

Message from Bishop Kosen Ishikawa

Dear Members and Friends,

When I was a newly assigned minister at Betsuin, we had a wonderful routine to have a morning service together with Bishop and ministers every morning at 6:00 am. I remember maximum numbers of Betsuin ministers were five plus Bishop. It was always gorgeous and solemn to chant sutras together with more ministers. Well, I actually didn't think it was wonderful because it was not easy to wake up before 6:00 am at that time. But now I miss it so much because the time to spend with dear ministers and members at Betsuin cannot come back ever.



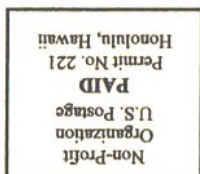
Right after this morning service, all ministers together go outside and stop at Jizo Statue, St. Honen's Statue and Kaikyo monument to dedicate Nenbutsu prayers and then conclude this daily service at the front door of the temple where we all looked to the Punchbowl cemetery and recite Namu Amida Bu ten times to the dedicated solders at the cemetery.

This summer, as I stayed at Betsuin during this Bon Season, I recalled this routine and followed what we did before. If my memory served me rightly, the lookout at the Punchbowl was clearly visible from the Betsuin at that time but now I noticed it was not visible at all. What prevents us from seeing the Punchbowl directly? What is the obstacle? Or Is it just my paramnesia?

I needed to go to the Punchbowl to get my answer. Then I found out rainbow shower tree by the H1 freeway near temple gate has grown so tall that made it impossible to view the Punchbowl. As you know, tree cannot be tall suddenly. Trees grow little by little with the passing of time. We hardly notice this change however with passing of many years, it causes a big change and makes a big difference.

I met some members whose names and faces were very familiar during my staying there. Yes, I know them but I couldn't recall detailed memories with them. They didn't remember me either. It was so frustrating and sad that I could not remember them. I truly realized 20 years

[cont'd on page 2]



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JODO MISSION OF HAWAII
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was such a long time.

But I'm not going to keep regretting nor frustrating as we are all living in the present moment. If we forgot our relationship, we can build good relationships from now on. The past is dead and it cannot be changed no matter how hard we work. But for future, I believe we could always have a chance to make it better by working hard in this moment. It is my hope that together with ministers and members, we can build better relationships and better future.

I thank you very much for your continued support. At the same time, I pray for your good health and safety.

Namu Amida Butsu

Former Kyoku President Teruto Soma Passed Away

January 31, 1927—September 17, 2020

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of the former President of Hawaii Council of Jodo Missions (Kyoku) **Teruto Soma**. He passed away on September 17, 2020 with his family at his bedside, including his wife of 69 years, Doris Soma. He was 93 years old. Together they had four sons (Glenn, Brian, Patrick, Dean), so you can imagine what it was like at the dinner table with four sons! Many people may be shocked by Mr. Soma's passing since Jodo Mission has not had any mass gatherings since March 2020. His smiling face will be sorely missed at Jodo Mission events.



Teruto Soma was President of Hawaii Council of Jodo Missions or Kyoku from September 1995 to 2003. He was also active at Betsuin Kyodan Board of Directors as 1st Vice President from 1994 to 1995, Secretary to Betsuin Kyodan Board from 1995 to 2000, 1st Vice President in 2001 to 2003 and then as an advisor to the Board from 2009 to 2012.

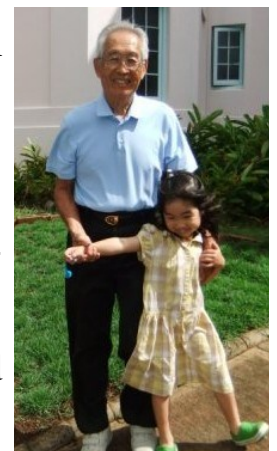
Members and ministers of Jodo Mission of Hawaii are truly grateful to Mr. Soma for the air conditioning in our temple and temple office, which he negotiated with the State of Hawaii as chair of the Punahou Off-Ramp Committee more than 20 years ago. More of the temple's land was being taken away, first for the H-1 freeway, then the Punahou Off-Ramp with the freeway getting closer and closer to Jodo Mission and noisier. **THANK YOU SO MUCH!**



Mr. Soma almost always was seen at major Jodo Mission of Hawaii events, especially Bon Dance. He would normally be seen under the yagura as the MC announcing various songs for the dancers. You would also see Masa Kitajima with him handling the electronics. In May there was lei making for the Punchbowl veterans.



Mr. Soma liked gardening and watching things grow. In 2010 a photo was taken with Sophie Narashiba with the grass he planted behind them growing so well and so green. During mochitsuki time he would be growing mizuna and at the first family service in January when ozoni was served, he would



provide the mizuna. Photo on left shows him enjoying the ozoni soup.

THANK YOU.

Message by Rev. Myoko Takano

To our many members who are staying at home, please stay safe and we will see you again soon. There is a very famous Buddhist story, “spider’s silk”, written by **Ryunosuke Akutagawa**. I will do storytelling with pictures like a Japanese Kamishibai. Pictures are a bit childish, but the story is very nice. Please enjoy my storytelling.

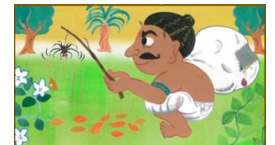


A long time ago, there was a thief named **Kandata** who lived in hell. He was sent to hell because he did many evil things when he was alive, such as setting houses on fire, and stealing valuables from other people.

One day, Buddha was walking around a pond in heaven and saw Kandata at the bottom. This pond was actually connected to hell, so everyone in heaven could look down and see what was happening.



After watching for a little while, Buddha remembered who Kandata was alive. He was walking through a forest and almost stepped on a small spider. Kandata thought, “Even something so small has a precious life. I must not let myself kill this poor thing.” And avoided stepping on the spider, saving its life. After recalling his good deed, Buddha decided he would try his best to save Kandata from hell.



He saw a spider in the pond. He gently pulled out silk from the spider, and dropped it down into hell. The suffering Kandata looked up and saw a single shining silk thread come down from the heavens. Kandata immediately thought, “I can use this to climb out of hell.” He grabbed the spider’s silk and began climbing up.



After a while, Kandata, exhausted from climbing, looked down and saw thousands of guilty sinners climbing up behind him like a long row of ants. Kandata, afraid the silk string wouldn’t be able to hold everyone’s weight, yelled at the people below him, “All you sinners! This spider’s silk is mine! Get off!”



Right at that moment, the spider’s silk which was completely fine until then, suddenly split apart and sent Kandata back to the bottom of hell. This was punishment for Kandata’s selfishness. After watching Kandata’s mistake, Buddha sadly got up and walked away from the pond.

We can learn two lessons from this story.

Buddha is always watching over us. If you do good deeds, Buddha lead us in the right direction like Kandata. So please try to behave and do good deeds.

The second lesson is that you should not be self-centered. We must support and cooperate with each other in our life. If there are people in trouble around you, please help each other.

In the end, please put your hands together in gassho, and let us recite Namu Amida Butsu together.

このお話から得られる教訓は2つあります。

お釈迦様は常に私達の事を見守ってくれています。良い行いをすれば、カンダカのように良い方向へ導いていただけます。なので常日頃から良い行動するように心がけてください。

2つ目の教訓は、利己心から自分だけが良い思いをしてはいけないということです。私達は共に協力して、お互いに支え合いながら生きていかなければいけません。困っている人や悩んでいる人が周りにいましたら、お互いに助け合ってください

Lahaina was Teruto Soma's hometown and because of the Corvid-19 pandemic and restrictions on the number of people who could attend his private funeral, Rev. Gensho Hara of Lahaina Jodo Mission offered a prayer at the same time and opened it to anyone interested in attending.

In Honolulu, although it was a Kyoku private funeral, no one other than Mr. Soma's immediate family could attend. The Mayor's Tier 1 requirement on funerals limits attendance to 10 people, including the officiating minister. The Soma's had four sons with spouses, his wife and officiating minister made 10 people and no one else could attend.



Mr. Soma retired from Hickam Air Force Base as an Assistant Chief of Supply where he met many heads of state and dignitaries. He was also involved in many community organizations (besides Buddhist related organizations, i.e. Jodo Mission of Hawaii, Hawaii Council of Jodo Missions, Young Buddhist Association), Roosevelt High School PTA (while sons were attending), Lions Club, Little League groups, etc. He loved Hawaiian music and playing the ukulele. He was such an active person in the community.

As an active, helpful person even at around 86 years old, he could still pull a couple of heavy large tile blocks during Jodo Mission yagura set up in 2013. He also loved children and would take the time to listen to what they had to say.



We want to thank the Soma family for sharing him with the Jodo Mission family and please take care of Doris Soma who has also shared so much of her life with the Jodo Mission family and maybe we will continue to see many more Soma family at Jodo Mission activities! ARIGATO SOMA SAN!

O-Juya Service

On Sunday, November 8 at 10:00 a.m., we are having our O-Juya Service.



“Doing good deeds (reciting Namu Amida Butsu) here and now exceeds a thousand years of good deeds in the land of all the Buddhas.” At Jodo Mission, it is customary for us to offer sweet treats to Amida Buddha but because of Covid-19 pandemic, we will forego this tradition, however, if you are able to attend, **please come for this in-person O-Juya service on Sunday, November 8 at 10 am.**

Virtual Jodo-E or Bodhi Day Celebration

Hawaii Buddhist Council's Virtual Jodo-E or Bodhi Day Service will be held online on Sunday, December 6, 2020.

Guest Speaker will be Dr. Kenneth Tanaka.

Jodo-E is the celebration when Buddha attained enlightenment under the Bodhi tree. Please join this happy occasion! [As further information is received regarding this virtual service, we will let you know.]



Jodo Mission of Hawaii Board of Directors is looking for more members who are willing to do service to your temple? The Board meets regularly once a month, normally the second Sunday after Sunday Service.

This past year has been very, very difficult with the Covid pandemic, social distancing, wearing masks, no mass gatherings. **Please call the temple office at 949-3995 and state you are interested in serving on the Board and someone will get back to you. Thank you for your interest!**

Board Meeting



VISION FOR THE FUTURE (5)

By The Late Bishop Yubun Narashiba

Japanese Buddhism in Hawaii has a very unique cultural background. In Japan, Buddhist customs differ from village to village, town to town, prefecture to prefecture. This is because Buddhism has been localized to fit to the custom in each area. Since Japanese immigrants came to Hawaii from the various regions of Japan, ceremonial customs are different according to the area where the family came from. However, as time passes, those customs are becoming unclear and more confusing for the younger generations. Because of this confusion, younger generations seem to be going away from Buddhism by saying that Buddhism is hard to understand. Therefore, in this article, I would like to explain the standard procedure of doing a service. First, let me show you the two common procedures of having funerals among the members of Jodo Mission of Hawaii.



1. When Someone Passed Away

Death
↓
Medical examination
↓
Call for a minister
↓
Makuragyo (Bedside service)
↓
Call for a mortuary
↓
Body pick-up
↓
Meeting with the funeral director at the mortuary
↓
Viewing service
↓
Cremation
↓
FUNERAL with the first 7th day service
↓
49th day service
Burial service
↓
Hatsubon (1st O-Bon) service
↓
1 year memorial service

2. When Someone Is Very Close To Death

Call for a minister
↓
Rinju Gyogi (Last rites)
↓
Death
↓
Medical examination
↓
Call for a mortuary
↓
Body pick-up
↓
Meeting with the funeral director at the mortuary
↓
Viewing service
↓
Cremation
↓
FUNERAL with the first 7th day service
↓
49th day service
Burial service
↓
Hatsubon (1st O-Bon) service↓
↓
1 year memorial service

****Editor's note:** This article is a reprint from our August 2011 issue. Because this article contains information you will need to know some day, we will continue to reprint it from time to time as space permits.

Due to Coronavirus, our procedures regarding the above.

Makuragyo, or last rites, funerals and inurnments, 49 day service: Our ministers can conduct these services at your request, *with or without attendees*. This is for the protection of our ministers, as well as the deceased's family members. Services without attendees can be conducted by telephone, skype or other agreeable means so family will be able to participate in the service. The family could at the time of the scheduled service light a senko at their home altar or in the case of a funeral, it can be done at the gravesite followed by inurnment. Being that we are in the Mayor's Tier 1 or 2, funerals are limited to a maximum of 10 people, including the officiating minister. For all in-person services, 1) everyone must wear facial masks (with or without gloves), 2) social distance of 6 feet, 3) no talking during the service, 4) use hand sanitizer provided and when you go home to please wash your hands with soap, 5) no hand shaking, 6) do not touch nose, eyes or mouth with unclean hands. This method is to protect everyone and to follow the guidelines. Please call Jodo Mission of Hawaii office at 949-3995 for further details in your particular situation. *Thank you for your understanding.*

What is “Perpetual Memorial Service?” (Eitaikyo)

This record of a perpetual memorial service is called *Eitaikyo* in Japanese. When the date of death occurs for a person listed on this record, the ministers pray for that individual during the morning service. The prayers will continue each year for as long as Jodo Mission exists.

Anyone can be included in it. You may put your own name on the list, too. This helps when it is difficult to have memorial services. We also welcome you to attend the morning service at 9:30 am.

How to apply

Stop by the office, and fill out the application form. Each name costs \$200. After the application is accepted, the name will be listed on the record.

Notice to Nokotsudo Visitors

Many people call to see if the Nokotsudo/Columbarium is open. We have been letting people in if they come and ring the bell. **You must wear a mask, use the hand sanitizer going in and coming out and go home and wash your hands with soap.** No more than 4 people at a time, social distancing.

New Hours: 10 am to 5 pm Monday-Saturday

12 pm to 3 pm Sunday*

10 am to 3 pm Holidays

*Sundays no one in office since we have Sunday Service

2021 Jodo Shu Calendar

Live the Jodo Shu style each and every day, sharing in the love and compassion of Amida Buddha year round with the messages of distinguished priests. Calendar is for January through December 2021

Free calendar is available. Please order your calendar now before we run out. Please call Jodo Mission of Hawaii at 949-3995 by November 15.

Thank you.



Mailing Address

Please keep Jodo Mission of Hawaii advised of your change in address. Every time you move and your mail is forwarded, the post office charges Jodo Mission. We would appreciate you keeping us up to date on your mailing address and telephone number.

If you prefer receiving the Bulletin by e-mail, please advise us of your e-mail address and also keep us up to date when your e-mail address changes. *Thank you.*



Bishop Kosen Ishikawa



Rev. Myoko Takano
Resident Minister

Jodo Mission Office Hours: [New Covid Hours]

Monday to Saturday: 10am–5pm
Sunday & Holidays: 10am–3pm

Phone: 949-3995

Website: www.jodo.us

Perpetual Memorial Service (Eitaikyo) for November

- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| 1 Gensaku Nakagawa
The Nakagawa Family
Hidetsugu Kanai
Sadao Hedani
Masao Taketa
Tadao Murashige | The Tomai Family
Tsutomu Hanano
Kazuo Gonhata
Kazo Kubota
Mary Miyuki Saeki | 16 Tora Otani
The Otani & Yanagihara
Family
Shosaku Yagi
The Yagi & Okada Family
Kazuo Hayashi
The Hayashi Family
Koichi Ono
The Ono & Yamada
Family
Mitsuko Yanagihara
Fumi Miyamoto | Yonezo Kitagawa
Isami Tarumoto
Kura Nakagawa (2) |
| 2 Koichi Yoshiumi
The Yoshiumi Family
Koichi Nakamura
Jiro Masuda
Kenjiro Ishii
Tari Sato
The Miyakawa Family | 9 Iwao Iwamoto
The Iwamoto Family
Natsu Kanemoto
The Kanemoto &
Miyamoto Family
Otome Sugiyama (2)
Yoshio Kanehira
Mildred Asako Tsuda | 17 Maurice Sadao Fujie | 25 Tadao Nakamura
Matsuyo Yamamoto
Tsutomu Kuniyuki
Eleanor Masako Tanaka
Paul Yoshitoshi Uyehara |
| 3 Fuji Yoshisaki
The Yoshisaki Family
Tsurue Hayase
Fumiaki Tamura
Riley Tetsumi Mende
Calvin A. Shimotsukasa | 10 Yoshisuke Miyakawa
The Miyakawa Family
Shinayo Kano
The Kano & Watabe
Family
Rev. Myoshun Hayashi
The Hayashi Family
Shuichi Ota
Clarence Katsuji
Morimoto
Ronald Tatsushi
Nakamoto | 18 Jinkichi Tanaka
The Tanaka & Noda
Family
Kimie Hashimoto
Helen Hatsuye Wachi
Chiyeiko Hayamoto
Hisashi Uehara | 26 Asako Yamamoto
Kieko "Kay" Fuse
Miyoko Matsumura
Robert Noboru Tarumoto
Jiro Mitsuyasu |
| 4 Kiichi Saiki
Kanji Kimoto
Winfred Emi Taira
Shigenobu Tamashiro | 11 Tsuru Teramoto
The Teramoto Family
Tamotsu Sugiyama (2)
Soyo Nishida
Yonoichi Kitagawa
Herbert Hisao Kano
Hisayo Okawa
Timothy Nugent
Tomoji Miyakawa | 19 Onsho Chinen
The Chinen Family
Saku Fukuda
The Fukuda Family
Mamu Iwasaki
Yaeko Uesugi
Kaname Tanimura | 27 Chisaburo Azuma
The Azuma Family
Jane Hatsuko Higa
Hisako Kurakake (2)
Hazel Masayo Iwai
Kenneth Keigo Morimoto |
| 5 Kanichi Iwamoto
The Iwamoto Family
Matsutarō Tanimura
The Tanimura Family
Yuriko Sano
Yasuichi Hamasaki
Katajiro Yamamoto
Yuki Miyagawa
The Nakae Family
David Yoshito Fujioka | 12 Tomohei Tejima
The Tejima Family
Sueji Yano | 20 Naka Iwamoto
The Iwamoto Family
Totaro Nomiya
Toyo Terada
Yoshi Yamanaka
Taru Namihira
Eiyo Ajimura | 28 Tameno Fujimoto
The Fujimoto Family
Hatsuo Murao
Tomoichi Kunimura
Hisako Fujimoto |
| 6 Kinroku Morita
The Morita Family
Jihei Shimokawa
The Shimokawa Family
Tokizo Fujita
Tomi Tominaga
Jihei Shimokawa
Bert Takeshi Higa | 13 Matsujiro Tsurusaki
The Tsurusaki & Inada
Family
Lucy Hisako Yoshimoto | 21 Bishop Kyokujo
Kubokawa | 29 Junichi Oki
Heizo Furukawa
Walter Kazuo Nagasako |
| 7 Taeko Mizuno
The Mizuno & Ota Family
Tadahito Sakuda
The Sakuda Family
Shoichi Hisamura
Kimiko Nobuji
Hatsue Gonhata
Aki Ikeda
Kenji Sano
Hatsuhei Horiuchi | 14 Shiro Fukunaga (2)
Alice Chieko Masatsugu
Kingsley K. Luke
Dorothy Nishimura
Murashige | 22 Wasa Hamada
The Hamada Family
Shina Karamatsu
The Karamatsu Family
Minnosuke Ebisugawa
Mamoru Tatei
Fusae Oshita
Paul Shigeyuki Sakuda | 30 Tsuma Ishida
The Ishida & Aimoto
Family
Shizu Shigeoka
Usanosuke Otani |
| 8 Machida's Baby
Masao Uno
The Uno Family
Bansuke Tomai | 15 Gentaro Arita
The Arita Family
Toyomi Moritsugu
Kana Teruya
Enosuke Kawasugi
Rosalie Katsuko
Nishimura
Toyoichi Yamada
Lillian Tsuyako Higa | 23 Matsue Inoue
The Inoue Family
Sano Matsumoto
Yutaka Matsumoto
Yoshiichi Takemoto
Kinji Yamamoto
Takami Aoki
Kameyo Ohnaga (2)
Mae Vinta Yamamoto | |
| | | 24 Tatsuo Tsuda | |

Obituaries

The Jodo Mission of Hawaii extends its sincere condolences to the family members and loved ones of the following members who have recently left this world for the Pure Land.

Francis Masao Kimoto 96

9:30am Morning Service Everyday
Note: Time may change due to
 Covid-19 Schedule

November 2020

Jodo Mission of Hawaii
 Phone: 949-3995
 Website: www.jodo.us

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>1</i>	10:00 Sunday Service	2	3	4	5	6	7
<i>8</i>	10:00 Sunday Service 11:00 Board Meeting	9	10	11	12	13	14
<i>15</i>	10:00 O-Juya Service 11:45 Board Meeting	16	17	18	19	20	21
<i>22</i>	10:00 Sunday Service	23	24	25	26	27	28
<i>29</i>	10:00 Sunday Service	30					

Jodo Shu Calendar for November 2020: Being content with
 what you have leads to happiness

COMING EVENTS:

- Dec. 6 HBC Virtual Jodo-e (Bodhi Day)
- Dec 13 at 8:00 am General Clean-up—WE NEED YOUR HELP!
- Dec. 27 CANCELLED Mochitsuki Day
- Dec. 31 11:30 pm New Year's Eve Service

NO Meetings or Classes in November for
 Fujinkai, YBA, Sewing Circle & Sunday School

Bazaar Donations will not be accepted temporarily.
 Thank you for your understanding.

Membership Dues (Gojikai) REMINDER: If you have not paid your membership dues (\$60) this year or would like to pay for 2021, please do so by making your check payable to **Jodo Mission of Hawaii** (mail to 1429 Makiki Street, Honolulu, HI 96814). *Thank you.*