



79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kealahou, HI 96750

July, 2021

(808) 322-3524 www.daifukuji.org

See archives on our website for previous newsletters.

Volunteers Needed for Obon Cemetery Cleaning

June 19 & July 11, 2021

“Taking Care of Our Ancestors”

Due to continuing COVID precautions and wanting to keep everyone safe, we are not planning on a large one-day clean up. Instead we are breaking some of the cleaning tasks that need to get done into separate work days with smaller crews.

Saturday June 19, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

On this day we will be cutting umbrella trees, hauling away cuttings, and pressure washing. We need just a few people to sign up to help with these tasks. Please contact Shaun Roth, shaunroth@alum.mit.edu.

Sunday July 11, 8 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Cemetery clean up. Weeding, cleaning graves, etc. Since there will be no Bon Dance this year, this is another way to take care of our ancestors.

Lunch will be provided. Please sign up with Rev. Jiko, rev.jiko@daifukuji.org, (808) 322-3524.

If we have extra volunteers we will also work on cleaning up the areas around the crematorium.

If you have them, please bring weeding and moss scraping tools labelled with your name. Garden gloves & mosquito repellent would be good to bring, too.

Volunteers are needed for monthly cemetery maintenance. If you are able to help, please contact Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524 or Stephen Tanaka at (808) 938-4617. Mahalo.



Taking Care of Our Ancestors As We Move Forward

Dear Members and Friends of Daifukuji,

Warm summer greetings to all and best wishes for a peaceful Obon!

At Daifukuji, our sangha is moving ahead on a number of exciting projects, three of them in particular: the clearing of the mauka land to put in a fruit orchard, the cleaning of the cemetery and repair of its main pathways, and the replacement of the wall panels in the social hall. Board members and sangha members have all been working hard together. There is an emerging-from-the-pandemic surge of energy that is palpable. The spirit of volunteerism is strong. Thank you, everyone, for lending a hand and pitching in where needed. Thank you for your kōkua. Your physical support, encouragement, monetary contributions, and good wishes for Daifukuji are all appreciated.

What gladdens my heart is knowing that our sangha is moving forward with a sense of gratitude for our ancestors. We are aware that we are building upon the foundation which they laid down for this temple many decades ago. Cleaning the cemetery in which their ashes lie, taking care of the land and planting trees, and keeping the social hall in good repair are all expressions of gratitude to Buddha, as well as to ministers and sangha members of the past. A baton of light has been passed to this generation of members, who have received it with outstretched hands. As the minister of this temple, I am grateful beyond words. Even with no Bon Dance with which to honor our ancestors again this year, the spirit of 恩返し “ongaeshi” (a Japanese word meaning “to return someone’s kindness with a feeling of gratitude”) is alive. Through the good work being done today, we are repaying the virtuous toils of our parents and grandparents, as well as the virtuous toils of ministers and sangha members of the past. The torch which they’ve transmitted to us today is shining brightly because sangha members have received it and are carrying it with care.

With Hawai‘i opening up, our lives are again becoming filled with activity and opportunities to socialize. Let us not forget to spend time in meditation each day and offer thanks for the blessings of Buddha, Dharma, Sangha, and ancestors.

May you and your ‘ohana have a safe and happy summer. May Obon bring the blessings of peace into every household. Mahalo for your love and kindness.

With warm aloha in gassho,

Rev. Jiko

Welcome, New Members



Our sangha extends a warm welcome to the following new members:

Lori Carlisle

Viki Iffland and Paco Galman

Karene Ota

Kelley Matsumoto

New members are always welcome. For membership information, please visit our website http://www.daifukuji.org/membership_brochure.pdf. or send an email to info@daifukuji.org.

Our Gift to The Food Basket

On June 1, Sachi Hara-Joesting delivered 188 pounds of food items to The Food Basket, Hawai'i Island's Food Bank. A big mahalo to Sangha members who dropped off donations of food and an equally big mahalo to Daifukuji yoga teacher Liz Aschenbrenner for donating her yoga class by asking participants to bring gifts of food instead of monetary donations for the class.

The Daifukuji Fujinkai will continue to collect food items for The Food Basket. All are welcome to participate by bringing canned food to the temple. There are food collection boxes on a pew near the temple's front entrance. If the temple is closed, you may drop off your food donations on the temple porch. Mahalo, everyone!

In-person Kannon-Ko Service

Wednesday, July 21 10:00 a.m

For well over a year since the pandemic began, Rev. Jiko and Deacon Jikai have been holding monthly Kannon-ko services with no one in attendance and dedicating the merit of their chanting to people around the world who contracted Covid-19, as well as to sangha members suffering from illness, sorrow, and hardship. At long last, they are happy to announce that an in-person service will be held on Wednesday, July 21.

Starting July, Kannon-ko services will once more be held on the third Wednesday of the month starting at 10 a.m. Masks and social distancing are, at this time, still required and no refreshments will be served. All are welcome to attend the services.

Kannon, also known as Kannon-sama, Kanzeon Bosatsu, and Kwan Yin, is the bodhisattva of great compassion. At Daifukuji, there are many images of Kannon, all expressions of the power of compassion. Prominently featured is the Hawaii Kannon, the central figure in the Kannon meditation hall. Invoking the power of compassion alleviates suffering, promotes healing, and awakens the compassionate mind in oneself and all beings. Names of those for whom one wishes prayers to be offered may be submitted prior to the start of the service. Generally, one brings a monetary offering in an envelope on which one's name is written. For more information, please contact Rev. Jiko at info@daifukuji.org.



Congratulations, graduates!

May was graduation month. At Daifukuji, a blessing of the high school graduates of our sangha was held on May 30. In attendance were two high school graduates, Sara Kimura and D'Marco Mireles, and their families. Rev. Jiko performed the blessing and gave a Dharma message on Right Speech.

Mahalo to M.C. Avis Yamamoto and photographer Brian Yamamoto, who also provided the decorations, to temple president Stephen Tanaka, and to volunteers Elaine Fernandez and Deacon Jikai Nakade. The graduates were given gifts and leis, and left the temple with bentos for themselves and their families.

Congratulations to D'Marco and Sara and to all who are celebrating their graduation!



D'Marco Mireles and his family

“In August I will go to Oregon to attend Pacific University. There, I plan to study either Kinesiology or their new Business program and Sports Management. I will also play for their soccer team. I would like to thank my parents for always supporting me and for being the reason I am where I am today. I’m excited for what the future holds and can’t wait to experience the next new stage of life.” D'Marco Mireles



Sara Kimura and her family

Sara Kimura graduated from Hawaii Preparatory Academy and will be attending Pitzer College in Claremont, California. She will be majoring in Environmental Analysis, Chemistry, and Government Policy.

“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.”

from the Tenzo Kyōkun by Dogen Zenji

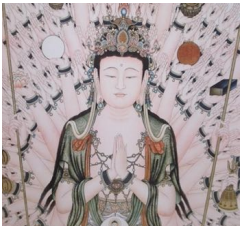
Obon Service to Be Live Streamed on June 27

Although only those families observing their departed loved ones' *hatsubon* or first Obon have been invited to Daifukuji's Obon service on June 27, all are invited to view the service which will be live-streamed via Facebook starting at 10 a.m. <https://www.facebook.com/konadaifukujitemple/>

Toba memorial dedications will be recited by Rev. Jiko and a Dharma message given by Rev. Shinsho Hata of the Hilo Taishoji Soto Mission. At a later date, Rev. Hata's sermon will be uploaded to Daifukuji's YouTube channel.

2021 Membership Dues

Mahalo to those Daifukuji members who have sent in their 2021 membership dues and donations. Should you need it, the 2021 membership form may be found online in the January newsletter: <http://www.daifukuji.org/newsletter/2021/jan21news.pdf>. You may join or renew your membership using this form. New members are always welcome.



“The Half-Closed Eyes of the Bodhisattva”

A Zen story from Kappa No Hitorigoto by Rev. Daito Noda

Translated by Michael Nakade and edited by Leslie Ozawa

While there are many kinds of Buddhist statues, none are as well-known as Kannon-sama. Although the correct name of Kannon-sama is Kanzeon Bosatsu (Bodhisattva), there are many statues with the title, “Bodhisattva.” For example, there are Jizō Bodhisattva, Sunlight and Moonlight Bodhisattvas, who flank the Medicine Buddha.

The many statues known as Bodhisattvas have a common intent, “上求菩提下化衆生” (jōgu bodai geke shujō). In other words, they have an earnest desire to never slack in learning, wherever it takes them, and to strive with all their strength, to make even a small difference for those who live in this world.

Once again, I would like you to call up the statues of the Buddha stored in your memory. All those statues line up serenely in a row, but what about their gaze? As you may notice, every statue doesn't have its eyes open. However else you see them, their eyes are looking downward. This is called the half-closed eyes of the Bodhisattva.

As we all are tossed about in our daily lives, are not our eyes only looking toward the outside? Are we not looking outwardly too much? The eyes of the Bodhisattva are half open and half closed, because they are not only looking toward the outside but also looking deep into their inner selves. These half-open eyes are not exclusive to the Bodhisattvas. These eyes are exactly how we, as humans, should live our lives. You, too, will become a Bodhisattva as soon as you wish to serve others in some way, with the half-open eyes of the Bodhisattva at all times, no matter what the circumstance, and to remain grounded, not losing your sense of who you are.



July Programs

Zazen - Wednesday morning zazen and service is being offered both in-person and via Zoom from 6 a.m. - 7:20 a.m. Participants are requested to arrive at 5:45 a.m. Masks are required.

The twice-a-month Thursday evening service and zazen (July 8 & 22) will continue to only be offered via Zoom from 6 p.m. - 7:20 p.m. until further notice. Contact Rev. Jiko to receive the ZOOM link, (808) 322-3524, info@daifukuji.org.

Sangha Sister's Women's Spirituality Circle - Meetings are held via Zoom on the second Friday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Call Susie at (808) 936-5817 for information.

Bare Bones Writers Group - Meetings are held via Zoom on the second Tuesday of the month at 9:00 a.m. Call Kathryn at (808) 345-2976 for information.

In-person Yoga at Daifukuji

Hatha Yoga by donation offered Mondays 8:30-9:30 am. inside the Daifukuji Social Hall. Please bring yoga mat, blanket, water, and any other props you like to use. Mask, temperature check, & social distancing required. Arrive 10 minutes early to sign in and complete a waiver. Call or text questions to Liz, 808-345-1127. Note: There will be no classes on July 19, July 26, and August 2.

Zoom Yoga June 10 - July 15

Thursdays from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. HST

Welcome warmup from 7:45 - 8 a.m. HST. Optional chat from 9:00 - 9:20 a.m. HST. Drop in or whole series.

What's needed: Yoga mat, loose clothing, water, towel, empty stomach "Dana"=Temple Offering by mail or at: <http://www.daifukuji.org/donation/index.html>.

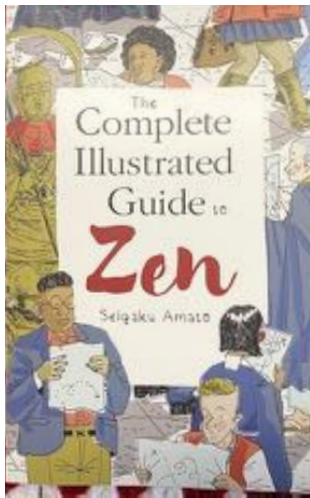
Suggested Sliding Scale for 6 classes: \$60 to \$120, as a "Love Offering" from your heart.

Instructor: Ambika "Jō-An" Rose

For inquiry: (808) 430-2620. Email for Registration & Zoom Link: ambikarose@hawaiiantel.net

Soleful Strutters Walking Moai Tuesdays from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

A Tai Chi warmup on the lawn followed by walking on temple grounds. New walkers are welcome. For additional information or questions, please contact Hannah Israel at 408-421-8845 or Reverend Jiko at 808-322-3524.



An Introduction to Soto Zen Buddhism

A new 3-month Zoom Dharma series starting in August!

Instructor: Rev. Jiko Nakade

Here's a chance to learn the basics of Soto Zen Buddhism by joining the Zoom Dharma Fellowship which is open to all. Please select group 1 or group 2.

Group 1: Tuesdays from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. (Starting August 17)

Group 2: Saturdays from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. (starting August 21)

We will be using the newly published book *The Complete Illustrated Guide to Zen* by Seigaku Amato, a writer, illustrator, and Soto Zen Buddhist priest who is the assistant minister at the Long Beach Buddhist Church. The illustrations

are delightful and the text is easy to understand.

www.seigakuamato.com

This book is available through the Daifukuji Gift Shop. Dharma class members may purchase a copy at the special price of \$10. (The regular gift shop price is \$15.) Sorry, we are unable to handle mail orders.

Topics to be covered: a brief history of Buddhism, buddhas and bodhisattvas, Soto Zen practice, holidays, ceremonies, sutras, Buddhist vestments, how to set up a home altar.

This series of classes is being offered free of charge. If you would like to offer a donation, you may do so through the temple website: <http://www.daifukuji.org/donation/index.html>. Checks may be mailed to: Daifukuji Soto Mission, P.O. Box 55, Kealahou, HI 96750.

A Zoom link will be sent to you each week. Learning together via Zoom is a fun way to meet new people and make new Dharma friends.

To register for the series, please contact Rev. Jiko at rev.jiko@daifukuji.org, (808) 322-3524.



A big mahalo to Barbara Bosz, Gilbert Kaneko, and the members of the Kona Daifukuji Taiko 'ohana for their help removing all items from the walls and floor of the social hall in preparation for the work to be done by Glenn Uchimura and crew. Thank you to board members Kai Ioh and Bobby Command for heading the project and to Shaun Roth for his support.

Library News

by Clear Houn Englebert

The first two new arrivals illustrate very old Zen and very new Zen:

Swampland Flowers by the great Chinese teacher Ta Hui is from the 1100's. These are Ta Hui's letters, sermons, and lectures translated by Christopher Cleary.

Wake Up by Bonnie Treace is a modern, up-to-date, user-friendly presentation of Zen. Joan Halifax describes the book as “Profoundly useful, rich in content, well written, and deeply inspiring.” I agree completely.

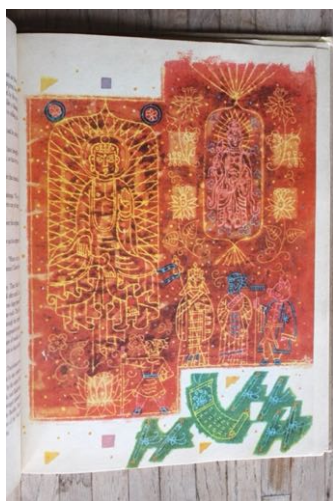
The next two books are about painting the kind of big Japanese Zen calligraphy that are on the scrolls that the gift shop sometimes has for sale—dramatic, black ink on white paper calligraphy. *Zen Brushwork* by Tanchu Terayama and *Shodo* by Shozo Sato are large format, how-to books. If you've ever tried your hand at shakyo (or even if you haven't) try grabbing a bigger brush and learn to paint sayings such as “Every day is a good day”, which is my favorite Dogen quote. The fine photos and illustrations will guide you through each stroke of the brush.

Zen Around the World by Annellen Simpkins and C. Alexander Simpkins is another very readable and useful book by this team of writers. It's a history of Zen around the world, and the format couldn't be more inviting—for instance, the print is plenty big.

The Narrow Way by Chris Lemig, subtitled “A memoir of coming out, getting clean, and finding Buddha”.

This Present Moment is an exceptionally beautiful, full-color book by and about the Portland Japanese Garden. It's a real treat to “virtually” visit this famous garden.

There are two new videos: "Tibetan Illusion Destroyer" produced by Thomas Vendetti is actually a set of two discs with four films, mostly on Tibetan Buddhism. The other new DVD is "The Practice of Meditation" being Jack Kornfield interviewed by Jeffery Mishlove in his groundbreaking series, *Thinking Allowed*.



We also have three wonderful new children's books: *Buddhist Scriptures* by Anil Goonewardene, *Buddhism for Kids* by Emily Burke, and *My Buddhist Faith* by Adiccabandhu. All three books have lots of color illustrations.

This last book is somewhat hard to classify—it's sort of a children's book, but then I read it cover to cover and I'm a senior. I'm a great fan of this kind of book—a large, colorful adaption of the ancient Chinese novel *Monkey* by Wu Ch'eng-En which is based on Xuan Zang's journey to India in the 1600's. The book is *The Monkey King* and it's a 1964 British translation (by George Theiner) of a 1961 Czech translation by Zdena Novotna. The illustrations by Zdenek Sklanar are fabulous (and there's lots of them)—they are a big part of why I read it cover to cover. The photo that accompanies this article—it's mid-century, Czechoslovakian, Buddhist art—something I never imagined seeing. The green things at the bottom of the picture are the scrolls that the pilgrim went to India for, to then bring back to China.

A Report from the Daifukuji Board of Directors

by Steve Hoshin Mann, Corresponding Secretary



Our social hall is getting a facelift.

The Daifukuji Board of Directors met via Zoom on June 3.

Rev. Jiko's Dharma message urged volunteers to communicate their needs and ask for help when needed - "One can't do Bodhisattva work if one is in burnout."

We heard that Federal Paycheck Protection Program payments to Soto Mission Hawaii, shared with us, have recently kept our income higher than expenses, and helped us weather the pandemic shutdown. The Long Range Planning Committee held its first meeting May 28, and will meet again August 6. Family Sangha and Young Buddhists Association activities will resume with the start of school in August. There will be an online auction again this year in October/November. Donations of items will be accepted.

In light of high vaccination rates, Daifukuji will now allow vaccinated people to go unmasked outdoors on the grounds; other precautions remain in place for now.

Contracts are let for the social hall re-paneling; the contractor's part of the effort will take about two months. Daifukuji will rent refuse containers for cleanup; containers are rented by the week, so construction debris may accumulate in the parking lot for a while before the container comes in. The youth taiko group has volunteered to paint the space when the contractor is done, likely in August.

We discussed care of the cemetery. We noted the possibility of hiring help for the need, but will first work to organize volunteers for major cleanup and for ongoing maintenance. Shirlene Yoneyama and Verna Fukunaga have taken on spraying for weeds. The biggest safety issue right now is slippery moss, and plans for a cleanup of that are underway. We'll see if we can revive a pre-pandemic plan to install new cement walkways.

Daifukuji hopes, even after the pandemic, to regularly live-stream or record major services, and to offer the same possibility for private services. This is not a highly technical process, but does take a dedicated person or two to monitor the camera(s) continuously throughout the event. Stephen Tanaka and Barb Shoshin Bosz are the first two volunteers, who will capture the June 27 OBon service and Rev. Hata's message.

Mahalo Nui Loa

Noticing the cemetery overgrown with weeds, sisters Shirlene Yoneyama and Verna Fukunaga stepped forward and offered to spray herbicide and cut down invasive saplings within the cemetery. Thank you to Shirlene and Verna.

Arigato to Tyrone Ohta for completing work on the walkway outside the gift shop. Tyrone made a number of improvements to the area.

Mahalo to Gilbert Kaneko, Warren Ikeda, and Wayne Fukunaga for repairing the temple's sound system.

To all of our volunteers who help with weekly *samu*, a truly big mahalo!



Stanley Oshima and Wayne Fukunaga



Chester, Warren, and Stephen work as a team while shaving toba tablets for Obon.

The Wisdom of Passing the Baton

by Rev. Jiko Nakade

I admire my uncle Stanley Oshima for his wisdom. He's been single-handedly trimming the hedges in Daifukuji's front yard ever since his friend Christo Izumi, whose health was declining, recruited him and showed him the art of hedge trimming a number of years ago. It was obvious that Christo took great pride in his work. He has since passed away and we will always be grateful for his service to our temple. What is admirable is that Christo possessed the wisdom of knowing when it was time to ask Stanley to take over his job. And recently, Uncle Stanley, who turned 81 in December, told me that it was time to find someone to take over his job.

There is wisdom in passing the baton, or, in this case, the hedge trimmer. Fortunately, Wayne Fukunaga responded to Stanley's request with an unhesitant "yes." How happy Stanley looked last Friday when Wayne showed up with a hedge trimmer in hand! The two could be seen working happily together. Uncle Stanley seemed greatly relieved. From now on, Wayne will take care of the hedges and Uncle Stanley will fill in when needed. The transition occurred seamlessly with Uncle Stanley willing to let go and Wayne willing to step in. It was a heartwarming moment, a moment of grace, one which I am hoping will be repeated many times at Daifukuji. When a temple senior, who's served for many years understands that it's time to pass the baton —whatever that baton might be — I'm hoping that there will always be a sangha member available and willing to receive it.

Mentorship is a beautiful thing. The mentor imparts his or her knowledge; the mentee receives this knowledge and resolves to do his/her best. In this fashion, the light is transmitted from heart to heart and good deeds continue. In this fashion, our temple, Daifukuji Soto Mission, which has always depended on the good-heartedness of many volunteers, will continue to flourish and serve the people of our community.

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

July 2021

June 2021							July 2021							August 2021						
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					1	2	3		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30				25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31				

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 10:00 AM Obon Service	28 8:30 AM Yoga with Liz 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	29 8:30 AM Walking Moai 3:00 PM Zoom Dharma Study	30 6:00 AM In-person & Zoom Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	1 8:00 AM Zoom Yoga with Ambika 7:00 PM Daifukuji Board Meeting	2 8:00 AM Samu	3 8:00 AM Zoom Dharma Study 9:00 AM Youth Taiko
4 Happy 4th of July!	5 8:30 AM Yoga with Liz 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	6 8:30 AM Walking Moai 3:00 PM Zoom Dharma Study	7 6:00 AM In-person & Zoom Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	8 8:00 AM Zoom Yoga with Ambika 6:00 PM Zoom Zazen	9 8:00 AM Samu 7:00 PM Zoom Sangha Sisters	10 8:00 AM Zoom Dharma Study 9:00 AM Youth Taiko
11 8 am - 10:30 am Cemetery Clean Up	12 8:30 AM Yoga with Liz 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	13 8:30 AM Walking Moai 9:00 AM Zoom Bare Bones Writers	14 6:00 AM In-person & Zoom Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	15 8:00 AM Zoom Yoga with Ambika	16 8:00 AM Samu	17 9:00 AM Youth Taiko
18 10:00 AM Y.B.A. Meeting	19 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	20 8:30 AM Walking Moai	21 Kannon-ko 10 am 6:00 AM In-person & Zoom Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	22 6:00 PM Zoom Zazen	23 8:00 AM Samu	24 9:00 AM Youth Taiko
25	26 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	27 8:30 AM Walking Moai	28 6:00 AM In-person & Zoom Zazen 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	29	30 8:00 AM Samu	31 9:00 AM Youth Taiko