Hakalau Jodo Mission PO Box 296 Hakalau, Hawaii 96710



# Hakalau Jodo Mission

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and https://www.hakalauhome.com/hakalau-jodo-mission.html



## NOVEMBER 2022 NEWSLETTER

### For Our Members, Friends, and Neighbors

In November, I think about Thanksgiving...gratitude and pumpkin pie. November is also the month of the Ojuya service. Reciting the nembutsu is an expression of gratitude and wonderment. Expressing gratitude is a way of life <u>and</u> necessary for happiness. Here some quotes about gratitude that I like and hope you will too:

• Let us rise up and be thankful, for if we didn't learn a lot today, at least we learned a little, and if we didn't learn a little, at least we didn't get sick, and if we got sick, at least we didn't die; so, let us all be thankful. -- Gautama Buddha

Let's not forget the importance of expressing gratitude to others.

- At times our own light goes out and is rekindled by a spark from another person. Each of us has cause to think with deep gratitude of those who have lighted the flame within us. Albert Schweitzer
- Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it. William Arthur Ward

In gratitude, Susan Forbes

#### **2022 SERVICES**

Changes in schedule will be posted at https://www.hakalauhome.com/upcoming-events.html.

November 13 - SUN	Ojuya	1 p.m.			
	This is a Jodo-shū tradition of followers gathering to chant				
	the nembutsu through the nights of ten days. It is				
	considered a time of Special Nembutsu (betsuji-				
	nembutsu) in homage of Amida Buddha. It is usually				
	practiced among the congregation on only one night at the				
	Hakalau Jodo Mission, although the Minister may practice				
	chanting for ten nights.				
	The term <i>nembutsu</i> means "mindfulness of				
	Buddha." Namo Amida Bu means "I call upon measureless				
	Buddha." It is an expression of sentiment and a way of				
	opening one's heart to receive. When one recites the				
	nembutsu it is an expression of gratitude and wonderment				
	but also an expression of whatever spiritual feeling is				
	arising at that time. In this sense it is an offering of oneself				
	and a reception of grace. The hallmark of Pure Land is great				
	acceptance, and one of the most difficult things may be to				
	accept that one is already accepted.				
December 11 – SUN	Bodhi Day Service	1 p.m.			

#### **NENKI MEMORIAL SERVICES OBSERVED FOR THE YEARS OF:**

2021	2020	2016	2010	2006	2000	1998	1996	1990	1986	1980	1976	1973
1st	3rd	7th	13th	17th	23rd	25th	27th	33rd	37th	43rd	47th	50th

FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER	DATE OF DEATH	NENKI OBSERVANCE				
Takie Yoshida	11/7/2016	7 <sup>TH</sup>				
Shoei Yabiku	11/14/1996	27 <sup>TH</sup>				
Tomoe Shishida	11/18/1973	50 <sup>th</sup>				

Please contact Rev. Miyazaki at 808-936-7828 for scheduling. Namu Amida Butsu

#### **CLASSES, PRESENTATIONS, MEETINGS:** Advance registration, please. Contact the instructors.

- Bon Dance Practice with Sensei Jane Heit: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of each month from 6:00 7:30 p.m. Contact Jane Heit at bonqueen@gmail.com.
- Karate for Children with 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt Patricia Taniguchi: Twice Weekly for each age group on Wednesdays <u>and</u> Fridays. Children 4-6 years old, from, 4:00 4:50 p.m.; 7-12 years, 5:00 5:50 p.m. Contact Patricia Taniguchi at WKA.hakalau@gmail.com.
- Practice Yoga with Alison Simpson: THERE WILL BE NO YOGA CLASSES BETWEEN OCTOBER 19th AND NOVEMBER 30th. CLASSES RESUME DECEMBER 1st. Regular schedule: 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. NOTES:

Students must be fully and currently vaccinated against Covid-19. **Contact Alison Simpson at** 808-825-7856 or by email: **alison@mahanahouse.com.** 

• Tai Chi with Sifu Slade Shim: Weekly on Wednesdays, 8:30 -10:00 a.m. Contact Slade Shim at wsi808@yahoo.com.

For more information, including schedule changes: https://www.hakalauhome.com/upcoming-events.html.

#### LAST MONTH'S PEACE DAY CELEBRATION

Here's the Vimeo link to Peace Day 2022 Zoom video. Pictures from Hakalau's bell ringing are at the end of the video. Enjoy!

https://vimeo.com/shootersfilmproduction/peaceday2022zoom

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

- Junshin Miyazaki, Minister: 808-936-7828 or gongqui326@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

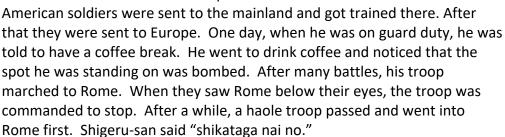
#### SERMON FROM REVEREND JUNSHIN MIYAZAKI

I came to Hawaii in 2002 because I was assigned to Hawi Jodo Mission, but I also worked for Kohala Jodo Mission in Kapaau and Hamakua Jodo Mission in Paauhau. At that time, many Niseis were in their 80s. I feel grateful that I had the chance to listen to their stories, including some World War II veterans. Today I would like to share what I heard from the late Mr. Shigeru Oshita. He was the secretary of Kohala Jodo Mission when I was assigned there. Kohala Jodo Mission had 8 or 9 board members, and two of them were World War II veterans: Mr. Joe Asai whom I talked about at this service couple of years ago, and Mr. Shigeru Oshita. Shigeru san was a little older than Joe-san. He was handsome, neat, and straight-backed.



Shigeru-san

Shigeru-san said he was drafted, and he was in Kawaihae when the Pearl Harbor attack occurred. He and other Japanese



When I think of Shigeru-san, this "shikataganai" comes to my mind. As you may know, "shikataganai" means "no can help," or "there is no other way." I think shikataganai shows the feature of old Japanese people's thoughts and attitudes. They accept the situation, do what they should do without grumbling, and no showoff.



Shigeru-san was a good American citizen and served in the army. Japan suddenly became the enemy of America, and so were the Japanese Americans. With many other Nisei soldiers, Shigeru-san fought fierce battles, witnessed the loss of fellow soldiers, and underwent discrimination. He, however, accepted everything with a shikataganai spirit.

Shigeru-san married a Honolulu girl in 1946 in Honolulu. Her name was Sachiko Harada. She was called Sacchan. She went to a high school in Kure, Hiroshima, an important naval port. The famous battleship Yamato was built in Kure. Sachiko-san said that Japan was pretty much military oriented when she was there. Every Monday was the day for Hinomaru bento. They had rice and one ume for their lunch to save money for okazu, and donated money to the military. One day she visited the U.S. Consulate in Kobe. The office lady strongly recommended that she go back to Hawaii. She didn't state the reasons but just told her to go back. So, she came back to Hawaii. Not very long after that Japan



Shigeru-san and Sachiko-san

attacked Pearl Harbor. She said the lady must have known something. Anyway, she married Shigeru-san, moved to Kohala, and raised 3 children. They were a nice family. Shigeru-san passed away in 2017 at the age of 99, Sachiko-san passed in 2019 at the age of 95.

I miss Shigeru-san and Sachiko-san, but I feel happy as Shigeru-san led a peaceful life after serving our country and our society. Our society is built on a foundation by heroes like Shigeru-san. May the Buddha bless all Japanese WWII veterans and their families!

#### PRESERVING OUR LEGACY: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Mission exists to serve its members and the community.



Circa 1909 Temple (top floor) and Japanese Language School on current Mission site. Photo from the Waichi Ouye Collection, courtesy of his family.

The Early Years (1904-1921): When First Minister Senri Soma arrived in 1904, he began teaching Japanese to Nisei children first in "Down Camp" and, in 1905, in "Up Camp" on the current Mission site. The school facilitated communication and cultural transmission within the Issei family and provided child-care for working parents. The Mission expanded to include a temple as well as a school and became the gathering place for these relatively recent immigrants. Larger facilities were built, including dormitories for boarding students. The result of this

growth and development was a stable, cohesive community. Soon there were 50 students.

**The Years Between the Wars (1921-1937):** The population was growing and the Mission needed to expand further to meet the community's needs.

A new Japanese Language School was built in 1927 and had over 300 students.

In 1936, Rev. Yamanaka and the members of the Mission committed to building a new Mission including new Temple, Social Hall and Parsonage. The pledge or wish, the ganshu, was made by 77 men on April 4<sup>th</sup>; groundbreaking took place June 21<sup>st</sup>; and the Temple was completed, and the Buddha statue installed on December 6th.

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Ganshu, or pledge, to build the Temple, Social Hall, and Parsonage

The celebration that day is depicted in the picture below. (Note the 1927 language school on the left.)



**The Mamiya Years (1937-1975):** Rev. Mamiya and his wife arrived to serve in brand new facilities. Rather than having to focus on building structures, they directed their attention to expanding activities and building participation...and succeeded. The war interrupted their efforts, however. Rev. Mamiya was interned on the mainland for the duration of the war (his family was with him). In 1944-1945, **before** Rev. Mamiya returned, the Mission re-opened for various activities in the Social Hall, including the Hakalau Civic Club, Hakalau Athletics, and private gatherings as well as the resumption of Sunday School.

In the July 1947 issue of *The Voice of Hakalau*, Mission President Toraichi Morikawa stated:

It is the aim and desire of those connected with the Mission that this building and its facilities be available to all interested to use, irrespective of race, color or creed. As a result, up to the present day, convenient use of same has been made by all. We intend to continue offering its facilities for the ultimate good of the community.

Community activities expanded. Not only were there regular church services, Sunday School and Buddhist festivals like Obon, there were activities and support services for the broader community. Included were plays, baseball, Boy Scouts, aikido, crafts classes (embroidery, weaving, flower arranging, etc.). During labor strikes, the Mission provided support for workers and their families.



Boys Scouts in the Social Hall in the late 40's, early 50's. From Left to Right, 1st Row: Colin Morikawa, ??, Lawrence Mamiya, Paul Conol, Calvin Hirai. 2nd Row: Pedro Conol, Edward Tavares, Richard Yoshida, Allan Nishimoto, Richard Hirai, Minoru Takehiro, Makoto Mihara, Donald Ueda, Moses Paiva. 3rd Row: ? Takehiro, Cronin Higa, William Fujimori, Mitsuro Bento, Edwin Fujimori, Bernard Mihara, Paul Nishimoto, Willis Morikawa.4th Row: Wilfred Morikawa, Kazuto Samura, James Valenciano, Mr. Raymond Matsunami. 5th Row: Scout Master Mr. T. Morikawa, Mr. Shigeru Ito, George Ueda, Edward Murai, ??, Thomas Sakata, Ronald Morikawa, Stanley Morikawa.

**The Later Years (1975-Present):** The demise of the sugar industry and its impact on the community have been covered in previous newsletters. In the period since 2000, there have been several celebrations attracting long-time residents and newcomers alike.





Centennial celebration in 2004

114<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Yula Yula celebration

Currently, a variety of classes are offered at the request of the community: yoga, tai chi, bon dance practice, and karate for children 4-6 and 7-12. We anticipate additional classes in 2023.





Tai Chi with instructor Slade Shim

**Eager and Talented Karate Students** 

Now that the pandemic is over, the Mission is again open to other gatherings. Examples include the Shinnenkai (our New Year's party) to express gratitude to our neighbors and members and meetings for the Neighborhood Watch, Emergency Preparedness, and the Hakalau Plantation Village Community Association, private gatherings, and family reunions.

Senior Lunches and presentations on a variety of topics related to cultural traditions, plantation values, and the 'Āina will resume in 2023.

Your involvement with the Mission makes it possible for us to conduct these activities and contribute to the happiness and well-being of the community. Thank you!

More detailed information about the Mission is available at

FOR HISTORY: https://www.hakalauhome.com/hakalau-jodo-mission.html.

CURRENT INFORMATION: https://www.hakalauhome.com/hakalau-jodo-mission-today.html

#### PRESERVING THE MISSION:









**WORK IN PROGRESS, LEFT TO RIGHT**: The Temple windows were the inspiration for the design of the windows on the bridge between the Temple and the Parsonage. Making the template for the windows required some jiggering to figure out best placement of the vertical dividers (muntins). The windows are in production!

Thanks to all of you, our four-year (2020-2024) Capital Campaign to preserve the Mission has achieved more than 61% of the \$140,000 goal. We are amazed and grateful for the contributions and the progress! Your December Newsletter will include:

- Updated Campaign milestones (2020-2022);
- Year-end work in progress;
- 2023 project goals;
- Strategies to cultivate additional individual, corporate and foundation donors to help us reach the goal.
- Stay tuned!

**GOAL: \$140,000** 

