

# Dharma Wheel

4/2019

## Lihue Hongwanji Mission, a Shin Buddhist Temple

VOLUME 73 ISSUE 4

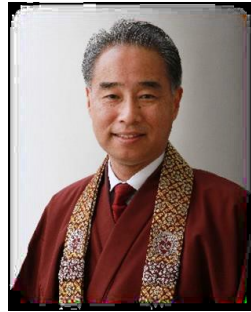
APRIL 2019

### Embrace Change: Transformation (Walk in Peace)

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#### A Message from the Bishop's Corner of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Headquarters Update

**Bishop Eric Matsumoto**

Today, as I address you, as part of our effort to upgrade the Headquarters Update with this "Bishop's Corner," I would like to express my deep sadness and deepest condolences to those who were killed at the two New Zealand mosques and their families and friends including the local Muslim community here in Hawaii. The intensity and frequency of these terror attacks filled with hate is alarming to say the least and we should all be concerned. It can happen, anywhere and anyplace. While we should not let panic and fear rule our lives, it would be prudent to be prepared and have a plan of what to do in the event that something similar should happen locally.

As I reflect, a thought came to mind that possibly the greatest protection against such an attack occurring, in one way, may be our own individual awareness of ourselves. We are all human. We have ideals which we embrace and try live up to, but at the same time we are fragile and can be volatile. Our own worst enemy may not be someone else, but could be our own self. At Chinese and Japanese Buddhist Temples, many times, one will find a lion(s) depicted among peonies. The symbolism is that our worst enemy is not an external physical enemy of another, but rather the internal enemies of arrogance, self-centeredness, ignorance and hate to name a few which plague us. Just as the mighty lion has few external enemies, but a little parasite inside the lion's stomach can make the King of Beasts ill and can be cured only by the medicinal properties of the peonies. I remember a quote by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who said, "Man is not our Enemy" "intolerance, fanaticism, dictatorship, cupidity, hatred and discrimination" are the real enemies" "which are present...in our very hearts and minds." If each and every person could come to this kind of realization it might contribute to a more peaceful and harmonious world through our humility.

For we, of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, let us focus on our Theme and Slogan "Embrace Change: Transformation (Walk in Peace)." May our temples resound with earnest Dharma discussion about what happens when we encounter Amida Buddha's Wisdom and Compassion. I have been emphasizing "Responding in gratitude to Amida Buddha's Great Wisdom and Compassion" from 8 years ago. I have stated that all positive thoughts and actions arise from shinjin and/or our being nurtured by

## Calendar of Events

### APRIL

Sun	7	9:30 AM	Kauai Buddhist Council Buddha Day Service (Hanamatsuri) To be held at LHM
Tues	9	7:30 PM	Board of Directors Mtg.
Sat	13	6:00 PM	Relay for Life
Sun	14	9:00 AM	Family Dharma Service Birthday & Monthly Memorial
		10:30 AM	LHWA Meeting, including a presentation by the Kauai Agency on Elderly Affairs
Sun	21	9:00 AM	Family Dharma Service
		10:30 AM	Dharma Discussion
Sun	28	9:30 AM	Kauai United BWA, Eshinni-Kakushinni Joint Service to be held at Kapa'a Hongwanji Speaker: Mrs. Yoshiko Umitani (Moiiliili Hongwanji) <b>(No Service at LHM)</b>

### MAY

Sun	5	9:30 AM	Dharma School Picnic Joint Service at Salt Pond Park, Main Pavilion See page 9 for more information <b>(No service at LHM)</b>
Sun	12	9:00 AM	Family Dharma Service Birthday & Monthly Memorial
		10:30 AM	Dharma Discussion
Tues	14	7:30 PM	Board of Directors Mtg.
Sun	19	9:00 AM	Gotan-e Service Speaker: Shaku Art Kaufmann
Sun	26	9:00 AM	Family Dharma Service



## Visitation Schedule



### For Buddha Day (Hanamatsuri)

The birth of Shakyamuni Buddha has illuminated the darkness of man's illusioned mind enabling us to abstain from imperfect practices & teachings and giving up the trust in his imperfect self.

Privacy and confidentiality rights of individuals limit the clergy from visiting persons in medical, residential and care-home facilities without the express request/consent of the family. Our minister is happy to visit members and friends, but by law, such visits require a referral from the family. Please contact Shaku Kaufmann at 245-6262 or 245-4543.

April	Visitation	Schedule	
Wed	April 10	2:30 PM	Regency at Puakea, Service/Visitation
Wed	April 17	9:30 AM	Mahelona Hospital Ext. Care, Service/Visitation
Tues	April 23	10:00 AM	Garden Isle Health Care, Service/Visitation
Wed	April 24	9:00 AM	Hale Kupuna Heritage Home Visitation

Members and friends are welcome to accompany the minister at service and visitation outreach. Please contact Shaku Kaufmann in a timely way.

Continued from Front Page      the Buddha's 12 Lights especially the Lights of Wisdom, Purity and Joy which address our ignorance, our greed and our anger/hatred like the peonies which save the lion. The inspiration and motivation comes from the Buddha and our (responsive) actions are guided by the Dharma or Teachings. Again, I ask, please embrace Gomonsu's "A Way of Living as a Nembutsu Follower" as a guide and the compilation which I have shared, many times, "Passages on (nurturing) the Sangha as reference for Dharma Messages and aspirations for meetings and gatherings, so that Nembutsu-sha/people of Nembutsu who reflect the Dharma are nurtured and contribute towards world peace and harmony through awareness and humility. As we, the Sangha, are nurtured and try to live the Dharma our temples can become, even more, places of refuge where people can experience less of the trauma and drama of samsara.

In our 130<sup>th</sup> year in Hawaii, let us embrace our Theme of "Embrace Change." In celebration of our 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, please remember my request that you observe our 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary at the temple level so that more people will be able to celebrate our Anniversary (and not only those who can travel afar). Aside from the 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Inaugural Service we held at Giseikai or this year's Legislative Assembly, we will not be having a separate State-wide service and/or conference due to the fact that we just had the HHMH Joint Conference in 2018, we will be having the BWA World Convention this year in 2019 in San Francisco and coming up in 2023 there will be Shinran Shonin's 850<sup>th</sup> Birthday Observance and the 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Founding of the Denomination to be held in Japan.

An idea for 2019 is to use the Hawaii Kyodan Calendar one Sunday to go over the history of Hawaii Kyodan, but please refer to our Centennial publication, "A Grateful Past, A Promising Future" for more details and other information to honor the past, inspire (us of) the present and hopefully get the interest of future generations. Also, please focus on projects and programs as a way to celebrate our 130<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Another project I ask of each temple and sangha including affiliate organizations and internal components is that of inviting or interacting with 1-2 target audiences that you as a temple or organization have never reached out to or interacted with. Please, I beseech you, please share your Joy, Gratitude and Awareness of Amida Buddha's Immense Wisdom and Compassion with others! Let us become, ever more, aware of Amida Buddha's Great Wisdom and Compassion, a compassion so great that it is known as a non-dichotomous great love or compassion which rejects no one and also become more wisely and acutely aware of our sometimes negative tendencies. Let us not forget and lose sight of the hope and the encouragement we receive from Amida Buddha. Even as bonbu or a spiritually foolish one, illuminated and nurtured by the Buddha's Lights of Wisdom and Compassion, may we embrace (in grateful response) Shinran Shonin's aspiration of "May there be peace in the world, and may the Buddha's Teaching spread!"

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

### **YBICSE – YOUNG BUDDHIST INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL STUDY EXCHANGE**

**JULY 15-27, 2019**



Hongwanji-sponsored educational trip to Japan

9th Grade through age 25

Application instruction and travel itinerary will be available soon.

## The Unfolding Of Life

“There is nothing more real than this truth of life. The fragile nature of human life underlies both the young and old, and therefore we must, one and all, turn to the teachings of the Buddha and awaken to the ultimate source of life”.

This passage comes from the letter “White Ashes” written by Rennyo Shonin, the 8<sup>th</sup> Abbott of our school of Buddhism. I use this letter in one of my memorial services and of course at funerals. As I was writing that talk, I had to look at each paragraph and reflected on what I thought Rennyo might have been trying to say in relationship to the whole letter.

As I looked at this particular paragraph, this was my reflection.

Here Rennyo tells us that given the reality of our situation in this life, we should rely on the teachings of the Buddha and use those teachings as guide to help us through this ever-changing existence. When we use the Buddha’s teachings as a guide, we can come to live in a “dynamic harmony” with life, responding to it as it unfolds before us instead of trying to control or force life to do what we want it to.

Now, I know most folks think that “White Ashes” deals with death, but, the more I read this letter, the more I feel it would be more accurate to say that, in part, it deals with the unfolding of life. As Shakyamuni Buddha revealed in his teachings, life is constant is a process of on-going change or impermanence. To deny this or refuse to accept this reality results in the creation of suffering for us.

In this particular paragraph Rennyo says “fragile nature of human life underlying both young and old”. This is not something that is open to debate. It would be a waste of time because our life experience reflects the truth of that statement whether we choose to accept it or not. Of course most of us would all like to be able to live forever; however, the causes and conditions surrounding a person’s life will not always allow that person to live out what we would consider a full life span of 80 years or so.

The fact of this reality then makes Amida Buddha’s compassionate vow all the more important to us who seek to take refuge in it.

This life is full of things to worry about. Often times these worries distract us to the point that we do not live our lives to their fullest extent and precious time is lost. If we can acquire a right view of the true nature of life, including its impermanence, the results can be more freedom to live this life more fully.

Since we are all different, we do this in many different ways. Some people will study and read the teachings of our school. Fortunately we have many fine books written about the True Pure Land School as well as wonderful reflections on the teachings. Some folks will do it by attending services on Sunday and participating in the temple activities. Some people may acquire this right view just by reciting the Nembutsu in gratitude and attending the seminars by visiting lecturers.

Most likely though, it will be any number of differing activities or combinations of these activities as fits the needs of each person that will help to bring them to a better understanding or right view of this life.

Common to all these methods will be the reciting of the Name, Namoamidabutsu. Buddha, to contain the essence of his compassionate 18th Vow, created the Nembutsu for us. It is in this name that we find the wisdom/compassion of Amida, his Vow and the saving activity of Buddha. As we recite the Nembutsu, we express the deepest gratitude we are capable of for everything the Buddha has accomplished on our behalf.

Namoamidabutsu

## BWA NEWS

Last year, BWA members across the state spearheaded fundraising efforts for the establishment of an endowment for an Eshin-ni – Kakushin-ni Endowed Chair at the Institute for Buddhist Studies in Berkeley.

Due to their efforts and the generosity of temple members and organizations, we exceeded our fundraising goal of \$11,000 with an amazing total of \$14,631! Mahalo to everyone for their hard work and generosity in this worthwhile effort.

On behalf of the Hawaii Federation of BWA, I'd like to express our deep gratitude to Ruth Tokumi for her outstanding work as Federation historian over the past two years. In recent comments, Ruth shared some of her experiences as a historian for various Hongwanji organizations and the impact that it has had on her life.

"Being a historian for BWA has been a growing journey as I learned more about the organization (federation, districts, units), my temple, and myself. The friendship, fellowship, and fun I have enjoyed with my BWA ohana and temple sangha has enriched my life. It became more exciting in 2010 when Paul Nitta of Moiliili Hongwanji posted Hawaii Betsuin BWA photos, collages, and videos on the HFBWA website which Tamayo Matsumoto started a few years earlier."

Mahalo for your years of creativity and dedication, Ruth!

This year we are excited to welcome our first male members! At their January meeting, Hawaii Betsuin BWA introduced new members Rudiger Ruckmann and Dr. Benjamin Bruch, both staff members of PBA. In Maui, longtime BWA supporter Brian Hashiro joined the Kahului Unit.

## JIKOEN HONGWANJI MISSION NEW WEBSITE

Jikoen Hongwanji Mission recently created a new website. Please visit at <https://jikoenhongwanji.org/>

## COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL CONCERNS

### The Interfaith Alliance Hawaii (TIAH)

A donation of \$2,000 was made to The Interfaith Alliance Hawaii on January 10, 2019.

The HHMH is an active participant of TIAH. "The Interfaith Alliance Hawaii (TIAH) is a progressive voice promoting the healing role of religion in public life. We encourage dialogue, challenge extremism, and facilitate nonviolent community activism." (TIAH Website)

### The Hawaii Technical Institute

A donation of \$5,000 was made to The Hawaii Technical Institute on January 18, 2019.

HTI is a non-profit vocational training institution licensed by the State of Hawaii, Department of Education. The donation supports HTI programs with students from minority disadvantage sector of the community as well as from Corrections with various training to become productive citizens in Hawaii.

### Catholic Charities Hawaii

A donation of \$4,000 was made to Catholic Charities Hawaii on January 21, 2019.

The donation is designated for Hawaii Island Kilauea Disaster Relief.

To read the full edition of the Headquarters Update, complete with photos and additional stories, please visit the website: <https://www.lihuehongwanjimission.com/honpa-hongwanji-information/>





## LHWA NEWS

## New Members Welcome

Theme for 2019:

Let's Have Fun!

### LHWA Meetings

All meetings will begin after service.

**April 14 (See the box on the right)**

July (TBA)

November (TBA)

The LHWA meeting on **April 14** will have a special program.. Following the meeting will be a presentation by the Kauai Agency on Elderly Affairs. Please join us!

### Endowment Fundraising

Fundraising efforts for the establishment of an endowment for an Eshin-ni – Kakushin-ni Endowed Chair at the Institute for Buddhist Studies in Berkeley were on-going in Hawaii over the past year. Thanks to the generosity of individuals, temples and organizations, the fundraising goal of \$11,000 was eclipsed with an amazing total of \$14,631!



Eshinni



Kakushinni Memorial Stone

More photos & information are available for LHWA on our website at: <https://www.lihuchongwanjission.com/organizations-activities/lihu-e-hongwanji-women-s-association/>  
Check it out!

Save the Date!  
LHM Bon Dance  
June 21 & 22, 2019

Check out Bon Dance Videos on the LHM website:

<https://www.lihuehongwanjimission.com/organizations-activities/bon-dance-instruction-videos/>

**Bon Dance Practice**  
Mark Your Calendars!

Dates: May 3, May 10,  
May 17 & May 24  
starting at 7:30 p.m.  
Location: LHM Social Hall

### Bon Dance Practices-Island Wide

Beginners Only:  
West Kauai Hanapepe

Thursdays at 6:00 PM,  
February 14 through April 25

Kapa'a Hongwanji

Mondays at 7:00 pm from March 4

Kapa'a Jodo

Join practice at Kapa'a Hongwanji

Lihue Hongwanji

Fridays at 7:30 pm from May 3

Koloa Jodo

Tuesdays at 6:30 pm from May 7



### 2019 KAUAI BUDDHIST COUNCIL BON DANCE SCHEDULE

All Bon Odori will begin at 7:30 pm



May 31-June 1

Kauai Soto Zen

June 7-8

Koloa Jodo

June 14-15

West Kauai, Hanapepe

June 21-22

Lihue Hongwanji

June 28-29

Waimea Shingon

July 5-6

No Bon Dance

July 12-13

Kapa'a Jodo

July 19-20

Waimea Higashi

July 26-27

Kapa'a Hongwanji



# Food Drive

Thank you to all who donated non-perishables for the Hawaii Food Bank-Kauai Branch during the month of February. **The total amount collected was 130#.**  
**Mahalo!**

*Thank You*



**Relay For Life  
Of Kauai**

**April 13-14, 2019  
6PM-6AM**

HANAPEPE SOCCER FIELD  
4431 PUOLO ROAD  
HANAPEPE, HI

**RELAY FOR LIFE**  
American Cancer Society

[www.relayforlife.org/kauaihi](http://www.relayforlife.org/kauaihi)  
Relay For Life of Kauai Hanapepe  
3343 Kanakolu Street, Lihue, HI 96766  
Phone: (808) 246-0695

## Buddha Day Service (Hanamatsuri)

Sunday April 7, 2019

9:30 AM at Lihue Hongwanji

Hanamatsuri, literally flower festival, is celebrated on April 8, commemorating the birth of Siddhartha Gautama. Siddhartha became enlightened as Sakyamuni Buddha and this marks the release of sentient beings from suffering and sorrow.

According to our tradition, the historical Buddha, Sakyamuni, was born in Nepal on April 8, 566 B.C. He was born the son of King Suddhodana and Queen Maya. There are many flowery descriptions of the scene at his birth, including celestial birds singing beautiful songs, beautiful flowers, and a sweet gentle rain bathing the baby Buddha. It is not necessarily the beauty of the flowers, the sounds of the celestial birds, nor the sweet gentle rain that fell, but the vibrant fact that on this day was born the greatest of sentient beings who became the Enlightened One, the Buddha.

Understanding the Buddha's teaching of interdependency of all things will make it clear that our birth is the result of many causes and conditions. Realizing this we can see that our birth is truly a rare and wonderful gift, and we have an obligation to live out this life in accordance with the teachings of the Buddha.



# ***DHARMA SCHOOL SUNDAY SERVICE***

Sunday, May 5 at 9:30 am

**Salt Pond Beach Park (Main Pavilion)**

**9:30 am Sunday Service**

**9:50 am Activities**

**Ice breaker**

- **Preschool – Elementary School**
- **Middle School – High School**
- **Adult**

**10:50 am Refreshment and Lunch**

**11:30 am Finish**



**Please bring your friends!**

If there are any errors or if your name is not listed, please call Amy Yamada at 245-6262 between the hours of 9AM and 12 Noon.

**MEMORIAL SERVICES DONATION:**

In memory of Leatrice Ebisutani (1 Yr.)  
Leni Ebisutani  
In memory of Hisao Mizumura (1 Yr.)  
Yayoi Mizumura  
Dean & Annette Mizumura  
Avis Hirahara & Gerald Miller & Family  
Richard & Misao Higashi  
Winston & Marian Ogata  
Amy Yamada  
In memory of Betty Kurihara (7 Yrs.)  
Richard & Misao Higashi  
In memory of Itsuji Suzuki (17 Yrs.)  
Glen & Karen Takenouchi  
In memory of Harry Ota (33 Yrs.)  
Hideko Uemura  
In memory of Harumi Ogawa (100 Yrs.)  
Kazue Ogawa  
Jay Ogawa  
In memory of Harumi Tamura  
Natsuko Daida  
In memory of Yukitoshi Inouye  
Lawrence Kashiwabara  
In memory of Masao & Mine Tamura  
Isao & Hazel Sugibayashi  
In memory of Kazuko Omori  
Barbara Omorai  
In memory of Sammy Sasaki  
Joyce Sasaki  
In memory of Teruichi Matsushima  
Joyce Sasaki  
In memory of Mitsue Nogami  
Elaine Fukushima  
Harriette Junttonen  
In memory of Kazuo Yamasaki  
Morton & Carolyn Yamasaki  
In memory of Tsutayo Saito  
Morton & Carolyn Yamasaki

In memory of Shoji & Florence Tomita  
Nancy Berson  
Kerry Han  
Lisa Tomita

**COLUMBARIUM DONATION:**

In memory of Edward & Yaeko Fujimoto  
Anne Uyehara  
Carol Fujimoto  
In memory of Doris Hiramoto  
Marsha Okada & Family  
In memory of Matsuo Kuraoka  
Emiko Kuraoka  
In memory of Ten Kuraoka  
Emiko Kuraoka  
In memory of Sanji & Kimiko Fujii  
Sarah Date  
In memory of Kazuo Fujimoto  
Gilbert & Helen Fujimoto

Anonymous

**MAJOR PROJECT DONATION:**

Sarah Date

**BUILDING FUND DONATION:**

Alton & Cheryl Fujimoto

**NEW YEAR DONATION:**

Hideko Uemura  
Gilbert & Helen Fujimoto

**SPECIAL DONATION:**

Jeannette LeDuc  
Karene Kunimura





## **MEMORIAL SERVICE (NENKI HOYO)**

### **APRIL-MAY**

The following is a list of members who passed away during the months of April and May. 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—2018**

2018	April 1	Julia Kunikiyo
2018	May 25	Richard Uchiyama

#### **3rd YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—2017**

2017	May 20	Theodore (Ted) Inouye
2017	May 27	Tammy Kakutani

#### **7th YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—2013**

2013	April 9	Fumiko (Florence) Kato
2013	April 14	Yoichi Arita
2013	May 20	Shizuko Fujii
2013	May 27	Robert Fujikawa

#### **13th YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—2007**

2007	April 7	Haruko Abe
2007	April 19	Masakazu Sasaki

#### **17th YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—2003**

2003	April 9	Isamu Kawaguchi
2003	April 12	Ichiro Kato

#### **25th YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—1995**

1995	NONE	
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#### **33rd YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—1987**

1987	April 26	Shinobu Taketa
1987	April 27	Makoto Nishioka
1987	April 27	Shoichi Kurashige
1987	May 4	Noboru Saiki
1987	May 13	Albert (Al) Shibao
1987	May 13	Nui Kurashige

#### **50th YEAR MEMORIAL SERVICE—1970**

1970	May 22	Mine Amihara
1970	May 30	Muneo Ihara



### Lihue Hongwanji Mission, a Shin Buddhist Temple

Lihue Hongwanji Mission  
P O Box 1248  
Lihue, Hawaii 96766-5248  
Return Service Requested

NonProfit Organization  
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Lihue, HI  
Permit No. 73

**Embrace Change:  
Transformation**  
(Walk in Peace)



Email: [lihuehong@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:lihuehong@hawaiiantel.net)

Address Label

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

[lihuehongwanjimission.com](http://lihuehongwanjimission.com)



### Buddha Day Service

(Hanamatsuri)

Sunday April 7, 2019

9:30 AM at Lihue Hongwanji



### Kauai United BWA

Eshinni— Kakushinni Service

April 28, 2019

9:30 AM at Kapa'a Hongwanji

Speaker: Yoshiko Umitani (Moiliili Hongwanji)

