Daifukuji Soto Mission

Where Compassion Blooms







79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kealakekua, HI 96750

December, 2024

(808) 322-3524 www.daifukuji.org

See "archives" on our website for previous newsletters.

Bodhi Day Service 成道会 (Jōdō-e)

Sunday, December 15 10:00 a.m.

Guest Speaker: Rev. Paul Ananda Normann Potluck Lunch & Jam Sale



Rev. Ananda Normann

All are warmly invited to Daifukuji's Bodhi Day service. Commemorating the great awakening of Shakyamuni Buddha beneath the Bodhi Tree over 2,500 years ago, the Bodhi Day service is perhaps the most important service of the year. We would love to have you join us.

The Dharma message will be delivered by Rev. Paul Ananda Normann. Rev. Ananda is the Executive Director of the non-profit Neighborhood Place of Puna and is passionate about preventing and ending family and child homelessness. In his ministerial capacity, Rev. Ananda serves as the minister for Amida Hawaii -- a small group of Buddhist practitioners rooted in the vision of the Pure Land and working to bring about an enlightened world.

Lunch will be a potluck. Please bring something to share if possible, as well as your own "oryoki" set of reusable tableware. Labelling your dish gluten free, vegetarian, vegan, etc. would help those with food allergies and preferences. The gift shop will be open from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. and from 11 a.m. to noon. Canned and packaged food will be collected for the Hawai'i Island Food Basket. All are welcome to purchase jars of Daifukuji tropical fruit and poha jam after the service. (See page 2 for more information.)

2025 Memorial Service Schedule on page 11.

A New Year's party form & 2025 membership form will be included in next month's newsletter.

In Loving Memory



Doris Yanagi October 20, 2024 Age 95

Gilbert Akiyoshi Kaneko October 25, 2024 Age 99 Long Beach, California

Namu Kanzeon Bosatsu.

Project Dana December 11 9:30 a.m.



Aloha Project Dana members,

Please dress in reds and greens when you come to our December gathering. Also, please bring a wrapped gift (value about \$10) for our Secret Santa gift exchange.

Raymond Baltero will be offering an ukulele strum-along-and-sing-along session. Please bring your ukulele if you'd like to participate.

Temple members 60 & above are invited to join Project Dana, Daifukuji's monthly activity program for seniors which is funded by the temple. For information, call Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524 or Joyce at (808) 329-3833.

2025 Ukulele Classes for Beginners

Raymond Baltero, leader of the Daifukuji Happy Strummers ukulele group, will be offering a series of ukulele classes for beginners. The classes will start in January of next year and be held twice a month on Saturday afternoons from 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Donations will be accepted.

Here are the dates of the first 6 classes:

January 11 and 25

February 8 and 22

March 1 and 15

If you are interested in signing up for Raymond's ukulele classes, please inform Rev. Jiko by calling (808) 322-3524 or by sending an email to rev.jiko@daifukuji.org.

Jam Sale





About 96 jars of our Tropical Jam and 12 jars of the Poha Jam made by temple members will be sold <u>after</u> the Jodo-E Bodhi Day service at approximately 11:15 a.m. on December 15. Please come to the social hall.

Tropical Jam \$ 7.00

Poha Jam \$ 9.00

<u>Payment by cash or check only.</u> This is a fundraiser for Daifukuji Soto Mission.

Mahalo to Edna Yamane, Joy Utz, and Tuan Luong for donating the jars and sugar.

Bodhi Day Greetings from Reverend Jikō

Aloha Sangha members and friends,

Happy holidays and happy Bodhi Day to all! As my Bodhi Day gift to you, I would like to share Dogen Zenji's teachings on The Three Minds, a topic which was recently studied by my online Zoom Dharma group.

The founder of our Soto Zen tradition in Japan, Dogen Zenji (1200- 1253), travelled on a trading ship to China in search of the True Dharma when he was 22 years old. In his writings found in the *Tenzo Kyōkun* or "Instructions to the Cook" he talked about the importance of cultivating the Three Minds— *Daishin, Kishin, and Rōshin*. Cultivating these three qualities of heart and mind are important not only for one who works in a temple kitchen, but for everyone who practices Zen. What is applied in the kitchen can be applied to all of our everyday tasks. Here are the Three Minds as described in the book *From the Zen Kitchen to Enlightenment: Refining Your Life* by Dogen Zenji and Uchiyama Roshi, and translated by Rev. Daitsu Tom Wright.

大心 Dai-shin is Magnanimous Mind. "Magnanimous Mind is like a mountain, stable and impartial. Exemplifying the ocean, it is tolerant and views everything from the broadest perspective."

喜心 *Ki-shin* means Joyful Spirit. "How fortunate are we to have been born as human beings given the opportunity to prepare meals for the Three Treasures. Our attitude should truly be one of joy and gratefulness."

老心 *Rō-shin* means to have a caring, nurturing heart. "Rōshin is the mind or attitude of a parent. In the same way that a parent cares for an only child, keep the Three Treasures in your mind....In this same manner, when you handle water, rice, or anything else, you must have the affectionate and caring concern of a parent raising a child."

We will soon be greeting a new year. May we aspire to cultivate magnanimous minds, joyful and grateful spirits, and caring, nurturing hearts. Let us practice Dogen Zenji's teachings on *Dai-shin*, *Ki-shin*, and *Rōshin* moment by moment in our daily lives.

Thank you for your hard work and diligent practice of the Buddha Way throughout the year. I am grateful for your support of Daifukuji Soto Mission and look forward to seeing you at the Rohatsu Sesshin, Bodhi Day service and New Year's celebration. Have a safe and joyous holiday season!

Namu kie butsu. Namu kie hō. Namu kie sō.

In gasshō,

Jíkō Nakade

12th Resident Minister of Daifukuji Soto Mission



Kōkua Needed to Clean Temple and Grounds

Sunday, December 1 8:00 a.m.

Sangha members and temple groups, please pitch in and lend a hand. Our goal is to clean our temple, halls, columbarium and grounds in preparation for Bodhi Day and the New Year.

We will begin with a short blessing inside the temple at 8:00 a.m. Please bring rags, buckets, garden tools and gloves, all labelled with your name.

Any amount of time that you can contribute will be appreciated.

Refreshments will be prepared by the Happy Strummers group. Bring your own water bottle and set of reusable tableware to help us eliminate the use of single-use products.

Questions? Please call Shaun, our clean-up day coordinator, at (808) 936-9815.



Our youth taiko group shared their aloha at the Kona Coffee Cultural Festival lantern parade.

A Message from Board President Stephen Shōdō Tanaka

Dear Daifukuji members and friends,

As the end of the year comes into view, I asked myself what happen to 2024. Actually, our sangha accomplished quite a few things together.

The resurfacing of our driveway and parking lot was, I think, our biggest accomplishment. Also, all of our different sangha groups such as our Fujinkai, Dharma Keiki, Project Dana, Taiko, and others each accomplished a lot. We are always continuing to do more for our community.

So, I'm looking forward to the coming year and to all of our future events, both old ones and new ones, that will be held at Daifukuji.

Thank you for your support.

In gassho,
Stephen Shōdō

Commemorating the Buddha's Awakening

Rohatsu Sesshin: Eight Days of Zazen December 1 - 8

Morning Zazen (December 1 - 8) 6:00 a.m. - 7:20 a.m.

Sunset Zazen (December 1 - 7) 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.



The Rohatsu Sesshin is a period of meditation that commemorates the Buddha Shakyamuni's enlightenment, which in Japanese Buddhism, is observed on the 8th of December as Bodhi Day. Rohatsu means "the 8th day of the 12th month."

At Daifukuji, we'll be sitting in the morning and again in the evening. One is welcome to come to any number of sessions.

During this period of meditation which is held annually from December 1- 8, zazen & morning service will be held each morning from 6:00 a.m. to 7:20 a.m. Donations to the Daifukuji Zazenkai will be accepted.

Zazen only will be held each evening from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. from December 1 through December 7. Zafu (cushions) and chairs will be provided.

Please keep the following points in mind: plan on arriving at least 10 minutes early and be seated before the starting time. Should you arrive late, it is best to sit on a pew & join the group during kinhin (walking meditation). Please do not bring food, drinks (except water, if needed), or electronic devices into the meditation hall. Please do not wear shorts or tank tops. Socks, head coverings, and lap blankets are okay.

The sesshin will end after morning service on December 8th and will be followed by a simple Zen breakfast in the social hall. Questions? Please contact Rev. Jikō at (808) 322-3524, rev.jiko@daifukuji.org.



Board Nominations for 2025 & 2026 Term

It's time once again to reach out to our sangha and ask if you are interested in becoming a member of the Board of Directors of the Daifukuji Soto Mission. As we are a significant-sized, tax-exempt organization, there are business decisions that must be made by an

elected board of directors, which can be as large as 15 members. We currently have 11 board members but one has decided to move onto other things and so that leaves us with 10. While it sounds like a lot of work, being on the board certainly is not a heavy lift. The board meets on the first Thursday of every month for about an hour and a half by Zoom, and, occasionally, in person. Except for being at the New Year's Party, the only other duties are to be willing to chair an occasional committee, which adds a few more hours to this commitment. Daifukuji is an important part of our larger Kona sangha and your small commitment would ensure that we are around to serve our friends well into the future. Any dues-paying temple member may nominate a dues-paying member, but their nomination must be received no later than two weeks prior to the general membership meeting on January 26, 2025. If you would like more information about this fulfilling opportunity, please feel free to call Bobby Command at (808) 895-2416.



December Activities (More activities listed at https://www.daifukuji.org/activities.html)

Dharma Keiki Children's Program - We will take a break in December and meet again on Sunday, January 5, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. Contact Rev. Jiko at rev.jiko@daifukuji.org for information. To register, please go to: https://forms.gle/Azubjv2fbmEHUJZk6.

Zazen (Meditation) - Zazen is offered in person and via Zoom every Wednesday and Friday from 6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m. Wednesday zazen is followed by 20 minutes of chanting. Sunset meditation is held on Monday evenings from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Practitioners are asked to arrive 10-15 prior to the starting time. Contact Rev. Jiko at rev.jiko@daifukuji.org to receive the Zoom link for the morning zazen sessions.

Shakyo (Tracing the Sutras) & Shabutsu (tracing pictures of buddhas) - Saturday, December 7 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall. All are welcome. By donation.

Sangha Sisters Women's Spirituality Circle - Meetings are held in person and via Zoom on the second Friday of the month at 4:30 p.m. Call Susie at (808) 936-5817 for information.

T'ai Chi - All classes are one hour and held inside the Hisashi Kimura Cultural Hall. \$5.00 per class. Call instructor Philip Kakuho Hema for schedule and other information: (808) 345-1492.

Soleful Strutters - T'ai Chi warm-up & walking on temple grounds at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesdays. For information, please contact Hannah Israel at (408) 421-8845 or Reverend Jiko at (808) 322-3524.

Samu Fridays - We welcome volunteers for temple cleaning and grounds maintenance on Friday mornings from 8 a.m. - 10 a.m. Coffee hour & fellowship follows. Bring a snack to share.

Yoga with Liz - No classes will be held during the month of November. Classes will resume December 2, 2024 and will be held on Mondays from 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. in the Hisashi Kimura Cultural Hall. No fee, but donations accepted. Bring a mat or towel. Call instructor Liz Aschenbrenner: (808) 345-1270 or liz217a@hotmail.com.

Ofudayaki: The Burning of Sacred Objects

Wednesday, December 18 10:00 am.

An *ofudayaki* ceremony will be held in conjunction with our December Kannon-ko service. You may bring your old omamori and ofuda to the temple prior to December 18th or when you come to the ceremony. Burnable altar objects (no metal or plastic) which are no longer needed may also be burned at this time. All are welcome to attend this ceremony, after which tea will be served & snacks shared.

Questions? Call Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524.



DAIFUKUJI SOTO MISSION
FUJINKAI
&
One Plate Zen



Miso making and Zen Vegetarian Lunch
MISO is umami-rich, versatile fermented seasoning.
In this class, you will prepare MISO to take home and learn all about MISO including the history, nutritional values, and

Japanese fermentation.

January 18, 2025

Daifukuji Social Hall 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Fee: \$40.00

Includes Zen vegan Miso lunch Date: Saturday, January 18th,2025 Time: 11:30 am -2:00 pm Place: Daifukuji Soto Mission Social Hall 79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy in Honalo Fee: \$40.00

(includes a jar of MISO to take home, lecture, preparation of Miso, and Zen vegan Miso lunch)

LIMITED TO THE FIRST 30 REGISTRANTS

To Register: Send an email to info@daifukuji.org
Call (808) 322-3524 (no text messaging)

REGISTRATION IS LIMITED TO THE FIRST 30 INDIVIDUALS WHO SIGN UP.

info@daifukuji.org

(808) 322-3524

Instructor:
Naoko Komagata Moller
https://www.oneplatezen.com/

naoko.moller@gmail.com







Gift Shop Volunteers Needed

The 2025 calendars have started to arrive at the gift shop. Also, the shop could use more volunteer cashiers, both regularly to expand the hours and occasionally to cover absentee cashiers. Please call Clear at (808) 328-0329 if you are interested. The new gift shop hours for Saturdays are from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Library News

by Clear Houn Englebert

We have some really neat new arrivals:

That is Not Your Mind! by Robert Rosenbaum is subtitled Zen Reflections on the Surangama Sutra. The Surangama Sutra is a very important scripture in Zen, and if you're not familiar with it, this is a great way to become so.

Dogen's Shobogenzo Zuimonki is a very important work by Dogen. This edition is translated by Shohaku Okumura. I personally adore this book. It was the first Dogen book I ever read and it's still my favorite. You don't have to understand esoteric language to get it. Here's an example that shows what I mean: "In this country today, with regards to actions and speech, most people are concerned with personal fame and reputation. They think [in terms of] good and bad, right and wrong, and believe that if they do one thing, others will think well of them, or if they do something else, others will think poorly of them. They even worry about the future. This is entirely wrong."

It's Okay Not to Look for the Meaning of Life by Jikisai Minami is another Soto book that is written in plain language. The subtitle is A Zen Monk's Guide to Living Stress-Free One Day at a Time.

Zen Vows for Daily Life is a wonderful book by Robert Aitken. It's a collection of gathas, vows in verse form, which are helpful as gentle reminders to be fully present in each moment and each activity of our lives.

Home of the Brave by Allen Say is a stunning children's book about the internment of Japanese Americans during WWII. It's a very moving book and the sequences are dreamlike.

The last four books are by Thich Nhat Hanh:

Cracking the Walnut is subtitled Understanding the Dialectics of Nagarjuna.

The Bodhisattva Path is subtitled Commentary on the Vimalakirtinirdesa and Ugrapariprecha Sutras.

The Admonitions and Encouraging Words of Master Guishan is a Chinese text from the 700's and this edition includes Thich Nhat Hanh's commentary.

My Master's Robe by Thich Nhat Hanh is subtitled Memories of a Novice Monk. What a wonderful book!

Fujinkai Holiday Craft Making

Saturday, December 7 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Social Hall



Andrea Harai Shea will lead us in simple origami which we can use on cards or as ornaments. Teri Hollowell will help with wreaths made of candy canes. Susie Weaver will have Yule logs and Buddha succulent bowls. Bring scissors, glue guns, native plants such as A'ali'i, Moa, and succulent cuttings. At the end of our session you may bring your creations home. Any extra will be available for sale on a donation basis at the Bodhi Day service lunch on December 15. If you're interested in attending this activity or have questions, please call Andrea at (916) 205-3534, Teri at (808) 756-1697, Susie at (808) 936-5817, or Rev. Jikō at (808) 322-3524. For information about joining the Fujinkai, a group which is open to all, please visit https://www.daifukuji.org/activities/Fujinkai_Brochure_2022.pdf or stop by the temple for a brochure and Fujinkai membership form. Dues are \$10 annually.







Sangha Mahalos

Thank you to the Sangha Sisters women's spirituality group for preparing a delicious lunch for our sangha on the day of our Daruma-ki service. We also thank Brenda Harai for sewing a colorful Hawaiian-print bib and hat for our Ojizosama. A big mahalo goes to Wayne Fukunaga and Warren Ikeda for spending days under the hot sun replacing the boards of the temple's long wheelchair ramp.

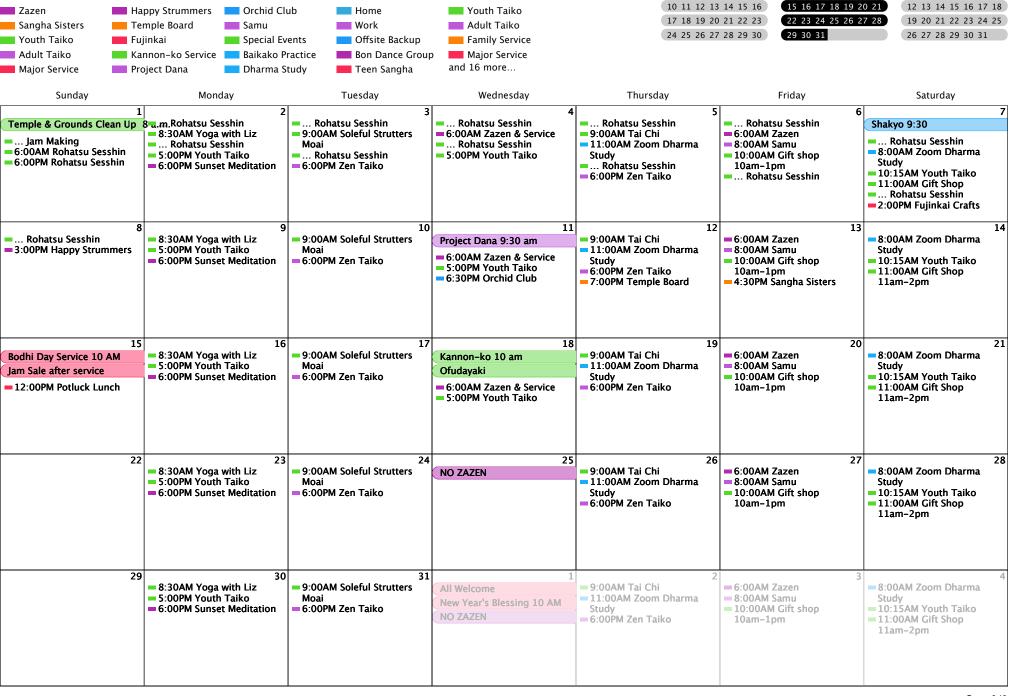
Coming Up in January...

 Fire Safety Tips

COOKING/STOVES

Never leave a stove that's turned on unattended. Turn pot handles in. Avoid cooking when your faculties are impaired (i.e. you're drowsy). Set a timer when cooking or using the oven.

December 2024



November 2024

S M T W T F S

3 4 5 6 7 8 9

December 2024

SMTWTFS

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

8 9 10 11 12 13 14

January 2025

S M T W T F S

5 6 7 8 9 10 11

1 2 3 4

2025 Memorial Services To arrange a memorial service, please call Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524 or send an email to rev.jiko@daifukuji.org.		(cont. 2013) Beverley Arai Kimie Masuda Lester Nakano Myles Ota	July 29 Aug. 9 Aug. 13 Aug. 23
One Year Memorial Service (2024)		Chirio Miyose	Oct. 16
Sakae Oshima	Jan. 7	Shizuko Teshima	Oct. 22
Stanley Harai	Jan. 7	Rochelle Ashikawa	Dec. 19
Fujiko Akamatsu	Jan. 8		
Janice Bovard	July 3	17th Year Memorial Service	e (2009)
Dr. Masao Nakamoto	July 5	Charles Sasaki	Jan. 15
Doris Yanagi	Oct. 20	Kiyoshi Deguchi	Feb. 4
Gilbert Akiyoshi Kaneko	Oct. 25	Yoshie Kawasaki	April 21
dibert Akiyoshi Kaneko	Odi. 23	Sally Deguchi	May 21
3rd Year Memorial Service (2023)		Kazuko Sato	June 19
	•	Kay-Ann Asada	Oct. 2
Gladys Arase	Jan. 26	Tomomi Matsumoto	Oct. 4
Donald Erway	March 1	Tomoko loh	Oct. 18
Kikuko Ushijima	Feb. 7	Sadaki Kusunoki	Dec. 19
Janice Uchida	March 1	Jadaki Kusurioki	Dec. 19
Chase Matsumoto	May 20	23rd Year Memorial Service	~ (2002)
Fusao Sugai	May 22		Jan. 31
Chiyoko Nakamoto	May 28	Cynthia Bennett Mabel Jenkins	
Kimiko Ikeda	June 5		Feb. 22
Judie Fekete	July 13	Hiroko Corpuz	Feb. 24
Yasuo Nakamoto	Aug. 8	Hagino Harai	Feb. 27
Aaron Wolfe	Oct. 9	Takashi Harai	March 16
Michael Asada	Nov. 5	Mildred Oshima	March 27
Yoshiko Faye Osako	Nov. 12	Hideo Matsuo	April 14
		Jesse Hanato	Aug. 9
		Stanley Yamauchi	Sept. 23
7th Year Memorial Service	(2019)	Hisashi Kimura	Oct. 17
Yoshiko Ikeda	Jan. 29	Paul Takashi Oda	Nov. 12
Takeshi Kudo	April 6	Masako Fujitani	Dec. 11
Mitsue Oshima	May 9	Hisashi Araki	Dec. 26
Kazuyo Sasaki	Sept. 7		
Clark Sasaki	Sept. 15	27th Year Memorial Service	<u>e (1999)</u>
Nancy Tanaka	Nov. 4	Tsuichi Masuda	Jan. 24
James Okimoto	Oct. 26	Kimie Ota	March 1
Ray Yamane	Dec. 5	Hisa Matsuo	April 9
Masaru Deguchi	Dec. 13	George Sasaki	June 14
Jeanette Inaba Tinnel	Dec. 25	Kazuo Seo	June 15
13th Year Memorial Service (2013)		33rd Year Memorial Service (1993)	
Betty Abe	Jan. 14	Nobuyo Kawakami	Feb. 1
Herbert Okano	March 13	Paul Murata	April 19
Jane Okano	March 13	Tetsuo Maruyama	May 18
Mitsugi Inaba	March 27	Harumi Nakano	Aug. 20
Colbert Nozaki	April 26	Mitsue Nakamura	Oct. 24
Fusano Harai	June 28	Hideko Seo	Nov. 11



Okagesama De

Okagesama de is a humble Japanese expression that means "thanks to you and your support." Okagesama de, Daifukuji Soto Mission is here, thanks to the support given by the ministers and members of the past, whose dedication, sacrifice, perseverance, and moral integrity are embedded in the very walls of our temple. Okagesama de, Daifukuji is here today, thanks to your support for which I bow deeply in gratitude.

In Gasshō, Rev. Jikō Nakade 12th Resident Minister

Daifukuji Soto Mission P.O. Box 55 Kealakekua, HI 96750 (808) 322-3524 daifukuji.org/endowment Tax exempt #99-6006625



We awaken to the truth that innumerable beings, visible as well as invisible, have contributed to the existence of our temple over the course of its more than 100 year history. Sustained by the entire universe—the earth, sea, sky, people, animals, plants, Buddhas, and Bodhisattvas—Daifukuji Soto Mission is here today.

Our hearts overflow with gratitude.

Contributing to the Daifukuji Soto Mission Legacy Endowment Fund will help ensure that our beautiful temple continues to serve our community for generations to come. Please make checks payable to: DAIFUKUJI SOTO MISSION LEGACY ENDOWMENT FUND.

Daifukuji Soto Mission Legacy Endowment

Fund



Honor the Past Continue the Legacy Shape the Future

Honor the Past



Since 1914, Daifukuji Soto Mission has stood along Mamalahoa Highway at the gateway to mauka Kona on the island of Hawaii. Our temple holds tremendous significance as one of the oldest existing structures in the area and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Throughout its 100 plus year history, our temple has provided a safe, nurturing sanctuary for both religious and cultural events.

Today, our temple is home to many groups: Project Dana Kupuna Program, Fujinkai, Daifukuji Youth & Adult Taiko, Dharma Keiki, Dharma Study Group, Kona Daifukuji Orchid Club, Bon Dance Classes, Baikako Buddhist Choir, Zazenkai Meditation Group, Tai Chi, Yoga, Shakyo and Soleful Strutters Moai. The temple is also home to our annual Obon Festival, Bazaar, and Orchid Show. We have a library, gift shop, orchard, columbarium, and cemetery.

To ensure the realization of our mission and to remain a light in our community, we must take action now to protect the legacy left to us by our predecessors, and strengthen our temple's financial stability.

Continue the Legacy



An endowment fund is a permanent, selfsustaining source of funding. The endowment assets are invested and only the earnings on those investments may be used for specific purposes. The original donations are not used. In this way, an endowment fund can grow and provide support for its designated purpose in perpetuity.

The Daifukuji Soto Mission Legacy Endowment Fund Charter specifies that the sole purpose of the endowment's earnings are for the "preservation, maintenance and capital improvement of the temple and its surrounding buildings and grounds." Donations help us address these needs without depleting our reserve assets or putting undue strain on our general operating fund. Eventually, the endowment will allow us to expand our programs and services.

Our endowment fund is managed in strict accordance with the temple's Investment Policy Statement. The Legacy Endowment Fund Board of Trustees provide another level of oversight in adherence to the endowment's Investment Policy and Spending Policy.

Shape the Future



Donating to the Legacy Endowment Fund can be a benefit to the donor as well as to Daifukuji Soto Mission. Leaving a legacy gift helps ensure our beautiful temple is maintained to support the many programs and activities that benefit both members and the community well into the future.

The donor may benefit from tax advantages in addition to the satisfaction of helping sustain the rich legacy of the temple. Donations of any size are greatly appreciated and may include:

- Cash
- Stocks, Bonds, Mutual Funds
- Required Minimum Distributions from IRAs
- Other gifts on a case-by-case basis: Real Estate, Life Insurance, Annuities

Consult your tax professional, estate attorney, or financial advisor for guidance on any tax benefits of charitable giving before making a donation.

If you are interested in making a donation, please call the temple office at (808) 322-3524 or visit our website at: www.daifukuji.org/endowment