



79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kealahou, HI 96750

April, 2024

(808) 322-3524 www.daifukuji.org

See “archives” on our website for previous newsletters.

Hanamatsuri Buddha Day Service 花祭り

Sunday, April 14, 2024

10:00 a.m.



Rev. Hoshino

Meaning “flower festival,” *Hanamatsuri* is a joyous celebration of the Buddha’s birth which occurred 2,600 years ago in Lumbini Garden in southern Nepal. A small wooden pavilion called a *hanamido* is adorned with fresh flowers; inside, a small statue of the baby Buddha is placed in a basin of sweet, heavenly tea which service attendees pour over the statue. The Dharma message will be given by Rev. Masataka Hoshino who works for both the Soto Mission of Hawaii and the Bishop’s Office in Honolulu.

There will be a spring egg hunt for the children after the service, followed by a vegetarian meal prepared by the members of the Daifukuji Zazenkaï. All are invited to stay for lunch and fellowship. The Zazenkaï is requesting donations of fresh fruits and vegetables for the Hanamatsuri meal, as well as clean ti leaves, monstera, and fern which will be used for the table decorations. If you have these items to offer, please contact Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524 by April 7th. Thank you.

Donations of flowers for the altars and *hanamido* flower shrine may be dropped off on Friday, April 12 or by 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 13.

Hanamatsuri is a special occasion to be shared with all. Feel free to invite friends and relatives. The children always enjoy the spring egg hunt after the service. The gift shop will be open. Donations of canned food for the Food Basket are always appreciated.



Hanamatsuri Aloha from Reverend Jikō



Aloha Sangha members and friends,

First of all, my warmest mahalo to all who attended the Big Island HAIB's 12th annual Buddha Day service held at the Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple on the 10th of March. It was a joyous celebration with eight Buddhist groups participating and numerous friends from the community gathered to pay homage to the Buddha and to celebrate unity in diversity. Our guest speaker, Ms. Ashleigh Loa from Ceeds of Peace, shared ways to engage in peaceful dialogue and courageous conversations. Thank you to all who supported this year's Buddha Day event.

Next, I'd like to cordially invite everyone to Daifukuji's Buddha Day service and spring celebration on April 14th. It can be said that Hanamatsuri is one of the happiest services held at our temple. Adults and children alike enjoy pouring sweet tea over the baby Buddha and celebrating the birth of our great teacher. We honor the Buddha's birth through meditation, music, chanting, and listening to the Dharma. We can all look forward to hearing Reverend Hoshino's Dharma message. I invite you to bring family and friends and children of all ages to Daifukuji's Festival of Flowers, Hanamatsuri.

In gasshō,

Jikō Nakade

12th Resident Minister



To Zazenkai Members

Zazenkai members, we humbly request your help preparing the sangha's Hanamatsuri meal. Food preparations will be done at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, April 13 in the social hall kitchen and at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, April 14. Help is also needed with clean up after lunch on April 14. Your kōkua would be very much appreciated. You may sign up using the sign-up sheet in the meditation hall or inform Sharlene Hōju or Rev. Jiko.



Pancake Breakfast Mahalo

The Daifukuji Fujinkai is very appreciative of the tremendous support received from sangha volunteers, donors, and friends who generously contributed to the success of the pancake breakfast fundraiser held on February 17, 2024. The fundraiser generated approximately \$4,000 for the Fujinkai.

To all, we extend our heartfelt mahalo.



In Gassho,

Jean Ikeda, Joyce St.
Arnault, & Lorraine
Tanimoto

Pancake Breakfast
Co-chairs



Mahalo Nui Loa

Rev. Jikō and her family extend a warm mahalo to Larry and Dale Yoshiyama for giving new life to the 40-year-old set of dining room chairs that are used in the minister's residence. Larry replaced the old, cracking apart pressboard seats with sturdy plywood and Dale stitched new aloha-print covers to replace the tired-looking green ones. They donated all materials, including new padding for the seats. What a labor of love!

These chairs were donated for use in the minister's residence by the Daifukuji Fujinkai in 1984. Thanks to Larry and Dale's generosity and creative repair, they can be used for another 40 years or more. Arigatō to Larry and Dale!

Welcome, New Members

The Daifukuji sangha welcomes new members John and Christy Ogg, Brenda Nolen, Lei Arai, and Dylan Hemenway.

The Daifukuji Fujinkai welcomes new member Betsy Kairen Morrigan.

The Dharma Keiki group welcomes Lauren, Gustavo, and Will Leite.

Our various temple groups are always happy to receive new members. For information about group activities, please visit <https://www.daifukuji.org/activities.html>. Information regarding temple membership may be found online at https://www.daifukuji.org/membership_brochure.pdf or by calling the temple office at (808) 322-3524. Our Sangha welcomes you.



New Daifukuji Shirts in Pastel Colors

Tadah! The gift shop has new t-shirts in four nice pastel colors, plus black and white. The new shirts feature the “Try Sit”

meditation logo designed by our own Tina Shoren Cintron. We're selling them for \$15.



Gift shop hours are Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., also before and after our major monthly services and by appointment. You'll surely love the new colors and design!

Aloha Sangha and friends,

Our gift shop sale was fun and rewarding. We had a steady flow of shoppers finding treasures with some of them seeing the gift shop for the first time. Our sincere thanks to all our helpers and a big mahalo to all the shoppers!



Project Dana's April Gathering

Kupuna and volunteers, you are invited to bring your spring “papale” to our next Project Dana gathering on April 10th. We'll have a spring hat parade, dye some eggs, and listen to a presentation given by a representative from Hospice of Kona.

As usual, we'll do some chair exercises, play bingo, and enjoy snacks and lunch prepared by our dedicated volunteers.

Temple members ages 60 and above are welcome to join Project Dana's monthly activity days for seniors. For information, please call Joyce at (808) 329-3833 or Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524.

Fujinkai Seeks Donations of Coffee, Mac Nuts, and Fruits



Avocado

Twenty-three members of the Daifukuji Fujinkai, along with Rev. Jiko and Michael Nakade, will be attending the 57th UHSSWA Conference in Hilo the weekend of April 27 -28. At Taishoji Soto Mission, a special donation drive to benefit the United Hawaii Soto Shu Women's Association will be held.

Our Fujinkai is seeking donations of Kona coffee, roasted macadamia nuts, avocados, bananas, and other kinds of fresh local fruits to contribute to the "country store" fundraiser. The group humbly asks that donations be delivered to the temple by the morning of Friday, April 26. Please contact Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524 or Joyce St. Arnault (808-329-3833) if you have questions. We would appreciate knowing in advance what you will be donating. Our sincere mahalo for supporting the Daifukuji Fujinkai and the UHSSWA.



Do you have a high school graduate in your family?

On Sunday, May 26, 2024, there will be a sangha blessing of the high school graduates who are the children and grandchildren of temple members, as well as members of Kona Daifukuji Taiko. The blessing will take place following the morning's Memorial Day Service which will begin at 10:00 a.m. The keynote speech for this service will be given by Daifukuji member Dr. Holeka Goro Inaba, Council Member for the Hawai'i County Council, District 8 (North Kona). The service and blessing will be followed by lunch. All are invited. Our wish is to congratulate the graduates and surround them with sangha love and blessings.

Invitations will soon be sent to the graduates and their families. As soon as possible, 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.



April Activities (More activities listed at <https://www.daifukuji.org/activities.html>)

Dharma Keiki - Two Sundays, April 7 and April 21 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. A Dharma program for children of preschool age to 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. Flyer on page 9.

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 zazen sessions.

Shakyo (Tracing the Sutras) & Shabutsu (tracing pictures of buddhas) - Saturday, April 6 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall. All are welcome. By donation.

Daifukuji Gay Sangha - 1st Friday of the month at 5:30 p.m. Meditation and discussion. All welcome. 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 - Volunteers are needed 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 via Zoom — “Restorative Yoga” to relax and release. 3 Thursdays on March 21, March 28 and April 4 from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. HST. Welcome and Warm-up from 7:45 - 8 a.m. HST. ZOOM Yoga from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. HST. Optional Chat from 9:00- 9:20 a.m. Drop in or whole series. What's needed: Yoga mat, loose clothing, water, towel, empty stomach. “Dana”=Temple Offering by mail or at: <https://www.daifukuji.org/donation/index.html>. Instructor: Ambika “Jō-An” Rose, who has been teaching yoga for 47 years. For inquiry about this series: (808) 430-2620. Email for Registration & Zoom Link: ambikarose@hawaiiantel.net.



2024 Precepts Study with Rev. Jikō

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. Please let Rev. Jikō know if you are interested in participating in this ceremony and receiving a Buddhist name.



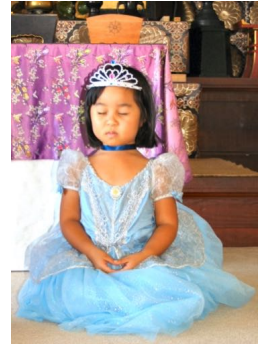
Rev. Jikō offers the Dharma freely. There is no class fee. One may support such programs by making a donation to Daifukuji Soto Mission. <https://www.daifukuji.org/donation/index.html>

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

Announcing Hawaii Soto Mission's New Dharma Keiki Program

Dear Parents and Grandparents,

At Daifukuji, we have been offering a twice-a-month program called Dharma Keiki which introduces a young child to the richness of our Buddhist tradition in age-appropriate ways. Beginning May 5, Dharma Keiki will be offered both in person and via Zoom on the **first Sunday of each month** from 9:30 a.m. HST to 10:15 a.m. HST. The Zoom program is being sponsored by the Hawaii Soto Mission Association and run through the Hawaii Soto Mission Head Office. The second monthly service will be held in person only at Daifukuji. Registration is required. Please consider enrolling your children and grandchildren in this enriching program. Please see the flyer on page 9 for more information.



Sacred Life

by Michael Keller

At present I am in living circumstances that I don't care for, being in Houston, Texas and not on the Big Island of Hawaii where I used to live. I won't go into how the relocation came about. I've noticed that even with the unpleasantness, my mood is positive and I am eager to begin each day. Words of Eihei Dogen keep occurring to me: "The great ocean has only one taste."

I do have some sense of Dogen's perception of the undivided sacredness of life. Many of Dogen's expressions of this perception, like the quote above, are very moving to me. He says, for instance, shortly after that quote, "Hundreds of grasses and myriad forms – each appearing 'as it is' – are nothing but buddha's true dharma body. . . ." Whether coarse or fine, all things are the dharma body. Again, more plainly, Dogen says that it is a "limited view that separates ordinary from sacred."

The sacredness of life is also a theme of Chogyam Trungpa, who speaks of the "unconditional sacredness" of life." He says, "The whole of existence is well constructed, and there's no room for mishaps of any kind." Far beyond the perfection of life, for Trungpa life is also full of wonder. He exclaims, "How wonderful the world is! How beautiful the world is! How exotic and how fabulous the world is!"

Spiritual practice will bring a sense of the sacredness of life. After saying that all activities in living have "a sense of holiness or sacredness in them," Trungpa adds, ". . . This approach always has to be accompanied by the sitting practice of meditation."

If it hasn't already, the faithful practice of zazen will bring a practitioner to a sense of the joy and sacredness of life.

To read more essays by Michael Keller, visit his website <https://www.zazenessays.com/>.

ANNOUNCING THE START OF A NEW PROGRAM



DHARMA KEIKI

BUDDHIST TEACHINGS FOR KIDS & THE YOUNG AT HEART

Sponsored 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. (Please see next month's newsletter for the link and QR code.)
- 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.

April 2024

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

- 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
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 6:00 PM Sunset Meditation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Soleful Strutters Moai 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 AM Zazen & Service 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Zoom Yoga with Ambika 9:00 AM Tai Chi 11:00 AM Zoom 6:00 PM Zen Taiko 7:00 PM Temple 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Samu 10:00 AM Gift shop 10am-1pm 5:30 PM Gay Sangha 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shakyo 9:30 am 8:00 AM Zoom Dharma Study 10:15 AM Youth Taiko 11:00 AM Gift Shop
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Baikako Pr...e 7:45 am Dharma Keiki 9:30 am 2:00 PM Happy Strummers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 6:00 PM Sunset Meditation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Soleful Strutters Moai 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Dana 9:30 AM 6:00 AM Zazen & Service 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 6:30 PM Orchid Club 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Tai Chi 11:00 AM Zoom Dharma Study 6:00 PM Zen Taiko 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Samu 10:00 AM Gift shop 10am-1pm 5:30 PM Sangha Sisters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hanamido Decorating 8:00 AM Zoom Dharma Study 10:15 AM Youth Taiko 11:00 AM Gift Shop
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HANAMATSURI Spring egg hunt Sangha Lunch 10:00 a.m. Service Happy Buddha Day! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 6:00 PM Sunset Meditation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Soleful Strutters Moai 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kannon-ko 10 am 6:00 AM Zazen & Service 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Tai Chi 11:00 AM Zoom Dharma Study 6:00 PM Zen Taiko 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Samu 10:00 AM Gift shop 10am-1pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Zoom Dharma Study 10:15 AM Youth Taiko 11:00 AM Gift Shop 11am-2pm
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dharma Keiki 9:30 am 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 6:00 PM Sunset Meditation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Soleful Strutters Moai 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 AM Zazen & Service 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Samu 10:00 AM Gift shop 10am-1pm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UHSSWA Conference 10:15 AM Youth Taiko 11:00 AM Gift Shop 11am-2pm
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> UHSSWA Conference 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 6:00 PM Sunset Meditation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Soleful Strutters Moai 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 AM Zazen & Service 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Samu 10:00 AM Gift shop 10am-1pm 5:30 PM Gay Sangha 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00 AM Zoom Dharma Study 10:15 AM Youth Taiko 11:00 AM Gift Shop 11am-2pm



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KONA DAIFUKUJI "ZOOM" YOGA 3.13.24

3 Thurs. 8 – 9 am HST March 21, 28, April 4

- 7:45 – 8 am HST Welcome Warm-up
- 8:00 – 9 am "ZOOM" YOGA!
- 9:00 – 9:20am Chat (optional)
- 1:45 – 2 pm EST
- 2:00 – 3 pm
- 3:00 – 3:20 pm

**Open to: Members, Kona Community and ALL
Beginners & Experienced WELCOME!**

@Drop in or Whole Series@

EnErGy is our focus, so move to your body!

"RESTORATIVE" YOGA - RELAX and RELEASE!

Bring: Yoga mat, loose clothing, H2O, & towel, empty stomach

"Dana" = Temple Offering by mail or at: <http://www.daifukuji.org/donation/index.html>

Email for REGISTRATION & Link: ambikarose@hawaiiantel.net



Instructor: Ambika "Jō-An" Rose

I have taught yoga for 47 years. The "Style" is Amrit Yoga an authentic, meditative exploration of **Shakti [Chi] EnErGy** through intention, breath, alignment, extension & movement. Following postures, we pause: relax, breathe, and "let go!" We **EXPLORE ENERGY!** For inquiry: **808-430-2620** 3.13.24