



79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kealahou, HI 96750

April, 2018

(808) 322-3524 www.daifukuji.org

See "archives" on our website for previous newsletters.



Hanamatsuri Buddha Day Service

Sunday, April 8 9:30 a.m.

Vegetarian Lunch & Spring Egg Hunt

All are invited to join our sangha in pouring sweet tea over the baby Buddha in celebration of his birth 2,600 years ago in Lumbini Garden. A Dharma talk will be given by Rev. Jikō.

There will be a spring egg hunt for the children immediately after the service, followed by a vegetarian meal prepared by the members of our temple's Zazenkai. All are invited to stay for lunch. Donations of desserts are welcome.

Donations of flowers for the altars and hanamido flower shrine may be dropped off on Friday, April 6th or by 8 a.m. on Saturday, April 7th.

Hanamatsuri is a joyful occasion to be shared with all. Feel free to invite friends and relatives. The children always enjoy the spring egg hunt.

The gift shop will be open. Donations of canned food for the Food Basket are always appreciated.

Blue Zones Presentation

Kirstin Kahaloe, West Hawaii's community engagement lead for the Blue Zones Project, will be giving a presentation during our Hanamatsuri lunch. We thank Kirstin for the guidance she's giving our sangha in our efforts to become a Blue Zones designated faith-based organization. [https://](https://hawaii.bluezonesproject.com)

hawaii.bluezonesproject.com

In Memoriam



To the family of the late **Vivian Ontai**, who passed away on February 11 at the age of 65, we send our sympathy and love.

To the family of the late **Tomoyo Torioka**, who passed away on March 7 at the age of 89, we extend our condolences.

Namu daihi Kanzeon Bosatsu.

Welcome To Our Sangha



Our sangha extends a warm aloha to the following new member:

Dr. Leilani Lewis

New members are always welcome. For information, see Rev. Jiko or visit our website: http://www.daifukuji.org/membership_brochure.pdf.

Mahalo Nui Loa

Our sangha extends a big mahalo to **Richard Iwamuro** for donating time & materials to make a new set of o-toba boards for the temple. His generous gift is truly appreciated. We also thank **Larry Yoshiyama** for repairing our handicap ramp in time for the UHSSWA Conference.

Country Store Donations Needed

The 53rd Annual United Hawaii Soto Shu Women's Association (UHSSWA) Conference will be held on April 14 & 15 at Daifukuji Soto Mission and the King Kamehameha's Kona Beach Hotel.

A Country Store Fundraiser which benefits the UHSSWA will be held at Daifukuji on Saturday, April 14 for conference attendees. **Donations of small or medium sized avocados, Kona coffee, mac nuts, dried fruits and other kinds of Kona specialties are appreciated.**

If you are able to contribute any of these items, please call Joyce at 329-3833 or Rev. Jiko at 322-3524. Our Hawaii island and neighbor island friends just love our Kona specialties.

Zazenkai News



In preparation for the April 8th Hanamatsuri lunch, Zazenkai members will be working in the temple kitchen from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 7. Please drop off food and vegetable donations by 9 a.m. that day or the day before.

Cooking on Sunday, April 8 will begin at 8:00 a.m.

Questions? Wish to help? Have vegetables or fruits to donate? Please call or text Barbara Shoshin Bosz at (808) 987-2673 or send an email to Barbarainkona@gmail.com.



MUSHIM IKEDA

Buddha's Teachings for Uncertain Times

Tuesday April 17 4:00 pm at Daifukuji Temple

Mushim Patricia Ikeda is a Buddhist teacher, author, mother, and community activist. Her home temple is East Bay Meditation Center, serving underrepresented communities in downtown Oakland, California. Mushim is the recipient of a Peacemaker award from the Association for Dispute Resolution in Northern California, and an honorary doctor of sacred theology from the Starr King School of the Ministry. www.mushimikeda.com

**Open to the public
at no charge**

**Vegetarian potluck
to follow**

A fragrance-free event

**Daifukuji Buddhist Temple
808-322-3524**

**www.daifukuji.org
79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy
next to Teshima's
in Honalo**

Dear UHSSWA conference and Dharma talk attendees,

I have a special request. Our guest Dharma teacher Mushim Ikeda, who will be coming from Oakland, California, is highly chemically sensitive.

What this means is that fragranced body products such as perfumes, deodorants, hair spray, etc. make her sick, especially in closed rooms. For her sake and for the sake of others who may also be affected by fragrance, I would like to request that both the conference & public Dharma talk be fragrance-free events.

Chemical sensitivity is considered a disability. I would appreciate your cooperation and compassion. Thank you for your understanding.

Mahalo, in gassho,

Rev. Jiko



Daifukuji Yoga Class Reunion with Yoga Teacher Ryan Nakade

Library News

By Clear Houn Englebert

The library has an excellent DVD on how to do Zen meditation. It's simply titled *Zen Meditation*, and now we have it in an edition that plays in all zones. The previous edition we had would not work in DVD players made in Japan. We brought that to the attention of the makers of the DVD (Throssel Hole Monastery in England) and they corrected it.

Here are the other new arrivals:

Teachings of Zen edited by Thomas Cleary is a compilation of short teachings from seventy-six Chinese Zen masters from the 500's to the 1600's. In his introduction, Cleary says, "These teachings have been selected... for their accessibility, their clarity, and above all their practical effectiveness..."

Butsuzo Zugo by Ryukan Sawa is in Japanese, and darn, I wish I could read it. It looks so good! It's full of magnificent Japanese images of Buddhas, bodhisattvas, and ancestors reproduced in black and white. The name of the image is in English (like a tease) but the commentary is only in Japanese. There is no equivalent book like this in English, but I sure wish there was.

Not Always So by Shunryu Suzuki is a book I'm very excited about. I read Suzuki's earlier book, *Zen Mind, Beginner's Mind*, when it was first published in 1970. It was the first truly excellent book about Buddhist practice that I'd read. I'd already read Christmas Humphries and he'd gotten me really intrigued and so had Alan Watts, but Suzuki was the real deal and I knew it. In this newer book, *Not Always So*, Suzuki is once again "the real deal". Here are two quotes from the first page: "This is our way, to live fully in each moment of time. This practice continues forever." "So for a period of time each day, try to sit in *shikantaza*, without moving, without expecting anything, as if you were in your last moment. Moment after moment you feel your last moment."

April Dharma Programs



Dharma Study Classes - Tuesdays, April 17 & 24 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Temple library

We meet to share our thoughts on the book *Mindfulness* by Domyo Sater Burk, a Soto Zen teacher at Bright Way Zen in Portland, Oregon. These sessions are open to all. Books are available for a special price of \$11. Call Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524 for further information. Note: Mushim Ikeda's Dharma talk will be held on April 17. (See page 3)

Family Sangha Services: Sharing the Dharma with Children - Sundays, April 1, 22 & 29 at 9:30 a.m.
Child-friendly 45-minute services which include yoga, zazen, chanting, singing, & Dharma lessons. For children of all ages and their parents & grandparents.

Zazen (Meditation)

- * Every Wednesday morning from 6 a.m. - 7:20 a.m.
- * Thursdays, **April 19 & 26** from 6:00 p.m. - 7:20 p.m.

Both morning and evening sessions include 20 minutes of chanting. Donations may be placed in the box on the incense table. All are welcome. Please arrive at least 5-10 minutes before starting time.

Shakyo & Shabutsu Art Meditation - Saturday, April 7 from 8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Mindfully tracing the Heart Sutra & pictures of buddhas and bodhisattvas in silence unifies body, breath, and mind. All supplies provided. By donation.

Baikako Plum Blossom Choir Practice - Sunday, April 1 from 7:45 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

The Gay Sangha - Friday, April 6 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

A Buddhist group open to all, with a particular invitation to gay women and men and their families and friends. Meditation and discussion. Call (808) 328-0329 for information.

T'ai Chi

Thursdays from 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. in the Hisashi Kimura Cultural Hall. Call instructor Philip Kakuho Hema for information: (808) 345-1492.

Coffee Festival Mahalo

from Joyce Yuko, Elaine Keiko, and Reiko Sekine
Bento Sale Co-chairs



To all Fujinkai members, Daifukuji sangha members, and friends,

We send to you a very belated thank you for your help, donations of ingredients, and monetary donations given to benefit the Fujinkai's annual Kona Coffee Cultural Festival bento fundraiser which was held in November of last year. We especially extend a heartfelt mahalo to Brian and Avis for making the bento labels, to Julio and Mune (our honorary Fujinkai members) for their perfect cooking of the rice, to CalKona for their generous donations of fruits and vegetables for temple functions throughout the year, to Myles for use of a tent, and to Stephen and Warren for helping with set up at the festival. The proceeds from the Fujinkai Women's Association's fundraisers are used for field trips, educational programs, and conference expenses. To our wonderful community of supporters, a big mahalo!



Come drum with us!

by Akemi Iwamoto, Kona Daifukuji Taiko instructor

Know any child(ren) between the ages of 8 – 17 who is interested in learning Taiko?

The Kona Daifukuji Taiko Group will be starting a new group on Saturday, June 16, 2018. This will be a three-month introductory class from 6/16/18 – 9/01/18. This group will meet every Saturday morning from 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. in the Daifukuji Cultural Hall. At the end of the introductory period, if we have enough interest, we will continue the class beyond the three months.

The fee for the first month will be \$30.00 which will include a pair of bachis (drum sticks). It will be \$15 per month for the remainder of the months.

We have five slots available so if you know anyone who is interested, please contact Akemi Iwamoto at (808) 989-8194.



Pancake Breakfast Mahalo

by Kelly Deguchi

My co-chair Ella Yasuda and I would like to thank all of the Fujinkai ladies for their help in making our pancake breakfast and manju sale a success. Special thanks go to: Ann, for taking care of the manju making; Merle (super lady), for the mixing of the pancake batter; Lorraine, Yuki, and Chris for cooking the eggs (great job!); Edna & Reiko Kodaira for

cooking the spam and keeping the hot water going for the miso soup; Ann and Kay for cooking the pancakes; Jean and her gang for taking care of the tickets; Joyce, for taking care of the manju sale; Elaine, for cooking the rice; Sharen, for being our waitress; Stephen and the samu gang for taking care of the grill and hall set up; Akemi and the Daifukuji Taiko 'ohana for their help (we can always count on them). I (Kelly) wish to thank my partner Ella for doing all the legwork.

Thank you, everyone, for a job well done. If we've forgotten to mention anyone's name, please know that we appreciated your help.

Mahalo to all who donated items, to all who purchased tickets, and to all who came to the breakfast. Your support is greatly appreciated.





Daifukuji Walking Group

by Hannah Horan Israel, Team Leader

Monday, March 5 dawned bright and clear. The Daifukuji Walking Group or Moai met for the first time. On this clear morning we began our journey with the Blue Zones Project message of Live Longer Better inspiring us. Our spirits and energy were high as we began the morning by greeting one another, signing in, completing the waivers, and receiving our brilliant blue tee shirts. We were delighted to welcome 20 members to our group.

Kirstin Kahaloa, the Community Engagement Lead with the Blue Zones Project West Hawai'i, spoke to our group regarding the importance of our decision to join the walking/social group for our ten-week excursion. After Kirstin had welcomed and encouraged us, the group voted on a team name — Daifukuji Soleful Strutters. In addition, we voted to move the meeting time from 9:00 to 8:30 each Monday morning.

After the introductory meeting, we proceeded outside and gathered in front of the Daifukuji Temple steps where Kindness Isshin helped us warm up with the same exercise that is used in the Tai Chi class at Daifukuji. After moving a bit, we were excited to begin our walking. We walked many rounds along the front parking lot and grounds, and everyone did a fantastic job. Some of those who wanted more of a challenge ventured up the hill and back. We walked for thirty minutes and averaged 2,450 steps. The Daifukuji Soleful Strutters lived up to their name.

After completing our rounds, Kirstin rallied us again before we left. She told us that at the end of the ten weeks, we would receive a certificate of completion and prizes. Also she discussed having a party or potluck upon completion in May.

Because we have just begun our walking, you still have plenty of time to join us if you would like. Just bring a bottle of water, a hat, and join in. We would love for you to become a Daifukuji Soleful Strutter. For additional information, call Hannah at (408) 421-8845, Jien at (509) 951-5557, or Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524.

Announcements



Mrs. Ikuko Ishii, Mrs. Ryuko Kokuzo, Rev. Kokuzo, Rev. Ishii

Having served for over 50 years as a minister, of which the past 18 years were spent at Waipahu Soto Zen Temple Taiyoji, Reverend Ryosho Roy Kokuzo will be retiring at the end of March. We thank both Rev. and Mrs. Kokuzo for their long years of dedicated service and wish them a happy retirement.

Replacing Rev. Kokuzo at Taiyoji will be Rev. Ryohei Ishii of the Soto Mission of Hawaii Betsuin. Congratulations to Rev. Ishii on his new position. All our aloha and best wishes to Rev. and Mrs. Ishii and their family.

Help preserve Japanese newspapers published on the Big Island!

Hoover Institution Library & Archives, Stanford University is looking for prewar Japanese newspapers published on the Big Island. We'd like to fill the missing titles and issues in our digital collection (<http://hojishinbun.hoover.org>). If you have pre-1942 Japanese newspapers, such as the Hilo Shimpo, Hawaii Mainichi, and Kazan (Volcano), please contact Kay Ueda at kueda@stanford.edu or Rev. Junshin Miyazaki at Hilo Meishoin at 97 Olona St., Hilo 808-936-7828 (cell) or gongqi326@hotmail.com. Kay will be visiting the Island on April 18-21, 2018. Thank you!



Conference Preparations

To prepare for the upcoming UHSSWA conference, **Fujinkai members** will be gathering in the social hall on the following Saturdays:

March 24 8:30 a.m.

March 31 9:00 a.m., potluck lunch

Questions? Call Joyce at 329-3833 or Elaine at 322-2084.

Baccalaureate Ceremony to be Held on May 27

On May 27, there will be a blessing of the high school graduates who are the children and grandchildren of temple members. We will also be honoring graduates belonging to Kona Daifukuji Taiko. The blessing will take place following the morning's Memorial Day Service.

Invitations will be sent to the graduates and their families. Please inform Rev. Jiko if you have a graduate in your family or if you know of a graduate whose parents/grandparents are Daifukuji members. You may reach Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524 or rev.jiko@daifukuji.org.





The Significance of Hanamatsuri, Buddha Day

by Rev. Jikō Nakade

What is Hanamatsuri? Hanamatsuri, a Japanese word which means “Flower Festival,” is an observance of the Buddha’s birth. At Daifukuji, this service involves the chanting of the sutras, the singing of gathas, and the pouring of sweet tea over a small statue of the baby Buddha by the members of the sangha. The baby Buddha is set inside a miniature pavilion called a hanamido, which is adorned with fresh flowers and foliage to recreate the garden of Lumbini, in which Prince Siddhartha Gautama, the buddha-to-be, was born around 563 B.C.E. in what is modern-day Nepal.

The pouring of sweet tea or amacha is symbolic of the sweet rain that is said to have fallen from the heavens at the time of the Buddha’s birth. It is a lovely ceremony in which young and old alike participate, a way in which all can honor the birth of a great human being, whose teachings have spanned over two millennia and spread across the face of the Earth, bringing peace, joy, and liberation to many people. Empires have risen and fallen, civilizations have come and gone, and advances in science and technology have changed the world. Yet, almost 2,600 years after the Buddha’s birth, his teachings, the Dharma, which he expounded with compassion, is what is being studied and practiced by millions of Buddhists today. We are among those who have had the good fortune of encountering such wondrous teachings.

Services such as Hanamatsuri connect us to the Buddha and to the Dharma within the context of the Sangha. In essence, we are taking refuge in the Three Treasures, which are the foundation of the life of a Buddhist. When we pour sweet tea over the baby Buddha, we not only honor our great teacher & resolve to practice the Dharma, but also water the seeds of buddhahood within ourselves, for we are baby buddhas in the flower gardens of Hawaii. May we aspire to live with loving-friendliness and compassion and walk softly upon the earth. I wish you a very happy and peaceful Buddha Day.

Kanmoku-ge Sutra

I shall pour sweet tea on the numerous Buddhas.
The wonderful virtues and pure wisdom of the Buddhas
Shall enable all sentient beings to cast off their defilements
And, be awakened to the absolute mind of the Buddha.
Thus, I bow in reverence to Shakyamuni Buddha.
To the greatest and the noblest among all men.
I now pour sweet tea of the greatest virtue
And, extol the Buddha of absolute purity.

Coming up in May...

Project Dana..... May 9

Kannon-ko Service.....May 16

Temple Tour..... May 20

Memorial Day Service/Blessing of Graduates..May 27

April 2018

March 2018							April 2018							May 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
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11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

- Major Service
- Home
- Work
- Work
- Work
- Zazen
- Sangha Sisters
- Youth Taiko
- Adult Taiko
- Family Service
- Happy Strummers
- Temple Board
- Fujinkai
- Kannon-ko Service
- Project Dana
- Orchid Club
- Samu
- Special Events
- Baikako Practice
- Dharma Study
- Found in Apps
- Offsite Backup
- Bon Dance Group
- Teen Sangha

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 7:45 AM Baika Practice 9:30 AM Family Service	2 8:30 AM Walking Moai 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	3 5:30 PM Zen Taiko	4 6:00 AM Zazen 9:00 AM Takako's Song Class 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Fujinkai Board	5 9:00 AM T'ai chi 3:00 PM Precepts Study 5:30 PM Zen Taiko 7:00 PM Temple Board	6 7:30 AM Samu 6:00 PM Gay Sangha	7 Zazenkai Food Prep 8:00 AM Shakyo 9:30 AM Youth Taiko
8 Buddha Day 9:30 am HANAMATSURI	9 8:30 AM Walking Moai 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	10 9:00 AM Bare Bones Writers 5:30 PM Zen Taiko	11 Project Dana 8:30 am 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Orchid Club	12 9:00 AM T'ai chi 5:30 PM Zen Taiko	13 7:30 AM Samu	14 UHSSWA Conference
15 UHSSWA Conference	16 8:30 AM Walking Moai 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 7:00 PM Bon Dance Class	17 Dharma Talk by Mushim 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. 5:30 PM Zen Taiko	18 Kannon-ko 10 am 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	19 9:00 AM T'ai chi 5:30 PM Zen Taiko 6:00 PM Evening Zazen	20 7:30 AM Samu 7:00 PM Sangha Sisters	21 9:30 AM Youth Taiko
22 9:30 AM Family Service	23 8:30 AM Walking Moai 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	24 4:00 PM Dharma Study 5:30 PM Zen Taiko	25 Regency Service 9 am 6:00 AM Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	26 9:00 AM T'ai chi 3:00 PM Precepts Study 5:30 PM Zen Taiko 6:00 PM Evening Zazen	27 7:30 AM Samu	28 9:30 AM Youth Taiko
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