

# HAKUHO



Taishoji Soto Mission, 275 Kinoole St. Hilo, HI 96720-2944  
Hilo's Zen Temple

Phone - 808-935-8407 Fax - 808-961-6124

Email - hilotaishoji@gmail.com



**JULY 2020**

## MINISTER'S MESSAGE



Aloha, Members and Friends of Taishoji,

Since Taishoji didn't have any regular services last month, I performed a live streaming Kaisanki, Rekijuki and Deceased Baika members memorial service on Facebook and YouTube on June 7<sup>th</sup>. During my sermon, I talked about a precious Baika member who passed away this year. Her name is Mrs. Kazue Tanimoto. She passed away in March at the age of 101. She was an active Taishoji member and came to Taishoji Sunday Service every week. I've never seen such an energetic lady. She was always laughing and drove to Taishoji Soto Mission until she turned 98. She always said, "Daijobu, daijobu." This is a Japanese word that means "Everything is going to be fine." The word "daijobu" and her smile made our hearts calm. She also belonged to the Baika group and

sat in the front row during practice. Even though she was over 100 years old, her voice was big and very beautiful. I'd like to share one of the Baika songs that she cherished. The title of the song is "Zazen Goeika." During the Deceased Baika members memorial service, I sang the song. The song-poem was written by Soto Zen founder, Dogen Zenji. "Zazen" means Zen meditation. Dogen wrote this poem to express the importance of Zazen. I'd like to share the meaning of the poem with you. "Nigori naki kokoro no mizu ni sumu tsuki ha, nami mo kudakete hikari tozonaru, hikari tozonaru (濁りなき 心の水に すむ月は 波も 碎けて 光とぞなる 光とぞなる). And this is the English translation: "The clear light of the moon that settles in a pure heart, with no darkened stain, becomes the light that abides when waves in the heart break away."

How do you feel about this poem? In this poem, the moon of the first sentence represents the Zazen of Buddha and Zen masters. Zazen is the root of Buddhism and the sitting figure of Buddha when Buddha attained enlightenment. The wave expresses the movement of our heart.

Continued on next page

If we feel anxiety and anger, the wave of our heart is high, and the ocean of our heart is stormy. But if we do Zazen, the wave of our heart disappears, and the ocean will be calm. After the wave disappears, the reflection of the beautiful moon will appear clearly. The moon's reflection on the surface of the water is our Buddha mind, which dwells in our own heart.

By continuing Zazen and other Zen practices, the ocean of our heart is always calm, and the moon reflected on the surface of the water starts shining brightly. This is the meaning of Dogen's beautiful poem.

Going back to the previous story, Mrs. Tanimoto used to sing this song at the end of Zazen sessions. She memorized the song, so I had the chance to sing this song with her at the temple, at her house and in my van while I was driving with her. She didn't get angry. She always said, "Daijobu, daijobu." She had the power to brighten everything around her. For me, she was like the moon that represents the Zazen of Buddha. She was the light that shines on me. She went to the world of Buddha, but she always watches over us. Through the encounter with her, I'd like to be the moon that shines on others and spend peaceful days like her from now on.

Finally, what kind of life do you want to live? Is the ocean of your heart stormy? Please take a deep breath and make your heart calm. By doing so, the moon reflected on the surface of the water will appear, and the moon will brighten your life like Buddha's light.

In Gassho,

Rev. Shinsho Hata



**Beautiful Reflection of the Moon  
on the Ocean's Surface**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Aloha Everyone,

After going through 3<sup>1/2</sup> months of Stay at home, Safe at home and now Act with care proclamation, I hope everyone is well and are ready to see the outside of your home again. Be prepared for the new normal. People will be wearing masks wherever you go and will try to distance themselves from you as much as possible to comply with the proclamation in place until it is lifted, which I think won't be for awhile. In the mean time stay at home if you really do not have to go out. If you are elderly or have a health problem, have someone help you with your needs. Could be a relative or a friend. This is the time for everyone to come together and help each other if you are able.

In Gassho,

Rodney Nishino

## **FUJINKAI**

Aloha Fujin Kai members, friends, and supporting family members!

How are you doing? I am hoping that you are doing well and are in good spirit as summer arrives and as the restrictions ease a bit. Following the temple decision of this year's O-bon schedule, Fujin Kai will not cook together this year for O-bon Service. My sincerest prayers go especially out to the Hatsubon families this difficult year. Gassho.

More recipes for the cookbook fundraiser are still welcome. It is a nice opportunity to share your mother's (or father's) nostalgic recipes, or easy recipes you cook often, or new recipes you found recently. We can combine them into a nice cookbook & share them with Hawaii Soto Fujin Kai friends for the holiday season.

Hope to safely see you all soon! Please take care.

Cell Phone: (808) 345-1765. / Mailing Address: P.O. Box 5055 Hilo, HI 96720 / Email: [hilo1989@gmail.com](mailto:hilo1989@gmail.com)

In Gratitude and Gassho,

Yoko Gussman

## BUSSHIN KAI

**“Teachers open the doors. You enter yourself.” -- Chinese proverb**

As a teacher, I am very much aware of the truth and wisdom of these words. It is driven home to me every time I give a lecture. I lead my students, pointing the way, trying to stretch them beyond their current assumptions and awareness. Whether or not their visions of reality is enlarged, it's up to them to change their lives. They have to walk through the door of realization. This Chinese saying also emphasizes the reality of freewill and the lonely nature of the individual path. Mythologist Joseph Campbell revealed the necessity of the individual journey by revealing his favorite story in King Arthur legends: When the Knights of the Round Table embarked on their search for the Holy Grail, they did so individually, each knight entering the forest individually at the darkest point, where there was no path for him to follow. “Where there is a way or path, it is someone else’s path,” Campbell wrote. “Each human being is a unique phenomenon.”

For the high school, college and university Class of 2020, this became all the more true in a time of pandemic and civil rights crises. They experienced a most traumatic and historic time in their young lives. Their commencement, or start of a new life, will require much wisdom, love and compassion. Zen Buddhism offers them such a means to face the future. We hope happiness will come...

Walter Tachibana,  
Busshin Kai President

### TAISHOJI JULY 2020 SCHEDULE

5	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service (on Facebook) (downloaded on YouTube later)
12	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service (on Facebook) (downloaded on YouTube later)
18	Sat		Rev. Hata to Mantokuji for O-Bon Service
	Sat		LANTERN REQUEST FORMS DUE
26	Sun	9:00 am	O-BON & TOBA KUYO SERVICE (LIVE on Facebook)
		5:30 pm	TORO NAGASHI (TO BE VIDEO TAPED)
			Facebook Link - <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Taishoji-Soto-Mission-121688031174831/">https://www.facebook.com/Taishoji-Soto-Mission-121688031174831/</a>
		10:30 am	HATSUBON SERVICE (Leung, Sato, Masuhara, & Tetsuka Families)
		1:30 pm	HATSUBON SERVICE (Watanabe, Hirata, & Tanimoto Families)
27	Mon	10:00 am	O-BON, TOBA KUYO & TORO NAGASHI CAN BE VIEWED ON
			YouTube Link - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSQ4EVugUml_rGhb1c-8RQQ">https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSQ4EVugUml_rGhb1c-8RQQ</a>

### TEMPLE SERVICES & CLEANING GROUPS

**REGULAR TEMPLE SERVICES & TEMPLE CLEANING WILL BE SUSPENDED UNTIL JULY 31, 2020.**

Please bear with us as we try to continue to follow the guidelines put forth by the CDC and Hawaii County. Hopefully we will be able to have our SS / Family Services and other up coming services in the months to follow by wearing our masks & keeping our social distances in place. Members have spaced out the pews in preparation for the day we can have services. We have masks (if needed), hand sanitizers, gloves & disinfectants for cleaning before & after services.

### TENTATIVE TAISHOJI AUGUST 2020 SCHEDULE

1	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning <b>Group # 4</b>
8	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning <b>Group # 1</b>
9	Sun	10:00 am	<b>Kyodan Meeting</b>
		1:00 pm	<b>Fujin Kai Meeting</b>
15	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning <b>Group # 2</b>
22	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning <b>Group # 3</b>
23	Sun	9:00 am	SS / Family Service
	Sun	2:00 pm	<b>IRESAI SERVICE (Alae Cemetery) (CANCELLED)</b>
29	Sat	7:00 am	Temple Cleaning <b>Group # 4</b>

## RELEVANCE OF BUDDHISM IN THE MODERN WORLD

Last time I wrote about how Buddhism is relevant in our modern world. How we can overcome worry, tension, anxiety, and stress. There are many other ways in which Buddhism can help us. We saw that how we think about things can cause a lot of stress. The same is true for anger. We can overcome anger in the same manner. My teacher always said "anger is a bad condition. "Why? Because when we act through anger, we make mistakes, and cause problems. Especially with our mouth. We have all said something that we wish we had not said when we were angry. Just like stress, anger can be averted by changing how we think about things.

Years ago, I lived at a large meditation center in Los Angeles. I had to drive on the freeway every morning to get to work. One morning, while on the freeway, I got angry. So that night, during our evening meditation, I asked myself why I got angry.

So I said to myself "A guy cut into my lane, and I had to slam on my brakes to avoid an accident", then my meditation mind said "In the first place, it is not your lane, it is a public street. Anyone can use it. second, the person is just a bad driver. You cannot get angry just because a person is a bad driver." I realized that this was true. As a result, I don't get angry anymore while driving, even though there are still bad drivers out there.

We can change how we think, with the help of the Buddha's teachings. The prajna part of the eight fold path. Right views, Right thoughts, Right ideas, Right understanding. If we learn from this, we can put our mind at peace, and even sleep better at night. We practice Buddhism not just for us, but also for those around us. In fact we practice Buddhism for all sentient beings.

Deacon Juho

### BON DANCE, O-BON, TOBA KUYO, HATSUBON & TORO NAGASHI

**BON DANCE** - We know everyone looks forward for bon dances. However, due to the **Coronavirus**, it was decided we **CANCEL** our **Bon Dance** this year to be safe from crowd gathering and social distancing.

**O-BON & TOBA KUYO SERVICES** - Will be (**LIVE STREAMED**) on **Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am on Facebook Only** with Rev. Shinsho Hata, Deacon Juho Kirkpatrick and Deacon Jigaku Takenouchi doing the service.

**HATSUBON SERVICE** - will be a private service with Rev. Shinsho Hata, Deacon Juho Kirkpatrick and Deacon Jigaku Takenouchi and attended by **Hatsubon Families Only. (The Hatsubon Service will not be live streamed or recorded on Facebook or YouTube)**

**TORO NAGASHI** - Lanterns can only be purchased with the request form sent to Taishoji by **Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup>. Lanterns will not be sold at the Wailoa Boat Ramp.**

**DUE TO THE COVID 19 PANDEMIC, THE PUBLIC WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN ASSEMBLING THEIR LANTERNS.**

Lanterns will be assembled and released by a group of Taishoji members on **Sunday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm.** We apologize for this inconvenience but we hope you understand and help us in sending our beloved ancestors spirits back to their world of Nirvana.

**TORO NAGASHI , O-BON & TOBA KUYO SERVICES** - Will be available for viewing on **YouTube** on **Monday, July 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am.**



Toro Nagashi Lanterns taking our Ancestors back to Nirvana

### CLICK ON THE LINKS BELOW TO VIEW THE SERVICES

Facebook Link - <https://www.facebook.com/Taishoji-Soto-Mission-121688031174831/>

YouTube Link - [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSQ4EVugUml\\_rGhb1c-8RQQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSQ4EVugUml_rGhb1c-8RQQ)

**NOTE: THERE WILL NOT BE ANY TAIKO PERFORMANCE FOR THE TORO NAGASHI SERVICE**

## Paper Cranes for 2021 D.C. Pilgrimage

The social justice advocacy group plans to bring 525,000 paper cranes (Tsuru) to Washington, D.C., as expressions of solidarity with immigrant and refugee communities. **TSURU** means crane in Japanese, and symbolizes peace, compassion, hope and healing. In the traditional Japanese folk art of paper folding (origami), it is a popular, easy-to-learn figure that children and adults of all abilities can create. The cranes we fold today are expressions of SOLIDARITY with children, families and communities that are under attack. Our Hawaii Soto Zen Temples & Hawaii Soto Mission Association are supporting Tsuru for Solidarity's Washington D.C Pilgrimage. A total of 525,000 paper cranes are needed. If you can support the project, please fold and stringing paper cranes and bring to Taishoji by the end of August.



Paper Cranes for Solidarity

You can refer how to fold and string the Tsuru on the link below.

<https://tsuruforsolidarity.org/tsuru-resources/>

**LEFT BLANK**

**TAISHOJI SOTO MISSION  
2020 TORO NAGASHI LANTERN REQUEST FORM**

Donor's Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Dedicated to: (Print) \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First

Dedicated to: (Print) \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First

Donation of **\$ 25.00** for each Lantern Check \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_

Make check or cash payable to **Taishoji Busshin Kai**

Please mail or drop of form and payment to Taishoji Soto Mission by **Saturday, July 18, 2020**

.....**CUT ON LINE**.....

**2020 TAISHOJI O-BON DONATION FORM**

Name of Donor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First

Donation for: O-Bon Service \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Toba: \$2.00 each \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Toba Name (s): Please print**

(1) \_\_\_\_\_  
Donor Dedicated To

(2) \_\_\_\_\_  
Donor Dedicated To

(3) \_\_\_\_\_  
Donor Dedicated To

(4) \_\_\_\_\_  
Donor Dedicated To

(5) \_\_\_\_\_  
Donor Dedicated To

Make check or cash payable to **Taishoji Busshin Kai**

Please mail or drop of form and donation to Taishoji Soto Mission by **Saturday, July 18, 2020**