



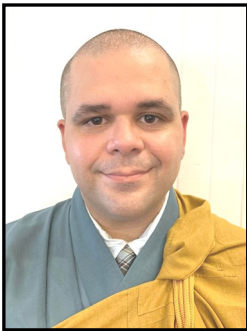
HAKUHO

Taishoji Soto Mission 275 Kinoole St., Hilo, HI 96720-2944
Hilo's Zen Temple
Phone - (808) 935-8407 Fax - (808) 961-6124
E-mail - hilotaishoji@gmail.com



AUGUST 2022

MINISTER'S MESSAGE



Hello Friends and family,

My name is Jigaku Takenouchi. Starting in August I became the 16th resident minister of Taishoji Soto Mission. I was born and raised in New Jersey and moved to Japan in 2004. I lived on a small island until I decided to move to Hawaii in 2006. Initially I lived on Oahu for some years where I studied religion. As part of my religion courses, I would visit various temples, prayer houses and churches of all faiths and discovered the unique style of Buddhism that can only be found throughout the islands of Hawaii.

Some of you may already know a little bit about me. I am a disciple of Reverend Shinsho Hata and was previously a deacon at Taishoji. Through Hata sensei's guidance I began deepening my Buddhist knowledge and began the path towards becoming a Hawaii Soto Zen minister. I am deeply grateful for his patience and willingness to take on me as his disciple. With his perseverance we were able to overcome many challenges placed before us due to the pandemic. The relationship between teacher and disciple is a lifetime commitment that Reverend Hata and I now share. I am honored that he has taken me under his wing and will continue to work to make him proud. I am also thankful to Bishop Shugen Komagata for his support and commitment to growing ministers here in Hawaii.

In 2017, I began attending services at Taishoji and the peaceful atmosphere within the temple was noticeable. The Sangha was both heartwarming and uplifting and made me feel welcomed from the first visit. From that day on I began attending Sunday services weekly and would volunteer for various temple activities when I could. In November of 2017, I was bestowed the Buddhist name of Jigaku during the lay confirmation ceremony.

Continued on next page

The character Ji 慈 means compassion and Gaku 岳 means high mountain are a reminder to always act with compassion towards others. Actually, my name consists of 2 additional characters Tai 泰 meaning Peace/Tranquil and Yo 陽 meaning Bright/positive. 泰陽慈岳. My belief is that I was given this name as a reminder to be a beacon of compassion and tranquility to those around me. I will do my best.

I can see the dedication our members put into making Taishoji an active part of the Buddhist community and the importance of making sure there is a place where seekers can come and learn the teachings of the Buddha. In 2017, Taishoji was that place for me, and I would like to ensure that there is a place for anyone who may be in need of it in the future. I look forward to growing and continuing the teachings of the Buddha with you all.

In Gassho,
Jigaku Takenouchi

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Aloha Members and Friends of Taishoji!

As we wish the Hata Ohana Good luck and best wishes on their final trip back to Japan we can also celebrate the promotion of our own Deacon Jigaku Takenouchi to new Hawaii Soto Zen Minister! The training completion ceremony was conducted by Bishop Komogata on July 16 with assistance from Reverend Hata. This was an important step for Jigaku and Taishoji as we now have our 16th Resident Minister. This whole process was about three years in the making. There were many obstacles that Jigaku had to face having to deal with the Covid outbreak that ultimately prevented him from going to Japan for training. So, with the Bishops guidance, he was able to be trained by Reverend Hata and become a Hawaii Soto Zen minister. Please show your support for Jigaku Takenouchi, our new 16th Resident Minister.

After two-year break, the sound of obon music and Taiko drums are back! This year, Puna (7-2-22) and Hilo Hongwanji (7-9-22) held in person bon dance. It was nice to see familiar faces again. We had our own in person Bon dance on Saturday, July 23rd followed by our Obon service and Toro Nagashi on Sunday the 24th. We had a really good turnout despite the shorter than normal bon dance and no concession. I would like to Mahalo all the organizations for coming out to support the weekend activities. I hope we can have a regular bon dance next year!

Please be safe and covid free. If you do not feel well, stay home and if possible, get tested.

In Gassho,
Derrick Izumo

FUJIN KAI

Aloha Fujin Kai Members, and our supportive families & friends.

We hope that you are doing well in this hot and humid summer season. We had an eventful Obon season this year. Our Bon Dance was carefully resumed in person, Obon service and Toro Nagashi with Hatsu-bon families were sincerely memorable. Thank you for your hard work! We had a wonderful visit from the Maui Mantokuji sangha. Thank you very much for helping in the kitchen and sharing your delicious Chow Fun! We wish Hata sensei and the Family all the best in their new life in Japan. Thank you for helping and guiding our Fujin Kai so kindly. We welcome our new Sensei Rev. Jigaku Takenouchi this month and we will continue to make our Fujin Kai a happy group with him. On August 28th, following the Sunday Service, we will have a welcome gathering (potluck) for Sensei Jigaku. We hope to see you there. Please stay safe and take care. We pray for our members who are staying home and recovering.

Sincerely with gratitude in gassho,
Yoko Gussman (If you have any question, please call me at 808-345-1765)

Zen is the way

"The essence of Buddhist practice is inner cultivation, not external ritual." Dogen Zenji

The way of Zen does not involve worshiping or praying to some supernatural being, but seeing into our true nature. To understand this, we must practice for ourselves. Meditation is the cornerstone of Zen Buddhism. All sects of Zen Buddhism has meditation as one of their main practices, even though they may have different customs, traditions, or languages.

Some people believe that Zen meditation is a withdrawal from daily life, and that they must seclude themselves from ordinary concerns of life. It is true that it is helpful to have a quiet place to sit, but the practice of Zen need not be confined to periods of sitting in meditation, but also can be applied to other activities of daily life. All Zen schools emphasize the fusion of Zen experience within everyday life.

Zen, is also cultivated in the arts, such as tea ceremony, flower arrangement, bonsai, poetry and painting for example. The principle in these different applications of Zen is that any field of activity can serve as the means for realizing the truth of Zen.

We need to practice for ourselves, in order to realize the Buddha's teachings. Thus we can develop a peaceful mind and a peaceful life.

In Gassho,
Deacon Juho

THE BEAUTY OF GRAY

I made the decision to live a simple and uncomplicated life a few years ago, and I thought it meant having to diligently eliminate anything that interfered with that goal. As a result I swung like a pendulum for a few years, flying from one extreme to another, not realizing that serenity is not found at either end of the spectrum, but actually somewhere in between.

When you're not standing at either end, but hanging out in the middle instead, nothing can offend you. Compassion and deep understanding toward others are significantly easier to access when nobody is faraway from where you are.

So, go ahead surround yourself with like-minded people for comfort and support, but don't forget to honor those who push your buttons just as much if not more, for they're the ones who provide an opportunity to grow and mature beyond having buttons that can be pushed.

The world isn't black-and-white, I now know. We live mostly in the gray.

"Kina'ole' is one Hawaiian word that says it all.

Doing the right thing, in the right way,

at the right time, in the right place,

to the right person, for the right reason,

with the right feeling ... the first time!

By Timber Hawkeye in Buddhist Boot Camp

In gassho,
Walter Tachibana

WISDOM WORDS

Zen: United with Nature, and guided by Science. — Zen Buddhism

Love is how excited your dog gets when you come home. — Unknown

I am grateful for what I am and have.

My thanksgiving is perpetual, ever-lasting. — Henry David Thoreau

EVERYTHING YOU SAY SHOULD BE TRUE, BUT NOT EVERYTHING TRUE SHOULD BE SAID. — VOLTAIRE

"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men." — Frederick Douglass

Sunday School & Welcome Gathering (Potluck) for Rev. Jigaku Takenouchi

Sunday School/ Family Service begins **on August 28, 2022 at 9am.**

After the service, we have a **welcome gathering for the new Taishoji resident minister, Rev. Jigaku Takenouchi.** Please join us.



JIGAKU TAKENOUCHI'S HAWAII SOTO MISSION ASSOCIATION MINISTER TRAINING PROGRAM COMPLETION CEREMONY ON JULY 16, 2022



Rev. Jigaku Takenouchi



Jigaku received the certificate from Bishop



Jigaku received the Okesa (Yellow robe)



**TAISHOJI BON DANCE, BON SERVICE & TORO NAGASHI ON JULY 23 & 24
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!**



Members and volunteers for food preparation



Bon Dance Blessing Service



Taishoji Taiko Performance



Bon Dance



Obon Service



Guest Speaker, Rev. Tomoki Hirasawa from Maui



Toro Nagashi Ceremony



Until we meet again

TAISHOJI AUGUST 2022 SCHEDULE

6	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 1
7	Sun	10:00 am	Kyodan Meeting
13	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 2
20	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 3
27	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 4
28	Sun	8-8:35am	Zazen
		9:00 am	SS / Family Service
		2:00 pm	Ireito Hoyo Memorial Service at Alae Cemetery

ZAZEN / YOGA / TAIKO SCHEDULE

YOGA & Zazen	Monday	5:30 pm - 7:30 pm
Taiko Performance Group	Thursday, Friday	5:00 pm - 6:30 pm
Taiko Recreational Group	Tuesday	4:30 pm - 6:00 pm
Ukulele	Wednesday	4:30 pm - 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

TENTATIVE TAISHOJI SEPTEMBER 2022 SCHEDULE

3	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 1
4	Sun	8-8:35am	Zazen
		9:00 am	SS / Family Service (In Person & Virtual)
		10:00 am	Kyodan Meeting
10	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 2
11	Sun	8-8:35am	Zazen
		9:00 am	SS / Family Service (In Person & Virtual)
		10:00 am	Fukuji Kai Meeting
17	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 3
18	Sun	10:00 am	Autumn O-Higan/ Kannon-ko Service (Busshin Kai)
24	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning Group # 4
25	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service
		10:00 am	AJA Memorial Day Service Veterans Cemetery #1

TAISHOJI WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS TO OUR SANGHA

Aloha and Welcome New Members

Mitsuru Maemori and family

Introduce yourselves to our new members and welcome them to our Sangha for activities and fellowship