

Lihue Hongwanji Mission, a Shin Buddhist Temple

VOLUME 78 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2024

Building Healthy Sanghas: Sharing Joy Together

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Living Treasures

“The Living Treasures of Hawaii is a program instituted by the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii to recognize and honor individuals for their sustained contributions toward enriching our society.” The Living Treasures program is designed to “Preserve and perpetuate the islands’ cultural and artistic heritage.” Since the program’s inception in 1976, over two hundred of Hawaii’s people, including educators, dancers, artists, clergy, business leaders, and community volunteers, among others, have been named Living Treasures of Hawaii.

Recipients to be honored in 2024:

Julian Keikilani Ako, retired teacher and administrator, Kamehameha Schools; Hawaiian music composer and musicologist, leader in the indigenization of curriculum, promoter of international studies and relations, and regenerative tourism

Douglas D.I.Chong, leader of Hawaii’s Chinese history with the Hawaii Chinese History Center, Chinese Chamber of Commerce, United Chinese Society, oral historian, author of Chinese community history, cultural values, educator, U.H. Research Corporation, Department of Education

Sarah ‘Ilialoa Ayat Quick Keahi, reviver of Hawaiian language at Kamehameha Schools, where she taught for 37 years; legacy includes former students teaching ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i across the state at all levels, from immersion to university

Davianna Pomaikai‘i McGregor, PhD, Professor Emeritus, Ethnic Studies Department; Director Oral History Center, University of Hawai‘i; one of the primary leaders of the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana; author of seminal book, “Nā Kua‘āina: Living Hawaiian Culture”

Ricardo D. Trimillos, PhD, Professor Emeritus, Ethnomusicology, University of Hawai‘i, perpetuator of Hawai‘i’s cultural, music, and artistic traditions, international consultant on ethnomusicology

Compassion: Although there is no requirement that any honoree belong to the Buddhist faith, the fundamental principle of Buddhist ethics is simple and clear in the selections—that all people should develop an attitude of compassion. Loving one’s fellow human beings is seen as a way of diminishing love of self, as a way of breaking down the barriers that separate people from each other. An extension of this attitude is the concept of service to others. To honor those who have served others in their various ways, such as the Living Treasures of Hawaii has done, is the spirit of a fundamental Buddhist principle being applied in everyday lives.

Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY 2024

Sun	4	9:00 AM	Family Dharma Service Birthday & Monthly Memorial
Thur	8	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Mtg. (via videoconference)
Sun	11	9:00 AM	Family Dharma Service
Sun	18	9:00— 9:45 AM	Coffee Hour Come join us in the Social Hall for coffee, tea and refreshments before the seminar.
		10:00 AM	Nembutsu Seminar “Buddhism & Contemporary Music” by Rev. Satoshi Tomioka, Puna Hongwanji See page 8 for information and registration
Sun	25	9:00 AM	Family Dharma Service
		11:00 AM	New Year’s Party See page 6 for more information

MARCH 2024

Sun	3	9:00 AM	Family Dharma Service Birthday & Monthly Memorial
Thur	7	7:00 PM	Bon Dance Practice Social Hall
Sun	10	9:00 AM	Family Dharma Service
Thur	14	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Mtg. (via videoconference)
Sun	17	9:00 AM	Family Dharma Service
Thur	21	7:00 PM	Bon Dance Practice Social Hall
Sun	24	9:00 AM	Higan Service Speaker: Rev. Joshin Kamura, Hilo Betsuin (video dharma message)
Sun	31	9:00 AM	Family Dharma Service

Please note that there is no Honpa
Headquarters Update this month.

Columbarium Hours

The Columbarium will be open **Tuesday-Thursday** from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm and on **Friday, Saturday and Sunday** 8:00 am - 5:00 pm . Please know that the Columbarium will be locked when Rev. Yagi is not present. Please call the office to be sure the Columbarium will be open when you want to visit.

Office Hours

Office hours for Rev. Yagi are as follows:
Monday: Day off

Tuesday - Sunday: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Closed for lunch: 12 noon - 1:00 pm

If you wish to speak with Rev. Yagi, it is suggested that you call ahead for an appointment, as he may be away from the office on temple business.

The temple must be locked when Rev. Yagi is not available. Thank you for your understanding.



"Sharing Nembutsu Moment"

On this occasion, I am deeply honored to share insights on the theme for 2024, the final year of our overarching theme, "Building Healthy Sanghas." This year's focus is on the profound and spiritually enriching slogan, "Sharing Nembutsu Moments," as eloquently explained by Rev. Eric Matsumoto, Former Bishop and Interim Director of the Office of Buddhist Education, in our 2024 HHMH calendar.

Before delving into the significance of "Nembutsu Moments," let us first understand what "Nembutsu" is. The term "Nembutsu" refers to invoking the name of Amida Buddha with a sincere heart. It is a profound and central practice in Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, symbolizing True Entrusting (Shinjin) in the boundless compassion of Amida Buddha.

To truly understand the essence of a "Nembutsu Moment," let us reflect on Rev. Eric's wisdom. In its purest form, a "Nembutsu Moment" is that sacred instance, orchestrated by Amida Buddha's benevolence, when True Entrusting (Shinjin) unfolds. It is the moment when the heartfelt utterance of "Namo Amida Butsu" spontaneously arises, enveloping us in the awareness of Great Compassion. Each subsequent recitation of the Nembutsu becomes a joyous expression of gratitude, a recognition that Amida Buddha has embraced and never abandoned us.

Describing this moment is like attempting to capture the indescribable beauty that leaves us in awe. Rev. Eric's analogy captures it well—encountering something so profoundly beautiful that it renders us speechless, and all we can utter is a heartfelt "Wow!" Yet, these "Wow" moments are not isolated; they are continuous expressions of awe and gratitude, as explained in *The Collected Works of Shinran, Volume Two*: "...the moment of awakening of shinjin and saying the nembutsu is a moment both in and out of time."

However, the scope of "Nembutsu Moments" extends beyond the initial awakening. Our slogan encourages us to embrace and share other precious moments—Dharma-inspired instances of gratitude, joy, happiness, and meaningful reflections that have enriched our lives. These moments of our existence are filled with profound meaning and fulfillment and become like radiant gems.

So, let's share these gems! Imagine your joyous tales becoming the blockbuster hit of the Sangha, inspiring others like a spiritual Netflix series. We're not just building healthy Sanghas but constructing an amusement park of enlightenment, complete with rollercoaster realizations and merry-go-rounds of mindfulness.

As we traverse the final year of "Building Healthy Sanghas," let us wholeheartedly embrace the spirit of "Sharing Nembutsu Moments." May our shared stories become a source of inspiration, fostering connections and deepening our collective understanding of the boundless compassion of Amida Buddha.

I invite you to reflect on your own "Nembutsu Moments" and consider how sharing these moments can contribute to the well-being of our Sangha and the broader community. In this shared journey, we can continue to build healthy and harmonious communities grounded in the teachings of Amida Buddha.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Namo Amida Butsu—Entrusting in All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion.



LHWA NEWS

New Members Welcome



LHWA Meetings for 2024

Note that all meetings will begin at 10:00 am following Sunday service.

- April 28
- September 22
- November 24

Save the Date

18th World Buddhist Women's Convention

In Honolulu

September 11 & 12, 2027



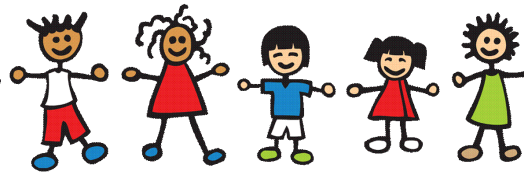
Following the LHWA Installation on Sunday January 21, a meeting was held in the Social Hall.

After the meeting, members met at Puakea Grill for a luncheon. The food was great and the company even better!

Thank you all for coming out to celebrate a new year for LHWA!

LHWA Installation on Sunday January 21: (L-R) Lynne Matsumura, Carol Ozaki, Yoko Takabayashi, Carol Valentine, Gladys Fujiuchi, Gail Shibuya, Marian Ogata, Rev. Shawn Yagi.

Happy
Valentine's
Day



It's the beginning of a new year and we want all beings here to feel safe and valued.

Keep warm everyone!



In the beginning of January, Uncle Matt and his two friends from the YWCA came on three separate days to teach the children about safe touching. We learned safety rules and a song called "Our Body Belongs Just to Me". The children enjoyed the lively, upbeat presentation. At the end of the session everyone was presented with a coloring book that reinforced the messages that they learned.



We learned who Martin Luther King Jr. was and the importance of getting along with each other and to embrace our differences.

New Year's Party

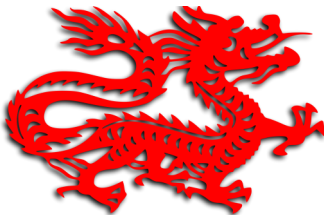
Join Us for a Celebration in the Year of the Dragon

We are having our LHM New Year's Party Luncheon!

Come help us celebrate on

Sunday February 25, 2024

The fun begins at 11:00 am!



Please RSVP by February 16 by calling the LHM office at 808-245-6262. Please leave your name and the number attending if there is no answer.

If you prefer email, please send your RSVP to lihuehongwanjimission@gmail.com

Menu: (Buffet Catered by Puakea Grill)

- ◇ ◇ Ginger Chicken
- ◇ ◇ Sweet-Sour Spare Ribs
- ◇ ◇ Fried Noodles
- ◇ ◇ Green Salad
- ◇ ◇ Cake
- ◇ ◇ Hot Tea and water

Cost:

- Members - \$18
- Non-members - \$23
- Children 12 & under - \$5
- 90+ - Free
- New Members - Free

Donations of prizes or gift cards are greatly appreciated.



Food Drive

In honor of love and gratitude in the month of February, we are again sponsoring a food drive at Lihue Hongwanji. Bring your non-perishables or a monetary donation to Sunday Services in February, to the New Year's Party or leave your donations in the Food Drive box that will be located in the Minister's office. We continue to have keiki, kupuna and families across our island experience food insecurity on a daily basis. With your gift of dana (selfless giving), you will be sharing kindness and compassion with others. Please see below for a list of the most requested food items.

All non-perishable and cash donations will go to the Hawaii Food Bank, Kauai Branch. All goods and monies received will stay on Kauai to help our neighbors. If you are unable to bring non-perishables to our temple, monetary donations will be accepted. Please make any check out to **Hawaii Foodbank, Kauai**. Just a \$10 donation helps provide food for 22 meals.

With Gratitude



Hawaii Foodbank, Kauai Branch

<https://hawaiifoodbank.org/kauai/>



Hawaii Foodbank, Kauai most needed foods

- Rice (in 2-5 lb. bags)
- Canned Meals (like soup, stew, chili and pasta)
- Canned Meats (tuna, chicken, and other lean meats)
- Canned Fruits
- Canned Vegetables
- Canned Beans



Bon Dance Practice

Yes, once again it is time for Bon Dance Practice. Please join us in the social hall on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at 7:00 pm, beginning on March 7 and ending on May 16. Everyone is welcome! There are two new dances in the lineup this year.

Nembutsu Seminar with Rev. Satoshi Tomioka

Title: Buddhism and Contemporary Music

Guest Speaker: Reverend Satoshi Ka'imipono Tomioka, Puna Hongwanji

Date: Sunday, February 18, 2024

Time: 10:00 am (HST)

Platform: Hybrid (Lihue Hongwanji Mission & Zoom)

Join us at Lihue Hongwanji for in-person session with Rev. Tomioka or by Zoom.

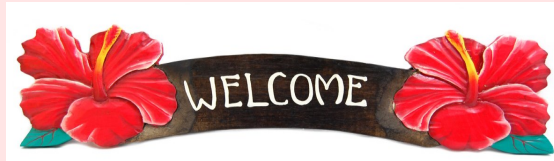
Registration is required for both in-person and Zoom. Please go to the link <https://forms.gle/HVVa9sXCCRq4ZrSc7> and fill out the information.

Registration deadline for in-person and Zoom is **February 11, 2024.**

When you complete the seminar registration, you will receive an automatic confirmation email from Google forms.



Please join us for Coffee Hour at 9:00 am in the LHM Social Hall before the Seminar.



Please help us welcome our new members

Ashley Brady & Aaron Leslie

Holly Taguma

When you see them, welcome them to LHM.

Pickleball . . . The National Craze for All Generations!

Do you want to play pickleball? Are you a member and a beginner and want to learn how to play this addictive game? Is so, let us know by contacting us at lihuehongwanjission@gmail.com . If there is enough interest, a beginner's level class can be held.

If you already know how to play, there is a pickleball session in the LHM Social Hall every Monday at 6:00 pm. All members are welcome. Just bring yourself and your tennis shoes!



Ronald K. Hanaoka Memorial Scholarship



LHM member Ronald Hanaoka, deceased, left \$50,000 to LHM to be used for scholarships of \$1000 per year for LHM members pursuing a post-secondary education. The general criteria for awarding the scholarship are:

- ◆ The applicant must be a member of Lihue Hongwanji Mission for at least 2 years.
- ◆ The applicant must be or plan to be enrolled in any accredited college, university, community college or vocational school in the United States.
- ◆ The applicant must be a senior in high school, or already enrolled in a qualified school.
- ◆ One scholarship will be awarded each year. If there is no qualified applicant in a year, an additional scholarship may be awarded in succeeding years.
- ◆ A student may be awarded the scholarship multiple times if there is no other qualified applicant.
- ◆ You may request the application form and complete requirements from Rev. Yagi or by emailing lihuehongwanjission@gmail.com.
- ◆ **The completed forms are due on April 15, 2024.**

KUHBWA Scholarship

Information will be coming out next month about the Kauai United Hongwanji Buddhist Women's Association (KUHBWA) Scholarship.

Look for qualification information and deadlines in the March issue.



ASK REV. SHAWN

“Everything You Ever Wanted to Know But Were Afraid to Ask”

Do you have questions

- ⇒ about Buddhism?
- ⇒ about Jodo Shinshu?
- ⇒ about the dharma (teachings)?
- ⇒ about anything you have heard in temple or read in a book about Buddhism?



Now is the time to ask! We will be having a new column in our monthly newsletter entitled “**ASK REV. SHAWN**”. All questions will be used anonymously so you can ask simple or complex questions. We will have forms at the church you may use or you may email your questions to lihuehongwanjission@gmail.com. We will not use your name unless you want us to do so.

To all Lihu'e Hongwanji members:

If you would like a copy of your 2023 donations for tax purposes, please contact the office (808-245-6262) to request that it be mailed to you. If there is no answer, please leave a detailed message including your name and mailing address along with the request. You may also make a request via email at lihuehongwanjimission@gmail.com. Please remember to include your name and mailing address in your email request so your donation copy can be mailed.

Deadline for request is February 16, 2024.



Calendars



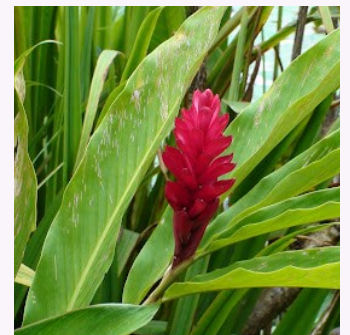
Members, you should have received your Honpa Hongwanji Calendar for 2024. As you already know, the envelope with the calendar also contained the following items:

- 12 Donation Envelopes. Please continue to use these envelopes as needed for membership renewal or special donations.
- Membership letter and Membership Renewal Form for 2024. Please complete the Membership Renewal Form, updating any changes, filling in blank spaces and returning it to the church at **3-3556 Kuhio Highway, Lihue, HI 96766.**
- ***Please sign, date and return the Membership Renewal Form even if there are no changes.***

Flower Donations

Do you have flowers in your garden? The Hoshakai volunteers who clean the temple and arrange altar flowers on Friday morning are looking for flower donations. If you have any flowers you would like to donate, please bring them down on any **Thursday afternoon** and leave them in the bucket near the outside sink (near the Columbarium).

Thank you for helping!



If there are errors please email us at: lihuehongwanjission@gmail.com or call the office at 808-245-6262.

MEMORIAL DONATION:

In memory of Stanley Sato (3 Yrs.)
Winston & Marian Ogata
In memory of Hideo "Legs" Ibe (17 Yrs.)
Mark & Audrey Hiranaka
In memory of Sadao Tanabe (25 Yrs.)
Morton & Carolyn Yamasaki
In memory of Betty Sasaki (33 Yrs.)
Blaine Sasaki
Mark & Audrey Hiranaka
In memory of Helen Harada
Morton & Carolyn Yamasaki
In memory of Hajime Takata
Diane Fukuyama
In memory of Percival Bailey
Teresa Bailey
In memory of Masaichi & Tsurue Morinaka
Fred & June Morinaka
In memory of Hazel Kashima
Charles & Lorraine Inouye
In memory of Seichi Higuchi
Warren & Colleen Nonaka
Blaine Sasaki
In memory of Sally Higuchi
Blaine Sasaki
In memory of Tetsu Sasaki
Blaine Sasaki
Mark & Audrey Hiranaka
In memory of M/M Chohei Watanabe & David
Dr. Donald & Joann Kawane
In memory of Kiyoshi & Chiyo Kato
Norman Kato
In memory of James Miyamoto
Janet Niitani & Family

COLUMBARIUM DONATION:

In memory of Shigeru Kurashige
Hiroko Kurashige
In memory of George & Elsie Toyofuku
Guy & Lori Toyofuku
In memory of Mamoru Yamada
Amy Yamada
In memory of Seichi, Mitsuko & Akiko Higuchi
Amy Yamada
In memory of Kenneth Higuchi
Amy Yamada

In memory of Bessie Sasaki
Amy Yamada
In memory of the Mamuras
Nathan & Pranorm Mamura
In memory of James & Agnes Miyamoto
Janet Niitani

HAPPINESS DONATION:

Glenn & Gail Shibuya

SPECIAL DONATION:

Alice Inouye
Dr. Greg & Joann Naganuma

NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE DONATION:

Glenn & Gail Shibuya

NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICE DONATION:

Winston & Marian Ogata
Setsuo & Edith Ushio
Wayne Fujioka & Carol Valentine
Glenn & Gail Shibuya
Arlene Fujikawa
Gladys Fujiuchi
Morton & Carolyn Yamasaki
Diane Fukuyama
Kenneth & Lynette Mizuo
Shirley Hashimoto
Lynne Matsumura

HOONKO SERVICE DONATION:

Gladys Fujiuchi
Roy & Carol Fujioka
Roy & Arlene Tanaka
Glenn & Gail Shibuya
Alice Inouye
Janet Niitani
Natsuko Daida
Wayne Fujioka & Carol Valentine
Setsuo & Edith Ushio
Arlene Fujikawa
Hiroko Kurashige
Diane Fukuyama
Lorraine Shimauchi

*Thank
You*

Whatever is born must pass away. Before this strictest of rules, it makes no difference whether one is man or woman, rich or poor; the same destiny awaits us all. Every moment that we are alive moves us that much closer to our death.

“Leaves of My Heart”, Lady Takeko Kujo

MEMORIAL SERVICE (HOYO)

FEBRUARY–MARCH

The following is a list of members who passed away during the months of February and March. In Jodo Shin Buddhism, memorial services are observed to remind the family members of the compassion of Amida Buddha in memory of the deceased. Lihue Hongwanji Mission recommends that the families and relatives of the deceased members listed below contact the temple office at 245-6262 for an appointment.

1st YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—2023

2023 NONE

3rd YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—2022

2022 March 9 Gail Sakai

2022 March 13 Helene Tada

7th YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—2018

2018 March 4 Fujiko Mamura

2018 March 6 Hisao Mizumura

13th YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—2012

2012 March 4 Hilda Inouye

2012 March 9 George Ohama

2012 March 22 Harold Sato

17th YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—2008

2008 March 12 Kiyomi Ishiyama

2008 March 18 Beatrice Bernal

2008 March 19 Tsutayo Saito

2008 March 27 Tatsuo Tsuruda

25th YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—2000

2000 February 2 Genso Fukunaga

2000 March 5 Masami Shinseki

2000 March 7 Florence Iwamoto

2000 March 9 Alice Uohara

33rd YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—1992

1992 February 5 Roland Kawaguchi

50th YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—1975

1975 February 21 Sagano Yamaguchi

1975 February 22 Kimiyo Yamasaki

1975 February 28 Thomas Kuboyama

1975 March 19 Shingoro Oishi



Nembutsu Seminar with Rev. Satoshi Tomioka

Buddhism and Contemporary Music

Sunday February 18, 2024, 10:00 am

Coffee Hour at 9:00 am

(see page 8)

Join Us for a Celebration in the Year of the Dragon

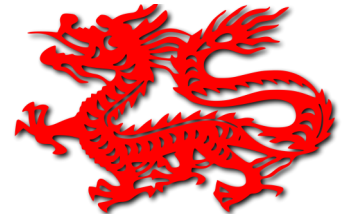
LHM New Year's Party Luncheon!

Sunday February 25, 2024

The fun begins at 11:00 am!

Please RSVP

(See page 6)



Lihue Hongwanji Mission, a Shin Buddhist Temple

Lihue Hongwanji Mission
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Lihue, Hawaii 96766

Return Service Requested

Building Healthy Sanghas

(Sharing Nembutsu Moments)



Address Label

Email: lihuehongwanjission@gmail.com

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

lihuehongwanji.org
