Daifukuji Soto Mission

Nurturing Spiritual Friendships







79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kealakekua, HI 96750

September, 2023

(808) 322-3524 www.daifukuji.org

See "archives" on our website for previous newsletters.

All are cordially invited to Daifukuji's Autumn Equinox and Soto Zen Founders Service Sunday, September 10 at 10:00 a.m.



Guest Speaker: Rev. Hakukyo Mizushima

All are invited to Daifukuji's Autumn Equinox (*Ohigan*) and Soto Zen Founders (*Ryosoki*) service on September 10. Ohigan (お彼岸), a Buddhist holiday observed in Japan at the time of the spring and autumnal equinoxes, is considered the perfect time to strengthen one's practice of the Buddha's teachings of the Six Perfections of the Heart — the Six Paramitas — which are: generosity, observation of the precepts, patience, vigor, meditation, and wisdom. It is also a time to pay homage to Dogen Zenji, the eminent founder of our Soto Zen tradition and Keizan Zenji, the eminent propagator of the Soto Zen teachings.

The Dharma message will be given by Rev. Hakukyo Mizushima, a Soto Zen priest and Baika instructor from Kanagawa, Japan.

Donations of canned foods for the Hawaii Island Food Basket may be brought to the service. The Gift Shop will be open.

Refreshments will be prepared by the Daifukuji Soleful Strutters Moai.

BAZAAR INFORMATION ON PAGE 7



Homage to Jizō Bodhisattva

Dharma Words recited by Rev. Jikō at the Jizo Bodhisattva service held at Daifukuji on August 13

Homage to Jizō Bosatsu. Namu Jizō Dai Bosatsu.

We pay homage to you, Jizō Bodhisattva, Ksitigarbha, Earth Womb, Earth Treasure. Your great vow not to achieve Buddhahood until all hell realms are emptied and all sentient beings are liberated from suffering resounds throughout the universe throughout vast space and time.

May your monk's staff open countless gates. May your wish-fulfilling gem light up the darkness, as you walk through the six worlds, guiding all beings and protecting the children, holding them close to you in sleeves of great compassion.

Namu Jizō Dai Bosatsu, we invoke your name with gratitude. During this sorrowful time of the great devastation and loss of life on Maui, please walk beside us, teaching us the path of compassion and service. Help us to faithfully serve those in pain and suffering. Hold humanity in the womb of the earth, from which hope and life spring ever anew.

Namu Jizō Dai Bosatsu. Homage to Jizō Bodhisattva, Earth Womb, Earth Treasure.

Dear Daifukuji members and friends,

Our temple's Jizō Bodhisattva service on August 13th was dedicated to the healing of the thousands who lost loved ones, pets, homes, jobs, neighbors, and community on the island of Maui. If you missed it, it may be viewed on Daifukuji's YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BrXAQm-wcXw.

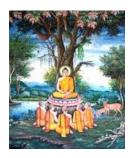
I wish to thank all who contributed monetary donations which will soon be sent from Daifukuji to the Hawai'i Community Foundation's Maui Strong Fund. So far, a total of over \$7,000 has been collected. Dear sangha, thank you for your generosity and caring hearts.

Three historic Buddhist temples in Lahaina were destroyed by the fire, leaving ministers and their families without homes: the Lahaina Shingon Mission, established in 1902; the Lahaina Hongwanji, established in 1904, and the Lahaina Jodo Mission, established in 1912. Should you wish to donate directly to these temples, please email me for this information at rev.jiko@daifukuji.org.

Once again, we awaken to the frailty and preciousness of all life. May we be grateful for each day and live, together with all beings, in the light of the Buddha's boundless compassion and wisdom.

With warm aloha, in gasshō,

Jikō Nakade



Bishop to Officiate 2023 Soto Zen Buddhist Confirmation Ceremony

Saturday, September 16, 2023 2:00 p.m.

On Saturday, September 16 at 2:00 p.m., we will be honored by the presence of Bishop Shugen Komagata, who will be serving as the officiant at this year's Soto Zen Buddhist Confirmation Ceremony. He will be accompanied by Reverend

Masataka Hoshino, resident minister of the Soto Mission of Hawaii. All are cordially invited to attend this ceremony.

Fourteen sangha members will be receiving the bodhisattva precepts. One person, who already received the precepts, will be renewing her bodhisattva vows.

The participants in the ceremony are:

Raymond Baltero, Sharlene Gee, Catherine Ishida, Spencer Kelly, Richard Lawyer, Dori Ann Nakahira, Hani Ouali, Kathleen Puou, Ambika Rose (renewing vows), Isabelle Scholl, Andrea and Phillip Shea, William Wiliwili Weaver, Ray Woffard, and Aaron Wolfe.

These individuals completed a three-month study of the precepts under the guidance of Rev. Jikō. Refreshments and fellowship will follow the ceremony.

In Memoriam

Our deepest sympathy to the family of the late Yasuo Nakamoto, age 94, who passed away on August 8, 2023.

Namu Kanzeon Bosatsu



New! Weekly Monday
Evening Sunset Meditation
6 p.m. - 7 p.m.
All are welcome



Mahalo from Mike Asada

Aloha dearest Jiko Sensei, family, and friends,

I want to send you all a very heartfelt thank you for the prayer service that really touched me very deeply. When I first heard about it, I thought and said "Okay, that's nice," but when it actually happened, boy, that hit me like a ton of LOVE. Never felt anything like that before — what a great feeling!

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for that special day which I will never forget.

Lots and lots of love is being sent to each of you.

Gratefully,

Mike Asada

September 23rd Fujinkai Members and Guests Field Trip (final announcement)

by Lorraine Jitoku Tanimoto, Field Trip Coordinator



7:00 a.m. Meet at Daifukuji Soto Mission (Please be on time.)

7:15 a.m. Bus departs

8:15 a.m. Restroom stop at McDonald's in Waimea (also for snack)

We have 32 Fujinkai members and their guests signed up to attend this field trip to the historic Hilo Daijingu Shinto shrine. Due to the limited seating capacity of Miyo's Restaurant, we have reached our maximum number and are unable to accept any more sign ups. Fujinkai members, if you did not sign up and are interested in going, please call Lorraine at (808) 333-5550. She will put you on a wait list and let you know if there are any cancellations.

Teri Hollowell will collect lunch payments from guests before departure. Kathleen Puou will collect a \$2.00 service tip for the bus driver from all Fujinkai members and guests.

If something urgent occurs before or on the morning of the field trip, please call the temple at (808)322-3524 or Rev. Jiko at (808) 895-4048 to let her know that you are unable to attend. As stated before, Roberts of Hawaii Transportation requests that no open food and drink be brought on the bus.

May this be a fun, educational, and relaxing field trip for all!



Rev. Jiko, Joyce, and Andrea presented the blankets to Trish Hedke, activities director at the Life Care Center.

Fujinkai's Community Service Project

by Andrea Shea, Project Coordinator

In July, the Daifukuji Fujinkai donated 42 colorful lap blankets to

the residents of the Life Care Center of Kona. Thank you to our sangha for the fabric, sewing notions, and monetary

donations that made this possible. Mahalo also to Fujinkai members who spent many hours designing, sewing, and ironing the blankets, making greeting cards, and creating beautiful gift packages. It was fun socializing and working together on this project which we hope will bring comfort to the residents.



September Activities

Dharma Keiki, September 3 & 17 - A Dharma program for preschoolers - 3rd graders that's held at 9:30 a.m. twice a month. https://www.daifukuji.org/activities/2023 Dharma Keiki Schedule.pdf

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. Practitioners are asked to arrive at 5:45 a.m. Monday evening zazen is held from 6 p.m.-7 p.m. Contact Rev. Jiko at rev.jiko@daifukuji.org to receive the Zoom link for the Wednesday and Friday zazen sessions.

Art Meditation: Shakyo (Tracing the Sutras) & Shabutsu (tracing pictures of buddhas) - Saturday, September 2 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Social Hall. All are welcome. By donation.

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 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.

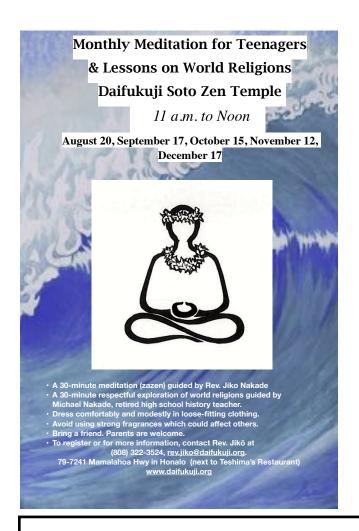
T'ai Chi - All classes are one hour and held inside the Hisashi Kimura Cultural Hall. \$5.00 per class. Call instructor Philip Kakuho Hema for schedule and other information: (808) 345-1492.

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, especially weeding, on Friday mornings from 8 a.m. - 10 a.m. Coffee hour & fellowship follow. 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. Note: No class on September 11.

Yoga via Zoom — Thursdays 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: http:// www.daifukuji.org/donation/index.html. Instructor: Ambika "Jō-An" Rose, who has been teaching yoga for 46 years. For inquiry about this series and future yoga classes: (808) 430-2620. Email for Registration & Zoom Link: ambikarose@hawaiiantel.net.





Zazenkai Breakfast Meeting Wednesday, September 6 7:15 a.m. after zazen

Zazenkai members, please help us plan a one-day meditation retreat which will be offered to the public on November 18, 2023.

Please bring a vegetarian dish to share and your own reusable plate, utensils, and mug.

Mindfulness and Meditation Class Saturday, October 14 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Rev. Jikō and Clear Houn Englebert will offer a free class on Mindfulness & Meditation on Saturday, October 14. The one-hour class will begin at 10:00 am and half the time will be devoted to mindfulness and the other half to meditation.

Meditation and mindfulness are essential Buddhist activities. Mindfulness is the simple, repetitive effort of bringing one's attention back to the task at hand throughout the day. The meditation part of the class will include the correct postures on a cushion, bench, or chair, and etiquette in a zendo (meditation hall) is also covered. One of the most important parts of the class is what to do with your mind during meditation. The predominate form of meditation in Soto Zen is *shikantaza*—just sitting. It is simple but requires effort.

There will be time for questions and there will be tea at 11:15 a.m. Please call the temple at 808-322-3524 or send an email to rev.jiko@daifukuji.org to register.



- www.daifukuji.org
- 1. Donations of items may be dropped off at the Daifukuji Social Hall from October 21 -October 27 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- 2. Please have all rummage items cleaned. Clothing should be washed. PLEASE LIMIT CLOTHING DONATION TO ONE 33-GALLON TRASH BAG PER HOUSEHOLD.
- 3. We are <u>not</u> able to accept old computers, large electronic equipment, exercise equipment, large furniture, or large appliances.

Detailed bazaar information will be forthcoming in the October newsletter. If you would like to volunteer, please call Joyce (808) 329-3833. If you have questions, please call or text Barb (808) 987-2674 or Betsy (808) 938-4492 or call Rev. Jiko (808) 322-3524.

Library News

by Clear Houn Englebert

There are six new arrivals, and they are very special books:

Aloha No Shima De Tera Meguri (島の寺巡り) by Hatsuko and Ryuhei Ogawa is in

Japanese and translates as *Visiting Temples on the Island of Aloha*. It's a guide to all the Japanese temples on this island. Daifukui is included. Everyone should take a look at this nice book because some of each entry is in English. There are color photos which are very interesting.

Gotama Buddha by Hajime Nakamura is subtitled A Biography Based on the Most Reliable Texts and it's the best biography of Shakyamuni Buddha. It's the first of two volumes, and I'll announce when we get the second volume. (They're scarce.)

Enjoying the Ultimate by Thich Nhat Hanh is one of the most beautiful books I've ever held. Be sure to look at it and hold it when you come by the library. The subtitle is Commentary on the Nirvana Chapter of the Chinese Dharmapada and when you hold it you're going to want to open it and the words are wonderful.

True Virtue by Sister Annabel Laity is subtitled *The Journey of an English Buddhist Nun*. She was the first Western woman to be fully ordained by Thich Nhat Hanh.

The Zen Koan by Isshu Miura and Ruth Sasaki was published in 1965 and is a classic on the subject.

Turning Words by Hozan Senauke was just published this year and is subtitled Transformative Encounters with Buddhist Teachers.

Mahalo to the Sangha Sisters

Our sangha extends a big mahalo to the members of the Sangha Sisters women's spirituality group and volunteer Wiliwili Weaver for not only cooking, but also generously donating a tasty and nutritious lunch upon the occasion of the Jizo Bodhisattva service on August 13. The taco bar, delicious desserts, and lovely floral decorations were enjoyed by all. The leftover food was delivered to Hope Services to be shared with the homeless. Mahalo nui loa, Sangha Sisters!









The Big Leap
By Michael Keller

There are two routes to discovering who we truly are. One of these is introspection.

The so-called *skandhas* in Buddhism are meant to comprise all the activity that takes place within a human being. Normally we assume that all of this activity is who we are. The kind of introspection that is useful in discovering who we are (or really are) is to ask about any of this activity, did we ask it to come about, do we control it?

For example, when you remove a cup of heated coffee from the microwave, did you think beforehand about removing it? It's possible that you did, but commonly simple actions like this are done without forethought. So there's no control here in removing the cup. When you walk, do you think about taking each step? Usually not. If you dislike someone, did you tell yourself to dislike him or her? Probably not. If you hear a bird sing, did you ask to hear it? No. If a thought comes into your mind, did you ask for it to come there? Not at all. Your being conscious of all this activity, if you are awake, can you stop it? No, if you're not asleep, you are conscious, and that's that.

Usually it takes a long time for such introspection to convince us that we do not control any internal activity and, therefore, that it is not us. At this point, the intellect is in a sense stunned, and the intuitive knowledge of who we really are can come home. However, we find that we can't say anything about it.

Zazen practitioners find the same. When they are undistractedly focused on breathing, they do know who they are. They sit right in the middle of it. Can they say who they are? If they try to move the knowledge into consciousness, it disappears. So absolutely nothing can be said about it, or said in a way that would transmit it to anyone. Paradoxically, it is unknowable knowledge.

So both routes to the truth of who we really are lead to unknowable knowledge. Of course the routes can be combined. Combined or separately, though, they both lead to what I have always heard or read in Zen, that ultimate truth is not intellectually knowable. It escapes comprehension. It is purely intuitive, and the intellect has to be put aside in order to know it.

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

Coming up in October....

Darumaki (Bodhidharma) Service & Fujinkai's General Membership Meeting......October 8 10 a.m.

Bazaar donation drop off......October 21 - 27 (9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Social Hall)

Bazaar set up......October 28 (9 a.m.)

Bazaar.....October 29 (9 a.m. to 1 p.m.)

September 2023



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(808) 322-3524

KONA DAIFUKUJI "ZOOM" YOGA 7.19.23

6 Thurs. 8-9am HST Aug.10, 17, 24, 31 Sept. 7, 14

- 7:45 8 am HST Welcome Warm-up
- 8:00 9 am "ZOON
- "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 4: MEDITATION IN MOTION = "Skill" in ALL Action! YAHOO!

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 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** 7.19.23