



# Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

## HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

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September 2022

### BISHOP'S CORNER

#### HMMH Statement on Environmental Harmony

Joint Statement by Bishop Eric Matsumoto and  
Steve Lohse, Chair of the Green Hongwanji Committee,  
Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii



“We are here to awaken from the illusion of our separateness.” – Thich Nhat Hanh

We experience rapid, extreme environmental change as crises, and when our environment is in crisis, we suffer. We depend on the environment for everything, including stable climate, public health, clean air and water, energy, fertile soil, healthy food, land and sea resources, and the biodiversity that underlies sustainability. Environmental crises give rise to social, economic, political, and spiritual crises that in turn further degrade the environment. We are inescapably interdependent with the environments that we abuse as well as with the environments that we protect.

The causes of environmental crises are not external threats, we do this to ourselves. As our sheer numbers, consumer expectations, and developing technologies combine to overwhelm natural systems, we are witnessing an era of transition from life defined by natural processes to environments defined by human activity. Sadly, it is increasingly clear that greed, anger, ignorance, and ego-driven human activities are out of harmony with sustainable natural systems. Meanwhile, global responses to environmental degradation remain inadequate and directed largely at symptoms rather than causes.

As Buddhists, we see a way forward. We see that environmental harmony arises from Interdependence and from addressing root causes of environmental crises – our own greed, anger, and ignorance. We see that inner transformation, from ego-driven thinking to Dharma-guided entrusting, prepares us to understand and commit to wise, compassionate, effective action for environmental harmony. Just as Buddha touched the Earth as bearing witness to Enlightenment, so we touch the Earth to bear witness to Dharma guidance that inspires us to engage in skillful environmental action as an Earth Touching Sangha.



David Loy said, “Engagement in the world is how our personal awakening blossoms.” As we go to the Dharma for guidance to live in harmony and sustainability with our precious planet, we commit to the following:

- understanding the inherently interdependent, holistic nature of Buddhism;
- transforming environmental actions by first transforming environmental thinking;
- teaching clean, healthy, sustainable environments as a basic human right;
- acting effectively, always informed by Cause/Effect and scientific best practices;
- supporting sustainable societies based on social/economic/environmental equity, universal human rights, respect for nature and for future generations, and a culture of peace.

## **OBITUARY NOTICE**

**Mr. Clifford Katsuhiko Tamura**, a member of Waianae Hongwanji Mission, passed away on June 5, 2022. The Ingo of GU-JIN-IN 弘深院 which means “One Who is Extensively Vast and Profound” in recognition of his life of Nembutsu was conferred by Bishop Eric Matsumoto on September 2, 2022.

## **ARTICLES SUBMISSION FOR KA LEO KĀHEA**

The next Ka Leo Kāhea, statewide newsletter will be published in the beginning of December. October 15<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for submitting articles. Feel free to email us if you have any questions. Here are some submission guidelines.

Articles should be 500-1000 words, typed, in Microsoft Word. Please include the author’s (or contact’s) name and title, temple, or affiliation, and suggested article title. Articles should be submitted as an email attachment to [newsletter@honpahi.org](mailto:newsletter@honpahi.org). Please include the article title or subject in the file name. Please do not format articles with photos.

A photo or photos to accompany the article will enhance the presentation. Images must be at least 2MB minimum. The image can be files emailed from the original phone (not from text messages). Please send each image as a separate JPEG or TIFF file. Do not embed images in Word documents or send PDF files. Send article and photos separately. Include photo captions with the text.

We are looking forward to receiving your wonderful articles and photo.

## **EMBRACING HOPE**

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii is supporting “Embracing Hope”, a free speaker series and workshop about Suicide Prevention and Hope.

The series is for people who feel ongoing distress from the pandemic, people contemplating suicide, and parents and youth in the community, and will culminate in a “Sources of Strength” suicide prevention training for youth. Inspired by Soul Shop, a national movement focused on helping faith communities develop skills and strategies for the prevention of suicide, all “Embracing Hope” events are free and open to the public. All are welcome.

Talk Story: Hope for Youth, Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. HST by Zoom (for high school and college students)

Workshop: Embracing Strengths: Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022, 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. HST, Community of Christ Church, 2319 Rose Street, Honolulu (for high school students)

Register for both events at: [embracinghope2022.eventbrite.com](https://embracinghope2022.eventbrite.com)

### **23<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL BLOOM-FUTABA MEMORIAL LECTURE**

The Futaba Lecture Series is endowed by Dr. Alfred Bloom to honor the memory of his friend and mentor, Professor Kenko Futaba. Dr. Futaba, a noted Shin Buddhist scholar, served as President of Kyoto's Ryukoku University from 1983 to 1995 and then became Chancellor of Kyoto Women's University. Dr. Bloom fervently hopes that this lecture series will be a continuing inspiration for the nurturing of American Buddhism and for the social participation of Buddhists in the quest of social justice and peace.

Date & Time: Friday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (HST).  
Place: Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Annex Temple & Zoom  
Guest Lecturer: Rev. Dr. Kenji Akahoshi  
Topic: Meditation, Mindfulness & Gratitude - The natural path to awakening and joy  
Free Registration: <https://forms.gle/kjSAZ3bCugc29ih97>

### **2022 FALL NEMBUTSU SEMINAR (HONOLULU & OAHU HONGWANJI COUNCIL)**

Honolulu & Oahu Hongwanji Councils and Office of Buddhist Education will sponsor an online Nembutsu seminar in October 2022.

Date & Time: Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. (HST)  
Guest Speaker: Mr. Koichi Mizushima, Buddhist Church of Sacramento  
Hawaii Panel Participants: Kieran Maesaka, Cristina Gervais, Brad and Joy Nakamura  
Topic: Creating Dharma Moments Together: E KOMO MAI!  
Free Registration: <https://forms.gle/L5HFbXeRQcEZ8789A>  
Registration Deadline: Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>

### **2022 KAUAI HONGWANJI COUNCIL NEMBUTSU SEMINAR**

Kauai Hongwanji Council will host a Zoom Nembutsu seminar with Rev. Dr. Takashi Miyaji on Friday, November 18, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. The topic is "A Look at Shinran Shonin's Life and Thought." Registration is required. Please go to the link (<https://forms.gle/52xuXUfLduCuXh1PA>) and fill out the information. When you complete the seminar registration, you will receive an automatic confirmation email from Google forms. Registration deadline is Friday, November 11. Maximum capacity is 100 people, first come first serve. We will email you a Zoom link three days prior to the seminar. Registration fee is free but donations can be made to "Kauai Hongwanji Council ". If you have any questions, please contact any of the Kauai temples.

Description:

Shinran Shonin, the founder of the Jodo Shinshu school of Buddhism, sought enlightenment while practicing as a Tendai monk on Mt. Hiei. But as we look at the various episodes that develop in his life, we will come to see how he gradually turns over to the Great Working of Amida Buddha. How did this happen? What does this mean? What can it mean for us?

In this seminar, he will provide possible interpretations as to how certain events in Shinran's life helped to shape his religious thought. In addition, we will look at some of his writing to see what are the key points in his teaching, which will bring forth to light just how significant his contribution was to the development of Buddhism as a whole.

### TEMPLE CELEBRATION

- October 15-16, 2022      Kona Hongwanji Mission 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- October 16, 2022      Makawao Hongwanji Mission 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
and 115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of Paia Hongwanji
- October 23, 2022      Kapaa Hongwanji Mission 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- November 13, 2022     West Kauai Hongwanji Mission 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- November 20, 2022     Puna Hongwanji Mission 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- The year of 2022        Aiea Hongwanji Mission 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- The year of 2022        Buddhist Study Center 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

### SAVE THE DATE: UPCOMING EVENT

#### **NEMBUTSU SEMINAR BY HAWAII DISTRICT MINISTERS ASSOCIATION**

Date: Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022

Time: Part 1) 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Part 2) 1 p.m.-2 p.m.

Location: Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin Sangha Hall, 398 Kilauea Ave. Hilo

Guest Lecturer: Rev. Yuki Sugahara (Resident Minister, Oregon Buddhist Temple)

Topic: Shinjin & The life of the person of Shinjin

Platform: In-person & online via Zoom

Registration Fee: \$10 with lunch (in-person) or \$5 for zoom online

Online Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/6bzU7xF2gRpriEMJ9>