



The White Way

Mo'iili'i Hongwanji is the center of Shin Buddhist spiritual growth, learning, and compassionate service to our Community.

Temple Office: (808) 949-1659 mhm@moiliihongwanji.org www.moiliihongwanji.org

Sakura and the Teaching of Impermanence



The year 2019 has started. I hope that you will find joy and comfort in the events that you will experience during this year. I hope that those experiences will become somewhat beneficial and meaningful to your life. I would like to express my deepest appreciation to the members and friends of Moilili Hongwanji Mission for your continuous support and dedication to our temple.

We have many things to take care of each day, and we feel like we are always running. Because of this, I feel that we sometimes forget to pause for a moment and think about our own lives. Let us find some time each day to contemplate upon how we have lived this life, how we are living this life, and how we will live this life.

One day I was watching news on the TV, and happened to see the Sakura “Cherry Blossoms” trees growing in Japan. It was the scenery of beautiful petals trembling by the wind and falling

down to the ground. I was so moved by that beautiful scenery that I was almost crying. The Sakura has been a great influence into the life of the Japanese. The word “sakura” is often used in Japanese poems such as “Haiku” or “Tanka” to express the season of spring. Without realizing it, sakura influenced my way of thinking, my way of living, and my sense of value as a Japanese. The flowers of a sakura bloom so beautifully, yet fall to the ground so soon. Its life so fragile and short.

「明日ありと 思う心の あだ桜 夜半に嵐の ふかぬものかは」

“Cherry Blossoms that are felt to last until tomorrow, may well blow away during the night.”

This poem was sung by Shinran Shonin when he received the Tokudo Ordination at the age of nine. It was already late in the evening so that his master suggested him to conduct the ceremony on the next day. It is said that Shinran Shonin replied with that song. Through this song, the master sensed Shinran Shonin’s strong commitment to enter into the priesthood, so the master performed the ordination ceremony for Shinran Shonin immediately. In this song, Shinran Shonin beautifully expressed the truth of impermanence, and expressed that the life as a human being is indeed fleeting and unpredictable.

Another song with Sakura goes like this;

「散る桜 残る桜も 散る桜」

“Falling cherry blossoms; those remaining also will fall.”

This was written by a Buddhist minister named Ryokan. When the time comes, the petals fall down to the ground. But when we think about it carefully, it is not only the petals in the ground that encountered the truth of impermanence, but the remaining petals are also in the middle of the changing nature of existence. When we see sakura fully bloomed, we enjoy its scenery. But in this beauty of Sakura in full bloom, we also perceive the falling part of the reality. In the prosperity, we also see the downfall. I think we enjoy sakura because they bloom their short lives so beautifully, and we assimilate its transiency into our own lives.

Our lives are also like the sakura. We normally think that to live this day is natural and we take it for granted, and to die is surprising and unacceptable. But to die is actually a natural process and to live is actually surprising and filled with wonder. Our lives could end at any moment like Sakura, but through countless support, guidance, kindness, thoughtfulness, and sacrifices from others, we are living this very moment. In Buddhism we call these “causes and conditions”. There are countless number of causes and conditions that make my day. In other words, we are not living our lives only through our self-efforts, but we are enabled to live this day thanks to others.

Life will always be uncertain, filled with surprises and wonders, and at times daunting; but for me the Buddha’s teaching enables me to navigate it with strength, joy, and gratitude. For such a small existence like myself, there are countless number of causes and conditions which enable me to live this moment. Probably that is why we call this day “present”. When we receive this present, when we are awakened to this gifts from others, we naturally place our hands together, bow our heads, and express our feeling of joy and gratitude.

In closing, I would like to share one of my favorite Japanese poems.

「この秋は 雨か嵐か 知らねども 今日の務めに 田草をとるなり」

“I am not sure if this autumn will be rainy or stormy, but for today’s work, I shall weed my field.”

This is a song by a farmer. He is growing rice. If all the conditions mature in his favor, he will be able to have a good harvest in autumn. But who knows? The rains and storms might ruin all of his time and efforts. But he cannot worry too much about his future. All he can do is to appreciate this day, and do what he can to the best of his ability. Like this farmer, we do not know what our future holds, but let us always remember the countless gifts from others, and live each day and each moment with a sense of joy and gratitude.

Namo Amida Butsu.

Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani



MHM PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



This year's theme for the Honpa Hongwanji in 2019 is Embrace change: Transformation (Walk in Peace). This reminds me of a recent trend in social media called the ten-year challenge. People post a picture of themselves ten years ago and another one from today. Most people have visible changes, while some look the same. I find myself a bit heavier in weight, a bit thinner

up top, and I'm back to wearing glasses instead of contacts.

Not all changes are noticeable in a photo. Ten years ago, I had a different job. My son was going to Moiliili Hongwanji Preschool and my daughter was still in diapers. Today, they are both in middle school and getting bigger. I'm sure you have gone through many changes for yourself over the last ten years. For our temple as well, there have been many transformations. We have welcomed new members as well as said "aloha" to some of our members who have entered the Pure Land. I think our temple has changed with the times. Services are not only for Sunday anymore. We have a Tuesday night meditation service as well.

One tradition that many people do in the New Year is to make a New Year's Resolution. The most popular one, I think, is to transform one's body into a healthier one. Sometimes it's about losing weight. Sometimes about quitting smoking. I'm hoping that you can embrace the second part of the 2019 theme and Walk In Peace by fulfilling your spiritual self and not only our physical one.

By taking opportunities to listen to the Dharma, or teachings of the Buddha, you can gain a better insight into yourself and your relationship to others. This is not only a religion that was started 2500 years ago, but one whose teachings still resonates today. We have transformed how we share Buddhism. We have a multimedia Sunday service to make it easier to follow along with the service.

In addition to just listening to the Dharma Message every Sunday, we also usually have a talk story session after each Sunday service. There where we can discuss various topics such as the Dharma message of the day, current events, and how things can be seen through Buddhist eyes.

We have had discussions on Buddhist perspectives on current events to better our understanding of Buddhism. Would you like to transform yourself and join us?

We have a Facebook and Instagram page along with our temple's website. There, you can see our members and activities we have had and also get information on upcoming events.

These are ways we are trying to reach out to people outside the walls of the temple to share with them Buddhism and Buddhist teachings in different ways. Our reach with these technologies is worldwide.

Mahalo for your support as we continue the transformation to be a modern temple while respecting the traditions of Moiliili Hongwanji in Hawaii.

Namo Amida Butsu



Dear Dharma Friends,

This is a link to a GoFundMe account. Moiliili Cemetery is trying to raise \$74,000 by April 2019 to repave the entire cemetery to make it more safe for patrons and friends.

Laura Ruby

Please go to:

<https://www.gofundme.com/moiliili-japanese-cemetery-beautification-project>

or

www.moiliili.info

or mail donation checks payable to:

Laura Ruby

P.O. Box 283245

Honolulu, HI 96828



for more information contact:
945-3736
www.projectdana.org
info@projectdana.org

After the service, fellowship was enjoyed by those with delicious homemade refreshments. It was heartwarming to see familiar faces smiling and new friends meeting others.

Celebrating Project Dana's 30th Anniversary

On January 27, 2019, more than 80 members, volunteers, and friends gathered at the temple to celebrate MHM's Project Dana's 30th Volunteer Appreciation Service. It was in 1989 that the late Shimeji Kanazawa started this organization to help care for the frail elderly and disabled and was patterned after the Catholic Church's Project R.E.S.P.E.C.T. with guidance by Sister Joan Chatfield and Sister Mary Powers. Other early pioneers included Rose Nakamura, Dr. Mary Bitterman, the late Ruth Tabrah and Rev. Yoshiaki Fujitani. Records show that 55 volunteers assisted 110 participants the first year and this has grown to 170 volunteers assisting 200 participants each year. Specifically, we recognized 23 new volunteers from Moiliili Hongwanji in 2018 with a certificate and lei. Appreciation was extended to all the volunteers at Moiliili Hongwanji for their support and dedication of the past 30 years.

Besides hearing from Founding Administrator, Rose Nakamura and MHM resident minister, Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani, we were privileged to hear the keynote message by Rev. Yoshiaki Fujitani, a true Moiliili boy, who at age 95 now, can still recall the historical beginnings of Project Dana. He thanked the volunteers for their chance to serve the community because of three factors: "desire, ability and opportunity."

More than twice he challenged all of us on this question: "What will we do in the next 30 years?"

Let's thank Project Dana's Executive Director Cyndi Osajima and Martha Samson, Advisory Council chair and look forward to Project Dana's state-wide event celebrating our 30th Anniversary on September 28, 2019 at the Pomaikai Ballroom, Dole Cannery with our special Guest Speaker, Dr. William Thomas creator of the "Eden at Home" program.

(shared by Donna Higashi, MHM Site Coordinator)



Project Dana Donations

Organizations:

Brodhead Foundation, James Haruji Tamura and Fumiko Tamura Foundation

Others:

R & A. Akamine, M. Armstrong IHO Michael Cheang, B & B. Brennan, R. Brown IMO Margaret Brown, M. Cheang IHO Rose Nakamura, D. Clark, J. Fujinaga, C. Hamasaki, W. Harada, E. Higa, D. Higashi, D. Higashi, M & J. Hirano, W & N. Hironaka, A. Ihara, S. Isobe, H. Ito IHO Rose Nakamura, K. Kawamoto, J. Kaya, P. & J. Kealoha, S. Kidani, T. & A. Kishimori, E. & J. Kita, S. & K. Kobara IMO Pauline Nishihara, E. & E. Kohara, P. Komo, I. Kurashige, R. Kuriki, E. Kuroda, J. Lee, W. & L. Lum, S. & S. Makino IHO PD at MHM 30th Anniversary, E. Makino IHO PD at MHM 30th Anniversary, G. Maruyama, W. & K. Masuda, D. Masuo, L. Mow IHO Rose Nakamura for HPGS Recognition, L. Mow, K. & S. Muraoka, S. Najita IMO George Sonoda, S. Najita, E. Nakagawa IMO Rusty Nakagawa, R. Nakamura IMO Mrs. Sumi Abe, R. Nakamura IHO Joanne Kealoha, R. Nakamura IHO Mr. & Mrs. Merv and Joni Young, T. Nakamura, R. Nakamura IHO Project Dana staff, L. Nakata IMO Dorothy Nakata on behalf of her 10 great-grandchildren, A. Nakata IMO Dorothy Nakata, B. Nishioka IHO PD at MHM 30th Anniversary, Anonymous, C. Ogasawara IHO PD at MHM 30th Anniversary, F. & S. Okano, E. Sakai, L. & S. Sakamoto, L. & S. Sakamoto, D. & D. Sakamoto, P. Sato IMO Shimeji Kanazawa and IHO Joy Watanabe, T. & A. Shintaku, K. & E. Sumimoto, G. & B. Suzuki, Anonymous, M. & R. Takemoto IMO Edwin Ogasawara, A. Tando IMO Toyon Tando, J. Toma, A. Tonaki, J. Torii, R. & J. Watari, Anonymous, K. & G. Yamamoto, Anonymous, S. Yanazaki, C. & C. Yoshimoto IMO Pauline Nishihara

Caregivers Support:

C. Agena, V. Golden, M. Gotanda, E. Ikawa, L. Ishii, L. Ishii, G. Kiyomoto-Isara, A. Maeda, J. Shinogi, S. Swift, G. Zane



for more information contact:

946-4416

www.moililihongwanjipreschool.org

mhps902@gmail.com

Chinese New Year will be observed on February 5, which is the Year of the Pig.

On February 4 the Gee Yung International Martial Arts Dragon and Lion Dance Association will perform their lion dance for the preschool. The children will “feed” the lions their lycee and take pictures with them. What an exciting morning!

During the month of February we will also be focusing on the zoo animal theme. There will be cute animal crafts made by the children in their classrooms.

February 14 is Valentine’s Day. The. Emphasis will be on love and friendship.

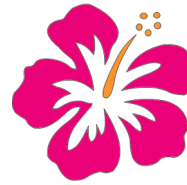
The preschool will observe Grandparent’s and Senior Day on February 15. There is much anticipation for a fun morning with grandparents. A light lunch will follow.

Wendy Harman

Preschool Director



Mahalo Temple Donations



Richard Abe	Japanese Class	Joy Miyasaki	Alison Richards
Shunji & Jane Adachi	Michael Kajiyama	Moiliili Cemetery	Roy & Nancy Shimamoto
Alan & Mui Arakaki	Kayleen Kawamura	Lily Muraoka	Jean Ayako Shintaku
Linda Au	Robert & Hatsue Kinoshita	Rose Nakamura IMO Toshiyuki Hiranaga	Carol Shiraki
Cynthia Chi-Doi	Chiyono Kinoshita	Ann Nakata IMO Marlene Sasaki	Alice Shiroma
Kiyoto Fujita	Isao Kitagawa	Ann Nakata IMO Ryo, Dorothy & Lester Nakata	Shannon Shishido
Mari Fukuya	Jimmy Kitazaki	Barbara Nomura	Lynn Tam
Edgar & Helen Hamasu	Irwin Kurashige	Ethel Aiko Oda	Sharen Uyeunten
Donna Higashi	Henry & Izumi Low	Francis & Susan Okano	Yaeko Wasa
Calvin & Sharon Higuchi IMO Joanne Yokotake	Bert & Hazel Maedo IMO Yoshiko Maedo	Gail & Russell Okata	Grace Watanabe
Walter Hiranaka	Fujio Matsuda	Kenneth & Janice Okumura	Gary Watanabe
Edward & Jane Imamura IMO Hazel Takata	Sarah Miyasaki		Dee & Harvey Yamane Albert & Jane Yazaki IMO Rose Nakano

Hoonko Donations

Dorothy Colby	Chiyono Kinoshita	Bert & Cynthia Ogasawara	Howard Takaki
Mari Fukuya	Kathleen Komo	Lois Ohta	Jenny Takemoto
Edgar & Helen Hamasu	Brian Kunimune	Marsha Okada	Raymond & Arlyne Takiue
Wes Henry	Eugene Makino	Francis & Susan Okano	George Tsugawa
Donna Higashi	Glen & June Matsumoto	Rev. Thomas & Michiko Okano	Sharen Uyeunten
Jeanette Hiranaga	Elaine Miyamoto	Kenneth & Jean Sato	Iris Wasa-Uehisa
Wallace & Nancy Hironaka	Melvin & Karen Murakami	Roy & Nancy Shimamoto	Katsumi & Mayumi Yamamoto
Edith Horii	Rose & Gwen Nakamura	Ethel Shintaku	Edward Yamasaki
Anne & Osamu Kawabata	Wendy Nakanishi	Sumie Sonoda	Gene & Joann Yokota
Shinobu Kawano	Thomas & Betsy Nishioka	Michael & Wendy Sorakubo	Gale & Yoshiko Young
Robert & Hatsue Kinoshita	Ethel Aiko Oda	Karen Sumida	

White Way Newsletter Donations

Kenneth & Janice Okumura

With Heartfelt
Sympathy

Moiliili Hongwanji is most grateful for your generous donations. If you would like to have a receipt for your donation, please call the temple office at 949-1659. Ofuse for funerals, memorial services, and other services are not listed. If you prefer that your name not be listed, please let the office know.

Moiliili Hongwanji Mission extends its deepest sympathy and condolences to the family of:

Ivan Yoshio Nishimura, 106, on January 4, 2019

May the Onembutsu provide solace to family members during this time of sorrow.

MOIILILI HONGWANJI MISSION
2019 SPRING SEMINAR
Saturday, March 16, 2019
9:00am – 12:30pm

Mind Body Naikan Therapy
A way of self-discovery and self-renewal

Naikan is a Japanese word which means “inside looking” or “introspection.” Naikan is a method of meditative self-reflection, psychotherapy and counseling founded in 1950s by Rev. Ishin Yoshimoto.

Lecturer is Reverend Mari Sengoku, PhD

Director of Mind-Body Naikan Center

Registration Fee: \$10 (light refreshments included)

RSVP to Moilili Hongwanji @949-1659 or email
mhm@moililihongwanji.org by March 10



Moilili Hongwanji

Invites you to a

Cultural Day

March 10, 2019

9:00 Family Service

10:00 Cultural Day Activities

Learn and experience

**Origami, make oshizushi, calligraphy,
Learn ikebana flower arrangement
Sing Japanese songs
Learn to play hanafuda or karuta
Play bean bag games
Bon Dance
Learn karate techniques
& more!**



Any questions? Visit website @ www.moililihongwanji.org. or call 949-1659.

MOILILI HONGWANJI CALENDAR OF EVENTS

REGULARLY SCHEDULED CLASSES & CLUBS

February 2019

- 3 9:00 AM Sunday Remembrance Service
- 10 9:00 AM Nirvana Day Service with Bishop Kenjun Kawawata of Higashi Hongwanji
- 10:30 AM BWA Meeting
- 17 9:00 AM Service at
C'est Si Bon Ballroom 2nd Floor
- 10:00 AM Annual Membership Meeting
- 11:00 AM Shinnen Enkai
- 24 9:00 AM Sunday Service with Donna Higashi

- Mondays 10AM Quilting
- Mondays 5:15PM Zumba
- Mondays 6:30PM Kids' Karate
- Tuesdays 6:30PM Meditation Service
- 2nd/4th Wed. 10AM Japanese Dharma Class
- Thursdays 9:30AM Ikebana
- Thursdays 5:30PM Zumba
- Thursdays 6:45PM Kids' Karate
- Fridays 2PM Conversational Japanese

For More Information:
Temple Office (808) 949-1659

Subject to Change: Please call the Temple Office to confirm times and dates of any event.

March 2019

- 3 9:00 AM Sunday Remembrance Service
- 10 9:00 AM Sunday Service
Cultural Day
- 16 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM Spring Seminar with
Reverend Mari Sengoku
- 17 9:00 AM Spring Ohigan Service with
Reverend Mari Sengoku
- 24 9:00 AM Sunday Service with
Reverend Tatsuo Muneto
- 31 9:00 AM Sunday Service with
Mr. Jaryd Oshiro of Jikoen Temple
Taste of Honwanji at Hawaii Betsuin

April 2019

- 7 9:00 AM Hawaii Buddhist Council Buddha Day Service **MHM service CANCELLED**
- 14 9:00 AM MHM Buddha Day Service
- 21 9:00 AM Eshinni & Kakushinni Service
- 10:30 AM BWA Meeting
- 28 9:00 AM Sunday Service with David Atcheson

WHITE WAY RADIO: SATURDAY MORNINGS A 7:45 am ON KZOO AM1210

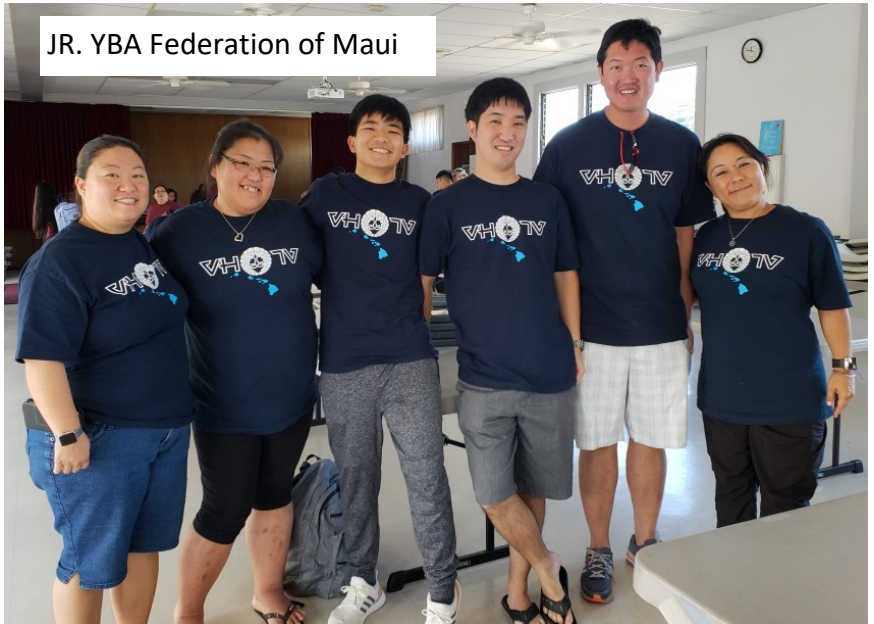
Join us on Saturdays for White Way Radio on KZOO1210 at 7:45 a.m. for inspiring messages from a variety of speakers. We are truly grateful for our White Way Sponsors who make it possible to share the Dharma on the air every week. If you missed it go to www.moililihongwanji.org, Buddhist Teachings.

February 2019

- 2 Reverend Bert Sumikawa /The Miyasaki Family
- 9 Mrs. Nancy Shimamoto /The Morikubo Family
- 16 Reverend Thomas Okano /R. Kaneshiro and
P. Uyeda
- 23 Reverend Shigenori Makino /
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Sorakubo

March 2019

- 2 Reverend Tatsuo Muneto /The Kanazawa Family
- 9 Reverend Earl Ikeda /Mrs. Alice Shiroma
- 16 Mr. Joshua Hernandez-Morse /Ms. Donna Higashi
- 23 Reverend Kazunori Takahashi /
John and Laura Moriyama
- 30 Mr. Alan Goto /Moilili Hongwanji BWA



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

«TITLE» «FIRST NAME» «LAST NAME»

«COMPANY»

«ADDRESS»

«CITY», «ST» «ZIP»«ZIP4»

2019 Taste of Hongwanji and Spring Bazaar

Coming soon on Sunday, March 31st from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Honpa Hongwanji.

Moiliili BWA and Kyodan will have a booth! The BWA will be selling popular rice products: chirashi sushi, inarizushi, spam musubi, mochi and Wendy's bead bracelets and necklaces. The Kyodan will be selling lumpia, okara, sanbaizuke & ice cream w/lilikoi butter and more. We hope you will come out and support us as we do our mini-fundraising for 2019.

Lots of other Hawaii Betsuin and Kailua Hongwanji food offerings, entertainment and a HUGE rummage sale.