



79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kealahou, HI 96750

May, 2024

(808) 322-3524 www.daifukuji.org

See “archives” on our website for previous newsletters.



Memorial Day Service & A Blessing of the Graduates

Sunday, May 26, 2024

10:00 a.m. All are welcome

Guest speaker: **Dr. Holeka Goro Inaba**

Prayers for world peace and a remembrance of our fallen soldiers and victims of war will be the focus of Daifukuji’s Memorial Day service. The keynote address will be given by Dr. Holeka Goro Inaba, Council Member for the Hawai‘i County Council, District 8 (North Kona). At the end of the service there will be a blessing of the following high school graduates of the Class of 2024:

Apollo Bennett, Matthew Buskirk, Jet DeArco, Hunter Felte, and Keoni Roth

In addition, we send our congratulations to Brandon Sayphone, who’s unable to attend the ceremony.

Following the blessing, a luncheon in honor of the graduates to which all are invited will be held in the social hall. If you wish, you may bring leis and cards for the graduates — a Hawaii tradition. Let us surround them with sangha aloha.

If you know of any other graduate whose parents or grandparents belong to our sangha, please inform Rev. Jiko very soon so that an invitation may be sent. (808-322-3524, rev.jiko@daifukuji.org.)

TOBA FORM ON PAGE 11. PLEASE TURN IN YOUR FORM BY MAY 31.



A Message from Reverend Jikō

Aloha Daifukuji members and friends,

The days are getting longer and warmer, and I love waking up each morning and checking my dahlias, zinnias, and orchids to see how well they are growing. Little by little, the plants are getting taller and putting out new leaves and buds. This tells me that Mother's Day, Memorial Day and Obon with their respective ceremonies and gatherings will be coming up in quick succession. You may read about these events in the pages of this newsletter.

In closing, I wish to say thank you to all who made this year's Buddha Day a very joyous event. A lot of work went into the cooking, decorating, and service program. My sincere mahalo to everyone. The photos on page 9 capture the warmth, joy, and happiness felt by many who came to celebrate Hanamatsuri at Daifukuji.

In gasshō,

Jikō Nakade



2024 Precepts Study

A 3-month series of weekly online Zoom classes from June 1 - August 24
Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. HST via ZOOM

Registration is now open for a 3-month series of weekly Dharma classes which will be offered via Zoom by Reverend Jikō. Sign ups will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis.

Starting June 1, Rev. Jikō will be offering a new series of precepts study sessions using ZOOM. This three-month course is comprised of weekly one-hour sessions. This is an opportunity to explore the sixteen Bodhisattva precepts, which form the moral and ethical foundation of the Soto Zen tradition. Those who have studied the precepts in the past are welcome to deepen their understanding by joining these sessions. These sessions are open to all who are interested in studying the precepts and do not require participation in the precepts ceremony which will be offered at its conclusion.

This is a three-month period of study and reflection. The sharing of one's life is done in an atmosphere that is gentle, non-judgmental, and compassionate. Many have found their lives illuminated and enriched by this inner journey taken in the context of a supportive sangha.

No text book will be used. Rev. Jiko will provide reading materials.

This period of study will culminate in a Soto Zen Buddhist Confirmation Ceremony which will be held at Daifukuji on September 14, 2024. Participation in this ceremony is optional. Please let Rev. Jikō know if you are interested in receiving the precepts.

Rev. Jikō offers the Dharma freely. There is no class fee. One may support such programs by making a donation to Daifukuji Soto Mission. <https://www.daifukuji.org/donation/index.html>.

For more information or to register, please contact Rev. Jikō at (808) 322-3524, rev.jiko@daifukuji.org.

Mother's Day Ceremony, Tea Party, and Lei Making



Sunday, May 12 at 9:30 a.m.

Bring photos, a tea cup or mug, and (if available) flowers & supplies for lei making.

Open to everyone.

On Mother's Day we will gather in homage to the women in our lives — our mothers, grandmothers, women teachers, and women predecessors across time and from around the globe.

At 9:30 a.m. a simple ceremony will be held inside the temple. If you wish, you may bring photos of your mother, grandmother and other significant women in your life. All photos will be displayed on tables set up in front of the Kannon altar. If possible, please bring a stand for your photo.

Around 10 a.m. we will proceed to the social hall for refreshments. Please bring a tea cup, mug, or cup & saucer.

There will be tables set up for lei making. This activity will be led by Barb Shoshin Bosz. If you have flowers from your garden which you would be able to share with others, please bring them. If you have a lei needle and thread, you can bring them, too. You may make a lei for yourself or to give to someone. Desserts for the refreshment table are also welcome.

This Mother's Day event is open to all. May this be a day of flowers, fellowship, and all things beautiful.

Questions? Please contact Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524, rev.jiko@daifukuji.org.

Bon Dance Season is Around the Corner



To the Bon Dance fans out there, here's a preview of what's coming up in June and July.

Bon dance practice sessions led by sensei Winnie Kimura will be held from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in the temple's social hall every Tuesday evening in June and on the following dates in July: July 2, 4, 9, and 11.

Daifukuji Soto Mission's Bon Dance will be held on Saturday, July 13 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Obon Festival 2024 will be a community event held at the Makaeo Pavilion at the Old Airport on Saturday, June 15. More information to follow.

May Activities

“**Dharma Keiki**” **Classes for Children** - Sundays, May 5 and May 19 from 9:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. Both classes are held in person at the temple with lessons being offered both in person and by Zoom on the first Sunday of the month. Registration is required. Please consider enrolling your children and grandchildren in this enriching Buddhist program. See flyer on page 5.



Larry Yoshiyama's gorgeous
“Obake” Anthuriums

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.

Art meditation: Shakyo (Tracing the Sutras) & Shabutsu (tracing pictures of buddhas) - Saturday, May 4 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall. All are welcome. By donation. Once a month.

Daifukuji Gay Sangha - 1st Friday of the month at 5:30 p.m. Meditation and discussion. For information, call Clear Houn at (808) 328-0329.

Sangha Sisters Women's Spirituality Circle - Meetings are held in person and via Zoom on the second Friday of the month at 5:30 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 — Every Monday from 8:30 - 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.



DHARMA KEIKI

BUDDHIST TEACHINGS FOR KIDS & THE YOUNG AT HEART

Supported by the Hawaii Soto Mission Association and administered by the
Hawaii Soto Mission Head Office

First Sunday of the Month Starting May 5, 2024

9:30 a.m. HST - 10:15 a.m. HST

**Via ZOOM at Your Local Hawai'i Soto Zen Buddhist Temple
or From Your Home**

- Registration is required and must be done online.
- A waiver and release of liability form must be signed.
- Adult participation is required. Zoom sessions will not be recorded by the host. Participants must agree to not record nor screenshot any part of the program or its participants.
- Children learn Buddhist teachings through music, meditation, songs, stories and mindful movement.
- Material is presented by experienced teachers.
- In support of this program, a donation may be given to one's local Hawai'i Soto Zen Temple.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT REVEREND JIKO. Call (808) 322-3524 or send an email to: rev.jiko@daifukuji.org.

TO REGISTER, PLEASE GO TO: <https://forms.gle/Azubjv2fbmEHUJZk6>



New Members

Our sangha warmly welcomes new members Marylyn Yangson and Liana Yangson-Wilcox.

New members are always welcome. Please see our website for information https://www.daifukuji.org/membership_brochure.pdf or contact Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524, rev.jiko@daifukuji.org.

Gift Shop News

The purple Daifukuji t-shirts are back in stock in all sizes. Also in stock are some very beautiful new scrolls and statues of Jizo and Kannon. The shop has an amazing selection of fabric including breathtaking new obi.

The gift shop has expanded its Saturday hours which are now 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The shop is open on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.



Fire Safety Presentation

Saturday, May 11

11 a.m. to Noon



Do you know what to do in the event a fire breaks out at Daifukuji, or, for that matter, in your home? Where are the fire extinguishers located? How does one use a fire blanket?

Fire inspector John Requelman will be giving a 1-hour presentation on fire safety in the social hall. All who come to the temple for services, programs, and activities are encouraged to attend this important presentation. Refreshments will be served and there will be an opportunity for questions and answers.



On April 10th, Project Dana seniors celebrated the beauty of spring by wearing their floral hats. We extend a big and warm mahalo to Dr. Payanal and her team --Kathryn, Dennis, Melanie, and Liz -- from Hospice of Kona for their wonderful presentation on hospice services. At Project Dana, there's always the sharing of warm hearts and happy smiles. Temple seniors age 60 & above are invited to join Project Dana which is held on the second Wednesday of the month.

Hatsubon (First Obon)

Throughout the summer season of Obon, Buddhists remember their departed loved ones and family ancestors and offer prayers and *toba* memorial tablets in their memory. As a Sangha, we gather to offer our love and support to those who are observing their departed family member's first Obon, known as *Hatsubon*.



To date, the following are the names of the departed for whom this will be a first Obon:

Chase Matsumoto, Fusao Sugai, Chiyoko Nakamoto, Kimiko Ikeda, Judie Fekete, Yasuo Nakamoto, Aaron Wolfe, Michael Asada, Yoshiko Faye Osako, Joyce Hirano, Sakae Oshima, Stanley Harai, and Fujiko Akamatsu.

All are invited to attend Daifukuji's Obon service on Sunday, June 30 at 10:00 a.m. The Dharma message will be given by Rev. Jigaku Takenouchi of Taishoji Soto Mission. Everyone is invited to stay for the fellowship luncheon following the service. Please join us.

The Significance of the Ō-Tōba 大塔婆

At the time of O-Bon, Buddhists offer long wooden memorial tablets called *ō-tōba* for the benefit of the deceased. The Japanese word "*tōba*" comes from the Sanskrit word "*stupa*." In India, the relics of Shakyamuni Buddha were kept in burial mounds called stupas. Over time, the stupa developed into a variety of forms as Buddhism travelled across Asia. Among these forms was the five-storied pagoda.



Ō-Tōba are the large wooden memorial tablets on which the names of the deceased are written.

The top section of the *ō-tōba* ("O" meaning "large") is cut into a pagoda of five levels with each level depicted by a particular shape. Starting at the bottom, there is a square representing earth, then a circle representing water, followed by a triangle representing fire, a semicircle representing wind, and a jewel of fulfillment at the top representing space. Everything in the universe, including our human bodies, are made up of these five elements, which are constantly changing.

At the O-bon service, the *tōba* memorial dedications are chanted by the minister and the merit dedicated to the deceased. One may dedicate *ō-tōba* and *kō-tōba* by using the *tōba* request form on page 11. Please contact Rev. Jiko if you have questions.



The Fujinkai's Community Service Project

by Susie Seien Weaver

This year, for the Fujinkai community service project and social activity, we decided to gather toiletries for our homeless community. Treasurer Andrea Shea and Vice President Susie Weaver headed up the project. We put the word out to the Sangha with the intention of getting up to 100 kits together. As it turns out, we had enough donations for 150. A toothbrush and toothpaste, bars of soap, comb, dental floss, bandaids, and a microfiber towel all fit in a lovely print bag. Extra miscellaneous toiletries were spread throughout the bags as well. The bags were sewn by Andrea, Brenda, MaryAnne, Yukie and Edna. On Saturday, March 21, Fujinkai members met to assemble the bags. Three teams gathered. One group strung ribbons through each bag. Another team made individual cards, adorned with positive messages and pretty decorations, with the Daifukuji stamp on the bottom. A third group assembled all the bags with the toiletry items. Afterwards the 28 members and friends of the Fujinkai celebrated with snacks and punch. Thank you, everyone, for your generous donations. Keali'i from Hope Services came by the temple and met with Reverend Jiko, President Joyce St. Arnault and Vice President Susie Weaver to receive the bags, as well as a few cases of donated water. He and his team will distribute them as part of their outreach services. He emphasized that toiletries was one of the most needed items for the homeless community.



Sangha Photo Gallery: Hanamatsuri Buddha Day

April 14, 2024



May 2024

April 2024							May 2024							June 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	4							1
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
													30							

- Zazen
- Sangha Sisters
- Youth Taiko
- Adult Taiko
- Major Service
- Happy Strummers
- Temple Board
- Fujinkai
- Kannon-ko Service
- Project Dana
- Orchid Club
- Samu
- Special Events
- Baikako Practice
- Dharma Study
- Home
- Work
- Offsite Backup
- Bon Dance Group
- Teen Sangha
- Youth Taiko
- Adult Taiko
- Family Service
- Major Service and 15 more...

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 UHSSWA Conference	29 8:30 AM Yoga with Liz 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 6:00 PM Sunset Meditation	30 9:00 AM Soleful Strutters Moai 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	1 6:00 AM Zazen & Service 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	2 9:00 AM Tai Chi 9:00 AM Library Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Zen Taiko 7:00 PM Temple Board	3 6:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Samu 10:00 AM Gift shop 10am-1pm 5:30 PM Gay Sangha	4 Shakyo 9:30 am 8:00 AM Zoom Dharma Study 10:15 AM Youth Taiko 11:00 AM Gift Shop 11am-5pm 11:00 AM Fujinkai Board
5 Dharma Keiki 9:30 am Baikako Practice 7:45 am 2:00 PM Happy Strummers	6 8:30 AM Yoga with Liz 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 6:00 PM Sunset Meditation	7 9:00 AM Soleful Strutters Moai 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	8 Project Dana 9:30 AM 6:00 AM Zazen & Service 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 6:30 PM Orchid Club	9 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	10 6:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Samu 10:00 AM Gift shop 10am-1pm 5:30 PM Sangha Sisters	11 Fire Safety Talk 11 AM 8:00 AM Zoom Dharma Study 10:15 AM Youth Taiko 11:00 AM Gift Shop 11am-5pm
12 Mother's Day Service 9:30 AM Lei Making after service	13 8:30 AM Yoga with Liz 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 6:00 PM Sunset Meditation	14 9:00 AM Soleful Strutters Moai 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	15 Kannon-ko 10 am 6:00 AM Zazen & Service 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	16 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	17 6:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Samu 10:00 AM Gift shop 10am-1pm	18 10:15 AM Youth Taiko 11:00 AM Gift Shop 11am-5pm
19 Dharma Keiki 9:30 am	20 8:30 AM Yoga with Liz 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 6:00 PM Sunset Meditation	21 9:00 AM Soleful Strutters Moai 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	22 6:00 AM Zazen & Service 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	23 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	24 6:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Samu 10:00 AM Gift shop 10am-1pm	25 10:15 AM Youth Taiko 11:00 AM Gift Shop 11am-5pm
26 Memorial Day Service 10 AM Blessing of Graduates 12:00 PM Lunch to follow	27 8:30 AM Yoga with Liz 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 6:00 PM Sunset Meditation	28 9:00 AM Soleful Strutters Moai 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	29 6:00 AM Zazen & Service 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	30 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	31 6:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Samu 10:00 AM Gift shop 10am-1pm	1 10:15 AM Youth Taiko 11:00 AM Gift Shop 11am-5pm

Daifukuji Soto Mission O-Toba and Ko-Toba Request Form
Please turn in by May 31, 2024

At Obon, Buddhists express their gratitude to their ancestors by making memorial dedications in the form of TOBA. The names of the deceased will be read by the minister during the Obon Service to which you are invited on **June 30, 2024**. Please send or bring your request form to Daifukuji no later than **May 31** and make checks payable to **Daifukuji Soto Mission**. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524, rev.jiko@daifukuji.org.

YOUR NAME _____
PHONE NUMBER _____ **E-MAIL ADDRESS** _____

O-TOBA (written on wooden boards)..... Donation \$10.00 per request

O-TOBA are offered in remembrance of:

1. Family ancestors as a group (Example: The Nakade Family Ancestors)
2. A deceased individual for whom this is a first Obon (hatsubon) (Example: The late _____)

PLEASE PRINT NAMES CLEARLY.

I dedicate the merit of these prayers to.....

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

KO-TOBA (written on paper)..... Donation \$5.00 per request

KO-TOBA are similar to O-toba, but are written on paper instead of wood and are a second option. Please print names clearly. *I dedicate the merit of these prayers to.....*

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 4. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 6. _____ |

Mail to: Daifukuji Soto Mission
P.O. Box 55
Kealakekua, HI 96750

Your Name	_____
Donation for Toba	\$ _____
O-bon service donation (optional)	\$ _____
Total Enclosed	\$ _____