

Dharma Wheel

5/2025

Lihue Hongwanji Mission, a Shin Buddhist Temple

VOLUME 79 ISSUE 5

MAY, 2025

Nurturing Nembutsu: Cultivating Awareness

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Gotan-e Service, A Historical Perspective

Gotan-e, our celebration in May, commemorates the birth of Shinran Shonin, the founder of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism.



While researching for information about Gotan-e, I came across an article from the "Pacific Commercial Advertiser" newspaper from May 20, 1901. For historical perspective, the "Pacific Commercial Advertiser" became the "Honolulu Advertiser" in 1921 then merged with the "Honolulu Star-Bulletin" in 2010 to become the present day "Honolulu Star-Advertiser."

Photos of the article follow on page 3.


I thought the article was significant for three main reasons.

1. I realized that Honpa Hongwanji and Jodo Shinshu have been celebrating Shinran's birthday in May since 1901; that was 124 years ago and still counting. It is sometimes difficult to imagine how it must have been so very long ago but we are deeply indebted to those early sangha members who persevered.
2. Gotan-e Service in May 1901 was extremely significant because Queen Lili'uokalani was invited to and attended the special service. According to the Honpa Hongwanji website, "On May 19, 1901, Queen Lili'uokalani, accompanied by Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Mikahala Robinson Foster, a wealthy part-Hawaiian Buddhist and a dear friend of the Imamura (Bishop Yemyo and Kiyoko Imamura), attended the Hongwanji Gotan-E services, commemorating Shinran Shonin's birth. The presence of the recently deposed Queen of Hawaii at a Buddhist service caused quite a stir in the community and was reported widely in the newspapers throughout the world. Bishop Imamura later reported that for the timid young Buddhists the visit had a very positive impact, raising self-esteem and confidence in them."
3. While reading through the text of the newspaper


Continued on page 3

Calendar of Events

MAY 2025

Thur	1	7:00 PM	Bon Dance Practice
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 Mother's Day 
Thur	15	7:00 PM	Bon Dance Practice
Sun	18	9:00 AM	Family Dharma Service
Sun	25	9:00 AM	Gotan-e Service Celebrating the birth of Shinran Shonin

JUNE 2025

Sun	1	9:00 AM	Family Dharma Service Birthday & Monthly Memorial
Sat	7	8:00 AM	Construction (yagura & other items) + Cleaning/ Polishing of temple decorations
Sun	8	9:00 AM	Family Dharma Service
Thur	12	7:00 PM	Board of Directors Mtg. (via videoconference)
Sat	14	8:00 AM	Construction (Food Booth, Country Store, & other items)
Sun	15	9:00 AM	Bon / Hatsubon Service Father's Day 
Wed	18	8:00 AM	Chochin Installation
Fri	20	8:00 AM	More refrigerators, set up prep tables in food booth
Fri/ Sat	20- 21		LHM Bon Dance
Sun	22	8:00 AM	Bon Dance Clean-up No Sunday Service
Sun	29	9:00 AM	Family Dharma Service



REQUESTS FOR HOME OR HOSPITAL VISITATION

If you would like Rev. Yagi to visit a family member or friend who is homebound or hospitalized for any length of time, please call him at 808-245-6262. He is always willing to help in any way that he can.

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 understanding.



Columbarium Hours

Due to recent thefts in the area, we are forced to lock our precious Columbarium 24/7.

If you wish to visit the Columbarium, please call the temple, (808) 245-6262, to make arrangements with Rev. Yagi during office hours. Thank you for your understanding.

Continued from Front Page

article it becomes very clear that the views of our society in general have changed toward how groups are identified and how Buddhism in general is viewed in a positive manner in our modern age.

Written by Carol Valentine, Newsletter Committee

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Pacific Commercial Advertiser, Honolulu, May 20, 1901

A BUDDHIST CEREMONY

Anniversary of the Birth of a Saint.

THE SEEKERS OF NIRVANA MEET

Interesting Program of Exercises by the Shin Shu Sect of Gautama's Cult.

The seven hundred and twenty-ninth anniversary of the birth of Saint Shinran, founder of the Buddhist sect "Shin Shu," was yesterday celebrated by the Japanese followers of the sect at the little Buddhist chapel on Fort Lane.

The entrance to the lane was decorated with Buddhist banners, and the archway made into a bower of greens and flowers; the gateway of the school building and chapel presented a festive appearance, the many colored flags of the seekers after Nirvana fluttering over it, and the blue and white banners with the coat of arms of Saint Shinran were festooned about the building.

In the afternoon services were held, and in the evening the strings of Japanese lanterns which had been hung from the chapel across the lawn, were lighted, and the occasion became one of rejoicing.

From a booth of bunting and greens, lemonade, tea and cakes were dispensed, and the little ones of the Oriental race were made happy with a surfeit of sweets. The gayest and richest kimonos from the wardrobes of the little brown women were worn, and the Japanese juveniles were quaintly and prettily clad for the occasion of rejoicing.

The afternoon services began at 2:30 o'clock, the chapel being filled to overflowing with the followers of Buddha and their friends and invited guests.

Queen Liliuokalani and a party of other friends, having received the invitation of Mr. Imamura, the high priest of bonze of the islands, was in attendance, and sat at the left of the altar. Dr. Marques, president of the Theosophical Society, and Mrs. Marques were also invited guests.

The altar was decorated with the emblems of the sect and offerings of flowers and fruit had been placed in the brass vases and carved sandalwood receivers. Incense was kept burning, and lighted candles and elaborate brass lanterns softly illuminated the temple.

The program of worship consisted of chants and prayers in the Japanese language and an address in English by Mr. Imamura. Miss Barber, teacher of the Japanese night school, also made a short address in praise of the principles of the Buddhist religion, likening Buddhism to a great structure, whose foundation was of stone and rested on the earth, but whose summit was lost in the clouds of Nirvana.

The little girls of the Japanese Sunday school sang a sacred harmony to the accompaniment of the organ, and at the close of the services made offerings of silver to Buddha, placing the pieces of money upon the altar platform with quaint oriental obeisances. Their offerings were followed by those of the congregation, many of the contributors kneeling in prayer as they placed their silver pieces upon the altar.

After worship tea and cake were served on the lanais and lawns; the Queen and her party, Dr. and Mrs. Marques and a number of American visitors were invited to partake of these refreshments with the priests in the reception room of the chapel.

2

The little ones made merry all the afternoon about the grounds, and in the evening the festivities for their elders began.

While tea drinking and refreshments under the Japanese lanterns on the lawns kept those outside merrily busy, within the chapel there were Japanese theatricals to amuse the Orientals and to excite the wonder and appreciation of the picturesque on the part of the American visitors.

The day of rejoicing was not brought to a close until near the midnight hour. The address of the high priest delivered in English at the afternoon service was as follows:

Today, wherever branches of the Buddhist mission of our sect, Shin-shu, exist, special meetings will be held to commemorate the seven hundred and twenty-ninth anniversary of the founder, Saint Shinran, known to all Buddhists of our sect. So the body of our followers here, meet today to praise his memory, following the precedent which has become a pleasant annual duty—pious duty—of sending out thoughts of remembrance and gratitude for favors received from him.

Then, who was the founder of our sect? And what has he done in the history of Buddhism? His work was an extraordinary event in the records of Buddhism, that was never before seen, and that, perhaps, has never since been surpassed. He was born on May 21, 1173, in the highest circles of Kyoto, the old capital of Japan, having princely blood in his veins; having vast wealth and power. Almost everything the world had to offer was yielded to him. All he gladly gave up that he might go out into the world. He entered the priesthood at nine years of age, under Zichin, the high priest of the Tendai sect.

Later on he studied during twenty years, and perfectly understood the meaning of the Mahayana School of Buddhism, but he perceived that to attain Nirvana by self-power, or help through self, was almost impracticable to the imperfect human beings of this world, and then he quickly grasped the essential point in the doctrine of the Mahayana School, and perceived that Nirvana was attainable to all by help through another, or by the boundless mercy of Amida Buddha. No one but himself ever discovered such a doctrine in Buddhism.

As soon as he began the mission the priests of other sects became jealous of the daily progress of the new doctrine and slandered him and his disciples to the government. In consequence of this, he was confined to the province of Yechigo, and the propagation of the doctrine was stopped. After five years, when this restriction was removed by the government, he traveled through the northwestern provinces, spreading the doctrines of the sect. The more he was persecuted, the more his mission flourished. Returning to Kyoto he preached there for many years, and died in that city on January 16, 1262, at the age of ninety years.

At thirty-one years of age he married the daughter of Prince K. Kujō. This was one of the extraordinary events, not only in his life, but in the history of Buddhism, marriage having been forbidden to the priesthood heretofore.

According to the general rule the priests of other sects cut their hair short, wear religious vestments, and show the general appearance of bonzes, but in our sect, since the doctrine is so easy of attainment, and austere observance of the other sects are not considered essential, they are allowed to marry and to eat flesh and fish, which privileges are strictly forbidden to the priests of the other sects. Thus, the priests of our sect are allowed to act freely in such matters. This is called "the manner of non-priests and non-laymen," which was established by the founder of our sect, and is peculiar to it alone.

Therefore, the system of our sect is far different from that of those ascetic sects who desire for themselves the future world only, put the present world in oblivion, and look upon the rise and fall of the country with indifference. Ours is truly a national religion, that desires, at the same time, prosperity in this life and happiness in the next. It encourages the national spirit, adopts itself well to the manners and customs of the place at which it prevails, and maintains the peace of the country. This at once revealed the traits of the Japanese mind in by-gone ages, and helped to form the characters of the rising generation.

In short, the doctrines of our sect consist of the two systems; spiritual truth and moral truth. The principle of spiritual truth is to have faith in the power of Amida Buddha's prayer; to rest assured of future bliss through that faith; and that of moral truth is to lead an upright and moral life here to the welfare and happiness of mankind, always remembering the mercy of Amida Buddha, and keeping a compassionate heart.

This is the reason why, in Japan, our sect is in a flourishing condition, and has the tendency to introduce itself into foreign countries, while the believers of the other sects are diminishing in number.

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Now in this celebration, the only way we can manifest our gratitude to this great teacher, outside of keeping his memory forever, is to express thankfulness for the reception of the doctrine from the founder, whose teachings are so benevolent, and as welcome as light in a dark night. (And I shall now thank the kind friends who so readily respond to our invitation and come to help us in our commemoration.)

To read the full article from 1901, please click on this link to take you to the article on our website:

<https://lihuehongwanji.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/May-20-1901-Gotan-e-service-with-Liliuokalani.pdf>



During a recent vacation to Miyajima, an island in Hiroshima Prefecture known for its scenic beauty and the iconic floating torii gate of Itsukushima Shrine, I was captivated not only by the sights and free-roaming deer but also by a beloved local treat—Momiji manju. These maple-leaf-shaped cakes, filled with sweet red bean paste, are a specialty of the island and can be found in shops throughout its streets. Many stores feature open kitchens where visitors can watch the cakes being made by mesmerizing automated machines. As I observed this process—the batter poured, the filling added, the cakes flipped and cooled—I found an unexpected connection to the teachings of Shinran Shonin and the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist path.

The experience served as a powerful metaphor for the Nembutsu path and Amida Buddha's compassion. Watching the Momiji manju being made, I was reminded of "Other Power (Tariki)"—a foundational concept in Jodo Shinshu. Just as the visitor to the shop does not make the manju but receives it, the path to enlightenment in Shinran Shonin's teachings is not something we construct ourselves through hard work or spiritual effort. Instead, awakening is something we receive, thanks to the boundless compassion and wisdom of Amida Buddha, which have been perfected over countless eons.

Shinran Shonin's central teaching, based on the 18th Vow of Amida Buddha, emphasizes that salvation does not come through self-power or personal merit. We are like the customers at the manju shop—we don't make the treat; we receive it as a gift. The "sweetness" of awakening comes not from our own doing, but through entrusting ourselves to the Vow, expressed through the recitation of Namo Amida Butsu. This isn't a practice to gain favor or merit, but a spontaneous expression of deep gratitude for what has already been given.

Another reflection came from noticing how all the Momiji manju looked nearly identical—perfectly shaped maple leaves—yet no two were exactly alike. Some were darker, some puffier, some with more filling. Though made by the same machine, each cake had its subtle uniqueness. This diversity within sameness became a poignant reminder of how all beings are different, with their own personalities, struggles, and life circumstances, yet equally embraced by Amida Buddha.

This mirrors Shinran Shonin's compassionate view of humanity. In "Kyōgyōshinshō", he writes about how foolish beings are consumed by blind passions, sunk in desire, and scorched by anger—yet still, they are embraced by Amida's Vow. The Nembutsu path does not demand perfection; instead, it acknowledges our human limitations and offers us unconditional acceptance. Just as the manju machine doesn't pause to judge each cake, Amida's compassion does not withhold itself from those who feel broken, flawed, or unworthy.

Then there is the taste of the Momiji manju itself—a moment of joy that brings a smile. Sweet and straightforward, this sensation reminded me of the feeling that arises when one says the Nembutsu with true gratitude. This isn't a forced or calculated act, but a natural response of the heart, warmed by the realization of being unconditionally accepted. The taste of the manju became symbolic of the "sweetness" of the Dharma—comforting, joyful, and deeply satisfying.

For us, saying Namo Amida Butsu isn't a way to earn spiritual points. It's an expression of joyful gratitude, like savoring a delicious treat not because we have to, but because it brings us happiness. The Nembutsu is not a duty; it's a reminder that we are already saved, already embraced, already loved. Just as we receive a manju with open hands, we receive the Dharma with an open heart.

In closing, I reflect that even something as ordinary as a small sweet cake can become a doorway to profound spiritual understanding. The Momiji manju can be a guide of key teachings in Jodo Shinshu:

- Enlightenment is something we receive, not something we manufacture.
- Each person is unique, but equally accepted by Amida's compassion.
- The joy of the Dharma is real, warm, and present in everyday life.

These reflections lead to an invitation: the next time you enjoy a treat, whether a manju or something else, pause and let it remind you of the gratitude and compassion that surround your life. The path of Nembutsu is walked not in isolation, but together, supported by Amida's great Vow. And along the way, we can find sweetness not just in desserts, but in the knowledge that we are never alone.

Namo Amida Butsu.

Intro Class on Cybersecurity

Protecting Yourself and Your Sangha from Email Scams and More

Speaker:

***Giovanni D. Williams, Cybersecurity Advisor
Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)***

Saturday, May 10, 2025 (hybrid)
10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. (including Q&A)

This workshop is being presented via Zoom. **You will need to Register to receive the Zoom link via email.**

Please register, even if you are a "maybe" so you can receive confirmation of workshop details.

For information and registration: https://hongwanjihawaii.com/event/cybersecurity-class/?event_date=2025-05-10

**MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP****“Reflection on the 80th Anniversary of the Kamikaze Attack and Burial on the USS Missouri”**

On April 11, 2025, I had the honor of attending and offering the Invocation and Benediction at the 80th Anniversary of the Kamikaze Attack and Burial on the

USS *Missouri*. This solemn event, hosted by the USS Missouri Memorial Association, served as a time of remembrance and reconciliation, marking eight decades since a significant moment in the Battle of Okinawa.

In April 1945, a kamikaze aircraft struck the *Missouri*, causing damage and loss. Amidst the wreckage, part of the plane and the body of the young Japanese pilot landed on the main deck. In a remarkable act of compassion, then-Captain William Callaghan ordered that the pilot be given a proper burial at sea in accordance with naval tradition. Despite being an enemy combatant, the pilot was treated with dignity and respect—an extraordinary gesture that has continued to resonate through generations.

At the anniversary ceremony, we were joined by the descendants of Captain Callaghan, including his grandson, Mr. Carey Callaghan, who shared: “My grandfather’s decision – controversial at the time, and maybe even today – was a humble one rooted in empathy, a sense of dignity, and a vision of the future that was a part of who he was every day.”

Honolulu Mayor Rick Blangiardi also offered his reflections, stating: “This moment of remembrance stands as a testament to the power of reconciliation and the strength of peace. Captain Callaghan chose to respond not with hatred, but with honor and respect. That act of compassion continues to teach us that dignity and respect are not weakened by war; they are strengthened through understanding and forgiveness.”

As part of my Invocation and Benediction, I shared these thoughts: “Despite the extreme conditions of the battlefield, there existed profound respect and compassion for an individual who sacrificed his life. This compassionate act transcended national borders,

ideologies, and conflicting emotions. All lives are equally embraced by the Light of the Buddha’s Great Compassion. While conflicts rage globally, people tend to alienate those with differing values, and I feel an urgent concern as divisions and isolation continue to grow. I sincerely hope that everyone gathered here today, both young and old, reflects on the power of compassion that enfolds all lives, nurtures a sense of oneness of all lives within our hearts, and walks together toward the realization of a society in which everyone can live a life of spiritual fulfillment. May we each return to our communities with a renewed commitment to practice compassion, uphold dignity, and foster mutual understanding and peace.”

The ceremony concluded with a wreath-laying, followed by the scattering of flower petals by all participants—a quiet yet powerful act of tribute, memory, and hope for peace.

MUSICAL NOTES APRIL 2025

Twice a year, the Music Committee of Hongwanji Hawaii’s Office of Buddhist Education publishes a newsletter called Musical Notes. Issues are available as PDFs and on our Music Committee web page, <https://hongwanjihawaii.com/music/>.

The April 2025 issue includes these items:

- > Danny Topp: Living the Values of Jodo Shinshu
- > More on Choralfest 2025 Gathas
- > Honolulu District News
- > Oahu District News
- > Choralfest 2025 flyer
- > Music Committee roster

We are fortunate to have a rich history of Buddhist music within Hongwanji Hawaii and through a global network of collaborative efforts. Mahalo to the Music Committee for sharing what’s happening!

From page 6

“SHARING YOUR NEMBUTSU MOMENTS” BOOKS AT THE HHMH BOOKSTORE

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii’s 2024 slogan, “Sharing Nembutsu Moments,” was brought to life in the book *Sharing Your Nembutsu Moments*. The book is our sangha’s culminating reflections on the 2024 slogan and contains stories and artwork from Dharma School students to young adults to the young at heart from across the state of Hawai‘i.

The many illustrations and photographs in the book help you visualize these shared personal moments. Seeing and reading these heartwarming stories and submissions is your chance to get to know Hongwanji members and ministers on a more personal, intimate level. Don’t miss this wonderful opportunity!

Sharing Your Nembutsu Moments is now available at the [HHMH Book Store](https://hmmhbookstore.org/) for only \$7 per copy. If you have questions, please contact Mrs. Yoshiko Umitani at (808) 522-9202 or hqbooks@honpahi.org.

Note: There are a few copies of the book for sale in the LHM office for a cost of \$7.

SAVE THE DATE: UPCOMING EVENTS

LARRY MIWA BOOK SIGNING EVENT SUPPORTING “PEACE ON YOUR WINGS”

Date: Sunday, April 27, 2025

Time: 4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Location: Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Social Hall

A wonderful gentleman named Steven Miwa has been on a book tour in memory of his father Larry Miwa who, as a child, wrote a diary just after the atomic bomb explosion over Hiroshima. Larry Miwa established a peace foundation and has also turned his diary into a book which his son now sells, giving all proceeds to various peace organizations.

All proceeds from this event will go to Ohana Arts for our “Peace On Your Wings” three-city tour. As the Hongwanji Hawaii leadership and sangha have been instrumental in inspiring and supporting this show, your presence and support are greatly appreciated.

Please share this information with your temple sangha and the community. A calendar item is available on our website via the shortcut link <http://honpahi.link/miwa>.

Save The Dates

Summer Session – August 4-8, 2025
6-8pm - Held In-person and via Zoom

As the 51st Annual Buddhist Study Center Summer Session features **Rev. Dr. Enrique Galvan-Alvarez** in an interactive learning series entitled:

“The Path Comes to Meet Me”

Awakening to Namo Amida Butsu

You are invited to re-evaluate your understanding of the Dharma by exploring a series of encounters, relationships, and journeys. Relevant to both newcomers and experienced travelers on the Buddhist path. Professor Galvan-Alvarez is a Hongwanji Kyoshi minister and leader in the United Kingdom and Spanish Shin Buddhist European community.

Each session will be an interactive workshop that leads to an experience of the benefits of Shin Buddhism. This is a practical guide of how being a Shin Buddhist in the 21st century can resolve many issues.

Come learn how to bring joy into the flow of ordinary life. For more information and registration, visit <https://bschawaii.org/summer-session/> or contact the Buddhist Study Center.

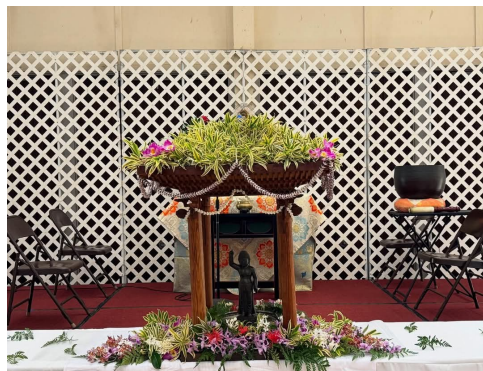
More information will be provided for the Kauai Summer Session date and time.

To read the complete newsletter, learn about workshops, seminars, and opportunities and to see photos, please check on the Honpa Hongwanji website.

<https://hawaiiibetsuin.org/>

Buddha Day (Hanamatsuri)

The island wide Buddha Day celebration, sponsored by the Kauai Buddhist Council, was held on Sunday April 6 in the Kauai War Memorial Convention Hall. The guest speaker was Rev. Blayne Higa, Kona Hongwanji. Refreshments, lucky number and entertainment all made for a good day. The entertainment included Koto Music by Rose Alfiler-Paboniar, the East Minyo Dance Club, a presentation by the Lihue Kendo Club and a performance by Taiko Kauai.



Koinobori Kaua'i 2025!

Kapaia Foundation's April newsletter highlights Koinobori Kaua'i. The flying carp is a symbol of hope that children will grow up physically strong and courageous against adversity. A rare sight in our community today, Kapaia Foundation continues the colorful and joyful tradition introduced to Hawaii by Japanese sugar plantation immigrants.

We display strings of windsock carp to remember the entire community of Kapaia in its heyday, the 1930's, and to celebrate all children. The koinobori will be flying in Kapaia Valley from April 28 – May 23. It will be an amazing sight when the wind blows, making the koi windsocks appear to be swimming vigorously against an imaginary river current and leaping over rapids! This impressive display instills community pride and fulfills a need for cultural enrichment and historical preservation. We hope to achieve awareness of the contributions of sugar plantation era immigrants to the history of Hawaii.



Lihue Hongwanji Mission

125th anniversary celebration

November 2, 2025



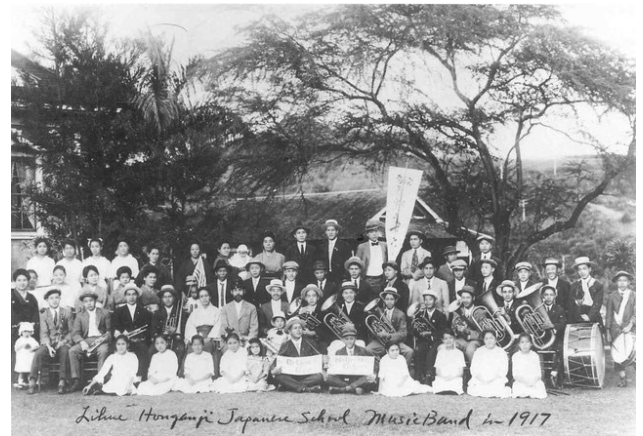
Do You Remember?

Do you have a story from “small kid time” about your experiences with Dharma School or the temple? If you do, please contact LHM through our official church account: lihuehongwanjimission@gmail.com and share your stories or photos with us. We would like to share the memories with our sangha. Stories can remain anonymous.

From our LHM Archives:



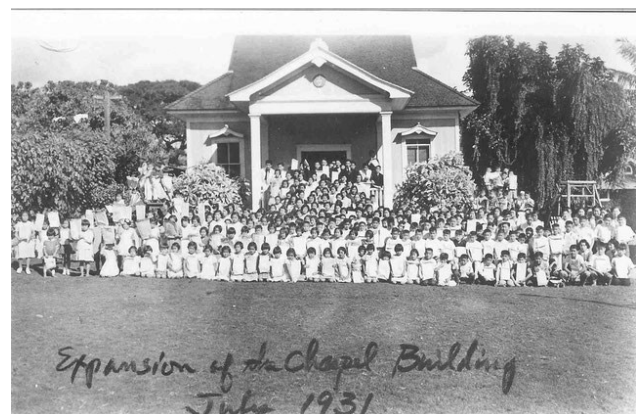
The Reverend and Mrs. Miyazaki next to the original temple, 1905.



Lihue Hongwanji Japanese School Music Band, 1917.



Visit by Monshu Sonyu Ohtani, January 1926.



Expansion of the Temple, 1931.



We have been very busy!

On April 8, Buddha's birthday, we visited the temple and Rev. Yagi arranged for the children and teachers to pour sweet tea over the baby Buddha's statue.

The next day we had three members of the Kauai concert association perform music from "The Carnival of the Animals". It was a delightful presentation.

We also dyed eggs and had our Egg hunt. .. so much fun.

Thank you Rev. Yagi for inviting us to the temple and thank you for your snack donations.



Dyeing our Easter eggs.



We celebrated Buddha's birthday by pouring sweet tea over Baby Buddha.



We made our own bunny masks.



We liked listening to the music.



LHWA NEWS

New Members Welcome

2025

LHWA Meetings for 2025

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

September 28
November 16

Save the Date

18th World Buddhist Women's Convention

In Honolulu

September 11 & 12, 2027

**Fall Conference**

October 26, 2025

To be held at Lihue Hongwanji
Stay tuned for more information.

Mahalo!

Thanks to the following people for helping to create the wonderful refreshments for the Buddha Day Celebration that was held on April 6 at the Kauai War Memorial Convention Hall:

Lynne Matsumura (for organizing and coordinating this big task), Gladys Fujiuchi, Diane Fukuyama, Lynette Mizuo, Carol Ozaki, Gail Shibuya, Edith Ushio & Carol Valentine.

Lei making and tying workshop; good friends, good fun and good snacks.



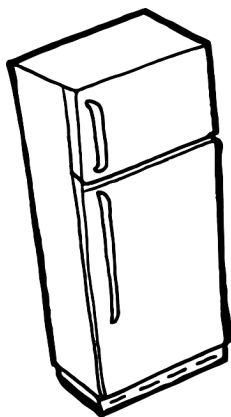


125TH Anniversary Projects

To celebrate the 125th Anniversary of Lihue Hongwanji, the following projects are being completed:

- ◊ Audio/Visual upgrade in the temple & social hall (already fully funded)
- ◊ Replacement of altar Tocho and scrolls of Shinran Shonin and Renyo Shonin
- ◊ Celebration on November 2 – service and luncheon
- ◊ Kitchen Renovation – replacement of cabinets and flooring

If you would like to make a special donation of any amount, contributions to these anniversary projects are appreciated.



Refrigerators and freezers are wanted!

In preparation for the 2025 Bon Dance, if you have a used refrigerator or freezer in working condition, please consider donating it to the church. If you have one to donate, please contact the office at (808)245-6262 or email lihuehongwanjimission@gmail.com.

Mahalo!

Bon Dance 2025, Save the Date

The Kauai Buddhist Council has finalized their Bon Dance plans for 2025 and LHM will be holding our Bon Dance Festival on **June 20-21, 2025**. Save the date! We can always use volunteers to help make it successful.



The complete schedule will be:

June 13-14: Waimea Shingon Mission

June 20-21: Lihue Hongwanji Mission

June 27-28: Kauai Soto Zenshuji

July 4-5: No Bon Dance

July 11-12: West Kauai Hongwanji Mission, Hanapepe Temple

July 18-19: Kapa'a Hongwanji Mission

July 25-26: Waimea Higashi Hongwanji Mission

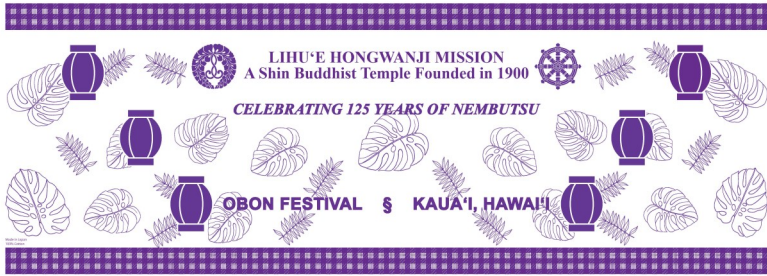
There are 2 more bon dance practices. They will be held on May 1 and May 15 from 7:00 - 8:00 pm in the social hall. Everyone is invited.



Bon Dance Towels \$5.00 each

Commemorating LHM's 125th Anniversary

Available at Bon Dance practices and after
Sunday services while supplies last!



LHM - COUNTRY STORE DONATION LIST

DONOR'S NAME _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

Quantity	Description

Clothing will be accepted, provided it is new or gently used, clean & without tears or holes. Household items & tools will be accepted if new or gently used & in working order with no missing parts. Small electronics will be accepted if they are in good working order. ♦ Small plants will be accepted on Wednesday June 18 and Thursday June 19.

NO large furniture or TVs will be accepted. Questions? Call Alton Amimoto, 808-639-1881.

Dear Members and Friends,



Once again, we are planning for our Bon Dance this year. Lihue Hongwanji will be observing the Bon/Hatsubon Family Service on Sunday June 15 at 9:00 am. Our Bon Dance will be the following Friday and Saturday, June 20 & 21.

Obon is a time to remember and honor all those who have passed on before us. It is to appreciate all they have done for us and to recognize the continuation of the



influence of their deeds upon our lives. Let us honor and remember them through "Honoring Ancestors" Lanterns.

The lanterns are a wonderful opportunity to express our gratitude to our ancestors. Lanterns will be displayed at the temple lanai prior to and during the Bon festival. The deadline is June 1, 2025. LHM will retain the lanterns. If you wish to have the ribbons, please make arrangements with the temple to pick them up, either by calling 808-245-6262 or emailing lihuehongwanjimission@gmail.com.

If you would like to honor your ancestors with one or more lanterns, please fill out the form below and send it, along with your donation, to Lihue Hongwanji Mission; 3-3556 Kuhio Hwy.; Lihue, HI 96766. Make checks out to Lihue Hongwanji Mission and write "Lantern" on the memo line.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number of Lanterns: _____

Total Amount Enclosed (\$50.00 per lantern): _____

In Loving Memory of (Family name or Family name plus two individual names; maximum of two individual names per ribbon):

Lantern #1 _____

Lantern #2 _____

Lantern #3 _____

Lantern #4 _____

Lantern #5 _____

Sample: Smith or Smith, Jay and Yuki



Sporting for a Cure

RELAY FOR LIFE OF KAUA'I 2025

August 16, 2025

Vidinha Soccer Field

4 PM—9 PM

Join the Lihue Dharma Dragons team.
Register online at relayforlife.org/kauaihi

Or call (808)245-6262 or email
lihuehongwanjijmission@gmail.com



Fighting cancer takes many things like research, free rides to chemo and lodging near hospitals, and our 24/7 helpline. But we can't do any of that without you. Join Relay For Life, the largest, most inspiring, and supportive cancer fundraising event on the planet.

Be on the lookout for your **Bon Dance Work Bulletin** in the mail or in your email inbox. Please help out as you can and join us to make Bon Dance 2025 a success!

"At the very least, we as Nembutsu followers must do our best to actualize a society in which all people can live in peace and harmony."



Monshu Kojun Ohtani



Food Bank

The LHM Food Drive collection was delivered to the Hawaii Food Bank, Kauai Branch on April 11, 2025.

We were able to deliver 52 pounds of non-perishable foods and checks in the amount of \$340.

Thank you to all who contributed to the Food Drive.



L-R: Rev. Shawn Yagi, Heidi Padilla (Food Bank), Lynne Matsumura, Carol Valentine

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

FUNERAL DONATION:

In memory of Arleen Marugame
 Alex & Pauline Nakamura
 Kathleen Sasaki
 Milton & Caroline Ozaki
 Lynne Matsumura

MEMORIAL SERVICE DONATION:

In memory of Yuriko Oshiro (1 Yr.)
 Arlene Fujikawa
 In memory of Janet Fujii (7 Yrs.)
 Arlene Fujikawa
 In memory of Harry, Mitzi, Wilfred, Lincoln,
 and Stanley Nogami
 Elaine Fukushima & Harriet Junttonen
 In memory of Haruno Sanoo
 Diane Fukuyama
 In memory of Mitsuko Higuchi
 Warren & Colleen Nonaka
 Blaine Sasaki

COLUMBARIUM DONATION:

In memory of George & Elsie Toyofuku
 Guy & Lori Toyofuku

SPECIAL DONATION:

Roy & Arleen Tanaka
 Wayne Fujioka & Carol Valentine (YBA Ad.)

*Thank
You*

Bon Dance Information, for your reference

Work Schedules: (If you would like to volunteer & haven't been contacted, please email us at lihuehongwanjmission@gmail.com)

Date	Day	Time	Location/Work
June 7	Saturday	8:00 am	Construction: yagura, yagura lights, stand-up counter, dining tent
June 7	Saturday	8:00 am	Cleaning & polishing temple decoration
June 14	Saturday	8:00 am	Construction: Food Booth with tables & signs. Country Store table set-up, yagura rope ring, archway & benches
June 18	Wednesday	8:00 am	Installation of Chochin over yarura lights, drape yagura
June 20	Friday	8:00 am	Move refrigerators, set up flying saucer & pronto pup stoves, set up prep tables for flying saucer
June 20 & 21	Friday & Saturday		Please report to volunteer at the time you are assigned Note: Dinner Plate Sales will open to workers ONLY @ 5:00 pm but food should be eaten in the social hall or preschool.



With Deepest Sympathy

Lihue Hongwanji extends its deepest sympathy to the family of::

The late Ms.Arleen Marugame who passed away on January 29, 2025 at the age of 85 years.

MEMORIAL SERVICE (HOYO)

MAY - JUNE

The following is a list of members who passed away during the months of May and June. 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 (808) 245-6262 for an appointment.

1st YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—2024

2024	May 8	Linda Uohara
2024	May 14	Yuriko Oshiro
2024	June 8	Lilian Amimoto

17th YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—2009

2009 NONE

3rd YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—2023

2023	May 12	Henry Ishida
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25th YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—2001

2001	May 29	Harue Tada
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7th YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—2019

2019	May 10	Hideko Kurosaki
2019	May 11	Shigeno Kuboyama
2019	May 11	Laura Hirokawa

33rd YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—1993

1993	June 24	Shizuko Tanaka
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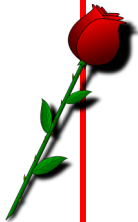
13th YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—2013

2013	May 20	Shizuko Fujii
2013	May 27	Robert Fujikawa
2013	June 11	Tomoko "Hazel" Watanabe

50th YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—1976

1976	June 12	Masako Ota
1976	June 15	Shu Morita
1976	June 25	Kin Soma

Gotan-e Service
Celebrating the birth of Shinran Shonin
Sunday May 25 @ 9:00 am
at Lihue Hongwanji



Happy Mother's Day
Sunday May 11, 2025



Happy Father's Day
Sunday June 15, 2025

Lihue Hongwanji Mission, a Shin Buddhist Temple

Lihue Hongwanji Mission
3-3556 Kuhio Highway
Lihue, Hawaii 96766

Return Service Requested

Nurturing Nembutsu
(Cultivating Awareness)



Address Label

Email: lihuehongwanjission@gmail.com

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

lihuehongwanji.org