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## Haiku Debut

When brainstorming ideas for a short message to display on a temple banner, member Robin Meade tried the approach of writing a haiku. He came up with the following:

*In this trying time  
Let's support one another,  
Share your compassion.*



COMPASSION

Robin says writing haikus are a good activity for this time of reflection . "They are fun challenges and the syllabic constraints spur creativity," he said.



# The White Way

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*Mo'ili'ili Hongwanji is the center of Shin Buddhist spiritual growth, learning, and compassionate service to our Community.*

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Temple Office: (808) 949-1659    [mhm@moililihongwanji.org](mailto:mhm@moililihongwanji.org)    [www.moililihongwanji.org](http://www.moililihongwanji.org)



I hope you and your family members are staying safe and healthy during this time of constant change, fear, and uncertainty caused by the pandemic COVID-19. It is very sad and regretful that we are unable to hold temple services as we normally do. Temple is a part of our lives. I miss chanting and listening to the Buddha-Dharma with you. In this time of difficulties and uncertainties, let us go to the Buddha, Dharma, and Sangha for guidance.

Today we are facing the great challenge which many of us had never experienced before. This pandemic has changed our lives drastically. As the situation evolves, maintaining the health and safety of each individual is essential as we do not exist independently but exist within the network of interdependence. Please take care of yourself and the people around you. Please share your smile and compassion with your family and friends.

Now is the time of reflection and realization. Normally we live our everyday life as if we will live forever. We easily take life and all that it involves for granted. Impermanence is not something we need to overcome or conquer, but it is to be lived and appreciated. Each day, each moment, and each condition should be appreciated and cherished.

As I pause for a moment and carefully contemplate the current situation of the COVID-19, I realize that what I have taken for granted in my daily life is actually something that I cannot take for granted. Those are wonderful gifts that I should humbly receive with joy and gratitude.

The statue of Amida Buddha or the scroll of Namo Amida Butsu stands in the center of our temple or in your family altar. The statue of Amida Buddha leans slightly forward. It reminds us of the cosmic compassion that is constantly at work to embrace and awaken us. We become humble, gentle, and grateful in the realization that each of our existence is indebted to the myriad contributions that pervade the universe.

I recite the Nembutsu "Namo Amida Butsu" as an expression of my appreciation and gratitude. Namo Amida Butsu gives me a chance to reflect on my life. I become mindful that my life is not "mine", but it is the life made possible only through the countless gifts from others.

We do not need to find the Buddha as the Buddha already finds us. Buddha's Wisdom and Compassion is directed to each and every one of us, tirelessly embracing us. Like a wave on the vast ocean, we are already a part of the boundless wisdom and compassion.

In this challenging time, should you find yourself in need of spiritual support, please do not hesitate to contact me. I would be happy to assist you. It is very unfortunate that we are unable to gather in the temple to listen to the Dharma together and to enjoy each other's company. But please remember that you are not alone. In this time of difficulties, please find some time to put your hands together in Gassho and recite the Nembutsu, "Namo Amida Butsu." I am sure that you will find peace and comfort in Amida Buddha's warm embrace.

Namo Amida Butsu.

Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani

#### Memorial Service information

Buddhists consider the memorial service a significant occasion to remember the deceased with feelings of gratefulness and love. For Jodo Shinshu practitioners, the significance of a memorial service is not for appeasing or consoling the spirits of the deceased, but is rather, the opportunity to pay tribute to and recall cherished memories of the departed while listening to the Buddha-Dharma. In other words, the service is not for the sake of the deceased, but is indeed, for the sake of the living. In remembering the deceased, we acknowledge the influence of the deceased on our lives. Those who passed away in the year of passing will observe the memorial service indicated in 2020. Please contact the temple office to make an appointment.

Year of passing	Type of memorial service
2019	1 <sup>st</sup> year
2018	3 <sup>rd</sup> year
2014	7 <sup>th</sup> year
2008	13 <sup>th</sup> year
2004	17 <sup>th</sup> year
1996	25 <sup>th</sup> year
1988	33 <sup>rd</sup> year
1971	50 <sup>th</sup> year

#### Online Memorial Service

Due to the "Stay at home, work at home," order, MHM is currently unable to hold in person memorial services at the temple. However, Reverend Umitani is able to hold a private family memorial service online so that you can still place your hands together in Gassho and pay respects to your loved ones. The service format is basically the same as the regular memorial service at the temple, but everything will be held online so you can participate from your home. If you have family members who live separately (such as neighbor island or mainland) they can also join in the service remotely. If you would like to hold an online memorial service officiated by Reverend Umitani please go to [www.moiilihongwanji.org](http://www.moiilihongwanji.org) and complete the request form. Once you submit the form we will get back to you with detailed instructions as to how to participate in the service.

# Temple Update

Moiliili Hongwanji Mission follows Federal, State & County mandates and recommendations or guidelines to determine when it will be safe to resume in-person services and activities at the temple. Please keep in mind that higher risk individuals (older people 65+, those with compromised immune systems or other underlying medical conditions, etc.) are urged to stay home to the greatest extent possible.

Following the directives and recommendations from HHMH Headquarters, Moiliili Hongwanji will:

- Conduct only the following religious services: Bedside/Makuragyo services, other end of life related services, Funeral services. Other in-person services and activities will not be held until further notice.
- Temple Hondo/Main Sanctuary can be used only for the above services. These services must be conducted with less than 10 people, physical distancing, and other precautions as directed by the Federal, State and County mandates.
- Conduct Online Memorial Service upon request. Please go to [www.moiliilihongwanji.org](http://www.moiliilihongwanji.org) to request a service.
- Continue providing religious messages and announcements through its website, Facebook, and White Way Newsletter.
- Continue White Way Radio Program. Every Saturday morning from 7:45am to 8:00am on KZOO channel AM1210.
- Comply with minimum basic operations until further notice.

You can reach us via phone at 949-1659 or email [mhm@moiliilihongwanji.org](mailto:mhm@moiliilihongwanji.org).

# MHBWA

## BE STRONG AND SHELTERED

Here's hoping that everyone is healthy, strong, safe and sheltered in place hopefully with a family member or at least someone else nearby or even phone call away. Remember I am not only talking about our active and associate BWA members but everyone reading this article. Please contact a MHM member if you need any type of assistance since some of us are considered essential workers.

Although Sunday services are momentarily halted, we are fortunate that dharma messages are available if you have internet service. Recently Rev. Umitani shared a short dharma message and thanks to our technology webmaster, Robin Meade who videotaped several complete services with messages by different guest speakers earlier. Also many radio dharma messages can be found on our website.

([www.moiiliihongwanji.org](http://www.moiiliihongwanji.org)). If you wish to hear the White Way radio broadcast "live", tune in on Saturday at 7:45-8:00am on station KZOO 1210AM. These weekly broadcasts are sponsored by friends, including the MH BWA.

Donations are being sought by many non-profit groups at this critical time. The Honolulu United BWA Dana fund recently awarded \$1,000 to Family Promise of Hawaii. We are hoping to award an additional \$4,000 to three other non-profit groups usually passed out during our annual meeting. The Dana Funds are gathered from BWA members and friends each year from Hawaii Betsuin, Jikoen and Moiliili.

Thank you,  
Donna Higashi

### A little levity:

- Half of us are going to come out of this quarantine as amazing cooks. The other half will come out with a drinking problem.
- I used to spin that toilet paper like I was on Wheel of Fortune. Now I turn it like I'm cracking a safe.
- I need to practice social-distancing from the refrigerator.
- PSA: every few days try your jeans on just to make sure they fit. Pajamas will have you believe all is well in the kingdom.
- Homeschooling is going well. Two students suspended for fighting and one teacher fired for drinking on the job.
- I don't think anyone expected that when we changed the clocks, we'd go from Standard Time to the Twilight Zone.
- This morning I saw a neighbor talking to her cat. It was obvious she thought her cat understood her. I came into my house and told my dog about it ..... we laughed a lot.
- Quarantine Day 8: Went to this restaurant called THE KITCHEN. You have to gather all the ingredients and make your own meal. I have no clue how this place is still in business.
- My body has absorbed so much soap and disinfectant lately that when I pee, it cleans the toilet.
- Day 10 of Homeschooling: One of these little monsters called in a bomb threat.
- I'm so excited --- it's time to take out the garbage. What should I wear?
- I hope the weather is good tomorrow for my trip to Puerto Backyarda. I'm getting tired of Los Livingroom.
- Day 12 of Homeschooling: My child said, "I hope I don't have the same teacher next year."..... I'm offended.

# HAIKU

by MHM Japanese Class

*Otera ga kirei ni  
Narimashita  
Haru to hana ga kita.*

Temple has become clean.  
Spring and flowers  
Came together.

Uma Doshi

Help our kupuna  
Everyday lend them a hand  
Well done, *gambatte!*

Lois

*Taihenda!! 大変だ!!  
Korona bairesu コロナ バイレス  
Ki wo tsuke yo!! 気を付けよ!!*

It's horrible!!  
Corona Virus  
Be careful!!

Matsube

*O Tsuki-sama  
Kagayaki no naka  
Genjitsu tohi*

Honorable (Madame) Moon  
In your brilliance  
I escape from reality

直実

Naomi

*Masuku kiru  
Mamoru nozomi ni  
Sakura saku*

Wearing face mask now  
Protecting you from Covid  
Cherry blossoms bloom

Aiko

夏に なる  
楽しい ときよ  
やがて 秋

Summer comes.  
I will have a good time.  
Then, autumn will come.

狸

Tanuki

*Hitosuberi  
Tomo ni futatabi  
Gojuu-nen*

One ski run  
Brought friends back together  
Even after 50 years.

Fukan



## “It’s Ok to not be Ok Shin Buddhist Wisdom for Living”



Rev. Blayne Higa of Kona Hongwanji, was the speaker at our Spring Seminar on Saturday, March 14, 2020. It was perfect timing to listen to Rev. Blayne as we were just heading into news of the pending Corona Virus pandemic and shut down in Hawaii.

He shared a thought from Shunryu Suzuki Roshi who said we should find “perfect existence through imperfect existence.” Human life is filled with many challenges that we struggle to solve. However, when we finally accept that it’s okay not to have perfect answers, that’s healing and empowers us to see life with a realistic hope.

Suffering is caused by delusion. How do we face the unknown? We should face the pandemic with awareness, kindness, compassion. In times of crisis, we should turn our anger into love.

The Dharma is asking us to learn from our failures and to become more compassionate in times of stress, in times of pandemics. We should have a little more equanimity in encountering our problems, the pressures of everyday life.

He stressed that, “When my own life and the life of Amida Buddha become one, that is Namo Amida Butsu.” Through the Nembutsu, we encounter perfect existence within our often imperfect world.



Rev. Blayne Higa also delivered a Dharma message at the Spring Ohigan Service on Sunday, March 15.





## *Moiliili Hongwanji Mission*

902 University Avenue/Honolulu, Hawaii 96826/Phone: (808) 949-1659

April 1, 2020

To All Concerned,

After much deliberation, the Moiliili Hongwanji Buddhist Temple has decided to cancel the Bon Dance and Moiliili Summer Fest which were originally scheduled for July 3rd and 4th, 2020. The health and safety of our temple members and the community in the midst of the COVID-19 outbreak is the utmost importance to us and the temple.

With the uncertainty as to when we will emerge from this pandemic, we have decided to cancel rather than postpone the events.

It is through situations like this that we are once again reminded how impermanent and interdependent we all are. Embraced by the Infinite Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha, we will get through this situation together. Let us continue to support each other and the temple as we move forward.

In gassho,

Raymond Takiue, Jr.

President

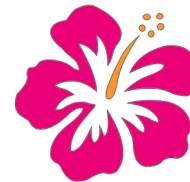
Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani

Resident Minister





# Mahalo Temple Donations



Frances Aoyama  
Gladys Fukumitsu  
*IMO Ralph Fukumitsu*  
Mari Fukuya  
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Sharen Uyeunten



for more information contact:  
945-3736  
[www.projectdana.org](http://www.projectdana.org)  
[info@projectdana.org](mailto:info@projectdana.org)

### Project Dana Donations

Private Donations - confidential

Recipient's Donations - confidential

In memory of Mrs. Hideko Ryusaki Maruyama -  
names available upon request.

## MOILIILI HONGWANJI CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Due to the pandemic the temple is temporarily closed so we will not be having services until the stay at home order is lifted.

The State Ministers Association is live streaming services on Sundays. Go to [www.hongwanjihawaii.com](http://www.hongwanjihawaii.com) and you will find a link to the service.

As Moiliili Hongwanji is unable to hold a regular service, Reverend Umitani has uploaded some video messages. Go to [www.moiliilihongwanji.org](http://www.moiliilihongwanji.org) to find a link to the messages.

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### 110th Anniversary Donation

Hudson Fukuki

### Hanamatsuri Donation

Jean Ayako Shintaku

### Hoonko Donations

Michiko Motooka  
Glen & June Matsumoto

### Nokotsudo Donations

Brenda Kanae  
William & Kathleen Kaneshige  
*IMO Thomas Jiro & Tsurue Kaneshige*  
Lillian & Ronald Kaneshiro  
Bert & Hazel Maedo  
*IMO Haruyo Maedo*

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With Heartfelt  
*Sympathy*

Moiliili Hongwanji Mission extends its deepest sympathy and condolences to the family of:

Dorothy Midori Miyaki 94 3/9/2020  
Richard Waichi Yamasaki 93 3/14/2020  
Mitsue Kay Motonaga 94 4/20/2020

May the Onembutsu provide solace to family members during this time of sorrow.

## WHITE WAY RADIO

Join us on Saturdays for White Way Radio on KZOO 1210 at 7:45 a.m. for inspiring messages from a variety of speakers. We are truly grateful for our White Way sponsors who make it possible to share the Dharma on the air every week. If you missed it go to [www.moiliilihongwanji.org](http://www.moiliilihongwanji.org), Buddhist Teachings.

### May 2020

- 2 Mr. Joshua Hernandez Morse /The Hirai Family
- 9 Rev. Ryoso Toshima /The Yoshimura Family
- 16 Dr. Dexter Mar/ Mr. & Mrs. Michael Sorakubo
- 23 Rev. David Nakamoto
- 30 Mrs. Irene Nakamoto / Mr. & Mrs. Roy Abe

### June 2020

- 6 Dr. George Tanabe/Mrs. Thelma Ando
- 13 Rev. David Fujimoto / The Hirai family
- 20 Rev. Kojin Hashimoto /The Miyasaki Family
- 27 Dr. Benjamin Bruch / MHBWA

### July 2020

- 4 Rev. Mariko Nishiyama /Matsumoto Family
- 11 Bishop Tatsuya Aoki /Mr. & Mrs. Gene Yokota
- 18 Rev. Jeffrey Soga /Mrs. Jo DesMarets
- 25 Mrs. Juliet Kono Lee /Mrs. Edith Noriko Horii

## White Way Radio Donations

BWA

Donna Higashi  
Melvin & Karen Murakami  
Wendy Nakanishi  
Ann & Lynn Nakata  
Alice Shiroma



HPD Speakers



Kailua Beach Outing



A big mahalo to all those who made a donation towards our Capital Improvement Fund.

We were able to install new asphalt for the preschool playground and replace the aged pitch & gravel roof over the main building. Thank you!





Temple Beautification Day



Moiiliili Cemetery Cleanup