

Kalyana Mitra

“Good Friend”

*A Bi-Monthly Publication
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*Windward Buddhist Temple
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May/June 2023

Kailua Hongwanji Mission is doing business as Windward Buddhist Temple

Aloha and Namaste,

Please join us for the following special services:

On May 7th we will be observing Shinran Shonin's birthday (Gotane) The birthday of Shinran Shonin is commemorated on May 21 by followers of Jodo Shinshu throughout the world.

This day is very important, as it was Shinran who systematically developed the Nembutsu teaching by compiling the commentaries of the seven teachers whom he chose to call the Seven Patriarchs. The essence of the Jodo Shinshu teaching is contained in Shinran's Kyo-Gyo-Shin-Sho, compiled and written during his last years in the Kanto area, before his return to Kyoto.

Shinran Shonin teaches that we are able to attain salvation or Birth into the Pure Land. Even though Shinran (1173-1263) was born some 800 years ago, the Nembutsu teaching that he developed is still applicable to us in this modern Age of Technology.

What distinguishes his teaching is that it was meant primarily for householders, rather than those who left their homes to enter priesthood and attempt to follow the difficult path of discipline in search of Enlightenment. Without distinguishing between the priesthood and laity, he pointed out that everyone, without distinction of rank or class, would be saved by reciting the Nembutsu with Faith in Amida Buddha. In Shinran's teaching, there is no distinction between good and evil. Everyone is equal before the Buddha, and all can be equally saved by Amida's Compassion. This is Shinran Shonin's faith in the original vow of Amida Buddha. *(This article is from the West Los Angeles Buddhist Temple website)*

Another noteworthy day in the month of May is Mother's Day. Mother's Day is an occasion which is celebrated in various parts of the world to express respect, honor, and love towards mothers. This day is set aside to honor the contribution of our mothers, grandmothers, aunts and special friends to acknowledge the efforts of maternal bonds and the influential role of women in our lives.

And equally important is Father's Day, which we will observe in June. The first Father's Day was celebrated in 1910, but it took over 60 years for the holiday to become official. Since then, Father's Day has given us the opportunity to show love and appreciation toward the father figures in our lives. Whether you celebrate by giving gifts or spending quality time with your dad, Father's Day honors the men in our lives, fatherhood, and paternal influences.

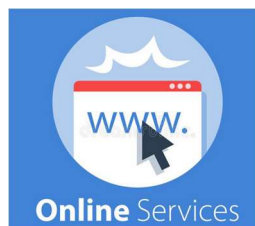
We have the above three important days in the months of May and June which provide us time to reflect on those whose efforts have contributed to the lives we live today.

“In order for there to be peace, we must first be aware that all things in this world are interconnected. We should care for and value other people's lives as well. Even though we may not be able to resolve all of the pain and sadness that other people may feel, we must remember that we are interconnected and in this together.” (Monshu Kojun Ohtani)

Namu Amida Butsu.



Rev. Barbara Brennan

May & June 2023



We will continue to post the services online shortly thereafter via:

- 1) Windward Buddhist Temple website: www.windwardbuddhisttemple.org
(or Google Windward Buddhist Temple)
- 2) YouTube: www.youtube.com/windwardbuddhisttemple
- 3) FaceBook: facebook.com/windwardbuddhisttemple

Date	Service (9:00 a.m.)	Speaker/MC
MAY 7	Gotan-e/ Shinran's Birthday - Special Service <i>(followed by family craft activity)</i>	Speaker: Rev. Bert Sumikawa M.C.: Gerald Matsuda
14	Family Service/ Mother's Day <i>(followed by Bingo)</i> 	Speaker: Rev. Barbara Brennan M.C.: Naomi Kaneko
21	Family Service	Speaker: Rev. Barbara Brennan M.C.: Annette Tashiro
28	Monthly Remembrance Service If you'd like to remember a loved one who passed away in the <u>month of MAY (of any year)</u> , you will be given the opportunity to do so during this service. Please add the name of your loved one to the list at the sign in desk and if you have a photo, please bring it to the service.	Speaker: Neil Yamamoto M.C.: Linda Jaffe
JUNE 4	Family Service <i>(followed by family craft activity)</i>	Speaker: Dennis Tashiro M.C.: Neil Yamamoto
11	Family Service <i>(followed by Bingo)</i>	Speaker: Rev. Barbara Brennan M.C.: Jenn Kane
18	Family Service / Father's Day 	Speaker: Bob Nishita M.C.: Gerald Matsuda
25	Monthly Remembrance Service If you'd like to remember a loved one who passed away in the <u>month of JUNE (of any year)</u> , you will be given the opportunity to do so during this service. Please add the name of your loved one to the list at the sign in desk and if you have a photo, please bring it to the service.	Speaker: Rev. Barbara Brennan M.C.: Shirley Yanagisawa

May 7 - 21 Group A (Lisa Fujikawa, lead) in charge of after service refreshments
 May 28 - June 18 Group B (Dana Arakaki, lead) in charge of after service refreshments
 June 25 Group C (Merle Tashiro, lead) in charge of after service refreshments



Bon Dance is Saturday, July 8, 2023

(Refer to article in this newsletter for more information)



Preparation has begun for the WBT Bon Dance on Saturday, July 8, 2023!

This is a huge undertaking for WBT and we are only able to successfully hold the bon dance with the help of our members, family and friends. If you would like to assist, we welcome you. Here are the areas where help is required:

Setting up the yagura (musician's stand) on the prior Saturday, 7/1/23, 8:00 a.m. to noon. Looking for strong hands to help with lifting, carrying lumber and setting up the wooden musician's stand and canopy roof. Calling men and women – older teens and above to assist. Please contact Allen Kusano (808-262-9319) for more information or if you can help.

Decorating the yagura on the morning of the bon dance, Saturday, 7/8/2023 8:00 a.m. to noon. Hearty

flowers (orchids, jade, anthuriums, red ginger, plumeria, etc.) are needed as well as volunteers to help decorate the stand with foliage. Grounds final set up will also be done.

Food Concession. (Please contact Merle Tashiro (808-224-7428) if you can help)

- Donation of ingredients for the food concession. By the time you receive this newsletter, sign-up for donation of ingredients for the food concession will have begun. Please check with Merle to see what items are needed.
- Food preparation on Friday, 7/7/2023 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Preparation of barbeque meat sticks, saimin bowls and andagi mixes.
- Volunteers are needed to man the concession booth from 5:00-10:00 p.m.

Yagura dismantle will take place the morning after bon dance, Sunday, July 9, 2023 starting at 8 a.m. Once again, strong hands are needed to dismantle and return everything back into storage.



Saturday, July 1 – Yagura (music platform) set-up

Sunday, July 2 – Obon/Hatsubon Service

Wednesday, July 5 – Dance practice

Friday, July 7 – Food Preparation

Saturday, July 8 morning – Yagura decorating

Saturday, July 8 evening – Bon Dance

Sunday, July 9 – Yagura dismantling



As a result of the Food Collection held from March 19 to April 16, 2023, WBT members donated 144 pounds of non-perishable food and \$25 cash to the Hawaii FoodBank. Mahalo for your participation!

2023 Hongwanji Spring Bazaar (Formerly "Taste of Hongwanji")

The Hawaii Betsuin temple on Pali Highway, held its Hongwanji Spring Bazaar on Sunday, March 26, 2023, on their temple grounds. Windward Buddhist Temple (WBT) and Moiliili Hongwanji were invited to participate as fundraisers for our respective temples.

This event, formerly the "Taste of Hongwanji"; was on hold for several years due to the Covid pandemic. It returned this year, in a modified format that included various vendors in addition to the Hongwanji temples' participation.

The WBT 'booth' was located in the social hall of the Hawaii Betsuin alongside the Moiliili Hongwanji booth. Some of our food items such as the bitter melon namasu and various manju sold out. We also sold a large amount of our famous takuan, and numerous handmade merchandise.

Mahalo to members who gave of their time and effort to prepare and work at the bazaar. It was very fulfilling and provided those that participated a sense of comradery among temple members. We anticipate being part of this event again next year and welcome volunteers.

If you were able to support WBT and our sister temples at the bazaar -- thank you. We hope you enjoyed the experience.

Fundraising Committee

Watercolor Painting Demonstration

On March 19, 2023, Yi-hsin Chen who attends Sunday services at WBT, taught us the art of watercolor painting. Thank you Yi-hsin!



Buddha Day Service April 9, 2023



Rev. Marcos Sawada
Kaneohe Higashi Hongwanji
Guest Speaker



WELCOME

New temple members:
Andre Liang, Jennifer Tashiro-Liang and family

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for your kind monetary donations

Sharyn Sekine
Eileen Yoshino
Sara Ogata
Samuel Cox & Barbara Ripple
Allen & Prudence Kusano - IMO Yukie Kusano, Janice Uno,
Sadao Uno, Wally and Miyoko Kusano
Keiji & Janet Kukino - IMO Matsuzaeon & Kiyo Kukino
Margaret & Carl Fujikawa - IMO Betty & Herbert Imai
Keith, Lisa, Emma Fujikawa - IMO Betty & Herbert Imai
Bob & Joyce Nishita - IMO Aiko Nishita, Taichi Nishita
Rombaoa Family - IMO Hernando Rombaoa
Russell & Dana Arakaki - IMO Masatsune Arakaki, Evelyn Kuwada
Gerald & Lori Ann Matsuda - IMO Sadaye Nishimoto

Buddha Day (Hanamatsuri):

Jennifer Kane
Bob & Joyce Nishita
Gary & Annette Tashiro
Margaret Fujikawa
Norma Sawada
Douglas & Jean Crosier
Joyce Matsumoto
Mary Matsuda
CharlAnn Nakamoto

Spring Equinox:

Allen & Prudence Kusano
Ronald & Shirley Yanagisawa
Stephen & Geraldine Ochikubo
Gary & Annette Tashiro
Jean Fukumoto
Masuo & Alice Kino
Kiyoko Katagihara
Leslie & Joanne Yamamoto
Paul Tatsuguchi
Beatrice Kaneshiro
Keith & Lisa Fujikawa
Keiji & Janet Kukino
Rose Nakata
Hideo Arakawa
Amy Abe
Kenneth & Lillian Kadamoto
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