...	Service @ Life Care Center
4 Saturday ...	-----	Cherry Blossom Festival @ Kamuela
5 Sunday ...	9:00 AM ...	Scout Sunday Service
8 Wednesday ...	7:00 PM ...	Board of Directors Meeting
10 Friday thru 11 Saturday	-----	Giseikai in Honolulu
12 Sunday ...	9:00 AM ...	Pet Appreciation Sunday Service - Joint Birthday/Memorial
15 Wednesday ...	7:00 PM ...	Round Table Forum
19 Sunday ...	9:00 AM ...	Annual Membership Meeting – Keirokai – Luncheon
26 Sunday ...	-----	NO SUNDAY SERVICE
	-----	GATHAFEST @ HILO
28 Tuesday ...	9:00 AM ...	Preschool Temple Visitation

CUB SCOUTS & BOY SCOUTS

EVERY MONDAY CUB SCOUT PACK 12 MEETING AT 5:00 PM
EVERY WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY CUB SCOUT PACK 12 MEETING AT 5:00 PM EXCEPT 1ST WEDNESDAY
EVERY TUESDAY BOY SCOUT TROOP 59 MEETING AT 7:00 PM

TAIKO PRACTICE

EVERY TUESDAY ADULT'S TAIKO PRACTICE AT 6:00 PM
EVERY THURSDAY TAIKO PRACTICE AT 5:30 PM
TAIKO MEETING EVERY 2ND THURSDAY IN THE SOCIAL HALL AT 6:45 PM

JUDO PRACTICE

JUDO CLUB MEETING EVERY 1ST WEDNESDAY IN SCOUT ROOM
EVERY MONDAY AT 7:00 PM NIGHT CLASS
EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6:00 PM NOVICE; 7:00 PM NIGHT CLASS
EVERY TUESDAY AT 6:30 PM ADULT ONLY
EVERY THURSDAY AT 7:00 PM KATA CLASS

IKEBANA

EVERY 2ND SATURDAY AT 9:00 AM IN THE SCOUT ROOM

MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR JANUARY and FEBRUARY

First Year (2016)	January	01	YAEKO OHATA
	February	18	BURTON ITO
		21	GLADYS A. CLARK
		24	TOSHIO SHIRAI
Third Year (2015)	January	09	NORA TONOYE NOZAKI
	February	16	HERBERT MASAO IMAI
		23	TOMOKICHI TANIYAMA
Seventh Year (2011)	January	03	NANCY AYANO MATSUMOTO
		10	RAYMOND A. KIMOTO
		10	YASUO KAWAKAMI
	February	19	MASAYUKI NAGATOSHI
Thirteenth Year (2005)	January	16	MASAKO FUJIKAWA
		22	YASUKO OUE
		28	DOROTHY TOKIKO "DOT" MORIMOTO
		29	MASAO "MASA" OKUMURA
	February	7	GILBERT MASANORI TANAKA
		15	KANAME NAKAMARU
		18	TOSHIO HAYASHI
		28	KIMIE KUROYAMA
Seventeenth Year 2001)	January	02	WALTER K. NAKAYAMA
		22	GEORGE M. MOTOYAMA
	February	5	AMY K. SHIRAISHI
Twenty-Fifth Year (1993)	January	27	ELAINE K. ITOZAKI
	February	15	DORIS SUMIKO FUJIWARA
		19	CHIYONO SASAKI
		26	SADAO OISHI
Thirty-Third Year (1985)	January	03	MATSUNI NAKASONE
		16	HATSUMI KUNITOMO
		22	HAJIME DEGUCHI
		28	MASAMI YOSHIOKA
	February	27	MASAO AOKI
Fiftieth Year (1968)	January	09	TSURUKO FUKUDA
	February	20	MASAMITSU ONIZUKA

EMBRACE CHANGE: ACTION with OPEN COMMUNICATION

by Bruce Nakamura

The HHMH 5-Year theme: "Embrace Change" and the 2017 Slogan is: "Action with Open Communication". This evolution to Temple effectiveness includes the minister, temple leaderships and member affiliates getting better **together** to grow the community centered in the Dharma.

There are several categories cited as "stake-holders" - persons, age-groups and types of needs identified that require ministers and their sangha-communities to task together creating a better environment so that the Nembutsu Dharma of gratitude be nurtured and experienced in daily living.

The first category may be identified as our elderly. They are retired and live on social security income. By far, they as a whole have absorbed the Nembutsu Dharma in body and spirit. Let us ministers and temple leaders avail ourselves together to visit our elders at home-bound settings, care-home settings and mid-to long-term residential living facilities as well as hospital, private care-home and hospice settings

when invited. This will require the shared commitment of both clergy and lay support. When the minister is able to visit by him-herself, all that is necessary is to be invited by the key family member advocate. With more than 90% of membership being over 80 years old, this is a critical and consistent part of shared-ministry. Those who can come to our senior activity as part of Project Dana and also enjoy the Japanese language speakerships for special services are certainly welcome and appreciated.

The next category is that age group who are semi-retired. Much of their labor-of-love is as care-givers to their parents or elders. They are able to somehow negotiate baby-sitting, even traveling off-island to be with their grand-children. They already have a full schedule that includes staying healthy and traveling for various reasons. Inviting this group and larger community to regularly gather to glean information preparing family to manage spiritual crisis successfully. A check-off list of things to be done in the twilight of elders, before, during and after-the-fact of a loved one returning to the Pure Land should be freely shared and exchanged from the Kona Hongwanji Buddhist tradition.

Significant for growing and caring of grandchildren, children, young nieces and nephews which includes younger parents of our temple, Dharma school, Taiko, Preschool and affiliates we refer to the self-contained large tennis court protected by a chain link-fence above the recreational hall. That area can house a permanent playground consisting of plastic air devices for preschool to high-school youth use overseen by adult supervision on workdays, weekends and even holidays. Much of these air-items whether they be slides or air-castles can be sponsored by the Dharma School, the Shinwa-kai and/or the BWA with their blessings. A parents-adult group can be formed and invited to oversee and nurture this ongoing community fun program.

With the long-term need to re-house the chapel-columbarium - the repository where ashes-relics of loved-ones are kept, perhaps our parent organization the KHBT can consider moving the columbarium to the building adjacent to the Kona Hongwanji Cemetery.

The former columbarium can be transformed into a regular gathering place for youth and young adults. Here they can study together, watch television, do electronic projects, and grow service projects to benefit various community including the needy. The storage facility that houses many items beneath the cemetery including the riding lawn mower can be moved to the former "green house," long abandoned just above (mauka) of the tennis courts. Of course must renovation is needed across the board.

Mind you this narrative is only speculative in that the desire to come together as lay and minister to collaborate and talk to one another to grow and nurture various part of changing community has to take place every step of the way. Clearly one of the greatest challenges that our Bishop Eric Matsumoto and President Pieper Toyama face is steering our broad leadership across the state to move away from a basically business-oriented model to one primarily centered in the Nembutsu Dharma.

From Monshu Kojun Ohtani's New Year's Greeting:

"...Shinran Shonin revealed his understanding of the Dharma known today as Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. It is a teaching for those of us who constantly struggle with various worries and hardships in life. Let us continue to listen to the teaching and share our own appreciation of the Dharma with family and friends in the hope that we can follow the Nembutsu path together with them..."

Pres. Toyama's remarks at the HHMH Board of Directors meeting:

"...the nature of Hawaii Kyodan is 'like herding cats'. When we focus on the true basis of our organization which is Dharma, herding cats requires everyone going in the same direction..."

Bishop Eric Matsumoto's remarks at board meeting:

"...We must affirm our guiding principle as a religious organization and re-structure to make decisions guided by the Jodo Shinshu Dharma... As your bishop, the 2017 theme and focus is 'Sangha Guided by the Dharma.'..."

Please have a safe & joyous New Year in the Nembutsu of great compassion. In the New Year, we humbly request your support. Namo Amida Butsu.

DELIGHTED TO DROP BY!

by Bruce Nakamura

Dear members, neighbors and friends:

Serving Kona Hongwanji Buddhist community, I hope to enlarge our Buddhist presence and connection with membership and larger community. If you wish me to visit a loved one, relative or friend at the Hualani Regency, the Kona Life Care Center or the Kona Community Hospital, please call me at the Kona Hongwanji office at 323-2993.

If you wish a visitation to a family or relative shut-in, private care home or a phone-call to see how you're doing, please call 323-2993 or cell 987-9900. I would be delighted to drop by just to talk story and know how you're doing.

Gratefully in Gassho,
Bruce Nakamura

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

By Mary Katayama

Message from President Morris Nagata: Bishop Eric Matsumoto and HHMH President Piper Toyama met with leaders on Friday, December 9, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the Assessment Policy and obtain feedback from temple leaders. Lengthy discussion held with input from various leaders. We appreciate Bishop Eric and President Piper for sharing information and providing guidance. 13 Board members, including 5 former/current kyodan presidents were present. To Linda Nagai and BWA ladies, thank you for the delicious dinner following the meeting.

JR. YBA MOCHI SALE: Volunteers are needed for making mochi on Friday, December 30, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. to completion. Please assist a few hours or all day as any help will be appreciated. Let us all help the Jr. YBA in their annual mochi sale. For more information contact advisors Makiko Yamaguchi or Lynn Katayama.

Service at Hualalai Regency/Life Care Center: On the first Wednesday each month, Reverend Bruce conducts services at Hualalai Regency at 9:30 a.m. and Life Care Center at 11:00 a.m. Members are invited to attend these services. Contact Rev. Bruce or join us at Regency or Life Care Center if you are interested in assisting or attending these services.

Hospital/Life Care Center Visitation: As a Chaplin at Kona Hospital, Rev. Bruce visits all Buddhist patients once a week, usually on Mondays. Due to HEPA regulations, patient visitation can be done only with permission from patient or family. Please contact Rev. Bruce for hospital visitation. If your family member is at Life Care Center, Rev. Bruce is happy to visit them. You may leave message with Judy at the church office with name and room number.

HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

LET US CONSIDER...

Bishop Eric Matsumoto

As we witness what is unfolding in our Nation after the 2016 Elections, there is room for concern as emotions and feelings run high, but let us have faith in ourselves as residents of America and also as humanity.

For me, the wise counsel of Prince Shotoku comes to mind. Prince Shotoku lived in a period of uncertainty and needed to unite various factions so that the country could be unified, better organized and prosper. He mentioned some guiding principles which are still important for us, today, to consider. As Article 1 in his 17-Article Constitution, he emphasized the value of harmony in society with the words "Harmony is to be valued." He sought harmony and collaboration among the various individuals and factions that were divided and wanted them to work together towards a common goal, a unified nation. Prince Shotoku realized how we, many times, each tend to emphasize and focus on our own viewpoints and disregard that of others to the point of not even lending an ear. He realized that if we each continue to do this we would get nowhere as no discussion could even begin. The Prince was very astute and sensitive to the fact that, too often, we are driven by our egos and also our emotions and feelings like anger, fear, doubt and arrogance. Thus, in Article 10, he shares his wisdom when he says,

Let us cease from wrath and refrain from angry looks. Nor let us be resentful when others differ from us. For all people have hearts and each heart has its own leanings. Their right is our wrong, and our right is their wrong. We are not unquestionably sages, nor are they unquestionably fools. Both of us are simply ordinary people. How can any person lay down a rule by which to distinguish right from wrong? For we are all, one with another, wise and foolish, like a ring which has no end.

From *A Guide to Japanese Buddhism*-BuddhaNet www.buddhanet.net/nippon/nippon_partIII.html

He sincerely revered The Three Treasures of Buddhism which also speaks of the middle way in which we avoid extremes. As the Historic Buddha shared if the strings of a lute are too tight it will break, on the other hand, if the strings are too loose the lute will not produce its music. What is needed are mutual respect, balance, trust, participation and collaboration and adherence to the virtue of non-violence by all of us. Moreover, we should see the value of interdependence by realizing that we are all interrelated and interconnected as Indra's Net, beautifully and profoundly, shares. It is a fact that we affect each other locally, nationally, internationally and even galactically through our thoughts, words and actions and how we approach a matter is just as important as the goal or objective. The intent of this message is not to dissuade people to express their thoughts through peaceful rallies and methods. As we face our challenges (to alleviate suffering and promote peace, happiness and people's welfare) as a Nation, this message is suggesting that we must consider ways, approaches and outcomes which emphasize the oneness and equality of life with all its diversity, foster mutual respect and harmony amongst all, and will nurture unity in our Nation and the World from today and into the future. In Hawaii, I believe, the Spirit of Aloha will guide us in our endeavors. As a Jodo Shinshu Buddhist, I say, may we (all) be guided and inspired by an All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion.

Let us "Mutually reflect, respect and interact."

MINISTER'S LAY ASSISTANT RETREAT HELD AT THE BUDDHIST STUDY CENTER

November 4 to November 6, 2016

Purpose of the Retreat is to provide the opportunity to review and enrich the participants' skills and knowledge associated with Jodo Shinshu and the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha. Also it is a time that participants can get to know each other better as friends and fellow travelers on the Path of Nembutsu. Conventional lecture and question and answer forms of presentation was generally employed. Rituals and etiquette associated with the Hongwanji temple and service tradition was taught through interactive mentoring by the instructors. As much as possible actual performance of skills or articulation of knowledge was encouraged. Participants were also asked to help with all aspects of the Retreat as one family and community. Because it takes time and practice to assimilate the skills knowledge perspective or active Minister's Lay Assistants are encouraged to attend and repeat attending the Retreat.

Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani provided the participants in the standard practice and ritual within the Nishi Hongwanji Tradition and Rev. Kevin Kuniyuki reviewed Basic Buddhism and introduced the participants to an approach that reveals Jōdo Shinshū doctrinal concepts through the study of Shōshinge a gatha written by Shinran Shōnin.

The participants were: Linda Nagai from Kona Hongwanji, Rod Moriyama from Wahiawa Hongwanji, Joy Nishida from Kailua Hongwanji, Wayne Nishida from Wailuku Hongwanji, Jaryd Oshiro from Jikoen Hongwanji, Chris Richardson from Lanai Hongwanji, Dennis Tashiro from Kailua Hongwanji, and Pieper Toyama from Jikoen Hongwanji. All successfully completed the Retreat and returned to their respective temples to continue to be mentored by their mentor ministers. Their mentor ministers will decide the appropriate time to request the Bishop designate them as Certified Minister's Lay Assistant. The certification formally recognizes role the Minister's Lay Assistant and a satisfactory level of competence but does not entitle them to assist. In the end it is either the temple's Resident Minister or Rimban's decision to have anyone assist a minister for that specific temple.

(Rev. Kevin Kuniyuki, BSC Director)

CUB SCOUTS PACK 12

Lantern Parade

We were honored to be asked again to lead this year's Kona Coffee Cultural Festival Lantern Parade, which started from Kailua pier to Hale Halawai. Our Cub Scouts were so excited to be upfront with the American Flag, Pack flag and Pack banner. Some scouts and parents enjoyed passing out candies to those watching the parade. This is the first time the Cub Scouting organization has allowed Kindergartners to join. Previously boys were required to be in the First to Fifth grades. Our pack has doubled in size and the support of parents, siblings and grandparents are amazing.

Church Clean Up

Thank you to the Cub Scout parents that came out to help. Every year we are assigned to help clean the preschool.

Food Drive

With the Holidays approaching...We are all so thankful for what we have. Every year the Cub Scouts want to help out the community and the less fortunate by collecting and donating food to the Food Basket. It is such a GREAT feeling to know that you made some difference in another person's life.

Upcoming Events:

Dec 10th –Christmas Party
Dec 12th - Christmas Caroling, Hualalai Regency
January 2017 –Winter Camp
February 5, 2017 – Scout Sunday

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SPECIAL DONATIONS

Nobuko Aoki, In Memory of Chikaharu Saito
Yasunori Deguchi, Annual Clean-Up
Chiyono Kobayashi, In Memory of Zane Fujimoto
Thelma Matsumoto
Mr. & Mrs. Michitoshi Murakami, Project Dana
Ray Takeguchi, In Memory of Mrs. Tane Takeguchi
JoAnn Hiroshige
Emiko Matsumura, In Memory of my Parents
Thrift, Mark

Total - \$435.00

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Fujie Ichishita, 1st Year Service for Gary Ichishita
Elaine Kawasaki, Funeral Service & Related Expenses for Chiyoko Kawasaki
Irene Nakao, In Memory of Tsuyuko Iwane
The Okabayashi Family, Memorial Service for Shigeru and Yaeko Okabayashi
Clyde & Karen Takafuji, In Memory of Tsuyuko Iwane
Ethel Aoki, In Memory of Kazuyoshi Aoki
Dale Aoki & Family, 1st Year Service In Memory of Kazue Aoki
Sidney Aoki & Family, 1st Year Service in Memory of Kazue Aoki
Claudia Chang & Family, 1st Year Service In Memory of Kazue Aoki
Doris Higashi, In Memory of Yaeko Okabayashi
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ikeno, In Memory of Herbert Oue
Elbert Iwane, 13th Year Memorial Service for Tsuyuko Iwane
Asano & Bryan Matsumoto, 7th Year Memorial Service for George Matsumoto
Francis & Claire Oue, 3rd Year Memorial Service for Herbert Oue
Elaine Piltz, Togetherness Service
N. Teshima & Family, 7th Year Memorial Service for Earl T. Teshima
Vivian Teshima, 7th Year Memorial Service for Earl T. Teshima
Lynn & Arnold Tokuyama & Family, 1st Year Service In Memory of Kazue Aoki
Mike & Karen Wong, 1st Year Service for Mrs. Okabayashi
Pauline & Glenn Yano & Family, 1st Year Service In Memory of Kazue Aoki

Total - \$1,870.00

Acknowledgements Continued:**HAKASOJI and NOKOTSUDO**

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Ban
Thelma Matsumoto
Mr & Mrs. Gordon Ogi
Mark Thrift

Mr. & Mrs. Michitoshi Murakami
Yoshiko Kadooka
Emiko Matsumura

Kent Iwashita
Bessie Kakizoe
JoAnn Ozaki

Total - \$605.00

Acknowledgements Continued:**JIHO**

Mr. & Mrs. Keith Hayama
Jerry & Irene Omori

Mr. & Mrs. Michitoshi Murakami
Lilly Ushiroda

Yoshiko Kadooka

Total - \$200.00

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Total - \$1,485.00

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Elaine Komo
Lillian Koshi
Satsuko Matsuoka
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Kazumi Oshita
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Makiko Yamaguchi
Mr. & Mrs. Michitoshi Murakami
Total - \$680.00

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Elaine Komo
Lillian Koshi
Stanley Kunitomo
Janet Lindner
Jim Miller
Linda Nagai
Chizu Nakashima
Ethel Saito
Suga Suzuki
Clara Uechi

Acknowledgements Continued:

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Akino Sonoda
Tokiko Sakata

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Mr. & Mrs. Bert Maedo
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Matsumoto
Mr. & Mrs. George Matsuoka
Rev. Bruce Nakamura
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Takeoka
Suga Suzuki
Total - \$525.00

Sandy Iwashita
Mary Katayama
Nora Koyanagi
Doris Masutomi
Chizu Nakashima
Carol Okuna
Margaret Kihara

CAPITAL FUND

Mr. & Mrs. Michitoshi Murakami

Mr. & Mrs. Keith Hayama

HAWAII KYODAN DUES

Rev. & Mrs. Bruce Nakamura

Mark Thrift