



Lahaina Jodo Mission Bulletin

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September 2024

MILESTONE CELEBRATIONS

Commemorative Celebration for
THE 850TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDATING OF JODO SHU
THE 130TH ANNIVERSARY OF JODO SHU IN HAWAII

Date: Sunday, October 20, 2024
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: Jodo Mission of Hawaii
1429 Makiki St, Honolulu, HI 96814

Sponsored by the Hawaii Council of Jodo Missions

This year marks 850 years since Honen Shonin founded our Pure Land school of Jodo Shu and 130 years since the arrival of the first Jodo Shu minister to Hawaii. With deep gratitude, the Hawaii Council of Jodo Missions will observe a commemorative celebration on **Sunday, October 20, 2024 at the Betsuin in Honolulu.**

The celebratory program begins with an affirmation ceremony from 10 a.m., followed by a Commemorative Service at 11 a.m., luncheon and Dharma gathering in the Betsuin social hall. We hope as many of you can join in this auspicious occasion. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Rev. Hara (808-661-4304/lahainajodomission@gmail.com).

Jodo Shu dignitaries and former Hawaii ministers from Japan will **visit Maui on October 21.** Short services will be held at Lahaina, Wailuku, and Kahului Jodo Missions.

STATEWIDE LAYPERSONS & FUJINKAI GATHERING & SERVICE VIA ZOOM

The Jodo Missions of Hawaii Laypersons and Rengo Fujinkai will hold an informal Zoom gathering on **Sat., Sept. 21 from 1 to 3pm.** We will discuss recent accomplishments and concerns of each Mission throughout the State and LJM's rebuilding efforts. Please let us know if you have any concerns prior to the meeting so that the organizers can plan accordingly.

Bishop Ishikawa will officiate a statewide service via Zoom on **Sun, Sept. 22 at 10 a.m.**

LAHAINA COMMUNITY BON DANCE HELD

The Lahaina Community Bon Dance was heartwarming and festively held on August 10 at the Lahaina Cannery Mall parking area. As part of the one-year memorial since the fire, the nonprofit Kuhinia and Maui County supported this event with Lahaina Hongwanji, Shingon, and Jodo Missions.

Our deepest Mahalo goes to Kuhinia, Maui County, organizer Daryl Fujiwara, coordinator Yayoi Hara, and all the volunteers for making this a successful event. Thanks also go to Judy Aotaki for her donation of LJM T-shirts (one with *Namu Amida Butsu* calligraphed by Rev. Hara, one with Daibutsu design by Yu Tanoshima) and Vashti Daise for creating bookmarkers with our Temple copper roof tiles, which she cut into cherry blossoms. These items along with LJM Bon Dance towels, donated by Rev. and Mrs. Hara, were sold in our LJM tent. Machiko Nagao also sold *uchiwa* fans in her stand and donated the proceeds to the Mission. Judy flew in from LA and Haru Asano came from Japan to help in our tent, together with Mike Ogata, Jen de Aquino, UH oral historian Mary Danico, and Maya.

Appreciation also goes to Na Hoaloha 'Ekolu for their generous donation of the proceeds from their sale of delicious Star Noodle garlic noodles, which they donated to the three temples. Each temple received a check of \$2384.38.

UPDATE ON URNS IN PAGODA

Many have reached out to ask about the urns of their departed loved ones as their condition has been a major concern. Shortly after the fire, Yayoi led Samaritan's Purse volunteers to retrieve the urns and place them into plastic totes for temporary safekeeping. Due to the debris removal cleanup, in which all the concrete buildings will be demolished, we requested help on how to handle the urns from the National Heritage Responders and UH Manoa Library. Led by librarian Malia Van Heukelem, UH Library conservator Liane Na'auao, UH West Oahu archivist Tisha Aragaki, Maui College head librarian Shavonn Matsuda, HOPE International volunteers Trevor, Randy, and Quinn, together with our own Pres. Ed Sera, Norman and James Tanaka, and Rev. John Hara moved the urns and various artifacts that represent our temple and community's history, on Aug. 16. This tremendous effort is part of a larger conservation work by Malia and Liane, who will return to Maui after the US Army Corps debris removal is complete to carefully clean, document, and organize the urns so that we can identify and catalogue those that are intact to safeguard them for future generations.

A heartfelt Mahalo to Malia and Liane and all who contributed to this important and delicate task. This process is a vital step in preserving our community's memories and heritage.

We are looking for additional volunteers to assist in the next phase of this important project. If you are interested in contributing to this meaningful work in late Sept./early Oct., please contact Yayoi or Rev. John for more info.



Urn Recovery Crew (standing from left): Ed, Norman, Tisha, James, Randy, Trevor, Shavonn; (in front from left): Liane, and Malia

MASAKO AND NOBU TO PERFORM MOKUGYO NO UTA

Mokugyo no uta (A Hymn of the Wooden Fish Drum), a poem by Rev. Hara, was put to music and will be performed by Masako and Nobu Yoshida on **Sunday, September 15, from 8:30a at Wailuku Jodo Mission's Ohigan service** Please join us to hear Masako and Nobu perform!

A GIFT OF A PAINTING OF OUR TEMPLE

Mr. and Mrs. Tadayoshi Kizu of Shiga, Japan, recently visited Rev. and Mrs. Hara and donated a painting by Brian Williams, an American artist living in Japan. The Kizu family visited our Temple over the years and as a token of their appreciation for our Temple, they brought over this unique work, which depicts our grounds on a curved surface. We hope to show this painting when we gather for services at Kahului and Wailuku. Mahalo to the Kizu family!

13TH KYOTO 24-HOUR NENBUTSU RELAY

The Jodo Shu head temple Shojoke-in in Kyoto will host the 13th 24-Hour Worldwide Nenbutsu Relay on September 27 to 28. We will participate on **September 27 from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Wailuku Jodo Mission.** Please join us in person in Wailuku or via Zoom!

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

Sept. 8 (Sun.), 8:30 a.m. Service at KJM
15 (Sun.), 8:30 a.m. Service at WJM
21 (Sat.), 1–3 p.m. Statewide Lay Convention
22 (Sun.), 10 a.m. Statewide Service at KJM
27 (Fri.), 7–8 p.m. Worldwide Nenbutsu
at @WJM or via Zoom

* This month marks the beginning of the autumn Ohigan (equinox) season. *O-higan* also refers to the "Other Shore," which symbolizes Amida Buddha's Pure Land (Jodo), and the world of enlightenment. Ohigan is a time to express our gratitude to reflect on our lives and express our gratitude to our departed loved ones and ancestors. If you wish to offer personal prayers to your departed loved ones and ancestors during the service, please let Rev. Hara know so he can make these prayers.
