

JIKO-"Wisdom-Light"

January 2020

Volume 66, Issue 1



Monthly Newsletter of the Aiea Hongwanji Mission Building Healthy Sanghas: Embracing Generosity and Openness

NEED THE ASSISTANCE OF THE MINISTER?

Please call Rev. Shawn Yagi at 488-5685 (residence), or 487-2626 (office). If he is not available, leave a message on the answering machine.

For religious emergencies (Makuragyo or bedside services), please call Rev. Yagi on his cell phone, 364-2825.

Temple President, Warren Tamamoto, is also available for assistance. His pager number is 576-4136.

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New Year's Greeting

Happy New Year, everyone! At the beginning of this New Year, I would like to extend my best regards to you all.

Last year again, following the year before, Japan, as well as many other countries in the world, was struck with multiple natural disasters. I would like to convey my deepest condolences to those who lost their lives through those disasters and express my sympathy to everyone affected. In addition, we must never forget that armed conflicts and terror attacks as well as severe starvation is making it difficult to live, and lives are being lost every day.

Last September I had an opportunity to make an official visit to the temples of the Buddhist Churches of America as Monshu for the first time. This allowed me to complete the first round of visitations to all of the overseas districts which include Canada, Hawaii, South America, and the US mainland.

Although every temple and district has its own history and background, many of the overseas Jodo Shinshu temples were established and have been cherished by the Japanese immigrants and their descendants. Reflecting on how sincerely our predecessors entrusted themselves to the Buddha Dharma and how importantly they thought of their temples while facing many difficulties such as World War II, I cannot help but feel grateful and even awe for their tremendous efforts as well as many other wondrous circumstances that have allowed the Jodo Shinshu teaching to be handed down to us today.

However, a considerable amount of time has passed since the Japanese emigrated overseas, and the lifestyle of their descendants, as well as the world situation have changed greatly. In accordance with these changes, quite a few people who are not of ethnically Japanese origin have also come to appreciate the teaching clarified by Shinran Shonin, and attend our overseas temples.

What caused this is nothing but the universality of the Jodo Shinshu teaching that transcends time and space. In other words, Amida Buddha's compassion equally reaches and nondiscriminatively embraces everyone in the midst of all sorts of pain and agony.

In this year, let us continue to listen to the Dharma, considering it is directed to each one of us, and keep moving forward to share it with many other people as possible.

January 1, 2020

OHTANI Kojun
Monshu
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha



“NAMO AMIDA BUTSU AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

At the start of the New Year, let me begin by expressing my deepest appreciation and gratitude to the entire Sangha and Friends of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii who have supported our Organization for over 130 years in Hawaii. It is because of Amida Buddha's Great Wisdom and Compassion, the guidance received from the Revered Masters and Teachers like Shinran Shonin who shared the Teachings and the Sangha that we have been able to come this far. Thank you to one and all!

Deeply reflecting, I have noticed that we speak a lot about the Buddha and the Dharma, but we seldom speak about the Sangha. However, the Sangha is also essential. Thus, out of this awareness, our next 5 Year Theme and Slogans will focus on the Sangha. Of course, the Sangha (which is you and I) which tries to live the Dharma as shared by the Buddha. There is no doubt that the thoughts, words and actions of every individual is very important and makes a difference.

Let us receive guidance from “The Teaching of Buddha” in which it shares about clergy that *“Those who wish to teach the Buddha's teachings acceptably must be concerned about four things: first, they must be concerned about their own behavior; second, they must be concerned about their choice of words when they approach and teach people; third, they must be concerned about their motive for teaching and the end they wish to accomplish; and fourth, they must be concerned about great compassion.”* Further it shares *“Lay followers should not only believe in the Three Treasures...by themselves, but also they should, as far as they are able, help others...to awaken in them an unshakable faith in the Buddha, the Dharma and the Sangha, so that they, too, may share in Buddha's compassion.”* Let us, the Sangha, clergy and lay, jointly together share our awareness, joy and gratitude for Buddha-Dharma.

In Jodo Shinshu Teachings, Shinran Shonin shared that when we (regardless of whether we are clergy or lay) realize true mind (shinjin), we unflinching gain ten benefits in the present life. I would like to mention three of the ten: the benefit having great joy in our hearts, the benefit of being aware of Amida's benevolence and of responding in gratitude to his virtue, and the benefit of constantly practicing great compassion.” In regards to “practicing great compassion,” Shinran Shonin quotes a sutra *“What is “great compassion?” Those who continue solely in the nembutsu without any interruption will thereby be born without fail in the land of happiness at the end of life. If these people encourage each other and bring others to say the Name, they are all called “people who practice great compassion.”*

Further, let us keep in mind the thoughts of our 3rd Spiritual Leader Kakunyo Shonin who said, *“(Our) Prosperity is dependent on the quality and depth of the Shinjin of our Followers.”* Rennyō Shonin, our 8th Spiritual Leader, further shared, *“...be careful not to let the mind run its course unbridled...be sure to control it. It is wrong to allow the mind to take its course unchecked. We are enabled to control the (our) mind due to the Other-Power.”* Finally, our 25th Spiritual Leader, His Eminence Gomonsu Kojun Ohtani shares *“By listening to the Primal Vow and how it was established by Amida Tathagata, we are enabled to become conscious of our own ignorance and self-oriented inclinations, and through such awareness, we naturally become gentle in word and deed in our efforts of minimizing our egoistic way of thinking.”* *“Even though our efforts may pale in comparison to the Buddha's Compassion, we are at least guided in the proper direction by the Buddha Dharma.”*

As I have been emphasizing the life of Shin Buddhist is one of responding in gratitude to the Wisdom and Compassion of Namo Amida Butsu by reciting the Nembutsu and we try to live our life guided by the Dharma in grateful response until our life culminates (at death) with our entering the Pure Land of Perfect Peace and Happiness to attain Perfect Peace of Enlightenment. May the New Year be truly prosperous in the truest sense of the word. Happy New Year! In Gassho/Anjali,

Eric Matsumoto, Bishop

If you are homebound, in a care home or in the hospital, and would like me to visit, please call me, Reverend Yagi at 488-5685 to make arrangements.



President's Message
**Building Healthy Sanghas: Embracing
 Generosity and Openness**

Note: This message appears as part of the introduction to the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii's 2020 calendar. When you receive your calendar, please reflect on the three suggested actions below.

Every year, over many weeks, five individuals gather to discuss, ponder, select, write, and review. And the result of their efforts is the Hawaii Kyodan Calendar that will be distributed soon. Alan Kubota, Stephan Doi, Yumi Suzuki,

Rev. Kazunori Takahashi, and Bishop Eric Matsumoto toiled mightily to bring us this calendar out of a personal commitment to inspire us. This year they committed their best efforts, using the theme **Building Healthy Sanghas** and the slogan, **Embracing Generosity and Openness**, to carefully select photographs and words that move us to action. But in works such as this, the challenge is to transform inspiring photographs and lofty words into real and everyday actions that touch others. If we fail to take on this challenge, the theme and slogan and the hard work of these five individuals easily vanish from our hearts and minds even as we turn the pages of the calendar. Then the commitment of these five good people who gave us this calendar will hold no power. Let us not allow this to happen. I suggest that we all consider the following as each month unfolds.

1. When we turn each page to a new month, let us take the time to really look at the picture, every object, every person. Let us see the act of generosity or the act of acceptance and openness embedded in the picture. Let us see the reflected warmth and joy of the sangha in the photograph.
2. Then in the days that follow, let us use the picture of the month to inspire us to be generous and open and joyful with others. Let us transform opportunities in the fleeting moments of our lives into action. And here I think of simple actions as a hearty, "Good morning," a smile full of warmth, and a gentle touch of reassurance.
3. And in the moments when we have transformed the lofty phrases of our theme and slogan into tiny, real and true actions, let the sound of Namu Amida Butsu flow through us.

If we take the time and commit ourselves to perform these three acts, the pages of the calendar will breathe Namu Amida Butsu into our lives. Our sanghas will grow healthy because threads of generosity and openness will begin to bind one member to another. And we will have made the commitment of Alan Kubota, Stephan Doi, Yumi Suzuki, Rev. Kazunori Takahashi, and Bishop Eric Matsumoto real and true.

Namu Amida Butsu
 Pieper J. Toyama, President

Mettabhavana
Meditation

Amida Buddha
 surrounds all men
 and all forms of life
 with Infinite Love
 and Compassion.
 Particularly does
 he send forth
 loving thoughts to
 those in suffering
 and sorrow, those
 in doubt and
 ignorance, to
 those who are
 striving to attain
 Truth; and to those
 whose feet are
 standing close to
 the great change
 men call death,
 Amida Buddha
 sends forth oceans
 of Wisdom and
 Compassion.

Namu Amida Butsu.

AIEA HONGWANJI HALL WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

Sunday	Dharma Service (temple)	9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Sunday & Thursday	Hosha Work Days	8:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Monday - Wednesday, & Friday	Preschool Use	8:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
Monday & Thursday	Kumon Class	2:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Monday & Wednesday	Zumba Class #1	6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Wednesday only	Zumba Class #2	7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday	Judo	5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday	Sanshin Class (classroom or Lotus)	7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
1st Thursdays	BWA Meeting (kitchen)	9:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.

Aiea Hongwanji
 Preschool and
 Kindergarten:
 PH: 488-0404

Lotus Adult Day
 Care Center:
 PH: 486-5050

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

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Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/honpahongwanjihawaii_official



BISHOP'S CORNER

Bishop Eric Matsumoto

Bishop Eric Matsumoto

As I mentioned last month, as Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, we will for the next five years focus on the Sangha. A Sangha that is nurtured by the Buddha-Dharma.

Today, let me share wise and insightful guidance that we receive from our Teachings which explains to us how the Sangha can grow. In the book, "The Teaching of Buddha," it emphasizes the importance of sincerity of thoughts, words and actions and harmony in/of the Sangha.

Further it shares *"There are two sets of seven rules to be followed if the Sangha is to be a success. The first is, as a group: (1) they should gather together frequently to listen to the teachings and to discuss them; (2) they should mingle freely and respect one another; (3) they should revere the teachings and respect the rules and not change them; (4) elder and younger members are to treat each other with courtesy; (5) they should let sincerity and reverence mark their bearing; (6) they should purify their minds in a quiet place which they should, nevertheless, offer to others before taking it for themselves; (7) they should love all people, treat visitors cordially, and console the sick with kindness. A Sangha that follows these rules will never decline.*

The second is, individually each should: (1) maintain a pure spirit and not ask for too many things; (2) maintain integrity and remove all greed; (3) be patient and not argue; (4) keep silent and not talk idly; (5) submit to the regulations and not be overbearing; (6) maintain an even mind and not follow different teachings; and (7) be thrifty and

frugal in daily living. If its members follow these rules, the Sangha will endure and never decline."

Another important Teaching is, in the words of His Eminence Koshin Ohtani, Monshu (Spiritual Leader) Emeritus found in his book "The Buddha's Wish for the World," what is referred to as *"the seven gifts that require no possessions."* The seven gifts are: 1-The gift of gentle eyes, looking at others kindly. 2-The gift of a smile and kind expressions. 3-The gift of words, speaking kindly to others. 4-The gift of the physical body. Acting properly yourself, and treating others with respect. 5-The gift of heart, touching others with a heart full of love. 6-The gift of a resting place, offering a place to sit and rest. 7-The gift of shelter and lodging, providing others with a room or a warm place to stay."

As the Sangha at our temples and in our individual lives as Buddhists, let us see how we might try to do or make manifest some of what is mentioned above in our lives and at temple including programs and projects. As His Eminence continues to say that as a bonbu or "foolish being," *"Of course, we cannot live the way the Buddha did. However, we can emulate the Buddha. When we do so, we can better appreciate what a truly wonderful heart the Buddha must have had in order to accomplish what he did."*

In Shin Buddhism, we aspire in grateful response to Amida Buddha's Great Unconditional Compassion which embraces this imperfect me just as I am, fully acknowledging my limitations including the fact that I am, many times, directly or indirectly and totally or partially, a cause and/or condition of others' and/or my own suffering. In all of Buddhism, the goal is not to be a cause, condition and/or result of ignorance and suffering and realize true liberation or freedom which is Nirvana or as we would say in Jodo Shinshu attain birth in the Pure Land of Enlightenment.

As the Old Year draws to a close, let us deeply reflect so that we start the New Year with new aspirations. I encourage everyone and ask that you to encourage those closes to you to visit your Hongwanji Temple for New Year's Eve Service and/ or New Year's Day Service. Have a peaceful and meaningful New Year!

Namo Amida Butsu/Entrusting in All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion (Amida Buddha, the Buddha of Immeasurable Life and Infinite Light).

CONDOLENCES

Mr. Clifford Yoshikatsu Takishita, a member of Pearl City Hongwanji Mission, passed away on October 28, 2019. He served on the Research & Planning Committee and the Music Committee and helped with revised the fourth edition of the gathas in 1990. He was instrumental in starting the Project Dana program at Pearl City Hongwanji, and served as President of the Pearl City Hongwanji Kyodan. The Ingo (Posthumous Title) of SHOU-JOU-IN 清淨院 which means "One who demonstrated the importance of purity" in recognition of his life of nembutsu was conferred by Bishop Eric Matsumoto on December 9, 2019.

Mr. Richard Itsuo Fujii, a member of Papaaloe Hongwanji Mission and an Advisor of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, passed away on November 16, 2019. He served as Papaaloe Hongwanji President totaling 30 years, District Advisor of Hawaii Hongwanji Council and Lay Association for many years. He served at the state level as Director for 8 years, Advisor for 12 years and as a member of the nomination committee for many years. The Papaaloe Hongwanji Kyodan Funeral Service was held at Dodo Mortuary on Thursday, December 5, 2019 under the officiation of Bishop Eric Matsumoto. The Ingo (Posthumous Title) of JI-NEN-IN 自然院 which means "One who naturally lived a life of Nembutsu" in recognition of his life of nembutsu was conferred.

45th ANNUAL LIVING TREASURES OF HAWAII RECOGNITION

The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii will honor the following individuals as the 2020 Living Treasures of Hawai'i™ in recognition of their personal and professional achievements and their contributions to the community. We welcome you to celebrate this honor with them. Registration form is attached.

Robert Uluwehi Cazimero

Larry L. Kimura, Ph. D

Carolee Mei-Jen Kapuamae'ole Nishi

Sachie Saigusa

Date: Saturday, February 8, 2020

Place: Hilton Hawaiian Village, Coral Ballroom

Time: 11:00 AM Registration, 12:00 PM Lunch and Program

Please call Aiea Hongwanji Office (487-2626) for more info.

LIVES REMEMBERED: A TRIBUTE TO THE FALLEN OF PEARL HARBOR

Bishop Eric Matsumoto and Reverend Kazunori Takahashi, as part of the Hawaii Buddhist Council, attended a Memorial Ceremony "Lives Remembered: A Tribute to the Fallen of Pearl Harbor" which was held on Monday, December 9, 2019 at the Banyan Tree on Ford Island. This ceremony was co-hosted by the Consulate General of Japan in Honolulu and Navy Region Hawaii to recognize both the American and Japanese lives lost during the Pearl Harbor attack of 1941, and as a symbol of reconciliation and friendship between Japan and the United States. The Ceremony began with the National Anthems of both countries, remarks by Mr. Koichi Ito (The Consul General of Japan in Honolulu) and Rear Admiral Matthew Carter (Deputy Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet), and a keynote speaker Mr. Michael Carr (President & CEO, USS Missouri Memorial Association).

BWA NEWS

Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade

The BWA Federation would like to invite all temple members, Dharma School students, family and friends to join us in our 6th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. parade on Monday, January 20th.

-Meet at Magic Island between 8:00 am and 8:30 am (near the restrooms at the Ewa end of the Magic Island parking lot).

-Wear your BWA shirt, PBA shirt, organization shirt or anything purple.

-Bring some origami cranes to hand out if you have some

-Remember Green Hongwanji and bring your own water bottle.

-Wear sunscreen

The route is down Waikiki to Kapiolani Park, about 2 miles. Once again, PBA will join us in force and will provide a bus for those who would like to participate but can't walk the entire route.

Contact Lois Toyama for more information.





Aiea Hongwanji Pre-School and Kindergarten
 Lotus Adult Daycare Center
 Nov-20, 2019 Uncle Wayne @ Social Hall



Aiea Hongwanji Misson

Nov 24, 2019 永代經 EITAI-KYO



Dec 20.
 Children performed Holiday song
 at Christmas Potluck





Dec. 5
Aiea Hongwanji BWA
Year end Luncheon @ Natsunoya

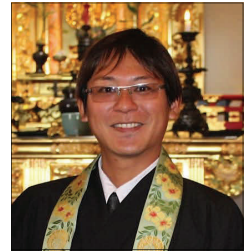


Temple Sound proof construction



Minister's Message
AKEMASHITE OMEDETOU GOZAIMASU!

Happy New Year! May the Infinite Light of Life of Amida Buddha awaken in each of us with a fresh sense of joy for being able to welcome a brand new year into our lives. As we begin the New Year, I would like to extend my warmest wishes to you and your family in hopes that you all have a very meaningful and fulfilling year. I would also like to express my sincerest appreciation and gratitude to all of you for making this past year a most valuable and rewarding experience. To be able to share the Nembutsu Teaching with you has been a truly wonderful experience for me.



Mahalo for the friendship, understanding and support you have extended to me during this past year. May I please ask for your continued support and guidance throughout 2020.

Let us continue to work together to make Aiea Hongwanji Mission a conducive environment to hear and learn the Nembutsu Teachings. May gratitude and appreciation enter your life as you awaken to the Nembutsu Teachings.

Namo Amida Butsu Rev. Shawn K Yagi

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

President's message for January 2020 JIKO

Hi everyone,

Akemashite omedetou gozaimasu! Hauoli makahiki hou! Happy New Year!

The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Theme and Slogan for 2020 is:

Building Healthy Sanghas: Embracing Generosity and Openness.

We will be focusing on our Sangha. Sangha refers to a community of people who practice the teachings of Buddha, share it with others and preserve it for future generations. Sangha refers to everyone, ministers and lay people who share the Buddha's Teachings.

The topic of building a healthy Sangha is very appropriate to us as we transition into a new phase. We know that over the next 5-10 years we will lose many of our most active members. New people may join us if we interface with our community as Buddhists and if we are generous and open in our interactions. We need your help.

Be your own light,

Warren Tamamoto



HI-5 RECYCLABLE DONATIONS

- If you would like to be recognized for your donation, please include your name.
- We are not able to recycle detergent bottles, milk bottles, ensure bottles. We can only recycle Hi-5 items. Please dispose of other items in your own blue bin.
- Please note—plastic drink bottles cannot be redeemed without the Hi-5 label. If label is detached, please roll it up and stick it in the bottle.
- *Thank you for your participation and continued support.* To improve the efficiency of our recycling program, could you please dispose of all caps from the bottles and do not include garbage and other non-Hi-5 items. Thank you for your efforts to keep Hawaii and Aiea Hongwanji GREEN.

A Big Mahalo



Did you notice anything new as you parked your car into our church lots? Eagle Scout candidate, Austen Panis, from Troop #528 spent his Saturday morning on November 30, 2019 to paint and line all the stalls at Aiea Hongwanji. Thank you, Austen!



An Announcement From Jr. YBA

From now until the end of February, the United Jr. YBA of Oahu will be hosting their annual Canned Goods Drive. There will be two boxes; one in the temple and one in the office. Please donate any canned goods you may be leftover after the holidays to help benefit those that are less fortunate.

In Gassho,
Aiea Jr. YBA



Aiea Hongwanji's New Year's Party
Shinnen Enkai
Saturday, January 25, 2020
Doors open at 5pm...Dinner at 5:30pm

We have been very grateful for all your donations made in 2019, and look forward to opening the New Year by partaking in many of your delectable desserts and pupu dishes. (Early donations of bottled water and canned drinks may be dropped off on Thursdays and Sundays between 9 and 11am.) **Your continued generosity will be greatly appreciated!**

Tickets are \$10 for Adults and \$5 for children, ages 7—12 years old. Free for those under the age of 7. Please sign up on the kitchen door or call in your orders at 487-2626 and leave a message.

**Deadline: Sunday, January 12, 2020
Everyone is welcomed!**

Major Yearly Memorial Service Schedule

For The Year 2020

2019-1st year

2018-3rd year*

2014-7th year

2008-13th year

2004-17th year

1996-25th year

1988-33rd year

1971-50th year

* from the 2nd

anniversary,

please follow the Japanese custom

of holding the service the year ahead.

Nokotsudo (Columbarium)

If you would like to visit the Nokotsudo, please call the residence at 488-5685 or the office at 487-2626 at least two days in advance so that arrangements can be made to open the Nokotsudo for you. The best days to visit the Nokotsudo are Thursday and Sunday mornings.

Family Memorial Service

In the Japanese Buddhist tradition, families hold memorial services (Nen-ki Hoyo) in memory of our loved ones, and to express our gratitude for Amida Buddha's Infinite Light.

The Buddha's Wisdom and Compassion embrace our loved ones in the land of peace and happiness. May we also remember Amida's embrace on our lives as we remember those who have departed.

If your family would like to arrange a memorial service for your loved one, please call Rev. Yagi at 488-5685. (please leave a message if no one is available). You may schedule the service either before or after the memorial date. The ideal time is when as many family members as possible will attend.

January 2020

Kerry Iwao Okumura	1st
Harriet Shizuyo Watanabe	3rd
Doris Tamie Sumida	3rd
Roy Ishioka	7th
Masao Saiki	13th
Mitsue Marumoto	17th
Grace Hisayo Ishii	17th
Ruth Hifumi Okazaki	17th
Hideo Santoki	25th
Harue Kimoto	25th
Noboru Nakamura	33rd
Tetsuko Hirata	33rd



February 2020

Mitsuyo Uyeunten	1st
Yasuto Kubota	3rd
Akira Mori	3rd
Helen Ishioka	7th
Yukie Muroda Hayashi	7th
Harue Hazel Chagami	7th
Kazumi Nishimoto	7th
Mary Etsuko Kono	7th
Kiyoko Aihara	17th
Melvin Yukio Miyata	17th
Hikoji Jike	17th
Neal Tadashi Shigemura	17th
Fujie H. Kanno	17th
Matsuno Nakagawa	25th
Hideki Kiyosaki	50th

We apologize if we have inadvertently made an error in printing the name of your loved one, or the date of memorial. Please inform the office of any errors at 487-2626 so that we may correct our records.

We appreciate your assistance in updating our memorial records and contact information when you call in for a Memorial Service. Thank you.

PROJECT DANA

Volunteers are needed to assist with transportation for doctor and dentist visits, shopping, and respite visits. for the frail, elderly and disabled living at home in the area from Waimalu to Salt Lake. A Big Thank You to Frank and Helen Takenouchi for their ongoing work with Project Dana.

Senior YBA News

A very happy new year!!! Yes, let us all thankful and have healthy 2020!!

Our Sr. YBA Installation Banquet is on Feb. 14 (Fri) at Pearl Country Club (grille room).

Our 2020 Sr. YBA Officers:

Minister Advisor	Rev. Shawn K. Yagi
President	George Zakahi
Vice President	Richard Ito
Recording Secretary	Lynn Onaka
Corresponding Secretary	Thelma Kawaguchi
Treasurer	Larry Onaka
Assistant Treasurer	Elaine Kutaka
Auditors	Keith Fukuda
	Gayle Matsumoto

Fellowship starts at 5:30 p.m. Dinner to follow. Please bring your favorite Pupu.

Reminder to our newly elected officers– Please remember to bring your Monto Shikisho. Everyone Bring your Onenju.

Don't forget Jan 25(Sat) is our temple New Years Party. our Sr. YBA is in charge of purchasing prizes and Games.

Jan 13 (Mon) is our Sr. YBA meeting. We will meet in the office at 7:30 p.m. Please attend this meeting to plan our Sr. YBA activities for 2020.

May your New Year bring much happiness. Stay healthy!

George Zakahi

BWA News

Akemashite Omedetou Gozaimasu! Mochitsuki, pounding rice to make *mochi* (rice cakes), is an important tradition performed at the end of the calendar year in preparation for the New Year in Hawaii and throughout Japan.

I wish to extend a heartfelt gratitude to Ito-san, his Hosha crew, and the Mochitsuki committee for setting up and overseeing our annual event. A very warm thank you to the numerous members, relatives, and friends who gathered together and worked harmoniously to make mochi filled with *an* (red beans) and decorative *kagami mochi*. (Two flat, round *mochi* placed one on top of the other, with the lower *mochi* being slightly larger to represent the seat of the New Year's deities.)

With the dawning of the 2020, families in Hawaii and Japan welcomed the New Year by eating their homemade *mochi*. *Oishisoo!*

Did you know...Santa's helpers arrived early at AHM and even stayed a day after Christmas to assist in collating the December and January JIKO mailings out in time. We wish to extend our humble gratitude to Elaine Kutaka and all her grandchildren (Brooklyn, Mikah, Haley, and Melanie), BWA members (Helen Takenouchi and Susan Morishige), and Reverend Yagi.

In Gassho,
D. Okawa

AHM Office Volunteers

In an effort to keep our office open to the public, we are continuously seeking volunteers. If you are able to assist us in performing light office duties such as answering the phone, taking messages, and filing, please call us at 487-2626.

**GOLDEN
CHAIN
OF LOVE**

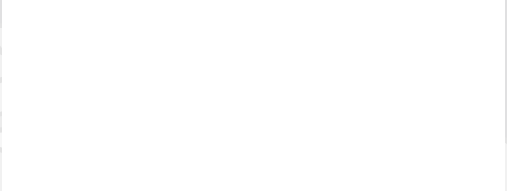
I am a link in
Amida Buddha's
Golden Chain of
Love that
stretches around
the world. I must
keep my link
bright and
strong. I will try
to be kind and
Gentle to every
living thing and
protect all who
are weaker than
myself. I will try
to think pure and
beautiful
thoughts, to say
pure and
beautiful words
and to do pure
and beautiful
deeds, knowing
on what I do
now depends
not only on my
happiness or
unhappiness but
also that of
others. May
every link In
Amida Buddha's
Golden Chain of
Love become
bright and
strong and may
we all attain
Perfect Peace.
Namo Amida
Butsu.

Aiea Hongwanji Mission
99-186 Puakala Street
Aiea, Hawaii 96701

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1/20



EVENTS OF JANUARY 2020

1	Wed	10:00am	Shusho-e (New Year's Day Service)
2			Preschool resumes
5	Sun	9:00am	Family Service & Dharma School
		11:30am	O'ahu United Jr. YBA Meeting at Mililani
9	Thurs	9:00am	1st BWA Meeting of the Year
12	Sun	9:00am	Family Service & Dharma School
13	Mon	7:00pm	Oahu Hongwanji Council Pre-Giseikai Mtg. @Mililani
13	Mon	7:30pm	Sr. YBA Meeting
19	Sun	9:00am	Shinran Shonin Memorial Service (Hoonko) Guest Speaker: Rev. Kevin Kuniyuki
19-20			Jr. YBA Federation Meeting (Kona)
20	Mon		Martin Luther King Day HOLIDAY (Preschool/Lotus closed)
21	Tue	7:00pm	Aiea Hongwanji Mission Board of Directors' Meeting
25	Sat	5:00pm	Aiea Hongwanji New Year's Party (Shinnen Enkai)
26	Sun	9:00am	Family Service & Dharma School

HIGHLIGHTS OF FEBRUARY 2020

2	Sun	9:00am	Family Service & Dharma School
6	Thur	9:00am	Aiea BWA meeting Hawaii Kyodan Board of Directors Meeting & Ministers Asso. Mtg
7-8	Fri-Sat		108th Legislative Assembly (Giseikai)
8	Sat	11:00am	Living Treasures of Hawaii Recognition Luncheon
9	Sun	9:00am	BWA Dana Day Service & Dharma School
14	Sat	5:30pm	Sr.YBA Installation
15	Sat		Nirvana Day
16	Sun	9:00am	Family Service & Dharma School
17	Mon		Presidents' Day HOLIDAY (Preschool/Lotus closed)
18	Tue	7:00pm	Aiea Hongwanji Mission Board of Directors' Meeting
23	Sun	9:00am	Family Service & Dharma School