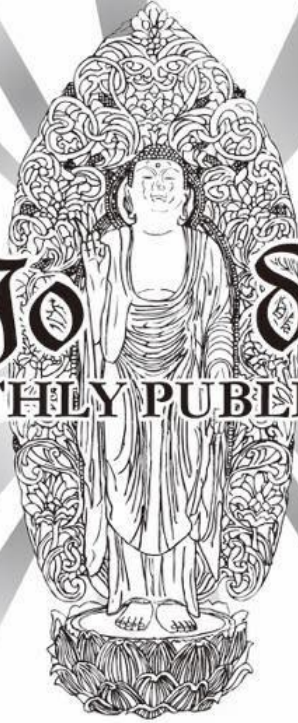


P.O. BOX242 HALEIWA, HI 96712  
TEL: 808-637-4382 FAX: 808-637-3405



# Haleiwa Jodo Mission

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION



MAY 2024

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P.O. BOX 242  
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# HALEIWA JODO MISSION

MAY, 2024



## *FAMILY SERVICE*

10:00 AM

SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2024

## *BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING*

10:00 AM

SUNDAY, MAY 12 2024

## *KOKUA DAY*

9:00 AM

SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2024

## *WAIALUA-HALEIWA BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION CEMETERY CLEAN-UP*

7:30 AM

SATURDAY, MAY 25, 2024

START AT KEMOO CEMETERY

## *BON DANCE PRACTICE*

7:00 PM

THURSDAYS, MAY 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30, 2024

### MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR MONTH OF MAY

13<sup>th</sup> YEAR      HAYASHI, ROBERT  
                            MAY 22, 2012

17<sup>th</sup> YEAR      ISAMU, EBISUI  
                            MAY 24, 2008

33<sup>rd</sup> YEAR      MIYATA, TAKAICHI  
                            MAY 27, 1992  
                            EBISUI, ASAICHI  
                            MAY 13, 1992

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

MEMBERSHIP DUES (2024)  
Lorelei Campbell Brandan Ito  
Melvin Fukuda Jason Baligad

PATIO DONATIONS  
Inez Koga

### SPECIAL DONATIONS

Melvin Fukuda Jason Baligad

### MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Inez Koga      (In memory of Akio Koga)  
Donald Koga      (In memory of Akio Koga)  
George Masatsugu  
                            (In memory of Charles Masatsugu)  
Grace Iwane  
                            (In memory of Charles Masatsugu)  
Kazuko Sakai      (In memory of Itsuo Sakai)  
Susan Tasaki      (In memory of Ernest Tasaki)

### BUDDHA DAY SERVICE

Dennis Nakamura	Grace Iwane
Melanie Matsui	Shinae Sakai
Sheri Yamauchi	Jennifer Pang
Nadine Matsukawa	Kenneth Masatsugu
Keith Yamauchi	Mae Yorimoto
Myra Shiratori	

## SERMON AT THE BUDDHA DAY SERVICE

Rev. Koji Jeff Ezaki

Minister of Haleiwa Jodo Mission Buddhist Temple

We are observing Hanamatsuri, or Buddha Day Service, by celebrating Shakyamuni Buddha's birthday. Shakyamuni was born in India and founded Buddhism 2,500 years ago. The small shrine here in front of us which we decorated with many flowers signifies the moment when Shakyamuni Buddha was born. He was born in a beautiful garden and as legend has it, sweet rain fell upon the earth upon his birth. This is why we pour sweet tea on the baby Buddha statue to celebrate his birth today. Many Buddhist temples in Hawaii are observing their Buddha Day Services today to congratulate our great founder. I would like to thank Sheri, Keith, Melanie, Tomomi, Miku, and Sae for decorating the shrine yesterday.

Today, I picked two poems and printed them on the handout. One poem was written by an American and the other by a Japanese. Both were written in the early 1900's. The writers' backgrounds are different; one was a Christian and the other was a Buddhist. However, their messages are very similar. Please take a look at the handout. The first poem titled "Just for Today" was written by Sibyl Partridge. There are 10 daily living guides for those who seek peace, happiness, and joy. I listed only a summary, not the whole poem because the original is long. I will read them so please follow with your eyes.

### Just for Today

1. Just for today I will be happy.
2. Just for today I will try to adjust myself to what is, and not try to adjust everything to my own desires.
3. Just for today I will take care of my body.
4. Just for today I will try to strengthen my mind.
5. Just for today I will exercise my soul in three ways.
6. Just for today I will be agreeable.
7. Just for today I will try to live through this day only, not to tackle my whole life problem at once.
8. Just for today I will have a program.
9. Just for today I will have a quiet half-hour all by myself and relax.
10. Just for today I will be unafraid, especially since I will not be afraid to be happy.

(Written by Sibyl Partridge)

Now look at the other poem on the handout written by Mikao Usui. He was a Reiki master. Reiki is hand healing, which was founded in 1900. He was a Buddhist follower but was not a minister. As a lay follower, he practiced Buddhist training very earnestly and realized that our body

and mind unite with nature. He realized that how we feel or think in our everyday lives affects our health conditions.

### The Spiritual Principles

Just for today do not worry  
Just for today do not anger  
Honor your parents, teachers, and elders  
Earn your living honestly  
Show gratitude for everything

(Written by Mikao Usui)

On those two poems, we can put any words after "just for today." For example, just for today be kind to others, just for today work diligently, just for today be modest, and so on. Because we live in this present moment, the day of today, the time of this moment, and it will never come back, so the most important day is today, not yesterday or tomorrow. Someone might say that he or she will start a diet from tomorrow or start walking tomorrow. Do you know what happens to this person? Does this person start their diet the next day? Does this person start walking the next day? Linguistically, tomorrow means the next day after today. But physically, when we wake up the next day, it is today. The next day after today is word-wise tomorrow, but physically today. All the creatures who have life in this world live in only today. People who decide to start walking for exercise must persuade themselves and insist every day, "Just for today I must go walking with 10,000 steps even in the rain." Nobody can break your heart and motivation.

Mathematically, physically, sociologically, historically, linguistically and any kinds of aspects have past, present, and future. We, however, can live and exist only in this moment. The present moment is always today. After today is today again. That is why a person who says he or she will start exercising or walking tomorrow will never start. This person can never welcome tomorrow. This means that people who are worried about today always worry, and those who are angry today will always be angry. People who never respect parents and teachers today will always complain about them. What you think today forms your future. I want to emphasize "Just for Today" because today is the very beginning of this life. If you focus on what you think today or if you spend your present moment preciously, you will become happy and live peacefully. Those two poems truly hit the spot. I would say to you: just for today give thanks for your life, be thankful for your ancestors, and just for today thank Buddha.

After my sermon, we will read the scriptures, the Golden Chain and the Pledge, together. The Golden Chain says, "knowing that on what I do now depends my happiness or misery." How do we make our lives happier? What should we do? The Golden Chain also says, "to think pure and beautiful thoughts, to say pure and beautiful words, and to do pure and

beautiful deeds.” We must have pureness and beautifulness in our minds all the time. If you keep them in your mind every day, even though just for today, they lead you to happiness in the future because our lives are a result of what we do in the present moment. Our future happiness is an accumulation of what we do today.

Today we are gathered to celebrate Shakyamuni Buddha’s birthday. More than 2,500 Years have passed since he founded Buddhism in India. He left the teaching to us on how to live as human beings. Let us spend each moment wonderfully and receive a wonderful future by following Shakyamuni’s teachings.

### YOUTH RETREAT

Youth members of the Haleiwa Jodo Mission and Jodo Mission of Hawaii got together to have an annual Youth Retreat on March 24, 2024. Tomomi, Miku, and Sae Ezaki participated in this project on behalf of Haleiwa Jodo Mission.

After the service at the Jodo Mission of Hawaii in Makiki, they visited Manoa Falls for hiking. They enjoyed lunch and ice cream after the hiking. This project is supported by the Hawaii Council of the Jodo Missions.



The groups visited Manoa Falls

### KITCHEN HELPERS

We would like to thank Patty Hirano, and Etsuko, Ama, & Lani Morikawa for preparing the refreshments with the Buddha Day Service.

### MEMBERSHIP DUES

The annual membership dues for the Haleiwa Jodo Mission are \$50.00. The membership fee covers a wedded couple. If you have any questions about your dues, please ask Rev. Ezaki.

### PATIO RESERVATIONS

Thank you for your support of the Haleiwa Jodo Mission throughout the year. In return for your earnest support of the mission, the board of Haleiwa Jodo Mission will allow the temple members to use the patio.

Our covered patio has easy access to the bathrooms and a shower, also a plug-in outlet and wi-fi, and about 30 cars can fit on the temple grounds. Your guests at the party do not need to find parking on the street!! There is no other place near Haleiwa Alii Beach like Haleiwa Jodo Mission for this purpose.

Those who want to use the patio, please call Rev. Ezaki to make a reservation. He will give you the details of the rental agreement.

### MARIAN MASAE SCHOLARSHIP



Waialua High School graduate Hailey Pascual, left, received the 2024 Marian Masae Scholarship

### PET MEMORIAL

Haleiwa Jodo Mission prays for your beloved pets who were one of your family members. It is common practice to have one’s beloved pets cremated after they pass on. However, many pet lovers do not know how they can enshrine their pets further to give them a final resting place. Rev. Ezaki created the Pet Memorial because he saw that many families keep the urns of their pets' ashes in their homes with no place to go.

## **PET MEMORIAL**

Available to Members and Non-Members



**With Love, We Remember**