



Soto Mission of Hawaii
 1708 Nuuanu Avenue
 Honolulu, HI 96817



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SOTO MISSION OF HAWAII

BETSUIN NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2022

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 Dharma Lei

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 2
 3 Office Hour: 8AM-4PM
 4 Except for Federal Holidays
 and 5th Sunday

Editor: Rev. Hirosato Yoshida.

Thank you at our 2022 Bon Service

On behalf of the temple, we would like to express our gratitude to everyone who participated in the Bon O-Toba service whether in-person or online livestream. There were many challenges that needed to be overcome transitioning to in-person services but at the same time providing opportunity for members who were not able to come to the temple. But with everyone's understanding and collaborative efforts, we can say that the Bon Service was a success.

We would like to use this opportunity to acknowledge and say thank you for all of your donations. Each of these donations helps us maintain and continue to propagate the teachings of Buddhism and keep the history and legacy of this temple to be shared.

We would also like to express our gratitude to all the volunteers who came out to help during the 7 days of services. Without the help of volunteers, we are unable to operate especially at big services like Bon.

Once again, we thank everyone for your participation during our Bon O-Toba service and we look forward to your participation at future temple events.

Rummage Sale (Sept 25, 9 AM-12 Noon)

On September 25, 9 AM to 12 Noon, we will be having a rummage sale with the help of Soto Mission of Hawaii Women's Association (AKA Fujinkai). We had many inquiries about plans on having a rummage sale during the last few years. With the pandemic, we reluctantly had to stop any planning of the rummage sale but finally we are ready to have one. In planning for the rummage sale, we would like to ask for your help by donating unwanted items that are in good condition that we can sell at the rummage sale. Some items we are looking for are clothings, dishes and other kitchen related items, electronics, plants, etc. **We will begin collecting donation starting September. Please wait for more information on our September Newsletter.**



If you are able to help during the event, we need lots of volunteers. Volunteer jobs range from cleaning and sorting of donated items, price tagging, setting up the social hall, sale booths, parking attendants, etc. so every help we can get will smoothly run the event.

Help Needed Date and Time

September 24, 9 AM - 3 PM Setup
September 25, 9 AM - 12 Noon Rummage Sale
September 25, 1 PM - 3 PM Clean up

*We will need help prior to the setup as well but more information will be shared in our September Newsletter.

If you have any questions, please give us a call at the temple (808) 537-9409.

Announcements

Upcoming Events

September 18	Fall Higan and Ryosoki (Founders' Day) Service
September 24	Rummage Sale Setup
September 25	Rummage Sale

Temple Hour Changes

July 31	Temple close at 12 noon for 5 th Sunday
September 5	Temple close at 12 noon in observance of Labor Day



Acknowledgement of Donations

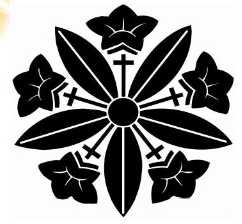
Thank you very much for your generous donations during the month of June*

*Deposited

Dara Luangphinit	Donation	Sharon Kunimoto	Bon Otaba Donation
Linda Unten	Donation - In memory of Tatsujiro & Shima Harada	Doris Onodera	Bon Otaba Donation
Joni Kaneshiro	Service - Memorial for Richard & Debra Sakashita	George Sato	Bon Otaba Donation
Joy Sakamoto	Membership 2022	Glen Yamasaki	Bon Otaba Donation
Keiko Kawagishi	Service - Kannonko May	Frank Iyomasa	Bon Otaba Donation
Tom Itagaki	Service - Kannonko May	Howard Tomatani	Bon Otaba Donation
Mona Sawai	Service - Kannonko May	Edith Mukai	Bon Otaba Donation
Bernice Koike	Service - Kannonko May	Stanley Hashiro	Service - 1 yr for Chiyo Hashiro
Ellen Nishimura	Service - Kannonko May	Barbara Ohta	Donation
Sally Nozaki	Service - Kannonko May	Charleen Ikeda	Membership 2022
Arden & Mary Loomis	Service - Kannonko May	Lois Fukushima	Donation - In memory of Mike M. Fukushima
Linda Unten	Service - Kannonko May	Baron Fukata	Bon Otaba Donation
Jean Maekawa	Service - Kannonko May	Eric Kanda	Bon Otaba Donation
Rae Shiraki	Donation - In memory of Tsutomu & Jane Shiraki	Luann Suzukawa	Bon Otaba Donation
Charities Aid Foundation America	Donation	Brian Suda	Bon Otaba Donation
Walter Morishige	Service - In memory of Shunsuke Morishige	Nancy Murakami	Donation
Lawrence Kiyabu	Service - for Lawrence Kiyabu	Dara Luangphinit	Donation
Family of Late Sue Tengan	Service - Funeral for Sue Setsuyo Tengan	Linda Unten	Osunafumi Service
Jane Sato	Service - Inurnment for Stanley Sato	Wayne & Ann Uradomo	Osunafumi Service
Lorna Nakasone	Service - Burial for Hiroko Kotake	Masae Hayashi	Osunafumi Service
Rae Shiraki	Service	Neal Yamamoto	Bon Otaba Donation
Chrissy Okamoto	Donation	Hiromi Shimada	Donation
Lynnette Horio	Service - Funeral for Mildred Yaeko Kaneda	Ann Yamamoto-Wong	Bon Otaba Donation
Lynnette Horio	Service - Burial for Mildred Yaeko Kaneda	Lorna Nakasone	Bon Otaba Donation
Barbara Matsumoto	Donation	Akiyo Fujjoka	Bon Otaba Donation
Dara Luangphinit	Donation	Charities Aid Foundation America	Donation
Anonymous	Donation - In Memory of Aiko Sekiguchi	Charities Aid Foundation America	Donation
Kasahara Family	Donation	Richard Tamaru	Bon Otaba Donation
Alice Ige	Service - 3rd memorial for Grace Nakamura	Shigeto Handa	Bon Otaba Donation
Melvin Sakaue	Service - 3rd memorial for Y. Sakaue	Lillian Ishimaru	Bon Otaba Donation
Eric Yamanaka	Bon Otaba Donation	Gail Kashiwabara	Bon Otaba Donation
Diane Nishida	Bon Otaba Donation	Sue Nishiguchi	Bon Otaba Donation
Helene Watanabe	Bon Otaba Donation	Ernest Oi	Bon Otaba Donation
Edwin Nakahara	Bon Otaba Donation	Clayton Kida	Donation
James Koga	Bon Otaba Donation	Glenn Fukushima	Donation
Melvin Sakaue	Bon Otaba Donation	Anonymous	Donation
Annette Matsumoto	Bon Otaba Donation	Lorraine Tanuvasa	Bon Otaba Donation
Sharon Bryant	Donation	Lynn Maurer	Bon Otaba Donation
Edward Fukuyama	Service - Osunafumi	Helen Tsuchiya	Donation - Bon
Deborah Yoshizumi	Bon Otaba Donation	Duane Kondo	Service - Funeral for Dennis Kondo
Dorothy Yasutake	Bon Otaba Donation	Duane Kondo	Service - Inurnment for Dennis Kondo
Gladys Yamamoto	Bon Otaba Donation	Diane Miyasato	Service - Funeral for Wilbert Miyasato
Gladys Yamamoto	Donation	Walk In Sales	Ofuda - Omamori
Elsie Sugano	Bon Otaba Donation	Kenneth Miyazono	Bon Otaba
Brian Sato	Bon Otaba Donation	Dennis Imada	Bon Otaba
Haruko Sakaue	Bon Otaba Donation	Violet Machida	Donation - Bon Donation
Marguerite Aono	Bon Otaba Donation	Violet Machida	Donation - Bon Gobutsuzen
Carolyn Iwamoto	Bon Otaba Donation	Ruby Mizue	Bon Otaba Donation
Jean Maekawa	Bon Otaba Donation	Rhanda Kim	Bon Otaba Donation
Katherine Higuchi	Bon Otaba Donation	Tina Kohara	Donation
Gertrude Kihara	Bon Otaba Donation	Miles Kasahara	Bon Otaba Donation
Jeanne Miyano	Service - Funeral & Inurnment for Betty H. Abe	Jon Nishimura	Bon Otaba Donation
Rene Ueoka	Service - Funeral for Bernice Ueoka	Diane Tamane	Bon Otaba Donation
Morgan Takahashi	Service - Funeral for Isamu Takahashi	Shell Oil Company Foundation	Donation
Rim-Pacific Marketing, LLC	Donation	Dara Luangphinit	Donation
Waikiki Bazaar, Inc.	Donation	Cora Miyakawa	Service - In Memory of Kawauchi, Akita, Seo, Fujiwara, and Iwamoto Families
Gordon Kitsuya	Donation	Howard Yoshinobu	Bon Otaba Donation
Kathleen Tasaka	Donation	Lillian Sakazaki	Service - Makuragyo for Mamoru Sakazaki
Bruce Ogawa	Bon Otaba Donation for Roy Kobayashi	Rumi Kobayashi	Service - Funeral for Christina Yoshiko Sasaki
Lynn Ishii	Bon Otaba Donation	Nils Morita	Service - 3rd yr Memorial
Miyeko Hashimoto	Bon Otaba for Dixon Suzuki	Annette Matsumoto	Service - In memory of Charlotte Nishimura
Miyeko Hashimoto	Bon Otaba Donation	Diane Miyasato	Service - Inurnment for Wilbert Miyasato
Kazuo Kumagai	Bon Otaba Donation	Katherine Higuchi	Donation
Gail Lum	Bon Otaba for Beatrice Kaya Family	Katherine Higuchi	Service - Kannonko
Susan Takahashi	Bon Otaba Donation	Alvin Honbo	Donation
Margie Nishio	Bon Otaba Donation		
Jack Comstock	Bon Otaba Donation		
Roy Koizumi	Bon Otaba Donation		
Gail Lum	Donation		
Karen Akamine	Service - 1st Memorial for Grace Koizumi		
Helen Roesser	Donation		
Rene Egami	Service - Inurnment for Bernice & Norman Ueoka		



Dharma Lei



Bishop's Office Newsletter

Soto Zen Buddhism Hawaii Office

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Third Quarter, 2022

Issue No. 41

Bishop's Message:

Aloha from the Bishop's Office,

Can you believe we've already arrived at the halfway point of 2022? I hope that you and your family have been healthy, happy, and enjoying the year so far! While the weather in Hawaii has been utterly beautiful recently, the COVID-19 pandemic rolls on, gas prices are through the roof, and the Russia and Ukraine War sadly sees no end in sight. Let's send our prayers to all those may be suffering both near and far from us.

The familiar season of Bon is upon us now. Bon is a time to offer our prayers to our departed loved ones and friends. Bon is also a time for us to offer our deep gratitude to our ancestors who passed on well before our time here. When the pandemic forced us to rewrite the way we interact with others, the use of online virtual services certainly helped to enable people to continue to offer Bon prayers from the safety of their homes.

I am happy that in 2022, several of our Soto Mission temples have been able to return to in-person Bon Services. The ability to see one another, interact with one another, and offer prayers together in-person at the Bon Service are invaluable. I pray that by next year all the Soto Mission temples in Hawaii will be able to safely gather for in-person Bon Services.

In many ways, we can look at our lives presently in the middle of 2022 and assess that although we have made great strides battling the COVID-19 pandemic, we are still trying to figure out what the new normal in life will be for the future. There is still a lot of uncertainty ahead, it can be a bit unsettling. However, there are a lot of good 'certainties' already in our lives. For me personally, I constantly remind myself of the small blessings in my life: speaking to my sisters in Hawaii, California, and Japan on the phone, having a Father's Day video chat on Facetime with my son in New Mexico, having weekly dinners with my other son and his family, and being able to continue my work each day as the head minister of Bet-suin and the bishop of the Hawaii Soto Mission. "A happy life is often taken for granted," I tell myself.

So please recount your blessing in your life. They may be small things, but they are blessings, nonetheless. And as Buddhists, let us never lose our original determination—that is to help others around us. Whether it is lending a hand, offering a prayer, or even giving a smile, it is the small things in life that can have a positive impact on others.

In Gassho.



New Resident Minister of Maui

Aloha,

Nice to meet you. My name is Tomoki Hirasawa, new resident minister of Mantokuji from Japan. I left Japan on April 13th. After a 5-day orientation on Oahu, I arrived at Mantokuji on April 18th.

I was born and raised in Kanagawa Prefecture. Kanagawa is famous for the port city of Yokohama and The Great Buddha of Kamakura. Some of you might have been there on a trip. After graduation from the university, I lived at Sojiji Temple, one of the head temples of Soto Mission, to devote myself to Buddhist training for a year with Rev. Hoshino and Rev. Hata. They are my friends with whom I have shared many experiences.

During our training, we woke up early in the morning, cleaned up every nook of the temple, had a few rice and vegetables meals, and did Zazen everyday. Those days were very hard but also fulfilling.

After my training, I worked at a city government office in my hometown for 10 years. I worked in the tax department and community center. At the same time, I helped my father, who is a resident minister of his temple.

I got married in 2018. Hawaii was the place of our honeymoon trip. We loved Hawaii because of its warm, mild, comfortable climate, beautiful nature, and the kindness of its people. Now we are back in Hawaii. This is an incredible experience for us and we are grateful for this opportunity.

I last came to Maui 3 years ago in 2019. Since then, it has been a very long time with two painful years due to COVID-19. Many people have supported us to come here. I would like to thank all the people in the Sangha who have been waiting for us.

When I entered the Hondo of Mantokuji, I am reminded of my hometown and feel at ease. I am sure that this is the same feeling that you, your parents, and all ancestors felt. This is the meaning of the temple's existence and the reason why I should be here. I would like to show my respect to all the ancestors who rest here, and to all those who have saved this temple until now. I am now very happy to be here.

I will study English hard and hope to be able to communicate with all of you soon. Please feel free to talk to us when you come to Mantokuji.

In gassho,

Tomoki Hirasawa

The 9th resident minister of Mantokuji



Lay Confirmation Ceremony

At Daifukuji Soto Mission

Fifteen sangha members received the bodhi-sattva precepts and their Buddhist names in a Soto Zen Buddhist Lay Confirmation Ceremony held on May 22, 2022 at Daifukuji Soto Mission. This ceremony was officiated by Bishop Shugen Komagata with the assistance of Reverend Shuji Komagata from the Soto Zen Buddhism Hawaii Office, and Reverend Jiko Nakade and Deacon Jikai Nakade of Daifukuji.

A warm congratulations to the following recipients: Stephen Shōdō Tanaka, MaryAnne Jiu Seibert, Kym Jōshin Peck, Frank Kai-on Galman, Richard Jigan Morley, Travis Hosshin Marsh, Huong Seishin Lam, Linda Jōkō Calloway, Aimee Myōshō Disharoon, Markus Myō-on Fahrenberger, Dan Taihei Gordon, Jonika Jōren Grossi, John Jiun Hamm, Gerald Jōgan Hirata, and Mark Kōshin Holst. All of the recipients completed a three-month online study of the 16 precepts under the guidance of Rev. Nakade.

The Daifukuji sangha sends an ocean of gratitude to Bishop Komagata for serving as preceptor and to Rev. Shuji for serving as the service M.C.

The ceremony was followed by a potluck lunch and fellowship in the Daifukuji social hall. It was truly a joyful day!

