



79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kealahou, HI 96750

April, 2023

(808) 322-3524 [www.daifukuji.org](http://www.daifukuji.org)

See "archives" on our website for previous newsletters.

## Hanamatsuri Buddha Day Service 花祭り

**Sunday, April 9**

**10:00 a.m.**



All are invited to join our sangha in the pouring of sweet tea over the baby Buddha in celebration of his birth 2,600 years ago in Lumbini Garden. A Dharma talk will be given by Rev. Jikō.

There will be a spring egg hunt for the children after the service, followed by a vegetarian meal prepared by the members of our temple's Zazenkai. All are invited to stay for lunch.

The Zazenkai is requesting donations of fresh fruits and vegetables for the Hanamatsuri meal. To arrange a delivery time, please contact Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524.

Donations of flowers for the altars and *hanamido* flower shrine may be dropped off on Friday, April 7 or by 9 a.m. on Saturday, April 8.

Hanamatsuri is a joyful 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 Greetings from Reverend Jikō

Aloha Sangha members and friends,

According to Japanese Buddhist tradition, April 8th is Buddha's birthday. We call this special occasion Buddha Day, a day on which we celebrate the birth of Siddharta Gautama, who, upon enlightenment, became Shakyamuni Buddha.

The Japanese name for this celebration is "Hanamatsuri," meaning "flower festival." For Hanamatsuri, we decorate a wooden pavilion with beautiful flowers. Inside the pavilion a small statue of the baby Buddha is placed. During the Buddha Day service each person is given the opportunity to pour sweet tea over the baby Buddha, recreating the sweet rain which is said to have fallen in Lumbini Garden at the time of his birth almost 2,600 years ago.

The birth of a buddha in this world is a rare and precious occurrence. To be able to listen to, receive, and practice the teachings of the Buddha is a great blessing indeed. We know that not everyone has a chance to encounter the Dharma. How fortunate are people like ourselves who have both encountered the Dharma and have a chance to practice it!

The teachings of the Buddha is good medicine for a suffering humanity. In a world beset by greed, hatred, and ignorance, the Dharma provides a path to spiritual happiness and well-being. It is the sweet rain which nourishes our hearts and minds, freeing us from the net of suffering in which we are entangled. One might say that the pouring of sweet tea over the baby Buddha symbolizes the pouring of sweet Dharma rain over baby buddhas everywhere. You and I and everyone we know are baby buddhas, endowed with the seeds of awakening.

On Hanamatsuri, we also celebrate the arrival of spring and offer the children a spring egg hunt in the temple garden. Our Zazenkai group cooks for our sangha a sumptuous vegetarian lunch. I hope you will invite your whole 'ohana to come to the temple on the 9th of April for a splendid celebration of the Buddha's birth. I wish all of you a very happy Hanamatsuri .

With joy and gratitude, in gassho,

*Jikō Nakade*

## 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 8 in the social hall kitchen and at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, April 9. Help is also needed with clean up after lunch on April 9. Your kōkua would be very much appreciated.

## Welcome to Our New Members



We warmly welcome the following new members:

Danny Arase, Sr. and Danny Arase, Jr.

Georgia Kellough

Noriko Saito

New members are always welcome. For information, see Rev. Jiko or visit our website:

[http://www.daifukuji.org/membership\\_brochure.pdf](http://www.daifukuji.org/membership_brochure.pdf)

## In Memoriam



Donald “Daidō” Erway, 65, passed away on March 1, 2023.

We express our deepest sympathy to his family. We will cherish our warm memories of Don Daidō, who was a member of our Zazenkai, Dharma study, and t'ai chi groups and who, in the past, volunteered his time to benefit our sangha by cleaning the restrooms.

*Namu Shakamuni Butsu*

## Daifukuji Board Report

by Betsy Kairen Morrigan, Recording Secretary

The Daifukuji Soto Mission Board continues to be busy with several important projects and events.

The Pancake Breakfast prepared by the Fujinkai on February 18 was a great success with many members and their guests enjoying fellowship and raving about the delicious cooking.

Rev. Jiko co-chairs the HAIB (Hawaii Association of International Buddhists) Hawai'i Island chapter, and she and President Stephen Tanaka worked with their committee to offer the 11th Annual Buddha Day service at Kona Hongwanji on March 12. Dr. Bart Aoki spoke on “resilience in our lives” and the contribution of Buddhism to mental health. Our Happy Strummers played uplifting music and sangha members MaryAnne and Huong helped with the refreshments.

The Board is looking into ways to safely convert the former crematorium building into a drum repair space for the taiko group and also possibly include a small lodging for visiting monks and Zen students.

As part of our overall facelift this year that began with painting the white roofs, the temple now has professionally cleaned the carpets in the main temple room, the meditation room, and the library inside the temple, and has installed new carpets in the Cultural Hall.

The Board is also looking into the possibility of putting on a “mini-bazaar” fundraiser for the last weekend of October this year that would give us a fun social experience and community exposure. This would be our first bazaar since the pandemic started and would add a real-life experience to our ongoing online auction.

## **April Activities**

**Dharma Keiki, April 2 & 16** - A Dharma program for preschoolers - 3rd graders that's held twice a month at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays. Contact Rev. Jiko for information & schedule. (808)322-3524, [rev.jiko@daifukuji.org](mailto:rev.jiko@daifukuji.org).

**Art meditation: Shakyo (Tracing the Sutras) & Shabutsu (tracing pictures of buddhas)** - Saturday, April 1 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall. All are welcome. Materials provided. By donation.

**Zazen and Chanting** - 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. Practitioners are asked to arrive at 5:45 a.m. Contact Rev. Jiko at [rev.jiko@daifukuji.org](mailto:rev.jiko@daifukuji.org) to receive the Zoom link for zazen sessions.

**Daifukuji Gay Sangha** - First 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 on the second Friday of the month in person and via Zoom 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.

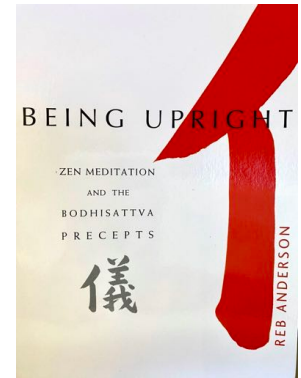
**Yoga** — Mondays from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. in the Hisashi Kimura Cultural Hall. No fee, but donations accepted. Bring a mat or towel. Call instructor Liz Aschenbrenner: (808) 345-1270 or [liz217a@hotmail.com](mailto:liz217a@hotmail.com).

**Yoga via Zoom** (Next 6-week series April 6 - May 11: Asanas & Ahimsa (non-violence))

Thursdays from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. HST. Welcome and Warm-up from 7:45 a.m. HST. ZOOM Yoga from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. HST. Optional Chat from 9:00- 9:20 a.m. "Dana"=Temple Offering by mail or at: <https://www.daifukuji.org/donation/index.html>. Instructor: Ambika "Jō-An" Rose, (808) 430-2620. Email for Registration & Zoom Link: [ambikarose@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:ambikarose@hawaiiantel.net).

## 2023 Precepts Study with Rev. Jiko Nakade

A 3-month series of weekly online Zoom classes from June - August



Two groups (please choose 1):

Group 1: Thursdays from 1:00 -2:00 p.m. Hawaii Time, starting June 1

Group 2: Saturdays from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Hawaii Time, starting June 3

In June, Rev. Jikō will be starting 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.

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.

**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.**

We will be using the book *Being Upright: Zen Meditation and the Bodhisattva Precepts* by Tenshin Zenki Reb Anderson Roshi, a senior Dharma teacher in the Soto Zen tradition of Shunryu Suzuki. "A gifted storyteller, Anderson takes us to the heart of situations, where moral judgments are not easy and we do not have all the answers."

If purchased through the Daifukuji Gift Shop, class participants may obtain the paperback book for the discounted price of \$10. The book is also available online in hardcover, paperback and Kindle formats. Unfortunately, we are unable to handle mail orders.

Rev. Jiko offers the Dharma freely. There is no class fee. To support such programs, one may make 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](mailto:rev.jiko@daifukuji.org).

Note: This year's Soto Zen Buddhist Lay Confirmation Ceremony is going to be held on Saturday, September 16 at 2:00 p.m. Please contact Rev. Jiko if you are interested in participating in this ceremony and receiving a Buddhist name. Study of the precepts is required.





## Baccalaureate Ceremony to be Held on May 28

On Sunday, May 28, there will be a sangha blessing of the high school graduates who are the children and grandchildren of temple members. The blessing will take place following the morning's Memorial Day Service which will begin at 10:00 a.m. The service and blessing will be followed by lunch. All are invited. If one chooses, one may bring leis, cards and gifts for the graduates whose names will be announced in next month's newsletter. Our wish is to congratulate the graduates and surround them with sangha love.

Invitations will 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](mailto:rev.jiko@daifukuji.org).



## HAIB Buddha Day Celebrated

Buddhists representing various traditions came to the 11th Annual Buddha Day Celebration which was sponsored by the Hawai'i Island chapter of the Hawai'i Association of International Buddhists. This event was held at the Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple on the 12th of March and was well attended by both in-person and online participants.

The following groups were represented: Daifukuji Soto Mission, Honokaa Hongwanji Mission, Kadag Lundrup Ling, Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, Kona Koyasan Daishiji Mission, Nechung Hawai'i Wood Valley Temple, and Wat Khmer Hawaii Buddharam. Dr. Bart Aoki delivered a meaningful presentation on the topic of "Buddhism and Mental Health: Resilience in Our Lives."

Mahalo to all who contributed to the success of this gathering, including the Daifukuji Happy Strummers and New Dharma Band. You may view the Zoom recording at <https://youtu.be/1UBAzDyDWXg>.

## Gift Shop in Need of Volunteers



The Daifukuji Gift Shop could use a few more volunteers. It's a great way to meet the members of the congregation and also to learn more about Buddhism. We particularly need help during the big events such as the Bon Dance. Also, we could use someone to keep the shop open right after the major services, once a month. If you're interested or would like to find out more, please contact Clear Houn, 808-328-0329, [clearngle@aol.com](mailto:clearngle@aol.com).

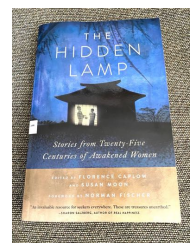
## Online Drop-in Japanese Language Classes



Takako Oxley, a Japanese language teacher and translator who once taught Japanese classes at Daifukuji, is now offering online drop-in Japanese classes. Her classes are on Mondays from 6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. All levels are welcome.

If interested, please email Takako sensei at [oxleyj002@gmail.com](mailto:oxleyj002@gmail.com) for details.

## Dharma Class Gathering and Vegetarian Potluck Lunch Saturday, April 29 11:30 a.m. Social Hall



Members of the Thursday and Saturday “Hidden Lamp” Dharma classes, as well as members of all previous Dharma classes, are all invited to a potluck lunch get-together on Saturday, April 29 at 11:30 a.m. in the social hall.

Please bring something for the potluck lunch and list the ingredients of your dish on a piece of paper, which helps those with food allergies and preferences. Also, please bring a Dharma quote or saying that you like.

Paper goods will be available, but please bring your own plate, utensils, and mug if possible. Mahalo.



## Waking Up

By Michael Keller

Henry David Thoreau's *Walden* is the foremost literary expression of the spiritual life published in America (originally in 1854). At the end of the book, Thoreau says encouragingly, "The life in us is like the water in the river. It may rise this year higher than man has ever known it, and flood the parched uplands." He continues with this stirring passage:

Every one has heard the story which has gone the rounds of New England, of a strong and beautiful bug which came out of the dry leaf of an old table of apple-tree wood, which had stood in a farmer's kitchen for sixty years, first in Connecticut, and afterwards in Massachusetts, -- from an egg deposited in the living tree many years earlier still, as appeared by counting the annual layers beyond it; which was heard gnawing out for several weeks, hatched perchance by the heat of an urn. Who does not feel his faith in a resurrection and immortality strengthened by hearing of this? Who knows what beautiful and winged life, whose egg has been buried for ages under many concentric layers of woodenness in the dead dry life of society, deposited at first in the alburnum of the green and living tree, which has been gradually converted into the semblance of its well-seasoned tomb, -- heard perchance gnawing out now for years by the astonished family of man, as they sat round the festive board, -- may unexpectedly come forth from amidst society's most trivial and handselled furniture, to enjoy its perfect summer life at last!

Given that this passage may be hard to read, with its 19th-century penchant for long sentences and internal subordination, it seems to me to reflect the usually slow progress of a zazen practitioner towards waking up. As far as we know, Thoreau was not a zazen practitioner, but he says keep going in whatever route you have chosen (his was walks in nature) towards waking up. The last sentences of his book are, "Only that day dawns to which we are awake. There is more day to dawn. The sun is but a morning star."

Waking up to a firm realization of non-separateness, or to the unity of life, is the goal of zazen. May we all patiently persist in practice, like the strong and beautiful bug, and eventually experience the dawning of our day.

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



## Library News

by Clear Houn Englebert



There are three new arrivals:

*Until Nirvana's Time: Buddhist Songs from Cambodia* by Trent Walker who is Chenxing Han's husband and who donated this wonderful book to our library. Even the titles of the songs are very Buddhist: "This Heap Called a Body," "This Life is Short," and "Song for the Hour of Death" are examples.

*Yasodhara and the Buddha* by Vanessa Sasson is a novel and the library has precious few novels. Yasodhara was the wife of the Prince Siddhartha who became Shakyamuni Buddha. The author says in her Introductory Notes that very little is known about her: "The literature is genuinely scant where she is concerned—particularly regarding her youth."

*Walking Each Other Home: Conversations on Loving and Dying* by Ram Dass and Mirabai Bush is a very inviting book. It's written in short sections that are sweetly illustrated. On page 49 is a wonderful section that goes on for several pages and is titled "Held in Maui's Arms."

Note: Due to lack of shelf space, a number of books on Buddhism written in Japanese are being deaccessioned from the library and will be made available at no cost to those who would like to have them. Their titles will be listed in a future newsletter. Should you be interested in receiving Japanese books, please contact Rev. Jiko at [rev.jiko@daifukuji.org](mailto:rev.jiko@daifukuji.org) or Clear Houn at [clear@fungshway.com](mailto:clear@fungshway.com).



## Large Television with Stand

We no longer have a use for this large Sony television and would like to offer it for free to anyone who wishes to have it. Its screen is 32" inches high and 63" inches across and comes with a sturdy stand on wheels. It was donated to the temple in 2010.

Please contact the temple office for more information or if you or someone you know would like to have it. It will be given to the first caller. (808) 322-3524



## Serving Our Soto Zen Temples in Hawai'i

On February 25th, ministers, deacons, and their families from our various Soto Zen temples across the state gathered at the Soto Mission of Hawai'i for meetings and fellowship. We are grateful for all who serve our Hawai'i sanghas with great dedication. To Bishop Komagata, we send our prayers for a speedy recovery.

# April 2023

March 2023							April 2023							May 2023								
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26	27	28	29	30	31	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31						
							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
26 Dharma Keiki 9:30 am Fujinkai Activity 2 pm	27 8:30 AM Yoga with Liz 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	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 8:00 AM Zoom Yoga with Ambika 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 8:00 AM Zoom Dharma Study 9:30 AM Shakyo 10:15 AM Youth 11:00 AM Gift Shop
2 Dharma Keiki 9:30 am 7:45 AM Baikako Practice 2:00 PM Happy Strummers	3 8:30 AM Yoga with Liz 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	4 9:00 AM Soleful Strutters Moai 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	5 6:00 AM Zazen & Service 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	6 8:00 AM Zoom Yoga with Ambika 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko 7:00 PM Temple	7 6:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Samu 10:00 AM Gift shop 10am-1pm 5:30 PM Gay Sangha	8 10:15 AM Youth Taiko 11:00 AM Gift Shop 11am-2pm
9 10:00 a.m. Buddha Day Service HANAMATSURI	10 8:30 AM Yoga with Liz 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	11 9:00 AM Soleful Strutters Moai 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	12 Project Dana 9:30 AM 6:00 AM Zazen & Service 5:00 PM Youth Taiko 6:30 PM Orchid Club	13 8:00 AM Zoom Yoga with Ambika 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	14 6:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Samu 10:00 AM Gift shop 10am-1pm 5:30 PM Sangha Sis-	15 10:15 AM Youth Taiko 11:00 AM Gift Shop 11am-2pm
16 Dharma Keiki 9:30 am	17 8:30 AM Yoga with Liz 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	18 9:00 AM Soleful Strutters Moai 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	19 Kannon-ko 10 am 6:00 AM Zazen & Service 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	20 8:00 AM Zoom Yoga with Ambika 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	21 6:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Samu 10:00 AM Gift shop 10am-1pm	22 UHSSWA Conference 10:15 AM Youth Taiko
23 UHSSWA Conference	24 8:30 AM Yoga with Liz 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	25 9:00 AM Soleful Strutters Moai 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	26 6:00 AM Zazen & Service 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	27 8:00 AM Zoom Yoga with Ambika 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	28 6:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Samu 10:00 AM Gift shop 10am-1pm	29 Dharma Class Potluck 10:15 AM Youth Taiko 11:00 AM Gift Shop 11am-2pm
30	1 8:30 AM Yoga with Liz 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	2 9:00 AM Soleful Strutters Moai 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	3 6:00 AM Zazen & Service 5:00 PM Youth Taiko	4 8:00 AM Zoom Yoga with Ambika 9:00 AM Tai Chi 6:00 PM Zen Taiko	5 6:00 AM Zazen 8:00 AM Samu 10:00 AM Gift shop 10am-1pm 5:30 PM Gay Sangha	6 10:15 AM Youth Taiko 11:00 AM Gift Shop 11am-2pm



79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy, Kealahou, HI 96750 (808) 322-3524



## KONA DAIFUKUJI "ZOOM" YOGA 3.16.23

**6 Thursdays 8-9 am HST Apr.6,13, 20, 27 May 4,11**

- 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, DLS
- 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!

*Part 2: Asanas & Ahimsa (non-violence) Tuning into **Compassion!***

**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](mailto:ambikarose@hawaiiantel.net)



### **Instructor: Ambika "Jō-An" Rose**

I have taught yoga for 46 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 3.16.23



# Dharma Lei



## Bishop's Office Newsletter

Soto Zen Buddhism Hawaii Office

c/o Soto Mission of Hawaii 1708 Nuuanu Avenue, Honolulu HI 96817 U.S.A.

Tel & Fax: 808-538-6429

E-Mail: [info@sotozenhi.org](mailto:info@sotozenhi.org) WEB: <http://global.sotozen-net.or.jp/eng/>

Second Quarter, 2023

Issue No. 44

### Bishop's Message:

Aloha to all the members and supporters of Soto Zen Buddhism in Hawaii! The days have begun to get longer, signaling the arrival of spring! Although our seasons in Hawaii are much milder than places like the mainland or Japan, we can still sense the change in the weather.

As many of you may know, I was diagnosed with a rather rare and aggressive form of cancer in December 2022. Although I underwent surgery to remove the cancer in February, it was determined that cancer had spread to different parts of my body. Although no longer curative, I am currently undergoing chemotherapy and will soon receive radiation treatments to relieve my symptoms.

As I assess my situation, I find myself reflecting upon one of my favorite words of advice to people—LIVE EACH DAY TO THE FULLEST. Although my days are filled with doctor appointments and treatments, I continue to do my best to make the most of each day. I relish in the occasional visits from temple members, relatives, and friends, and I look forward to attending temple services. With assistance from senior minister Rev. Shuji Komagata, Rev. Hirosato Yoshida, and Rev. Masataka Hoshino, I continue to lead the Soto Mission of Hawaii as chief priest.

And so, I once again encourage you to live each day to the fullest. I shared in the previous Dharma Lei that with our prior experiences in life having shaped our view of the world, we should look to this year with great hope. With that hope, though, must come action. “*Carpe diem!*” This famous Latin phrase means to “seize the day!” Please focus on the present, appreciating the value of every moment in life, and avoid postponing things unnecessarily.

In Gassho.

Bishop Shugen Komagata





**2023 Precepts Study with Rev. Jiko Nakade**  
**A 3-month series of weekly online Zoom classes from June - August**

Two groups (please choose 1):

Group 1: Thursdays from 1:00 -2:00 p.m. Hawaii Time, starting June 1

Group 2: Saturdays from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Hawaii Time, starting June 3

In June of 2023, Rev. Jikō will be starting a new series of precepts study sessions using ZOOM. This 3-month course is comprised of weekly one-hour sessions. This is an opportunity to learn about the 16 Bodhisattva precepts, which form the moral and ethical foundation of the Soto Zen tradition.

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If purchased through the Daifukuji Gift Shop, class participants may obtain the paperback book for the discounted price of \$10. The book is available online in hardcover, paperback and Kindle formats. Unfortunately, we cannot handle mail orders.

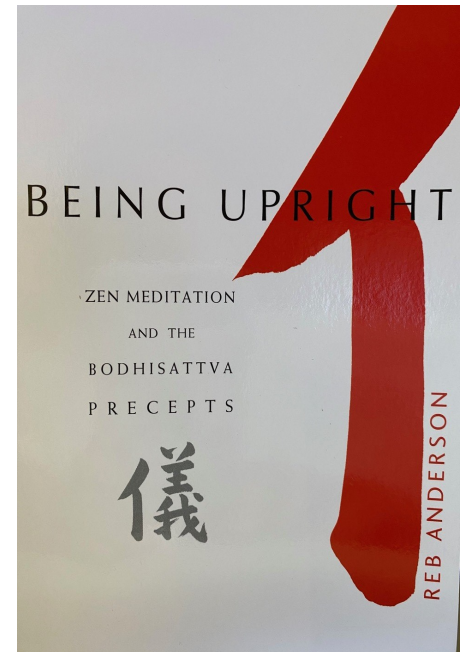
These sessions are open to all who are interested in studying the precepts and do not require participation in the precepts ceremony which will be offered at its conclusion.

Rev. Jiko offers the Dharma freely. There is no class fee. To support such programs, one may make 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](mailto:rev.jiko@daifukuji.org).

Those who have studied the precepts in the past are welcome to deepen their understanding by joining these sessions.





# In Remembrance: Bishop Jiho Machida



On March 5, 2023, retired Hawaii Soto Mission Bishop Jiho Machida passed away peacefully at home in Honolulu. He was 96 years of age. He is survived by wife Violet Machida.

Jiho Machida was born on November 3, 1926, in Chichibu, Saitama Prefecture, Japan. At the young age of 26, the then Reverend Jiho Machida left Kokenji temple in Saitama and arrived in Hawaii on November 3, 1952. After serving as resident minister of (the now closed) Waiahole Tomonji Soto Mission, he transferred to the Soto Mission of Hawaii. During his time as a minister at the Soto Mission of Hawaii, Rev. Machida succeeded Mrs. You Komagata as the second principal of the Nuuanu Wakei Gakuen (Japanese Language School), served as the president of the Hawaii Kyoikukai (Japanese School Association), and for a short time served as the Soto Academy principal.

Upon the retirement of Bishop Gyokuei Matsuura on October 31, 1997, Jiho Machida was installed as the 7<sup>th</sup> bishop of the Hawaii Soto Mission. Bishop Machida was a kind and friendly person. He was also a very smart man, instrumental throughout his career in creating Japanese language textbooks used in many of the Japanese Schools that were operating throughout the state of Hawaii. His also contributed to the Hawaii Soto Mission by creating much of the English Buddhist materials we use to this day. He retired on August 31, 2008, after 56 years of dedicated service to the Hawaii Soto Mission.

Bishop Machida's funeral service will be held at the Soto Mission of Hawaii on Sunday, May 7, 2023, at 3:00 p.m., with visitation to begin at 2:00 p.m. We kindly request that you let your minister know if you plan to attend the service. Please call 808-537-9409 for more information.

