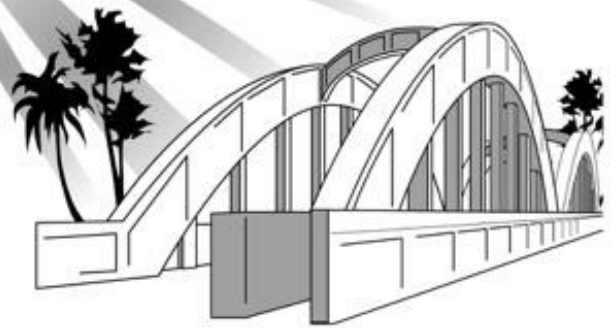


P.O. BOX 242 HALEIWA, HI 96712
TEL: 808-637-4382



Haleiwa Jodo Mission

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION



JANUARY 2025

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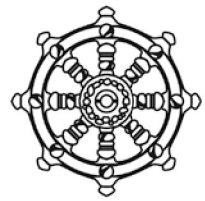
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HALEIWA JODO MISSION
P.O. BOX 242
HALEIWA, HAWAII 96712



HALEIWA JODO MISSION

JANUARY, 2025



NEW YEAR'S DAY SERVICE

12:00 AM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2025

GYOKI SERVICE

10:00 AM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 2025

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

10:00 AM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 2025

KOKUA DAY

9:00 AM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2025

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR 2025

Please refer to this chart for observations of memorial services for the deceased member of your family.

Memorial Service	The Year of Death
1 st Memorial Service	2024
3 rd Memorial Service	2023
7 th Memorial Service	2019
13 th Memorial Service	2013
17 th Memorial Service	2009
23 rd Memorial Service	2003
25 th Memorial Service	2001
27 th Memorial Service	1999
33 rd Memorial Service	1993
37 th Memorial Service	1989
43 rd Memorial Service	1983
47 th Memorial Service	1979
50 th Memorial Service	1976
100 th Memorial Service	1926

MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR MONTH OF JANUARY

23rd YEAR SAJI, GIICHI
 JAN. 1, 2003

25th YEAR NISHIYAMA, TERUHISA
 JAN. 15, 2001

37th YEAR KIMURA, TOKUHEI
 JAN. 3, 1989

KAWAMURA SCHOLARSHIP

Applications for the Marian Masae Kawamura Scholarship are now available. Applications must be turned in to the Haleiwa Jodo Mission by March 8, 2025.

TREASURER'S NOTE

Please bring your membership dues up to date. The membership fee covers a wedded couple. We are accepting dues for 2025 as well as past year(s) dues for those who haven't yet paid. Annual membership is \$50.00.

SERMON AT THE BODHI DAY SERVICE

Rev. Koji Jeff Ezaki
Minister of Haleiwa Jodo Mission

We are observing the Jodo-ye or Bodhi Day Service. Jodo-ye is the day of celebration commemorating when Shakyamuni Buddha became enlightened. In Japanese, Jodo means achieving the state of enlightenment. We call Shakyamuni's enlightenment Bodhi Day because Shakyamuni became enlightened under the Bodhi tree. This happened 2,500 years ago when Shakyamuni became the Enlightened One and founded Buddhism. According to Buddhist legends, he was born in Lumbini, in what is now Nepal into a royal family of the Shakya clan, but renounced his luxury life to live as a wandering ascetic. After he was enlightened at 35 years old, he formed a Sangha which is a group of Buddhist followers, and wandered through India to spread his teachings until he was 80 years old. Today, I selected a description about the Sangha, and how it describes a Buddhist group member. Please look at the handout.

The organization that is formed on the perfect teachings of Buddhism can be called a Sangha. They should observe these teachings and train their minds accordingly. Thus, the Buddha's Sangha will theoretically include everyone, but, in fact, only those who have the same religious faith are members. The Buddha's Sangha will have two types of members: there will be those who are teaching the lay members, and those who are supporting the teachers by offering the needed food and clothing. They together will disseminate and perpetuate the teaching. Then, to make the Sangha complete, there must be perfect harmony among the members. The teachers teach the members and the members honor the teachers so that there can be harmony between them.

(The Teaching of Buddha)

Buddha said the Sangha should keep the harmony. To keep the harmony in the group, appreciation toward each other, is one of the most important attributes. It means thanking each other between sensei and members and between members and members themselves. If you are a person who always appreciates things around you under any situation, you will obtain happiness because your heart and mind are in the right place. Most people forget to appreciate the existence of nature because we take it for granted as a given. We, humans, make the mistake thinking we deserve all that nature provides. For example, we think that it is natural we get air for free. We cannot live without oxygen, but no matter how we make the effort we cannot create it. Air is a blessing from nature. It is around us, everywhere, unconditionally for everybody, and we inhale it as much as we want. This idea, that we deserve to freely receive from nature, keeps thoughts of appreciation away from our minds. We

forget appreciation because we can get air anytime, we can get water whenever we turn the faucet on, and we can get electricity anytime when we turn on the switch.

Why do we lose the sense of appreciation? Because we are able to use the natural resources around us conveniently. A superior attitude like "deserve" or "take for granted," leads us to ungratefulness. We must appreciate all the invisible supports in our lives. We say thank you to visible things. When we receive something or are taken care of by somebody, we say thank you because we can see it. This means we are only thankful when we get some kind of benefit. When we take a deep breath, we don't feel we've gained anything. That's why we don't thank the air. If you are a person who shows appreciation for everything around you, not only for benefits, you are aware that you cannot live by yourself. If you spend your life under such an ungrateful or thankless mind, you will lose gratitude even toward your closest family and friends. In reality, it is best to be grateful to your family, friends, and the people who are closest to you who support you. We humans live in a circle of society. Everybody helps and supports each other. Buddha's teachings remind us of the sense of appreciation and gratitude, as we sometimes forget. What did Buddha say in the passage on the handout? "Make the Sangha to keep harmony."

Japanese express thankfulness as *arigatai* or *arigato*. *Arigatai* literally means "hard to exist" or "difficult to be". We say *arigato* toward things that involve our total being. Everything in our life contributes to our appreciation of life itself. That is the meaning of thank you in Japanese. For example, let's say, if you give me a present, I would say thank you or *arigato*. The original meaning of *arigato* is "thank you," which is not only used to express your kindness in giving me a present, but also convey *arigato* or "thank you" to this wonderful encounter or friendship between us, including an appreciation for our lives which are given to us by our ancestors. Because we are human, we are able to meet each other, get along with each other, and then give a present to each other. The attitude *arigatai* or *arigato* will happen to me, because of support from nature, karma, fate, relationships, and everything happening around me. Before a present reaches my hand, there are many incidents that happen between you and me. The sense of *arigato* when I receive a present from you is to be thankful for everything around me, not only for your kindness itself. That is the origin of *arigato*, cultivated as Buddhists.

I want you to learn this sense of appreciation through Buddhist teaching. When your mind is filled with appreciation, you will be happy all the time because your mind is pure. In the handout, the passage says

we must keep harmony in Sangha. If we keep harmony with friends, neighbors, society, and the world, our lives will be rich, prosperous, fruitful, meaningful, and more colorful. In Jodo-shu, we are taught to recite "Namu Amida Butsu" to show our appreciation. Reciting Buddha's name means thinking of Buddha. Our mind is facing toward Buddha and that is why we call his name wholeheartedly. If you continue to show appreciation for everything, especially blessings from nature, you will spend your life happily. We become aware of what is important in our daily lives through Buddhist teachings. That is, "the mind for appreciation." In order to develop your Buddha-mind which is a seed to become a Buddha, please practice Buddhism in your daily life.

GYOKI SERVICE

A Gyoki Family Service will be held on the first Sunday of January. Lunch will be served. Please join us on January 5, 2025, at 10:00 am.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

MEMBERSHIP DUES (2025)

David Koizumi George Hokama

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Otsuka & Keao Ohana

(In memory of Mae Otsuka)

Keith Yamamoto

(In memory of Ethel Yamamoto)

Betty Hayashi

(In memory of Harold Hayashi)

SPECIAL DONATIONS

George Hokama Glenn Matsumoto

Leilehua High School Band

BODHI DAY SERVICE

Dennis Nakamura Keith Yamauchi

Jennifer Pang Shinae Sakai

Sheri Yamauchi Joan Yamamoto

Nadine Matsukawa Grace Iwane

Cammie Venegas Myra Shiratori

David Koizumi

NEW YEAR'S PARTY

The annual Haleiwa Jodo Mission's New Year's Party will be held on Sunday, February 15, 2025. Lunch is free for the dues-paying members and guests. Non-members will be charged \$15 per person. Those who wish to attend, please call Haleiwa Jodo Mission @637-4382 by February 2.

IN SYMPATHY

We would like to express our deepest sympathy and condolences to the family of the late Mrs. Ethel Yamamoto, who passed away on August 23, 2024. The private funeral service was held at the Mililani Mortuary on December 6, officiated by Rev. Ezaki.

OMAMORI

Haleiwa Jodo Mission has a variety of omamori available. We recommend changing them once a year with appreciation. Rev. Ezaki accepts the old omamori from any Buddhist temples or Shinto shrines. Those who have old ones or missed an opportunity to return them to the temples, please feel free to bring them to us. We burn them during the Year-End Service every year. For more information about omamori, please call Haleiwa Jodo Mission @637-4382.

PATIO RESERVATIONS

If you want to use the patio for your party in 2025, please make your plans quickly and make a reservation as early as possible. The season from May to August is especially popular for parties. Because Haleiwa Jodo Mission will observe the Obon Festival in August 2025, there will be limited time to use the patio this summer.

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.

GENERAL CLEAN-UP

We would like to thank the following members for their kokua on the General Clean-up on December 15, 2024. Sheri Yamauchi, Shinae Sakai, Melanie Matsui, Joan Yamamoto, Jennifer Pang, Nadine Matsukawa, Wendi Woodstrup, Patty Hirano, Etsuko Morikawa, Carrie Aoki, Lynne Higa, Danna Au, Staci Nobunaga, Keith Yamamoto, David Koizumi, Payton Takeuchi, and Brian Nobunaga. Thank you very much!!

PET MEMORIAL

Available to Members and Non-Members



With Love, We Remember

THE MARIAN MASAE KAWAMURA SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION (2025)

Sponsored by: Haleiwa Jodo Mission

Scholarship Amount: \$1,000.00

History:

Harry Kawamura – a lifelong resident of the Haleiwa/Waialua community – generously provided funding for and established **The Marian Masae Kawamura Scholarship**, in memory of his beloved wife. Mr. Kawamura has since passed, but the scholarship has continued because of his generosity to the Haleiwa Jodo Mission.

The scholarship was initially offered only to the children of members of the Haleiwa Jodo Mission. It has since been expanded to include members' grandchildren and graduating students of Waialua High School.

Eligibility:

Applications for The Marian Masae Scholarship will be accepted from graduating high school students who:

1. Is a member or child or grandchild of a member of the Haleiwa Jodo Mission; or
2. Is an active Haleiwa Jodo Mission volunteer or a child or grandchild of an active Haleiwa Jodo Mission volunteer; or
3. Attends Waialua High School

How to Apply:

Obtain an application form from Waialua High School or Haleiwa Jodo Mission (email: haleiewajodomissionyba@gmail.com).

Review and complete application form and provide the additional information specified on the application.

Submit the completed application and additional information to Haleiwa Jodo Mission by the applicable deadline.

Review:

After the deadline, all applications will be reviewed and the scholarship recipient will be notified and invited to meet the Board Members of the Haleiwa Jodo Mission to formally receive the scholarship award.

All information, including academic history, financial need, community service, and leadership achievements will be considered.

THE MARIAN MASAE KAWAMURA SCHOLARSHIP

Sponsored by Haleiwa Jodo Mission

\$1,000.00

APPLICANT'S INFORMATION

Application Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Name of High School: _____

Year of Graduation: _____

Name of accredited college or higher education institution (including trade school) at which applicant will enroll: _____

Anticipated enrollment date: _____

PARENTS' / GUARDIANS' INFORMATION

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Financial Status (please check one): Under \$20K \$20K-\$30K \$30K-\$40K \$40K-\$50K Over \$50K

QUALIFICATION STATUS:

- Member or child or grandchild of a member of the Haleiwa Jodo Mission
- Active volunteer of Haleiwa Jodo Mission or child or grandchild of an active volunteer of Haleiwa Jodo Mission
- Waialua High School student

THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION MUST ACCOMPANY APPLICATION:

- High school transcript(s) including seventh semester grades.
- Letter of recommendation from an academic advisor, academic counselor, or recent instructor.
- A short statement of your (1) extra-curricular activities during high school, including sports, volunteering, and church/temple activities and (2) future school and career plans.

NOTE: Upon receipt of the scholarship, the scholarship recipient will be invited to participate (as available) in general clean up and monthly kokua days, o-bon, craft fair, and other activities of Haleiwa Jodo Mission.

I certify that the information provided in this application is true and correct and acknowledge that I will receive invitations to activities:

Applicant: _____

Parent or Guardian (if applicant is under 18 years old): _____

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

APPLICATION DEADLINE: March 8, 2025 (Delivered)

Mail to: Haleiwa Jodo Mission; PO Box 242; Haleiwa, HI 96712