





79-7241 Mamalahoa Hwy., Kealakekua, HI 96750

January, 2024

(808) 322-3524 www.daifukuji.org

See "archives" on our website for previous newsletters.



New Year's Day Blessing Service Monday, January 1, 2024 10:00 a.m. All are welcome

Let's start 2024 with a blessing for everyone's health and safety. During the service, individual blessings will be given by Reverend Jikō. After the service, attendees may ring the temple bell and enjoy hot *soba* noodles and fellowship on the temple porch.

Assorted *omamori* (Buddhist charms for one's purse and vehicle) and *ofuda* (blessing cards for home and office) will be available for \$5. The white Hawaii Kannon *omamori* is \$6. *Omamori* for dogs and cats will be available for \$5.

No pre-orders will be taken. You may purchase omamori after the service or stop by the temple to purchase your omamori & ofuda after January 1st.

A new year is beginning. We happily welcome new members & membership renewals.

http://www.daifukuji.org/membership_brochure.pdf.

Please use the 2024 membership form that's on the last page of this newsletter.



New Year's Greetings from Reverend Jikō and Deacon Jikai

Aloha Daifukuji members and friends,

I wish you all a very happy New Year!

At the Bodhi Day service, I shared the story of Sujata, the young woman who offered a bowl of milk-rice to Siddharta Gautama, an emaciated seeker of truth. This pivotal offering nourished him when nourishment was most needed and gave him the strength to

take a seat beneath the branches of the tree of enlightenment. I remarked that at Daifukuji we have a "Sujata" whose name is Michiko and pointed to 90-year-old Baikako member Michiko Enomoto, who, with much devotion, prepares an exquisite selection of cooked rice and vegetables in a little tray that is offered to the Buddha at every major service. When thanked for her service, she always puts her palms together in gasshō and says in a most humble way, "I feel very honored and grateful to be able to do this."

Michiko's sincere words captures the feeling that I have when I wake up each morning. I always feel very honored and grateful to have been given this opportunity to serve our sangha. 2024 will mark my 20th year as your minister, and I am truly, truly thankful to be on this path together with all of you. My prayer is for your safety, happiness, and well being now and throughout the Year of the Dragon. Namu kie butsu. Namu kie hō. Namu kie sō.

In gasshō, Jíkō Nakade

Dear Daifukuji members, friends and supporters,

Wishing you all a joyous Holiday season and Happy New Year!

From the bottom of my heart, thank you so much for your continued love, help and support throughout 2023. I am truly grateful and blessed that we have such a wonderful Sangha and so many temple friends. It always warms my heart seeing everyone at the temple or online for various services and occasions. I am already looking forward to the many exciting activities and events we'll be having in 2024.

May the Year of the Dragon bring you much happiness, peace, good health and safety. Here's to a fabulous 2024!

In gasshō, Amy Jikai Nakade

A Message from Your Temple President



Dear Daifukuji Sangha, friends, and supporters,

Happy New Year! As we say good-bye to 2023 and welcome 2024, I look back over the old year and am amazed at what we, as a sangha, have accomplished together. I look forward to the coming year and to the projects and events that lie ahead.

I am often asked "How is it that Daifukuji is growing?" My answer is always, "It's our sangha — all of you — who make Daifukuji really special and bring in

new people." I thank each one of you and look forward to seeing you at a service, event, or gathering in 2024.

Gassho,

Stephen Shodo Tanaka

A Message from Your Temple Vice-President



Dear Daifukuji Sangha and friends near and far,

First, I want to wish you peace in your hearts during this holiday season.

What a privilege it is to be a part of this sangha! I'm so grateful for the love, kindness, respect and fun we share throughout the year. We put on some big events and all went smoothly and successfully. Mahalo for your presence & cooperation.

In this time of giving and reflection, may we all share precious moments with loved ones. May we enjoy the treasures of each day, be healthy in body and mind, and celebrate the new year 2024 with wonder.

Mele Kalikimaka & Hau'oli Makahiki Hou!

In gassho,

Barb Shoshin Bosz









In Memoriam

Yoshiko Faye Osako passed away on November 12, 2023 at the age of 102. We send our sincere condolences to her family and surround them with our love.

Namu Kanzeon Bosatsu.



Clean Up Day Mahalo



We had a very good volunteer turnout for the November temple cleanup day. An extra table needed to be set up when it was time for refreshments. People from all the temple groups got right into the tasks and worked cheerfully and diligently. Those with clean-up-day experience are always ready to help those who are new to it.



Pulling elephant grass continues to be one of the big jobs. Picks, o'o, and hoes were swinging all morning. The Daifukuji Zen Taiko group prepared a delicious and hearty lunch for this big group of volunteers.

Mahalo to everyone who helped.

Aloha,

Shaun Roth, Cleanup Chair





Cemetery Mahalo

Have you noticed how clean and tidy the Daifukuji cemetery is? Its beautification can be attributed to five extremely hardworking sisters, who generously volunteered to clean up the cemetery in time for Bodhi Day and the New Year and rose at the crack of dawn many times to do so.

We extend a big and sincere mahalo to:

Shirlene Yoneyama, Karene Ota, Verna Fukunaga, Lorna Matsuoka, and Sandra Awa.

A Successful Bazaar

Our temple's "mini" bazaar generated a net total of \$8,751.74. It was a great success, thanks to everyone's kōkua, donations, and support. Thank you all very much.

Daifukuji Fujinkai's New Year's Gathering (Hatsumairi 初参り) Sunday, January 7, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

It's always a joy to begin a new year together. All members of the Daifukuji Fujinkai are cordially invited to the Fujinkai's first service of the New Year, which will be held on **Sunday, January 7** at 10:00 a.m. The service will be followed by an installation of officers, lunch and activities.

The incoming officers will be: Vice-president - Susie Weaver, Recording secretary - Linda Calloway, Corresponding secretary - Teri Hollowell, Treasurer - Andrea Shea, and Historian - Travis Marsh. Joyce St. Arnault will continue to serve as president. The Fujinkai's advisor is Michael Nakade.

The annual dues of \$10 will be collected. Fujinkai members 85 years of age and up are exempt from paying dues. Tickets for the group's February 17th pancake breakfast fundraiser will be distributed. Tickets are \$10 apiece. For Hatsumairi planning purposes, a general headcount is needed. District representatives will soon be contacting group members.

The members of the Daifukuji Fujinkai have supported the temple in numberless ways for over a century. They engage in educational workshops, community service, conferences, and field trips, and hold an annual fundraiser to defray expenses for their members. Membership in the Daifukuji Fujinkai is open to all adults and new members are always welcome. For information, go to https://www.daifukuji.org/activities/Fujinkai_Brochure_2022.pdf, or contact Joyce at (808) 329-3833 or Rev. Jiko at (808) 322-3524, rev.jiko@daifukuji.org. Our Fujinkai welcomes you.







A big, warm mahalo to the Daifukuji Zazenkai for their annual Bodhi Day donation to the temple's Legacy Endowment Fund.

Zazenkai members and friends participated in this year's Rohatsu Sesshin both in person and via Zoom. Morning and evening zazen sessions were offered. On the 8th day, the sesshin came to an end and many enjoyed a delicious breakfast prepared by Reiko Sekine. Arigatō, Reiko.



Mahalo from Kona Daifukuji Taiko

Aloha!

I'd like to offer my profound gratitude for the tremendous success of Kona Daifukuji Taiko's recent online auction. It is with sincere appreciation that I express my heartfelt

gratitude to our Taiko Community of Love for your steadfast support, devotion, hard work, and commitment, which played a critical role in making this event an amazing success.

The auction results considerably exceeded our expectations, and this accomplishment is due to the combined work and thoughtful planning put forth by our Taiko families. We are very blessed to have a Taiko family that continually goes above and beyond to achieve excellence. A special mahalo to our diligent Taiko students for your dedicated efforts in soliciting donations. Your devotion and enthusiasm were critical to the auction's success, and we are grateful for your continuous dedication.

I'd also like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the many generous donors whose donations made the auction a huge success. Your contribution not only aided our organization immensely, but it also demonstrates the generosity of our community. Thank you very much to our incredible Taiko Mamas and friends, whose dedication and hard work ensured the success of the event. Mahalo to Jolene Furuto Mears (Auction Chair), Reverend Jiko Nakade, Ayako Sasaki, Barbara Shoshin Bosz, Hiroko Tateishi, Kari Kimura, Kumiko Ioh, and Lillian Felte. Your collaborative efforts have created a standard of excellence that will inspire future endeavors.

The auction proceeds will be used to assist our performing Taiko students' educational trip to Japan in July 2024. Your generous contributions will enable us to provide our keiki with a unique and engaging cultural experience, as well as opportunities to improve their Taiko skills by participating in workshops with world-renowned Taiko ensembles Kodo and Ondekoza. Thank you to everyone in our community who helped make this amazing event for our keiki possible.

On behalf of Kona Daifukuji Taiko Group, I offer our heartfelt appreciation for your unwavering love and support, not just for our online auction, but for everything we do. Your continuing dedication has been the driving force to the growth and success of our Taiko community. Mahalo nui loa for your continuous dedication and wonderful hearts. Thank you for being a member of our Taiko Community of Love!

Taiko Mini Concert Fundraiser & Food Sale
Saturday, December 30th at Noon
Daifukuji Social Hall
\$20 admission fee collected at the door.
First come, first serve. Limited seating.

In gratitude,
Akemi Iwamoto *=)
Kona Daifukuji Taiko Artistic Director

January Activities

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, January 20 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. 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.

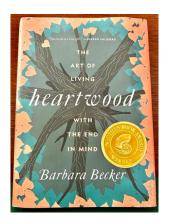
Yoga — Mondays, January 8 & 15 from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. in the Hisashi Kimura Cultural Hall. No fee, but donations accepted. Bring a mat or towel. Call instructor Liz Aschenbrenner: (808) 345-1270 or liz217a@hotmail.com. After January 15, Liz's yoga class will be on break until further notice.

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.

"Living with the End in Mind" Weekly Zoom Dharma Study with Rev. Jikō Nakade Starting February, 2024

"When we live each day with the end in mind, looking into the face of impermanence, something extraordinary happens."

~ Rev. Jikō ~



Registration is now open for an 11-session series of weekly Dharma classes which will be offered via Zoom by Reverend Jikō Nakade. Sign ups will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis.

For this series, Reverend Jikō has selected the book *Heartwood: The Art of Living with the End in Mind* by author Barbara Becker, an interfaith minister, mother, writer, and hospice volunteer who has received mentoring from respected Soto Zen teachers Koshin Paley Ellison and Chodo Campbell of the New York Zen Center for Contemplative Care.

One is invited to register for either the Thursday or Saturday morning classes. Each class is an hour long, and a commitment to being non-judgmental and to holding others' personal stories confidential is required.

Please select group 1 or group 2.

Group 1: Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to Noon (February 1 - March 11)

Group 2: Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. (February 3 - May 11, skipping certain Saturdays)

Heartwood will be available through the Daifukuji Gift Shop at a reduced price for Dharma class members who are able to pick up a copy. Please contact Rev. Jiko if you would like to have a copy reserved for you. Unfortunately, the gift shop does not provide the service of mailing out books. This book is available for online purchase in hardcover, Kindle, and Audiobook formats.

Rev. Jikō offers the Dharma freely. There is no class fee. Donations may be offered 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.



2024 Hawaii Soto Shu Calendars

The 2024 Soto-Shu calendars will be arriving soon, featuring pictures of the eminent Zen teacher Keizan Jokin Zenji, whose statue is found in every Soto Zen temple and whose 700th memorial year falls in 2024.

Daifukuji has ordered 175 calendars, which will be offered without charge on a first-come-first-serve basis.

An email announcement will be sent out when the calendars arrive. We hope to have them available at the New Year's blessing service, Fujinkai Hatsumairi, and New Year's party. Daifukuji members, if you live outside Hawaii and wish to have one mailed to you, please contact Rev. Jiko as soon as possible at (808) 322-3524, rev.jiko@daifukuji.org.





Making Origami Boxes Out of Calendar Paper



Wondering what to do with your 2023 calendars? Instead of tossing them into the trash, why not make pretty *origami* boxes using the rectangular calendar pages as Rev. Jikō has done? It's quite easy. Andrea Shea found these instructions on the internet:

https://japantoday.com/category/features/lifestyle/making-trash-containers-from-old-papers-1.

Have fun! If you need help, just ask Rev. Jikō or Andrea.









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3 2024

KONA DAIFUKUJI "ZOOM" YOGA 12.3.23

6 Thurs. 8 – 9 am HST Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25 Feb. 1, 8

- 7:45 8 am HST Welcome Warm-up
- 8:00 9 am
- "ZOOM" YOGA!
- 9:00 9:20am Chat (optional)
- 12:45 1 pm EST
- 1:00 2 pm
- 2:00 2:20 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!

Pt 3: Conscious crossover from where to where? Attune your ENERGY!

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** 12,3.23

Remembering ROSALYNN CARTER



Left to right: Mrs. Rose Nakamura, Mrs. Rosalynn Carter, Mrs. Shimeji Kanazawa.

By Cyndi Osajima, M.P.H.

Executive Director Project Dana

Project Dana – the Faith In Action program that provides a variety of services to the frail elderly and family caregivers to ensure their wellbeing, independence, and dignity in an environment of their choice – lost a

longtime friend when it was announced that former first lady Rosalynn Carter passed away on November 19, 2023.

Mrs. Carter, whose husband Jimmy served as the 39th president of the United States from

1977 to 1981, was a globally recognized humanitarian and a powerful advocate for family caregivers and those living with mental illness. In 1987, she founded the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers in her home state of Georgia.

She was no stranger to the role of caregiver. "I know firsthand the demands of caregiving," she wrote in an open letter on her institute's website. "When I was 12 years old my father became terminally ill with leukemia. I was one of four children and as the oldest and a daughter, my 34-year-old mother depended on me," Mrs. Carter wrote.

"Since returning home from the White House," she continued, "we have supported many members of Jimmy's family who have died of cancer, and I helped care for my mother until she died in 2000 at the age of 94. As I've traveled this country speaking about caregiving, person after person has stepped forward to tell me their own stories. So many people giving care to their loved ones feel isolated, inadequate, despairing."

She ended her letter with a call to action: "At a time when more and more Americans are called on to give care, it is critically important that we do all we can to support caregivers."

It is not exactly clear how Mrs. Carter learned about Project Dana so many thousands of miles away, but somehow she found out about this grassroots interfaith organization based at Mo'ili'ili Hongwanji Mission not long after it was cofounded in 1989 by the late Mrs. Shimeji Kanazawa and

the late Mrs. Rose Nakamura, the organization's founding administrator, to provide compassionate support and services to older adults in Hawai'i and their caregivers.

In fact in 1993, Rose Nakamura was nationally recognized with the inaugural Rosalynn Carter Caregiving Award. She was selected for this award out of nominees from throughout the United States. On February 22, 1994, Mrs. Carter was welcomed in Hawai'i by approximately 200 Project Dana volunteers who had gathered in the social hall of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission headquarters on Pali Highway. She was in Hawai'i for only two days and made a special appearance to meet Project Dana volunteers and staff members.

In her remarks, Mrs. Carter said that she thought the best way to put one's faith into practice was to help those who were less fortunate. She said that Project Dana was a program that needed to be replicated across the country.

But that wasn't the end of Mrs. Carter's connections to Project Dana. In her book, "Helping Yourself Help Others: A Book for Caregivers," which was first published in 1994 and reprinted a number of times since then, Mrs. Carter devotes a section of her book to interfaith volunteer caregivers.

Within that section, she specifically mentions the work of Project Dana and names Rose Nakamura and Shim Kanazawa for their roles in setting up and sustaining the program. She also acknowledges the many hundreds of volunteers who practice dana, the act of selfless giving.

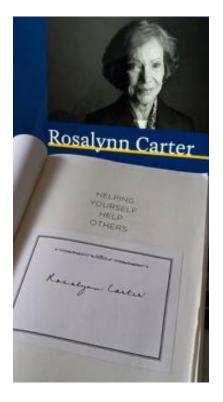
Interfaith volunteer caregivers help those in need regardless of their faith and "do so without any attempt to proselytize," she wrote. While they don't replace formal services, they can help fill in the gaps.

"Motivated by faith, the volunteers quickly develop a lasting relationship with the people they serve and often become family to one another. They receive training from professionals so that they are comfortable, confident, and competent when called upon to provide assistance." Rose Nakamura received a personalized autographed copy of the book from Mrs. Carter.

When Project Dana celebrated its 25th anniversary celebration on September 20, 2014, Mrs. Carter recorded video remarks that were shown to the audience in the Pōmaika'i Ballroom at Dole Cannery in Iwilei, and Dr. Leisa Easom, Executive Director of Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregiving at Georgia Southwestern State University, delivered the keynote address in

person. Dr. Easom then wrote about Project Dana in the December 2014 edition of "The Caregiver's Advocate," the institute's newsletter.

"Take a moment to think about this," Dr. Easom wrote, reflecting on her time in Hawai'i as part of Project Dana's 25th anniversary celebration. "If we in our own congregations could set up a volunteer program to assist each other, especially those that are aging and/or disabled. We could spend two to four hours each week reaching out to those that are hurting. Our actions could make a huge difference in combating the isolation and challenges faced by many caregivers."



Even as far away as Mrs. Carter's hometown in

Americus, Georgia, Project Dana – at that time headquartered in the "little blue house" on Nakookoo Street in Mo`ili`ili – was on the mind of those who operated the institute named in honor of the former first lady.

As the years passed, Mrs. Carter and her husband won praise and widespread respect for their efforts "to resolve conflict, promote human rights, improve global health, and build democracy in some 65 countries," as described in her brief biography on the White House's website. She was also known for helping build houses through the organization Habitat for Humanity. That organization released a statement after Mrs. Carter's death saying, "With Rosalynn Carter's passing, Habitat for Humanity has lost one of our most ardent and dedicated volunteers. As we join the world in mourning the death of a remarkable leader, we reflect on the life of a woman who used her platform to make a difference for those in need of affordable housing."

The statement ended with these words: "We are strengthened by her example and comforted by the memory of a life dedicated to helping others."

In May 2023, Mrs. Carter's family publicly revealed that she had dementia. They wanted to share this

information with the public to encourage people to talk about dementia with their own family members and healthcare providers to help decrease the stigma surrounding mental health, a cause that had always been near and dear to Mrs. Carter's heart.

Project Dana is privileged to have enjoyed a longtime connection to Rosalynn Carter, whose highly visible and vocal support of caregivers was genuinely transformative and groundbreaking. She took the time and effort to recognize and remember Project Dana over a period of decades, and for that Project Dana is deeply grateful and will honor her memory through a continuation of the mission envisioned by Project Dana's founders.

Caregiver support services offered through Project Dana include counseling, training, support group meetings, and public presentations. Visit www.projectdana.org for more information.



Daifukuji Soto Mission 2024 Annual Membership Form



Please check one of the following	ng:		
Membership renewal			
New member	C.1 . 1	T 1 1: 1	··
Not a member but wish to I	be a supporter of the temple.	Enclosed is my dona	tion.
Members of your household wh	o consider themselves meml	bers of Daifukuji Soto	Mission:
1Last Name			
Last Name 2		Year of Birth	Occupation
Last Name	First Name	Year of Birth	Occupation
Last Name	First Name	Year of Birth	Occupation
4Last Name	First Name	Year of Birth	Occupation
5Last Name	First Name	Year of Birth	Occupation
(Please add names on a separate	sheet if necessary.)		
Mailing Address Street Address (if different from ma	oiling addraga)		
Street Address (if different from in	annig address)		
Phone Number	Cell Phone Number		
E-mail Address			
			· —
*2024 Annual Membership Du	ies		
\$60.00 per household	\$		
* Temple Operation Fund Donation (ijihi)	\$		
Fund Donation (ijihi) Helps with cemetery and col	umbarium maintenance, u	 ıtilities, insurance, n	ninister's salary, office
equipment & supplies, basic r			
*Annual Sunday Services Don (Gobutsuzen)	ation \$		
TOTAL ENCLOSED	\$		

Please make checks payable to: Daifukuji Soto Mission . Kindly remit by June 1, 2024

Membership forms and donations may be dropped off at the temple office or mailed to: **Daifukuji Soto Mission, P.O. Box 55, Kealakekua, HI** 96750.

Your donations sustain our temple & programs. Whatever amount you can donate beyond the membership dues is greatly appreciated. Thank you very much for your generosity & support. In Gassho

January 2024



December 2023

SMTWTFS

3 4 5 6 7 8 9

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January 2024

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14 15 16 17 18 19 20

SMTWTFS

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February 2024

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