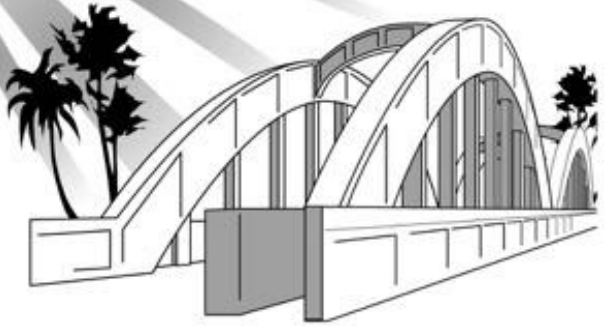


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TEL: 808-637-4382



Haleiwa Jodo Mission

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION



SEPTEMBER 2024

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HALEIWA JODO MISSION

SEPTEMBER, 2024



HIGAN SERVICE

10:00 AM

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

10:00 AM

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

KOKUA DAY

9:00 AM

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

13 th YEAR	MIYASAKI, NEAL SEP 16, 2012
25 th YEAR	KUNISHIMA, LINDY SEP 11, 2000
47 th YEAR	YOSHIDA, KANEZUCHI SEP 10, 1978

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Allison Lloyd
(In memory of Howard Miike)

Satoshi Watanuki
(In memory of Tasaburo & Suye Watanuki)

Morioka Family
(In memory of Yukiko Morioka)

Ted Mukai
(In memory of Toshiaki Mukai)

Myra Shiratori
(In memory of Rev. Shunjo Shiratori)

Brian Kawano
(In memory of Lois Kawano)

BIRTHDAY DONATIONS

Kay Hokama

SPECIAL DONATIONS & GOBUTSUZEN

Mae Yorimoto	Anne Torige
Katherine Kawamata	

PATIO DONATIONS

Frances Hirakawa	Nadine Matsukawa
Katherine Fujii	Carol Ishimoto

FAMILY SERVICE (AUGUST 4)

Shinae Sakai	Joan Yamamoto
Grace Iwane	Jennifer Pang
Kenneth Masatsugu	Dennis Nakamura
Nadine Matsukawa	Melanie Matsui
Mae Yorimoto	Nadine Matsukawa
Sheri Yamauchi	

FIRST SUNDAY OF SEPTEMBER

The first Sunday of September will be a Higan Service starting at 10:00 am. Lunch will be served. Please join us.

THANK YOU FOR OSETTAI

We would like to thank the following members for preparing refreshments for the Family Service on August 4, 2024: Patty Hirano, David Dicion, Etsuko & Ama Morikawa, and Tomomi, Miku, & Sae Ezaki.

SERMON AT THE FAMILY SERVICE

Rev. Koji Jeff Ezaki

Minister of Haleiwa Jodo Mission

I would like to extend my appreciation to everybody who helped prepare for our O-bon Festival on July 26 and 27 and all who attended the services. Our O-bon projects began with the General Clean-up on July 7 and ended with taking down the *yagura* on July 28. There were over 50 members and friends of Haleiwa Jodo Mission who helped with the toro making and *yagura* set-up. Thank you to all of you! We also had volunteers from the Waiialua High School Robotics team for the food booth and parking and Leilehua High School Brass Band team for selling *andagi*. Your heartfelt *kokua* completed this project. I'm proud of the members, friends, and neighbors of Haleiwa Jodo Mission. *Arigato Gozaimasu*.

Now, I feel *anshin*, at ease, because O-bon is over. On Saturday night, the Bon dance ended at 10:00 pm. Helpers took down tents, *chochins*, and electric cable wires quickly. They placed the ice chests, BBQ grills, saimin & hot dogs, and other items away into the hall. Unfortunately, there was rain during the bon dance, so we left wet items such as tents, *maku*, and *chochins* on the patio to dry. After the eventful night, the workers ate refreshments and stayed late with the last person leaving the church around 1:30 am. I walked around the temple grounds alone to do a final check of the bathrooms, social hall, and main temple. I dumped the trash bags on the truck, locked all doors, and turned off the lights. When the night's work finally ended, I took a shower, and went to bed around 2:30 in the morning. Three hours later at 5:30 am, I got up to open the kitchen doors and gate for the beach clean-up. Helpers gathered at 6:00 am on Sunday morning. Despite being tired they cleaned the beach and Alii Beach Park with renewed energy. We also took down the *yagura*. The clean-up finished around 11:00 am. The next day, the clean-up was continued by my family. We vacuumed and put away the Obon decoration in the main temple and returned the pick-up truck in Waipahu. The three-week Obon project was finally over on Monday. At that moment, I almost passed out with relief. I don't remember much after the beach clean-up because I was exhausted. After taking a few days rest, my family and I cleaned the kitchen counter and floor for today's service. For the last 25 years, while a sensei at this temple and with the help of everyone, the Obon tradition has continued.

When cleaning the main temple, the faces of many people who I met during the Bon projects came to my mind. They were members, friends, store workers in Haleiwa town, or my daughter's school friends. There were thousands of people at our two-day Bon Festival. People who found me said, "Hi, Sensei." I was very happy to see many familiar faces. Some I

hadn't seen for decades. Also while cleaning the temple, an older lady who I talked with on Saturday night came to my mind. I hadn't seen her for a couple of years so I was very happy to see her. She said her daughter brought her to the temple. She had never asked her daughter to drive to the temple before. She would *enryo* or hesitate to ask her daughter to take her, but this time, she thought O-bon would be a good time to ask. She said she was very happy to come to Haleiwa Jodo Mission together with her daughter and grandchildren. Also, I talked with her daughter behind her mother. She said she was so happy that her mother asked her to take her to the *toro nagashi* this year. The daughter had wanted to take her mother to O-bon but her mother never asked her for a ride. The daughter was happy to take care of her older mother. With both mother and daughter having *enryo* or hesitation to ask each other, either to support or to be supported, they missed our Bon Festival the past few years. When I heard that story, I thought that this is what the O-bon Festival really is about. O-bon is a time that spirits of our ancestors and we, humans, meet together. Also, O-bon is a time that family members and friends gather together.

In my sermon for the O-bon Service, I said that O-bon is a celebration for our ancestors, as well as our lives. Our ancestors gave us a chance to participate in the services, Bon dance, and Toro Nagashi. This lady was brought to the temple by her ancestors and her daughter & granddaughter by their mother. People attract people and our circle grows bigger and bigger. That's O-bon. Our life is connecting with an invisible line with everybody from the past to the future. Buddhism teaches that praying for our ancestors is the most important practice to become happy and have a peaceful life. We cannot be born alone. We cannot live alone without the help we receive in the present and future. Our lives are all connected with each other. O-bon season gives us awareness of how our life is important. I feel very happy people participated and helped with the O-bon projects with their family and friends.

As I mentioned in the last bulletin, this year, 2024, marks the 850th Anniversary of the Founding of Jodo Shu by St. Honen and the 130th Anniversary of the Jodo Shu ministry in Hawaii. I visited the Chion-in Temple in Kyoto last year with a group from Hawaii to participate in the 850th-anniversary service. It was a memorable service. This year, with gratitude to our predecessors, Bishop Ishikawa of the Hawaii Council of Jodo Missions is planning an event on Sunday, October 20 at the Jodo Mission of Hawaii in Makiki. He is planning the service and entertainment on this day welcoming the Arch Bishop from the headquarters in Kyoto. The members of Haleiwa Jodo Mission are encouraged to attend this auspicious occasion. Please save the date for this memorable gathering.

Finally, I would like to mention about the scroll

on the wall. Bishop Ishikawa brought the *eden* or *emakimono*. We call this in English, Illustrated handscroll. They depict St. Honen's life. We can see what kind of kimono people wore and their life style about 800 years ago. If you are interested, please see it before going down to the social hall.

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.

Only members who are currently active (participate in the Sunday Services, Kokua Day, Toro Making, Bon Festival, and so on) and have paid dues for at least the last three years can reserve the patio. The board does not allow people to become members for the sole purpose of reserving the patio. 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.

GREAT THANKS TO WAIALUA HIGH & INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL ROBOTICS

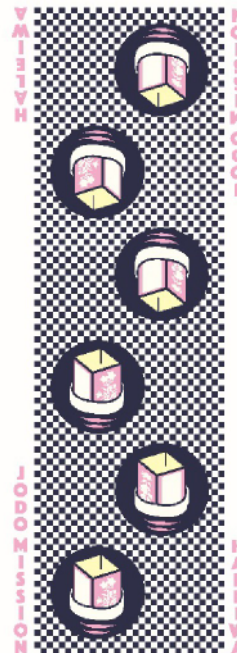
Haleiwa Jodo Mission deeply appreciates the Waialua High and Intermediate School Robotics team for helping at our Obon Festival. They helped us not only at the food booths but also as parking attendants in coordinating a smooth and orderly parking experience for our guests. Haleiwa Jodo Mission is looking forward to another year of success in robotics and in the community.

THE 850TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF JODO SHU & THE 130TH ANNIVERSARY OF HAWAII JODO SHU

This year marks the 850th Anniversary of the Founding of Jodo Shu by St. Honen (1133-1212) and the 130th Anniversary of the Jodo Shu ministry in Hawaii. With deep gratitude to our predecessors, the Hawaii Council of Jodo Missions will hold a commemoration service and event on Sunday, October 20 at the Jodo Mission of Hawaii in Makiki. Please save the date. Members are encouraged to attend this auspicious occasion.

2024 NEW DESIGNED BON TOWELS

Did you get our new bon towels during the bon dance? This is the first new design since 2018. Takashi Komiyama, who designed our bon towels and T-shirts in the past, designed our new bon towels. We have two different designs. Those who are interested in these, please contact Rev. Ezaki at 808-637-4382. They are \$8.00 each.



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