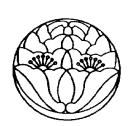
Hakalau Jodo Mission PO Box 296 Hakalau, Hawaii 96710



Hakalau Jodo Mission

PO Box 296, Hakalau, Hawaii 96710
Email: hakalaujodomission@gmail.com
Website: https://www.hakalauhome.com/hakalau-jodo-mission.html



MAY-JUNE 2023 NEWSLETTER For Our Members, Friends, and Neighbors

I hope you enjoy this newsletter with its themes of remembrance, gratitude, and kindness.

REMEMBRANCE: Our upcoming Memorial Day Service is an opportunity to honor those men and boys from Wailea through Ninole who died during wars from WWI through Vietnam. It's also a time to embrace the memories of friends and family members each of us has lost. Please join us!

GRATITUDE: Thanks to you for ongoing support! Thanks to our volunteers who have contributed *hundreds* of hours of sweat equity to the Mission this year, working on the parsonage, kitchen, dining room, social hall, temple and grounds.

KINDNESS: The story of the white elephant in Rev. Miyazaki's Hanamatsuri sermon symbolizes kindness, a story to remember often. As a bit of serendipity, we received a 1937 photo of **Hakalau's white elephant** as the newsletter was being prepared.

In gratitude...**READ ON**, Susan Forbes

2023 SERVICES

Changes in schedule will be posted at hakalauhome.com/upcoming-events.

Saturday, May 27 th
10 a.m.
Service at Hakalau
Veterans Park
Followed by
Lunch at the Mission

Memorial Day Service: The Memorial Day Service is one of our commitments to the greater Hakalau Community. It takes place in front of a monument honoring the boys and young men from this area that died in World Wars I and II, Korea, and Vietnam. (We are unaware of any who died in more recent wars.) This service is a Buddhist service of remembrance and there is also a veteran speaker. This is followed at the Hakalau Jodo Mission with an "All American" lunch.

The Memorial Day service will be officiated by Rev. Miyazaki, followed by Guest Speaker, Michael Doolittle. Michael, a Hakalau resident who served in Vietnam as a combat infantry platoon sergeant. Currently, he serves as Chairman of the Hawaii Island Veterans Memorial, Inc. and Chairman of the Hawaii County Veterans Advisory Committee for Mayor Mitch Roth.

Sunday, Ju	ne 11 th
1 p.n	n.

Family Service

NO SERVICE IN JULY

Saturday, August 19th 5 p.m.

Obon: Obon is the traditional summer festival to invite spirits of dead ancestors back home, hold a memorial service and then send the spirits back to heaven. These dead ancestors are called hotoke-sama, literally "venerable buddhas". This is especially true in the Pure Land tradition where we are assured of birth in the Pure Land and ultimate enlightenment in the next life through Amida's saving grace.

Bon Dance immediately following the service

NENKI MEMORIAL SERVICES [OBSERVED FOR THE YEARS OF:

2022	2021	2017	2011	2007	2001	1999	1997	1991	1987	1981	1977	1974
1st	3rd	7th	13th	17th	23rd	25th	27th	33rd	37th	43rd	47th	50th

For scheduling, please contact Rev. Miyazaki at 808-936-7828

Namu Amida Butsu

MAY		
Antoku Kobashigawa	5/3/2021	3 rd
Mitsuo Miyashiro	5/19/1977	47 th

JUNE		
Noel Machida	6/4/2021	3 rd
Brett Kaneshiro	6/15/2022	1 st
Moshi Kobashigawa	6/20/1981	43 rd
Komatsu Fujimoto	6/30/1974	50 th

OUR CONDOLENCES

Member Linda Hartwell passed away May 11, 2023, in Hakalau, at the home of her son, John Boyer, and his husband, Michael Stolp who were her loving caregivers in her last days. She was 85.

We offer condolences as well to her other children and grandchildren on the Mainland.

She will be missed.

CLASSES: Advance registration, please. Contact the instructor directly.

- Bon Dance Practice with Sensei Jane Heit: Contact Jane Heit at bonqueen@gmail.com. Hakalau classes for the rest of May through August will be held on the following Tuesdays from 6:00 7:30 p.m.: May 23rd, June 20th, July 11th, August 1st, 15th, and 22nd.
- Practice Yoga with Alison Simpson: Resuming May 22nd. Four times weekly including Mon 4:00 5:30 p.m., Tues. 9:00-10:30 a.m., Thurs., 4:00 5:30 p.m., Fri., 9:00 10:30 a.m. Contact Alison Simpson at 808-825-7856 or alison@mahanahouse.com.
- Tai Chi with Sifu Slade Shim: Wednesdays, 8:30 -10:00 a.m. Contact Slade Shim at wsi808@yahoo.com.
- Karate for Children with 4th Degree Black Belt Patricia Taniguchi: Twice Weekly for each age group on Wednesdays and Fridays. Children 4-6 years old, 4:00 4:50 p.m.; 7-12 years, 5:00 5:50 p.m. Contact Patricia Taniguchi at WKA.hakalau@gmail.com.
- Art Classes open to all age groups-- "My Art, My Journey", an art class with Ilze Sims in the Dining Room. FLEXIBLE SCHEDULING. This is a class for anyone who would like to start their art journey and for those with some experience who would like to find new inspiration to express themselves through their art. Ilze's method balances inspiration and play crucial elements in expressing ourselves, along with principles of good design and color harmony. The first few classes will address finding inspiration, creating a good design, and harmonizing color. Call or text Ilze 808-557-2797 or send an email: ilze@HawaiiArtStudio.com to sign up for classes.

For more information, including schedule changes and the addition of new classes, go to hakalauhome.com/upcoming-events.

PLEASE CONTACT US WITH QUESTIONS, SUGGESTIONS, OR IF YOU NEED HELP!

- Junshin Miyazaki, Minister: 808-936-7828 or gongqi326@hotmail.com
- Susan Forbes, President/Newsletter Editor: 808-286-6130 or sksforbes@gmail.com
- Akiko Masuda, Community Liaison: 808-963-6422 or msakiko@hawaii.rr.com

NOTICE FROM BISHOP ISHIKAWA REGARDING THE 2023 HAWAII JODO SHU PILGRIMAGE TOUR TO KYOTO, JAPAN October 5 – October 13, 2023

If you have not applied but are interested, the deadline has been extended to the end of May. Please contact Bishop Ishikawa before the end of May at (808) 635-8530.

Please go to Jodo Mission's March 2023 Bulletin for more details of the trip: https://www.jodo.us/copy-of-march-2023-newsletter

HANAMATSURI SERMON FROM REVEREND JUNSHIN MIYAZAKI



Since ancient times, it has been believed in China that Buddha was born on April 8, and a service to celebrate Buddha's Birthday has been held on that day.

As Buddhism spread to the peoples of the Indian subcontinent, Buddha was deified based on their beliefs. Their belief was Brahmanism, which later became Hinduism.

It is generally believed that Buddha's mother became pregnant after dreaming of a white elephant with six tusks, gave birth from her right side while trying to touch a flower in a flower garden on her way home to her parents, and that the baby immediately stood up, walked seven steps, pointed to heaven and earth, and said, "In heaven and on earth I alone am honored" and a dragon appeared and poured sweet dew.

Therefore, we decorate the Baby Buddha with flowers and pour sweet tea over him. (See our hanamido below.)

The white elephant is a sacred animal in India. The six tusks signify the six paramitas I spoke of at Higan service, meaning that in his previous lives he had perfected the six paramitas.

Being born from his mother's right side means that Buddha belonged to the warrior class of the caste system. In Brahmanism, the warrior class was born out of the side of the first giant man, the Purusha. The meaning of the seven steps is to overcome six realms. Six realms are the realms of heaven, human, fighting spirits, animals, hungry spirits, and hell, where all sentient beings experience birth and death again and again forever.

This idea that all sentient beings repeat birth and death is called samsara or reincarnation and is one of the central concepts of Brahmanism and Hinduism.

Buddhists in ancient Indian subcontinent believed that Buddha was born as Buddha because he had done endless good deeds in his previous lives.



2023 Hanamido

Many stories of Buddha's previous lives have been created and are called Jatakas.

Today I would like to introduce a jataka related to white elephants. This old picture book was supervised by Daisetzu Suzuki. He is a very famous scholar who introduced Zen to America.

1. The white elephant is the king of elephants. A blind mother lived a short distance away. The white elephant often asked his friends to deliver delicious fruits to his mother.



- 2. One day, the white elephant went to see his mother. The mother elephant had lost all her weight. Her fellow elephants had eaten all the fruit.
- 3. Mom, from now on we will live together." The white elephant quit being king and moved deep into the mountains with his mother elephant.
- 4. The white elephant lived with his mother by a pond deep in the mountains. One day, the white elephant saw a man crying in the forest. The man was lost and helpless. The white elephant felt sorry for him and carried him to the foot of the mountain.
- 5. This man was pilau. As he went down the mountain road, he thought, "When I get to the capital, I will tell the king that I found a white elephant and sell it to him for a high price," so he left markers along the way. When he arrived at the capital, he immediately went to see the king.
- 6. The king was just looking for an elephant for him to ride. He was very happy to hear the man's story. He immediately ordered his retainers, who were good at catching elephants. The poor white elephant was caught.
- 7. The king was very pleased. Every day he rode the white elephant through the city. The white elephant did not eat anything. When the king was worried and asked why, the white elephant replied, "I have a blind mother in the mountains. She must be in trouble because she has nothing to eat."

 "I'm sorry for that." said the king and returned the white elephant to the mountain.
- 8. The blind mother elephant was standing forlornly at the edge of the pond. The white elephant sucked in water from the pond and sprinkled it high in the sky. Rainbow-colored droplets fell on the mother. The mother was startled, and soon learned that her gentle son had returned.

9. The king liked this kind-hearted white elephant. He built a beautiful hut near the pond. The white elephant lived happily with its mother.

The white elephant is Buddha's previous life, and the king is Ananda's previous life.

I think this story contains many lessons. I felt the importance of remaining kind. The white elephant was kind even when he was cheated or treated badly.

May you all please continue to be kind like the white elephant and lead happy lives with Namu Amida Butsu.



Hakalau's White Elephant from the chigo parade on December 6, 1937, the day the Temple was dedicated and the Buddha installed. Photo courtesy of Marjorie Oda-Burns, granddaughter of Satoru Kurisu, Construction Committee Chairman for the Mission in 1937.

PRESERVING OUR LEGACY: KITCHEN MANAGERS PAST AND PRESENT

The Kitchen Manager, aka Kitchen "Boss", has played an important role at the Mission over the years. Our two most recent Kitchen Managers, Setsuko Taira followed by the late Kerry Browning, made sure that we were fed, the kitchen and dining room were clean and organized, and members and guests were nurtured. They made the social life of the Mission work. The history and stories of earlier Kitchen Managers are yet to be discovered and shared. Please share your stories about them!



Senior Lunch prep by Akiko Masuda, Virginia and Bob Juettner



Memorial Day 2017: Former Kitchen Managers Setsuko Taira (front) and Kerry Browning (behind Mrs. Taira) surrounded by helpers (from left to right) Banchan Bamba, Jan Nakamura and Alice Nishimoto (Grandma Alice)

With the pandemic behind us and gatherings increasing in frequency and size, it's time to focus on the kitchen and dining room...and our new Kitchen Manager, Virginia Juettner.

Virginia brings expertise regarding everything related to kitchen design and functions, food storage and preparation, organization, AND she has lots of energy. Early in May, her organizational skills were in high gear as she mobilized volunteers to clean out and scrub all the cabinets in the kitchen and dining room, wash all of the dishes and utensils, and sort through stacks of bins containing "stuff" accumulated over the years. What was still usable was washed and stored in the appropriate cabinet.

Volunteers Georgie, Bernd, Kristie, and Andrea from Akiko's Buddhist Bed and Breakfast worked with Virginia and Bob Juettner to scrub and organize EVERYTHING. The results are amazing!







BEFORE

PARSONAGE REPAIR AND UPGRADES ARE COMPLETE!

We began work on the parsonage in January. After over 200 hours of volunteer labor plus hired carpenters, and tenting for termites, we are finally finished! A rental application is currently under review.

The parsonage has freshly painted interiors, a new refrigerator and range, new flooring in the kitchen and bathroom suite, ceiling fans in bedrooms, living room and kitchen, and wi-fi. The view is lovely.



Pictures tell the story best.







Left to right: living room, 2nd bedroom, and kitchen showing off the fresh paint throughout. The bedroom photo shows off the color well. All floors were upgraded: sanded and painted floors in the living room and







bedrooms; new flooring in the kitchen and bathroom suite.

And then there's the setting and the view...







HAKALAU JODO MISSION CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

OUR VISION: To preserve and maintain the Historic Hakalau Jodo Mission to serve current and future spiritual and community needs

FOUR-YEAR GOAL: \$140,000



Two years ago we launched a four-year capital campaign to accomplish a myriad of major projects needed to preserve and maintain our precious Hakalau Jodo Mission.

Today, we are more than halfway to the original goal of \$140,000 thanks to a lead gift from the Freeman Foundation and the amazing generosity of many members and friends. Please join us in celebrating the completed projects listed here and appreciating the many gifts of volunteer labor and materials that contributed to our success.

The four year Capital Campaign was planned in three phases from 2020-2024. Going forward we will focus on funding Phase 3 projects (below, right) with increased support from public, private and community foundations, business and corporate giving and government grants.

We welcome any questions or suggestions and thank you, again, for joining us in the important work of preserving and maintaining the Hakalau Jodo Mission.

Capital Campaign Projects Completed

- Social Hall Repainted
- Social Hall Windows repaired and painted
- Handrails installed in all Social Hall stairwells
- Social Hall and Temple screens rebuilt and painted
- Temple interior painted
- Ceiling Fans with LED Lights installed
- LED Lights installed throughout
- Water/termite damage repaired
- Temple roof repaired
- Installed wi-fi throughout
- Pews sanded and repainted
- 38 Memorial plaques attached to pews
- Jalousies replaced with period-appropriate windows along the breezeway between the Parsonage and Temple
- Tented for termites
- Repaired and upgraded the Parsonage



PHASE 3 PROJECTS: 2023-2024

- Replace deteriorating altar brocade and replace pew padding
- Replace panes of broken stained glass in the Temple
- Paint all roofs and building exteriors
- Replace/restore historic emblems on front of Temple
- Install security and monitoring system
- Improve safety with barrier to the Stairs to Nowhere"