



Lahaina Jodo Mission Bulletin

12 Ala Moana Street, Lahaina, Hawaii 96761 Phone: 808-661-4304

December 2023

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Dear Members and Friends,

I hope you are all well. I pray for your good health and peace of mind embraced by the Great Compassion of Amida Buddha. Namu Amida Butsu. It is already December, the month Shakyamuni Buddha attained enlightenment to become the Awakened One.

Buddha's enlightenment is the source and inspiration of the over 2,500-year history of Buddhism. Countless sentient beings have been saved by the Buddha's unconditional love, and we are truly grateful for Buddha, Dharma (Teaching), and Sangha (Community).

December is also a time of year when we have several traditional Japanese observances such as *ōsōji* (year-end cleanup), *mochi tsuki* (pounding mochi), and *Joya no Kane* (New Year's Eve Bell Ringing Ceremony). We will miss these traditions at our temple this year, however, with the same spirit we will join in these observances at Wailuku and Kahului Jodo Missions. We hope you can participate in these activities with our fellow Maui Jodo Shu Sangha.

May Amida Buddha's unconditional love embrace us and give us strength and hope for the recovery of our temple and our beloved town.

Namu Amida Butsu!

Gassho, Rev. Gensho Hara

KAHULUI & WAILUKU SUNDAY SERVICES

During these trying times, let us come together with our fellow Jodo Shu members at Kahului and Wailuku Jodo Missions. Sunday services in December as follows:

Dec 3 (Sun), 8 AM at Kahului Jodo Mission

Dec 10 (Sun), 8 AM at Wailuku Jodo Mission

Dec 17 (Sun), 8 AM at Kahului Jodo Mission

Our deepest mahalo to the Kahului and Wailuku members for their support and friendship.

MOST VENERABLE THONG HAI OF HONOLULU VISITS

On November 9th, the Most Venerable Thong Hai of the Honolulu Vietnamese Buddhist Temple came to Maui to bring donation from the Vietnamese Buddhist community from across the US. Due to our minister being in the hospital, Rev. John Hara and Rev. Shinri Hara greeted and received their heartfelt donation to our temple.

Also, the Texas Buddhist Community sent us donations for our temple rebuilding and for our Women's Mini Grant. Our deepest Mahalo to the Vietnamese Buddhist Sangha.



LAHAINA OHANA THANKSGIVING GATHERING

The Lahaina Jodo Mission with the generous help of the Kahului and Wailuku Jodo Missions hosted a Thanksgiving luncheon on Friday, November 24, in the hall of Kahului Jodo Mission. Approximately sixty members and friends enjoyed the wonderful food, amazing music provided by the acclaimed George Kahumoku, and fellowship. Unko George's performance of *Lahainaluna* brought tears to many eyes, as we took that sentimental moment to remember, yet all were still filled with the joy of gratitude for all that we still have, including each other and as we move forward, our hopes for the future.



On this occasion, attendants received tuna cans made by the students of Miyazaki Marine High School from Japan. Our mahalo to Miyazaki Marine High School and their students for their support and encouragement. Mahalo also to Kahului Jodo Mission President Jocelyn Tengan, Iris Nitta, Jenny Hashiro, and their members for their kokua, to Maya and Brian for cooking turkey and planning, and to all who participated.

RENOWNED ARCHITECT BAN SHIGERU & TEAM COME TO MAUI

The internationally renowned architect Ban Shigeru will visit with his volunteer students from Japan and UH Manoa Professor Yasushi Ishida and his students will be on Maui from December 4–7. They will build a prototype of the paper log house that Mr. Ban is known for. The Paia Rinzai Zen Mission has generously agreed to host the students and the prototype buildout at their temple. Maya and Yayoi are assisting with coordinating this project. Those who wish to observe and/or join dinner on Wednesday or Thursday, please contact Maya or Yayoi.

NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE

Although we will not be able to hold our traditional New Year's Eve Service and *joya no kane* bell ringing ceremony, we will join at Wailuku Jodo Mission's New Year's Eve celebration held on December 31 at 7:00 PM. After the service, soba noodles and refreshment will be served. If you are able to attend please RSVP to Rev. Hara by December 20, we will need a head count to prepare.

NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICE

To welcome 2024 let us join the New Year's Day Service at Kahului Jodo Mission on January 1, 2024 at 9:00 AM. New Year's blessings will be held at this special service with New Year's Day *oshogatsu* gathering after the service. Please let Rev. Hara know if you plan to attend as we need a head count. Hope to see you all!

BENJAMIN VERDERY HOST BENEFIT "GUITARIST PLAY FOR MAUI"

Our temple friend Professor Benjamin Verdery will host a benefit concert that will stream via YouTube on **Sunday, December 17 from 11 a.m.** (Hawaii Time, 4 PM EST). Professor Verdery has held his Master Classical Guitar Class on Maui for the past several years with student performance concert at our temple. The benefit concert is asking people to donate to either or both the Maui Food Bank and our temple's rebuild fund. For link, please register at: <https://www.guitaristsplayformauai.org/>

MAHALO FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Rev. and Mrs. Hara were hospitalized last month, thank you to all for your concerns and prayers. Rev. Hara is now recovering and Mrs. Hara is at Hale Makua Kahului for rehabilitation. The Hara family expresses their gratitude for your thoughtfulness and wishes to get well.

DECEMBER CALENDAR

- Dec. 2 Interview by 'Aloha Buddha' crew at Lahaina Jodo Mission (Yayoi & Rev. Hara)
- Dec. 3 Kahului Jodo Service, 8 a.m.
Emergency Board Meeting, 11 a.m.
- Dec. 4-7 Architect Ban Shigeru's visitation Maui & prototype build
- Dec. 10 Wailuku Jodo Service, 8 a.m.
- Dec. 12 Buddhist Service at Roselani, 10 a.m.
- Dec. 17 Kahului Jodo Service, 8 a.m.
- Dec. 23 *Mochi Tsuki*, Wailuku Jodo, 9 a.m.
- Dec. 31 New Year's Eve Service,
Wailuku Jodo Mission, 7 p.m.
- Jan. 1 New Year's Day Service,
Kahului Jodo Mission, 9 a.m.