



P.O. Box 537 · 1-3500 Kaumuali'i Highway · Hanapēpē · HI · 96716

Greetings to our 'Ohana

Aloha Everyone!

This newsletter is to inform our family of supporters what will be happening at Zenshuji in the next few months and the upcoming year in 2022.

The Covid pandemic is still what it is. Since March of 2020 to December of this year, it has been 21 months. Over this period we've had to make big adjustments in our daily lives, activities and social interactions. In spite of the difficulty, we have learned to cope.

We will reset, redefine, and rebuild. We will continue our move forward in inventive ways. With your patience, help and understanding we can continue to enrich lives.

We will broaden our reach into the community supporting programs and activities that will help alleviate hardships in our westside community, stemming from poverty, domestic issues, drugs and promote initiatives that undertake creative ways to improve the lives of our children, youth, parents and seniors.

With your skills, your knowledge, your expertise and volunteer spirit, we can achieve this. Please see the section below on "Building a Community." I feel blessed living on this island community. Part of what we do is to make sure everyone else feels the same way.

With Gratitude, *Gerald Hirata*

Building a Community

When you build a community, you help people lift themselves up, out of their own little worlds into something that is much bigger than themselves. We need to act selflessly, to make our households and neighborhoods a better place to live.

Many of us live ordinary lives, and are not aware that the simple things we do for others, may have a lasting impact on their lives.

For the last four weeks, I suffered from the discomfort of shingles, not exhibiting symptoms of pain or itching, but nausea and gassy stomach, side effects of my antiviral regimen. I longed for Grandma's "chicken soup recipe," but had no where to turn. I called Auntie Mabel Hashisaka and she had a "jook" recipe that was delivered to me the following

day by her niece Judy Murakami.

Long story short, that recipe worked! It was a "Turkey Chook-Jook," that used left overs from a Thanksgiving meal and settled my stomach!

Moral of the story: When our temple reopens next January, we will start planning a "Legacy Cooking" class, to share recipes of value that can be passed on to others, make something out of the ordinary by making it extraordinary and enriching our lives in doing so.

We are looking for counselors, teachers, social workers, martial artist, fitness-wellness instructors, artists, crafters, storytellers, historians, naturopathics, gardeners, etal. Let us know how you can assist us.

Covid has fractured our community so we must re-group, get involved and empower ourselves once more.

How We Serve Our Community

Community Festivals & Celebrations

- New Year's Ringing of the Bell
- New Year's Celebration
- Buddha Day - Hanamatsuri
- Bazaar/Rummage Sale
- Meditation Retreat
- Obon Festival
- International Day of Peace
- Mochitsuki

A Legacy of Peace

We honor Sparky Matsunaga founder of the U.S. Institute of Peace and native son of Hanapēpē.

The World Peace Kannon Statue

On September 21st we celebrate the United Nations International Day of Peace.

Enrichment Programs

- Zen Meditation
- Mindfulness Programs
- Experience Culture
- Peace programs & initiatives
- Temple activities & programs
- Festivals and Celebrations
- Taiko Classes

**Welcome the New Year 2022, this December 31st, 11:30 pm
Ring the Bell 108 times! Join us 808-346-4650**

Obon 2022 Season

The Kauai Buddhist Council, has set the schedule for next summer's Bon dance season, starting the second weekend in June through the fourth weekend in July. By mid-spring we will know what adjustments to make for a safe pandemic event.

2022 KBC Obon Schedule

Kapaa Hongwanji	June 10-11
Kauai Soto Zen	June 17-18
Koloa Jodo	June 24-25
Waimea Higashi	July 1-2
West Kauai Hongwanji	July 8-9
Lihue Hongwanji	July 15-16
Waimea Shingon	July 22-23
Kapaa Jodo	No Bon dance



Soto Zen Bon Festival
Old traditions, New experiences
June 17-18, 2022

Let's Bon Dance!

SOTO ZEN TENTATIVE CALENDAR FOR 2022

- **January 23**, Sunday 11 a.m. New Year's Blessing Service,
- **Feb, Nov tbd**, Community rummage sale
- **April tbd**, Kauai Buddhist Council, Hanamatsuri
- **March 27**, Spring Higan; **March tbd**, Zen Meditation Workshop
- **Apr, Oct tbd**, Fundraiser
- **June 17-18**, Fri –Sat, Soto Zen Bon Festival, Obon services 6 p.m.
- **September 20**, Tuesday, Autumn Higan Service, 11 a.m.
- **September 21**, Wednesday, International Day of Peace, 5 p.m.
- **November 20**, Keizan Zenji's, Birthday Service, 11 a.m.
- **December tbd**, Kauai Buddhist Council, Bodhi Day
- **December 11**, Bodhi Day Service; **December tbd**, Sesshin (Meditation)
- **December 31**, Saturday, 11:30 p.m. Ringing of the Bell
- **Zazen practice** throughout the year

(Please be mindful that the covid pandemic may dictate schedule changes)

**Minister's Corner : Rev. Hirosato Yoshida**

It is my honor to serve as a minister here at Kauai Soto Zen. I have been fortunate to travel to Kauai a few times this year despite the Covid-19 pandemic and have been thinking of how I can be a part of the community and lead the congregation. Together with Gerald and rest of the Board of Directors, I hope and promise to bring more enrichment programs to build faith and pride to the temple but most importantly a community that we can find ourselves wanting to join. Next year 2022, let us hope that this pandemic will be close to an end and allow us to further our studies in Buddhism, create opportunity for love and peace to grow in our community, and be united to protect the beautiful land of Kauai, the spirit of Malama 'Aina, for the future generation.

Kauai Soto Zen Temple P.O. Box 537 1-3500 Kaunualii Highway Hanapepe HI 96716

Office Phone: 808-335-3521 (leave a message) President Gerald Hirata 808-346-4650
Email: kauaisotozen@gmail.com Website: kauaisotozen.org Facebook: Kauai Soto Zen Temple