



Lahaina Jodo Mission Bulletin

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Temporary Mailing Address: 121 Lili Lehua Street, Wailuku, HI 96793

March 2025

OHIGAN SERVICE

DATE: **Sunday, March 9, 2025**

TIME: **8:30 a.m.**

PLACE: **Wailuku Jodo Mission**

Since olden times, Buddhists in Japan set aside time during the spring and fall equinox (*ohigan*) to take a week of retreat. *Higan* also means the 'Other Shore' or the Buddha's world of enlightenment. Traditionally this week-long retreat is a time of self-reflection and thanksgiving for life. Customarily during *Ohigan*, we offer prayers to our departed loved ones and ancestors. Let us observe Ohigan with our Maui sangha at Wailuku Jodo Mission, where our main altar Amida Buddha is enshrined.

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS FOR DAIBUTSU WAXING AND TEMPLE CLEAN-UP

We will be doing a much-needed preliminary cleaning of our Daibutsu and clean-up on the temple grounds on **Sunday, March 16 from 9:00 a.m.**

We are looking for volunteers to kokua, if you have time, please join us. Please bring gloves, gardening tools, wheelbarrow, etc. for yardwork. Water refill will be available, please bring bottle. Those who are able to kokua, please contact Yayoi at 808-276-4042 or email yayoi.hara@gmail.com

LAHAINA OHANA SERVICE FELLOWSHIP & MEETING

DATE: **Sunday, March 23, 2025**

TIME: **10:00 a.m.**

PLACE: **Lahaina Jodo Mission**

We welcome everyone to come together in the spirit of healing, community, and connection. This is a chance to share, support one another, and strengthen our Lahaina Ohana. Let's gather to honor our past, embrace the present, and look forward to the future together. Join us for service and fellowship. There will be a board meeting after the service.

VISIT BY ABBOT OF ENGAKUJI TEMPLE

The distinguished Rinzaï Zen master Abbot Nanrei Yokota of Engakuji Temple in Kamakura, Japan visited our temple on February 23, 2025. We are deeply grateful to Abbot Yokota and his entourage for visiting our temple and offering prayers for the Lahaina wildfire victims and our departed Lahaina members. The Abbot also gave us encouragement for rebuilding our temple. Mahalo to Rev. Kosen Haga of Paia Rinzaï Zen Mission for escorting the Abbot, Ed Sera and Yayoi for helping to clean the temple grounds and prepare for the visitation, Nobu & Masako for presenting our temple's songs and to Edwin Sera, Ken & Clyde Tasaka, Machiko Nagao, Hiroko Hattori, Yayoi & Setuko Hara in welcoming Abbot Yokota.



OBETSUJI NENBUTSU SESSION

Our Jodo shu founder Honen Shonin stressed the importance of setting aside time and place to concentrate nenbutsu recitation to deepen our faith in Amida Buddha. This practice is known as Obetsuji or special nenbutsu session.

Kahului Jodo Mission will hold an Obetsuji Nenbutsu session on **Wednesday, March 19 from 7-8 p.m.** Let us join this special nenbutsu session.

LETTER FROM FRIEND

I feel so grateful to all who worked so hard to restore the urns. Being here in Michigan and not being there to assist was very difficult for me. However, my heavy heart is now lightened and there is a sense of peace, thank you all, may you also find solace and grace for respecting those who left us beautiful memories

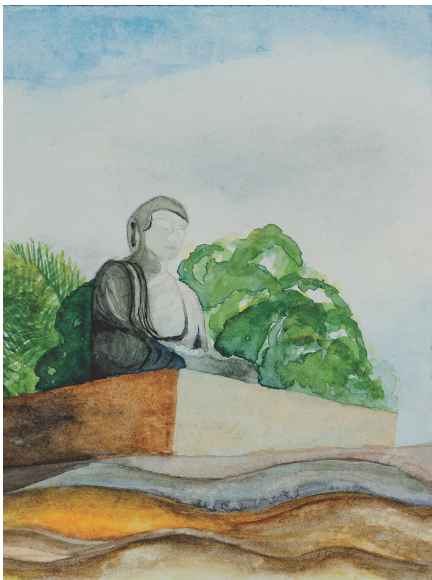
As Reverend Hara wrote in the newsletter, life has its ups and downs, however we should thank Buddha for each day of living. I agree so much, time is fleeting and there is much to be done. Thank you Hara sensei for reminding me about the power of now.

Please say hello to Mrs. Hara. Please stay healthy.

Arigato,

Lillian Phenice (Aotaki)

WATERCOLOR PAINTING BY JULIET



Our member Juliet DiGiovani, painted our Amida Buddha and created beautiful art card. The cards read Statue of Amida, Buddha of infinite life and light, Lahaina Jodo Mission.

We mahalo Juliet for her assistance with thank you letter mailings and other admin support.

ADDRESS CHANGE

Please keep us informed of any address changes or if you prefer to receive bulletin via email.

WEST MAUI HANAMATSURI CELEBRATION

We are happy to announce that the West Maui Buddhist Council (Lahaina Shingon, Hongwanji and Jodo Missions) will hold their joint Hanamatsuri Celebration this year to honor the birth of Shakyamuni Buddha.

DATE: **Sunday, April 13, 2025**

TIME: **9:30 a.m.**

PLACE: **West Maui Veteran's Center
On Fleming Road, Lahaina**

Lahaina Jodo Mission will be hosting the event this year. Program will include service, offering sweet tea to the Baby Buddha, fellowship luncheon, and entertainment. Please join in on the fellowship with our West Maui Buddhist temple's ohana.

We are seeking volunteers to assist with decorating the *hanamido* (flower shrine) and other set-up in the morning of April 13. If you can help, please contact Yayoi at 808-276-4042 or email yayoi.hara@gmail.com.

MARCH CALENDAR

- March 1(Sun) Worldwide Nenbutsu session hosted by Nippaku-ji in Curitiba, Brazil
- 2 (Sun) Kahului Service, 8:30 a.m.
LJM Board Mtg., 11 a.m.
- 9 (Sun) Wailuku Jodo Mission Ohigan Service, 8:30 a.m.
- 16 (Sun) Buddha Maintenance and Workday, 9:30 a.m.
Kahului Jodo Service, 8:30 a.m.
- 19 (Wed) Obetsuji Nenbutsu at Kahului Jodo Mission, 7 p.m.
- 23 (Sun) Lahaina Ohana Service, 10 a.m.
- 31 (Mon) Mayor's Hanamatsuri Proclamation at 9 a.m.

SIGN-UP FOR TREES

Treecovery led by Duane Sparksman is growing trees to help replace lost trees for Lahaina residents. On March 20, Treecovery is working with Mmmingpha (zen practitioner) to plan 108 fruit & native tree planting. If you are interested in receiving trees and native plants sign-up at treecovery.com If you would like to participate with the equinox, heart sutra planting on March 20 please contact Mmmingpha at 808-495-6801.
