



Lahaina Jodo Mission Bulletin

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April 2025

WEST MAUI BUDDHIST COUNCIL HANAMATSURI CELEBRATION



The historic Buddha Shakyamuni was born in Lumbini Garden, India, over 2,500 years ago. In appreciation of the Buddha's teachings, we gather annually to celebrate his birth. As the West Maui Buddhist Council, members of Lahaina Hongwanji, Lahaina Shingon, and Lahaina Jodo Missions will gather, looking to our founder for guidance and inspiration in these challenging times.

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

TIME: **10 a.m.**

PLACE: West Maui Veterans Center
190 Fleming Road, Lahaina

Following the service, please join us for a fellowship luncheon, entertainment, and lucky number drawing. Our temple friend and professional photographer Anthony Martinez will have a portrait studio available for individual, couple, and family photos.

We look forward to gathering and reconnecting with our Lahaina community. Please RSVP to Rev. Hara, no later than April 7.

CENTRAL MAUI HANAMATSURI SERVICE

Central Maui's Hanamatsuri celebration will be held on **Sunday, April 6, 2025 at 9:00 AM** at Wailuku Hongwanji Mission. For those who are able to attend let us take this opportunity to join Central Maui Buddhist sangha in celebrating the Buddha's birthday.

OBETSUJI NENBUTSU SESSION

Honen Shonin taught us the practice of *nenbutsu*—to call upon Amida Buddha's name, *Namu Amida Butsu*, as the path to salvation in this life and the life to come, this is Amida's vow (*hongan*). Let's recite *Namu Amida Butsu*, as our practice in our daily lives. Honen Shonin also stressed the importance of *obetsuji nenbutsu*, setting aside a dedicated, concentrated time to recite *nenbutsu*. At the end of life, we call Amida to welcome us—this practice is called *rinjū nenbutsu*, where family and loved ones gather to support a peaceful transition.

Please join Obetsuji Nenbutsu on **Wednesday, April 16, 5 PM** at Wailuku Jodo Mission.



DAIBUTSU PRESERVATION WORK

On March 16, we were able to complete washing and waxing of our Daibutsu, this was an annual maintenance performed to preserve and protect the bronze patina of our Buddha. This was the first time since the fire, we were able to perform this maintenance work. As the metal was exposed to intense heat during the fire, further preservation work will be required.

In addition to power washing and waxing, railings were sanded and painted. Our deep mahalo for their hard work; Ed Sera, Coy & Lana Owens & family, Vashti & Seanna Daise, Masako & Nobu Yoshida, Machiko Nagao, Mike & Jennifer Ogata, Clyde Tasaka and Yayoi Hara. Setsuko and Rev. Hara watered the yard and supervised the work.

LAHAINA SERVICE & FELLOWSHIP

DATE: **Sunday, April 27, 2025**

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

PLACE: Lahaina Jodo Mission

Please join us for our homecoming service, fellowship luncheon and gathering in Lahaina. Temple report, updates, and announcements will be made at this time. Hope to see you all there!

HCJM LAYPERSONS & RENGU FUJINKAI ONLINE MEETING

The Hawaii Council of Jodo Missions Laypersons' President Jocelyn Tengan and Hawaii Jodo shu Rengo Fujinkai President Iris Nitta announce a statewide zoom meeting on **Saturday, April 19 from 1-3 PM.** The meeting program will be as follows:

1. Welcome by Iris & Jocelyn
2. Opening Prayers
3. Bishop Ishikawa's Message/Report
4. Update on Lahaina Jodo Mission/
Five things to save from your temple in an emergency by Maya Hara
5. Future of the Laypersons, Fujinkai, and YBA led by Jocelyn
6. Other
7. Closing Remarks and Prayers

For those who can attend please contact Rev. Hara for zoom link or to join in person.

MAHALO TO ALL HANDS AND HEARTS FOR YARD CLEAN-UP SUPPORT

A heartfelt mahalo to the non-profit volunteer organization, All Hands and Hearts, for their hard work and support with removing debris material that did not qualify for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Their dedication and effort throughout Lahaina are deeply appreciated.

Over the course of three days, their team worked tirelessly to remove tree stumps, clear a damaged portion of the driveway, and clean-up the surrounding yard.

One volunteer visiting from Canada shared, "I'm happy to be able to do something. It's just a tiny grain of sand compared to what's ahead, but at least it's a start."

We are truly grateful to All Hands and Hearts, their staff, and every volunteer who lent a hand. Special thanks to **Yayoi** for coordinating the project and to **Ed Sera** for his on-site support.

NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN-UP

Neighbors on our Ala Moana Street have come together to organize a neighborhood clean-up along Ala Moana Street and Mala boat ramp area. The area is now open with no barricades on the roads. The public also has access to the beach so it would be nice to beautify the area. If you are able, please come kokua on **Saturday, April 5 from 9 to 11 a.m.** Mahalo to Yayoi Hara and Coy Owens for initiating this neighborhood cleanup!

APRIL CALENDAR

- April 5 (Sat) Community clean up along Ala Moana and Mala area, 9 AM–11 AM
- April 6 (Sun) Central Maui Hanamatsuri at Wailuku Hongwanji Mission, 9 AM
- 13 (Sun) West Maui Hanamatsuri at West Maui Veterans' Center, 10 AM
- 13 (Sun) Wailuku Jodo Service, 8:30 AM
- 16 (Wed) Obetsuji Nenbutsu at Wailuku Jodo, 5 PM
- 19 (Sat) Hawaii Council of Jodo Missions Statewide Laypersons' Association and Rengo Fujinkai Zoom Meeting, 1-3 PM
- 20 (Sun) Kahului Jodo Mission Service, 8:30 AM
- 27 (Sun) Lahaina Jodo Mission Homecoming Service, 10 AM



Lahaina Homecoming Service on Sunday, March 23, 2025
