# **Daifukuji Soto Mission**

#### **Together With All Beings**







79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kealakekua, HI 96750

March, 2025

(808) 322-3524 www.daifukuji.org

See "archives" on our website for previous newsletters.

# Spring Higan and 33 Kannon Pilgrimage Service

Dharma Message by Bishop Shuji Komagata, Hawaii Soto Mission Sunday, March 16 10:00 a.m.



ALL ARE INVITED. BRING 36 COINS. VEGETARIAN POTLUCK LUNCH.

Please join us on a ritualized pilgrimage to the 33 Kannon temples of western Japan. This service has been held annually at Daifukuji since 1948. Thirty-three statuettes of Kannon-sama, the Bodhisattva of Compassion, will be displayed in the Kannon Hall. While the sutras are chanted, the pilgrims circulate the hall, stepping onto small packets of earth brought to Kona many years ago from each of the temples. It is a practice to offer a coin to each Kannon-sama. You will need a total of 36 coins. A spring Higan service will also be held. The Dharma message will be given by Bishop Shuji Komagata of the Hawaii Soto Mission.

Lunch will be a vegetarian potluck. Please help our temple be eco-friendly by bringing your own set of re-usable tableware. The gift shop will be open.

From March 15 - 20 you may come to the temple to do the pilgrimage on your own. Feel free to bring family members and friends. To ensure that the temple is open, it is best to call ahead (808-322-3524). Please note that there will be no Kannon-ko service on March 19.

#### Help is needed — A call for volunteers

To set up the 33 Kannon: Saturday, March 15 at 10:00 a.m.

To put away the 33 Kannon: Friday, March 21 at 8:00 a.m.

We are in need of flowers for this special service. If you are able to donate flowers, please inform Rev. Jikō.



Students and teachers from Kuleana Education Academy recently came to Daifukuji on a field trip and practiced shakyo and zazen.

# Spring Greetings from Rev. Jikō

Aloha Sangha members and friends,

First, a big mahalo to all who supported the Daifukuji Fujinkai's pancake breakfast fundraiser. There will be more on the fundraiser in next month's newsletter. For now, I wish to thank our Fujinkai members, temple members, and Kona community for the outpouring of support received by the Daifukuji Fujinkai.

Coming up in March are two significant services: the HAIB Buddha Day Celebration on March 9th at the Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, and the Spring Higan and 33 Kannon Pilgrimage services which will take place at Daifukuji on March 16. The latter will feature a Dharma message by Bishop Shuji

Komagata. Bishop Shuji was a little boy when his parents, the late Bishop Shugen Komagata and the late Mrs. Faye Komagata, served as our temple's resident minister and *jizoku* (minister's spouse) from 1976 to1981. In addition to his duties as bishop, he is a taiko instructor, police chaplain, Kumon instructor, and the minister of the Soto Mission of Aiea Taiheiji. Please come

out to welcome him. He's looking forward to meeting many sangha members and getting to know everyone. (Details regarding both services may be found in the pages of this newsletter.)

Changing the topic to field trips, I recently welcomed and spent a delightful time with two groups of students. Although the age range differed considerably between them, both groups were here to learn about Buddhism, as well as the history of Daifukuji Soto Mission and the significance our temple holds in the Kona community. This brings me to this year's Temple Tour which Clear Hōun and I will be offering on March 30 at 10 a.m. If you have not attended one of our temple tours before, I guarantee that you will learn a bunch of things about Daifukuji that you could add to your knowledge pool.



Students from Musashi University in Tokyo, together with their professor, spent several hours at Daifukuji learning about the temple's history, asking questions, and practicing zazen.

May spring's arrival fill your heart with quiet joy and may the Dharma continue to light your way.

Namu kie butsu. We take refuge in the Buddha. Namu kie hō. We take refuge in the Dharma. Namu kie sō. We take refuge in the Sangha.

In loving gasshō, Jikō Nakade



Last Year's HAIB Buddha Day Service

# 13th Annual Buddha Day Celebration to be Held on March 9 Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple 9:30 a.m. In-person and Zoom

Buddhists of all traditions and the general public are warmly invited to join a celebration that honors the birth of Shakyamuni Buddha. Daifukuji Dharma Keiki families and sangha friends will be singing "The Three Refuges" song. Temple president Barb Shoshin will be giving a welcome message. Organ music will be provided by Lorraine Jitoku Tanimoto.

The ceremony will begin at 9:30 a.m.HST in person at the **Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple** (81-6630 Mamalahoa Highway, Kealakekua) and online via Zoom. There is ample parking on temple grounds and also in back of Bank of Hawaii in Kealakekua.

Rev. Paul Ananda Normann, Executive Director of the Neighborhood Place of Puna, who is passionate about preventing and ending family and child homelessness on Hawai'i Island, will be the featured speaker. A baby diaper drive for the Neighborhood Place will be held. (You may drop off bags of disposable baby diapers at Daifukuji if you won't be attending the service but wish to help.)

Admission is free. Should you wish to offer a donation to HAIB and/or the Neighborhood Place of Puna, you may do so at the door. Refreshments will be served after the service. Questions? Call Rev. Jikō at 808-322-3524. She and Rev. Blayne Higa serve as co-directors of Hawai'i Island HAIB.

Should you wish to receive the Zoom link for this event, please register here: <a href="https://forms.gle/x4azP69qwPCSwYEw5">https://forms.gle/x4azP69qwPCSwYEw5</a>

Do you have anthuriums, orchids, protea, and other kinds of flowers that you would like to donate for the purpose of decorating the flower shrine (hanamido)? Please drop off your flowers on **Saturday**, **March 8** between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. outside the Kona Hongwanji Temple's conference room or call Rev. Jikō at (808) 322-3524 to arrange pick up.

We hope you will join us in honoring the birth of Shakyamuni Buddha.

# Meet Members of the Daifukuji Board



#### Barbara Shoshin Bosz, President

Aloha! I am Barbara Shōshin Bosz (like buttons and **bows**), the new President of the Daifukuji Board of Directors. It's such an honor! I have had so much encouragement that I am excited rather than scared and am committed to doing my best.

I was born and raised in Racine, Wisconsin and moved to Hawai"i in 1984. When I came to Daifukuji in 1992 to study taiko under Rev. Tamiya, it was my first time inside a Buddhist temple. I was awed by the beauty and began learning about

Buddhism, Japanese culture and our wonderful sangha. I kept coming.

In 2012, I received my Buddhist name "Shōshin" in a Soto Zen Buddhist confirmation ceremony. I've been a member of the Zazenkai, Fujinkai, Gift Shop, board director and Vice-President under Stephen Shōdō Tanaka. During the Covid shutdown, I instigated the online auction so we could safely continue the temple's annual fundraising. I enjoy co-chairing this fundraiser.

Being a part of the Buddhist sangha has enriched my life more than I can say. I am grateful and humbled by the trust placed in me and will put my best foot forward to represent Daifukuji Soto Mission.



#### Joyce Yūkō St. Arnault, Treasurer

Aloha everyone! My name is Joyce Yūkō St. Arnault. I have been a member of Daifukuji for over 75 years, having attended the Sunday School and Japanese School as a youngster. I am currently the treasurer and also a member of the following temple groups: the Fujinkai, Baikako Plum Blossom Choir, Project Dana and the Happy Strummers ukulele group. It is a great pleasure to be serving on the board of directors with dedicated, talented, and wonderful members. As a board member, I would strive to support and protect our sangha and temple with compassion and care and to honor and perpetuate the

legacy of *okagesama de*. Spending time with my family and friends and going bowling bring me much happiness. I wish all of my sangha friends good health, peace, and love.



#### Teri Jigen Hollowell, Corresponding Secretary

Hello! My name is Teri Jigen Hollowell and I am the Corresponding Secretary for the Daifukuji Soto Mission Board. I studied with Reverend Jikō and received the precepts in 2016. I became a Board member in 2021. I am a member of the Zazenkai, the Fujinkai, the Baikako Plum Blossom Choir, the Dharma Study Group, Samu, and the Soleful Strutters. I also take care of correspondence and bank deposits for the Temple's Endowment Fund, and am the substitute organist when requested. I find great joy contributing my talents and time to Daifukuji.



#### Betsy Kairen Morrigan, Recording Secretary

Aloha! As one of the Board members of Daifukuji Soto Mission, I would like to introduce myself to you. I am Betsy Kairen Morrigan, now in my second year as the Recording Secretary on the Board. I attend every monthly board meeting, where I record and then send out the minutes of the board discussion. As a professor of English, I have had many years of experience in language

transcription. I aim in my minutes of our board meetings to portray not just the person's words but the feeling behind them. Daifukuji Zen Buddhist Temple is a big part of my life and means so much to me. In addition to being on the board, I am also involved as an MC at our services, in the Fujinkai, Dharma studies, Sangha Sisters, yoga, and other work that needs to be done. It's all a joy to me! I commend the temple for increasing its work on the Dharma Keiki program which brings the meaning of Buddhism to children in a delightful format, both in person and by Zoom. I am very happy that we have such excellent new high school MC's now in Momo and Yukino. I would like to see membership in temple groups and services by young people in high school and college. If members have any suggestions for our temple, I would love to talk about them with you. I would also like to see us do outreach to those seeking more reasonable housing in this area. It is my dream that we look into building tiny houses/small living units for the elderly on our property up above.



#### Andrea Shōen Shea, Director

I appreciate this opportunity to serve on the Daifukuji Board. My family has been a part of Daifukuji Temple for as long as I remember. My grandmother, Hagino Harai, was especially active with the temple. Even at a young age, I could tell that Daifukuji was an important and meaningful part of her life. After being away from Kona for over 40 years, it has been nice to return and be warmly welcomed

by temple members. I enjoy being a member of many temple groups including Samu, Zazenkai, Dharma Study, Soleful Strutters, Project Dana, and Fujinkai. I am impressed by everyone's dedication and compassion. Now I realize why Daifukuji was such a precious part of my grandmother's life!

I now live in Honalo with my husband, Phil, and our cat, Maki. Having retired from a career in educational technology, I look forward to applying my experience for the benefit of the temple. *Dōzo yoroshiku onegai shimasu*—thank you in advance for your kindness and support. In gasshō.

(To be continued in future newsletters)



# March Activities (More activities listed at <a href="https://www.daifukuji.org/activities.html">https://www.daifukuji.org/activities.html</a>)

**Dharma Keiki** - Two Sundays, March 2 and March 23 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. There is a ZOOM option for the first Sunday. A Dharma program for children of preschool age to approximately grade 3 and their parents. Siblings welcome. By donation. Bring a healthy snack to share. 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 <a href="rev.jiko@daifukuji.org">rev.jiko@daifukuji.org</a> to receive the Zoom link for the morning zazen sessions.

Shakyo (Tracing the Sutras) & Shabutsu (tracing pictures of buddhas) - Saturday, March 1 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 on the second Friday of the month at 5:00 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 or text 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** - One-hour classes are 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 <a href="mailto:liz217a@hotmail.com">liz217a@hotmail.com</a>.



# Free Temple Tour Sunday, March 30 at 10 a.m.

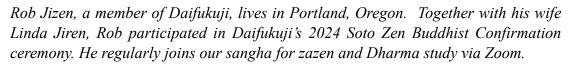
Bring family and friends!

There will be a free tour of Daifukuji Temple that's open to the public on Sunday, March 30. It will begin at 10:00 a.m. and last approximately an hour. The tour will be guided by Rev. Jikō Nakade and Clear Hōun Englebert. The history and meaning of the objects in and around the temple will be explained, as well as the architectural features of the building.

The symbolism of the objects and their design is often a reminder of a Dharma lesson. Those lessons will be expounded in the tour so that being at the temple can be more meaningful. After the tour the gift shop will be open. All are welcome.

#### **Inviting the Ten Buddhas to Share a Meal**

#### by Rob Jizen Branch-Dasch





I would love to see the Heart Sutra performed as a hula. Chanting, "walking" meditation, and the context of the wonderful teaching brought forward 2,600 years. But what would Buddha, Avalokiteshvara, and Shariputra look and sound like today? It's interesting to ponder, particularly because each of us have 2,600 year old Bodhisattvas inside us today, and our practice is to embody these figures.

During a recent online class with Reverend Jiko we studied Buddhist meal verses, and it was fun to imagine all of us Dharma students sharing a meal. That brought up memories of the school cafeteria, and interactions between students and teachers. The following is my short reflection on that:

A student of Buddhism inviting the ten Buddhas to share a meal made me flash back to high school. You sit in the lunch room, ready to talk nonsense with your friends, but then ten teachers walk up and sit down with you. Ooo, this is bad. But these days the ten teachers are role models and friends, and having these awesome people come have their lunch with you is really cool. It feels like an honor. And the best part is that they've asked, really politely and not sure what you'll say, if they can sit at your table \*every\* day. This is like the Carissa Moore and Michael Jordan and Haunani Kay Trask and Stephen Hawking of Buddhism asking if you want a bite of their musubi. Yeah. So every meal becomes this amazing pot luck with your role models. Shakyamuni Buddha brings his veggie burgers, Manjushri has his manapuas, Maitreya has a bag of taro chips, and no worries, they're gonna be grateful for whatever you bring, even if it's just an appetite to learn. So yeah, ask your teachers to lunch. And breakfast. And dinner.

Click the following link to check out the conference website:

10th U.S. Soto Conference Website Link Look for the early bird registration discount.



# 10th U.S. Soto Conference

Hosted by the Hawaii Soto Mission Association



October 23-26, 2025 Soto Mission of Hawaii 1708 Nuuanu Ave. Honolulu, HI 96817



# VISIT THIS LINK FOR MORE INFORMATION SIGN UP TODAY!

Join the US Soto Conference, connecting Soto Zen Buddhist communities across Hawaii and the mainland US. Engage in diverse classes and activities, network with fellow practitioners, and explore a wide range of topics. There's sure to be something for everyone.

#### Classes and Presentations

The Many Faces of Kannon
New Buddhist Music
Sutra Writing Workshop
The Roots and Varieties of Buddhist
Manga and Anine
A Record of Persistence and Assimilation:
Japanese Buddhist Temples in Hawaii
Soto-Shu Music in Hawaii
Dharma Keiki: A Buddhist Program for
Children
Project Dana: A Program for our Kupuna
(Elders)
More to come...

Activities Zen Cooking Baika

Zazen Click
Calligraphy
Art Project Workshop
Juzu Making Workshop
Shakyo: Tracing the Sutras
Lei Making Workshop
Taiko Workshop
Bon Dance Workshop
More to come...

#### Additional Activities

Marketplace Social Mixer Banquet Dinner Tour Oahu's Four Soto Zen Temples Luau Dinner Show More to come... To register your child for our Dharma Keiki program, please go to: <a href="https://forms.gle/Azubjv2fbmEHUJZk6">https://forms.gle/Azubjv2fbmEHUJZk6</a>









#### DHARMA KEIKI

("Keiki" means "children" in Hawaiian.)

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 via Zoom
Twice a month in person at Daifukuii Buddhist Temple

9:30 a.m. HST - 10:15 a.m. HST Via Z00M

- 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 in a multi-cultural setting — Hawai'i!
- Material is presented by experienced teachers.
- This program is offered free of charge. If you wish, you may make a donation to the Buddhist temple or center of your choice.

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

TO REGISTER, PLEASE GO TO:

https://forms.gle/Azubjv2fbmEHUJZk6



# Fujinkai News

Community Service Project Saturday, March 22 at 2:00 p.m. Social Hall

On March 22 at 2 pm the Fujinkai is meeting to work on our service project for this year. We will be assembling simple baby dolls to donate to Family Support Services. One of our members, Huong, works with families with newborn to 3 year olds. We will be making dolls similar to the Waldorf style for the girls and boys to play with and take care. Even the little boys will be someday become big brothers, cousins, dads or uncles.

The dolls pieces will be prepared. We will be stuffing and putting the dolls together and making clothes, little baby blankets and caps for them. **Please bring sewing machines and fabric. Snacks to share are also welcome.** Family Support Services can also use children's clothing, toys and diapers so please consider bringing these kind of donations on this day, as well.

Any questions? Call Susie Weaver at 808-936-5817.



Back row: Michiko Enomoto, Joyce St. Arnault, Winifred Kimura, Amy Nakade, Stephen Tanaka, Reiko Sekine, Teri

Hollowell. Front row: Rev. Jikō and Rev. Oda

# Baika Workshop Held at Daifukuji

On February 16, seven members of the Daifukuji Baikakō Plum Blossom Choir, along with Rev. Jikō, participated in an all-day workshop conducted by the Rev. Shōmyō Oda from Miyazaki Prefecture, Japan. The Baikakō appreciated this opportunity to further their study of Baika Ryū Eisanka under the guidance of a *sensei* who was able to teach them the subtle nuances of this art form and explain the deeper meanings of the lyrics. Several members of the choir were tested by Rev. Oda. Congratulations to Teri and Reiko for passing the level one test and to Winnie and Amy for passing the level five test.

If you are interested in learning the art of Baika, please contact Rev. Jikō at (808) 322-3524, <a href="mailto:rev.jiko@daifukuji.org">rev.jiko@daifukuji.org</a>. By signing up, you will be informed when Winnie starts her next series of classes for beginners.

# Coming Up in April...

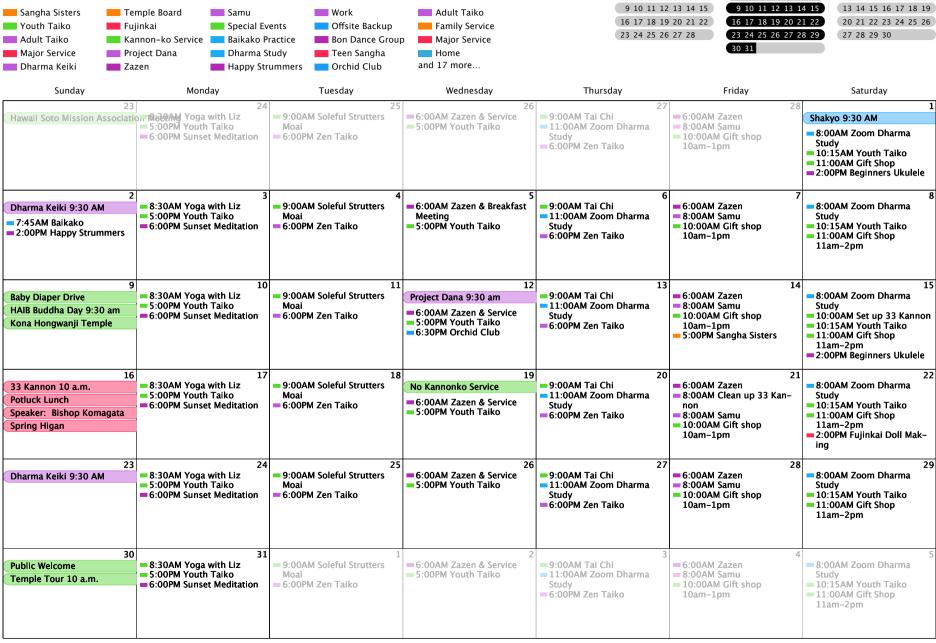
Shakyō Session	April 5
Baika and Dharma Keiki	April 6
Project Dana	April 9
Kannon-ko Service	April 16
Hanamatsuri Buddha Day	April 13
UHSSWA Conference	April 26 & 27

#### Fire Safety Tips

From a presentation given at Daifukuji by fire inspector John Requelman

- \* Keep your phone charger away from your bed. It is a heat source.
- \* Keep the area around your house clutter free. Embers can ignite things such as cardboard.
- \* Keep your car key fob near your bed. In case of an emergency, you can use it to set off an alarm.

# March 2025



February 2025

SMTWTFS

2 3 4 5 6 7 8

March 2025

SMTWTFS

2 3 4 5 6 7 8

April 2025

S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5

6 7 8 9 10 11 12



There will be a free tour of Daifukuji Zen Temple on Sunday, March 30. It will begin at **10:00am** and last approximately one hour.

This is an opportunity to ask questions and learn about the unique things the temple contains. The symbolism of the objects and their design is often a reminder of a spiritual lesson. Those lessons will be explained in the tour so that being at the temple can be more meaningful. After the tour the gift shop will be open.

# Daifukuji Temple Tour Sunday, March 30

Daifukuji is at 79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy in Honalo, next to Teshima's restaurant.

www.daifukuji.org - 808-322-3524

