



Lahaina Jodo Mission Bulletin

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January 2025

MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Rev. Gensho Hara

Dear Lahaina Ohana & Dharma friends,

Wishing everyone a peaceful Happy New Year! I hope that you are all in good health and find peace, embraced by the Great Compassion of Amida Buddha. On New Year's Eve, we celebrated in front of our *honzan* (main altar image), currently at Wailuku Jodo Mission. My heart was filled to see so many of our Lahaina members join and to enjoy *toshikoshi soba* and other New Year's dishes together. Our hearts were warmed by the hospitality of Wailuku Jodo Mission and their president Rodney Carillo and treasurer Lori in welcoming us at their temple.

I know that for many who are recovering from the August 8, 2023 fire, we are all still struggling and suffering. Although we face challenges daily, let us remember the teachings of our founder Honen Shonin "with undivided attention wholeheartedly call on Amida Buddha's name—whether walking, standing or lying down without doubt call Amida Buddha's name steadily, this is the practice of Amida's original vow (*hongan*).” Honen Shonin was awakened by this original vow. By calling Amida's name—*Namu Amida Butsu* we will be born into the Pure Land and embraced by the compassionate light of the Amida. With this conviction, Honen Shonin spread the nenbutsu teaching.

Last year marked the 850th year of the founding of Jodo Shu and the 130th year of Jodo Shu in Hawaii. Continuing this spirit, it is my hope to rebuild our temple in Lahaina for generations to come. Updates will be announced in our bulletin.

In welcoming this new year, I sincerely extend my deepest appreciation for your support and kokua in the past many years and ask for your continued devotion for our temple. If we can assist you in any way, please do not hesitate to call me at 661-4304.

With Gassho,
Namu Amida Butsu

ST. HONEN'S MEMORIAL SERVICE

Our Jodo Shu founder Honen Shonin (1133–1212) passed on the twenty-fifth day of the first lunar month of 1212. With deep gratitude to our founder, who taught us the way to receive the compassion and wisdom of Amida Buddha through reciting nenbutsu, *Namu Amida Butsu*, we will observe *Gyoki-e*, his memorial service on **Sunday, January 12 at 8:30 a.m. at Wailuku Jodo Mission.**

HOMECOMING SERVICE & MEMBERSHIP MEETING IN LAHAINA

Please join us on **Sunday, January 26 at 10:00 a.m. at Lahaina Jodo Mission** for a homecoming service and membership meeting.

With the completion of the debris removal by the US Army Corps of Engineers team, our temple grounds are now cleared. We also invite you to inspect the cleared temple grounds during this gathering. Service will be held in front of the Daibutsu, followed by refreshments and general membership meeting. We hope to see you all there.

DEBRIS REMOVAL COMPLETED

We are now in the final phase of debris removal, soil sampling results have passed, and erosion control has been completed. Big mahalo to the US Army Corp of Engineers and the debris removal team which included sub-contractor Goodfellows, they took great care in clearing our temple property.

PAGODA URNS CLEANING

Under the guidance of UH Manoa art archivist Malia Van Heukelem and conservator Liane Naauao and with the support of National Heritage Responders Grant, we will be performing cleaning the temple family urns. We hope to identify the urns however please expect that not all the urns will be able to be identified. The cleaning will begin on **Saturday and Sunday, January 18–19, 2025.**

If you would like to assist please contact Yayoi at 808-276-4042 or email yayoi.hara@gmail.com

AMIDA BUDDHA RESTORATION

With the generous National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Chair's grant for disaster recovery of \$30,000, we will be starting Phase I of the cleaning and restoration treatment of our Amida Buddha statue, which was saved from the temple by our Vietnamese nun friend Kim and former neighbor Ben Mora on the night of the Lahaina fires. The restoration team, led by conservator Prof. Naomi Sasaoka of Tohoku University and Buddhist historian Prof. Tomoko Moriya, be arriving from Japan and working on Phase I from Jan. 20 to 25 at Wailuku Jodo Mission. Mahalo to Maya who has been working diligently to secure the grants and finding the professionals to assist with the restoration effort.

KAHULUI JODO MISSION'S NEW YEAR'S PARTY

Kahului Jodo Mission invites our members to join their service and New Year's party on **Sunday, January 19 at 10:00 a.m.** Let's all join hopeful New Year's celebration at Kahului.

WORLDWIDE UNITED NENBUTSU SESSION

Chaired by Nepal's Rev. Komyo, one hour worldwide united nenbutsu session will be held on January 24, 2025 at 9:15 PM Hawaii time. The session will be held online via zoom. Although it is late evening for those who can join please log-in on zoom ID 2131049394, Passcode dDEB9A

This is a wonderful opportunity to collectively recite nenbutsu with our worldwide sangha.

UPDATED LJM WEBSITE

Our website (www.lahainajodominion.org) has been updated and newly reinstalled, thanks to a generous donation by Judy Aotaki. From this year, we hope to be posting updates of our rebuilding and recovery process from time to time on this site. A big Mahalo to Judy for her donation & to web designer Thushara!

JANUARY 2025 CALENDAR

Jan. 1 — New Year's Day Service, Kahului Jodo Mission, 9 a.m.

Jan. 12 (Sun.) — St. Honen Memorial Service (*Gyoki-e*), Wailuku Jodo Mission, 8:30 a.m.

Jan. 19 (Sun.) — Kahului Jodo Mission Service and New Year's Party, 10 a.m.

Jan. 22 (Wed) — Obetsuji at Wailuku Jodo Mission, 5-6 p.m.

Jan.24 (Fri.) — Worldwide United Nenbutsu Session online via zoom, 9:15 p.m.

Jan. 25 (Sat.) — Japanese Cultural Society New Year's Party at Maui Beach Hotel

Jan. 26 (Sun.) — Lahaina Service & Membership Meeting, Lahaina Jodo Mission, 10 a.m.

MEMORIAL YEARS OBSERVED

Families that wish to hold memorial service for your loved ones, please contact our minister, Rev. Gensho Hara. The below easy reference table for 2025, you can see the significant memorial observance and the year of passing on the left.

1 st year	2024
3 rd year	2023
7 th year	2019
13 th year	2013
17 th year	2009
23 rd year	2003
25 th year	2001
27 th year	1999
33 rd year	1993
37 th year	1989
43 rd year	1982
47 th year	1979
50 th year	1976
100 th year	1926

ADDRESS CHANGE

If you have a change of address or would like to receive bulletin via email please let us know by email lahainajodominion@gmail.com or call 808-661-4304
