

Gyosha 暁鐘 “Morning Bell - Let us Awaken”



WAIPAHU SOTO ZEN TEMPLE TAIYOJI

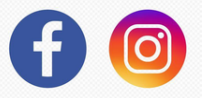
Reverend's Message
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Donations
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JULY/AUG TEMPLE HOURS

Office: Mon-Sun * 8am - 3pm
Nokotsudo (Columbarium):
Mon - Fri * 8am-3pm
Sat & Sun * 8am- 4pm

Call the Temple before you
leave to be sure someone is
here.

94-413 Waipahu Street
Waipahu, HI 96797
(808)671-3103
Email:
waipahutaiyoji@gmail.com
<https://waipahutaiyoji.com>



JULY/AUGUST 2026

by Rev. Ryohei Ishii



Gratitude, Remembrance, and the Prayer for Peace

Obon is one of the most important Buddhist observances. It is a time to remember our ancestors and loved ones who have passed away, to express our gratitude for all they have given us, and to reflect on our own lives.

The origin of Obon comes from the Ullambana Sutra. It tells the story of Maudgalyayana, known in Japanese as Mokuren Sonja, one of the Buddha's great disciples. After his mother passed away, he discovered that she was suffering because of the negative karma she had created during her lifetime. Filled with compassion, he asked the Buddha how he could help her.

The Buddha instructed him to make offerings to the community of monks at the end of their summer training. Through this act of generosity and the dedication of its merit, his mother was liberated from her suffering. Overjoyed, Mokuren danced with happiness. This joyful dance is said to be the origin of Bon Dance.

In Soto Zen Buddhism, however, Obon is much more than a tradition of welcoming the spirits of our ancestors.

It is an opportunity to awaken to the truth that our lives are deeply interconnected.

Dogen Zen Master taught that our lives do not exist independently. We live because of countless causes and conditions. We are here today because of our parents, grandparents, ancestors, teachers, friends, neighbors, and countless others whose kindness and sacrifices have supported us.

Obon reminds us that gratitude is not merely something we feel—it is something we practice.



Keizan Zen Master



Taiyoji Buddha



Dogen Zen Master

災いは 内からわく

Wazawaiwa Uchikarawaku

“Misfortune originates within one’s own mind”

By The Teaching of Buddha

Sensei’s Message continued:

The greatest offering we can make to those who came before us is to live our own lives with wisdom, compassion, and kindness. During this season, we also remember another important date.

August 15 marks the anniversary of the end of World War II for Japan. It is a day to remember the millions of people who lost their lives during the war and to renew our commitment to peace.

Here in Hawaii, this remembrance carries special meaning. Hawaii has a unique history that connects both Japan and the United States. Many families have roots on both sides of the Pacific, and many experienced the hardships and sacrifices brought by war.

As Buddhists, we do not remember only one group of people. We pray for everyone who suffered—for soldiers and civilians, for all nations, and for every life lost.

The Buddha taught:

“Hatred is never overcome by hatred. Hatred is overcome only by love and compassion. This is an eternal truth.”

These words are just as meaningful today as they were over 2,500 years ago.

Peace does not begin in governments or treaties alone.

Peace begins in our own hearts.

It begins when we speak kindly to one another.

It begins when we forgive.

It begins when we help those who are suffering.

It begins when we recognize that every human life is precious.

Each act of compassion becomes a seed of peace.

As we offer incense today, let us remember our ancestors with gratitude.

Let us remember all those who lost their lives in war with deep respect.

And let us renew our own commitment to live with wisdom, compassion, humility, and peace.

May we honor those who came before us not only through our prayers, but through the way we live each day.

May the blessings of the Buddha be with you and your families.

In Gassho.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

September 1-30



Aloha!

We are pleased to confirm Waipahu Soto Zen Temple's participation in Give Aloha, Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gifts Program!

Starting **September 1 thru 30th**, customers can support our temple through the Give Aloha Program. Use your MAIKAI membership card to make a donation. Donations may be made by cash, check (payable to Foodland, Sack N Save or Foodland Farms) or by credit card up to \$249. **Use CODE: 79287.** When you make a donation, an abbreviated version of our organization will appear on your receipt. Donor names are not released to participating organizations, so we will not know who has contributed unless you choose to let us know. While donations are not matched dollar for dollar Foodland will provide contribution amongst their many participating organizations.

Mahalo for considering a donation through GIVE ALOHA. Every contribution large or small helps the overall funding of our temple. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.

In Gassho,

Susan Sasaki Goya

Zippy's Benefit Fundraiser was a great success. Thanks to your support we sold 1411 tickets and received over \$3,000 in monetary donations. Proceeds raised benefit the temple's operational expense. We are grateful for your support. In Gassho.

2026 Hawaii Soto Mission Association Fall Conference - Kauai, Nov. 7 & 8

Join us on beautiful Kauai for the 2026 Hawaii Soto Mission Association Fall Conference, hosted by Kauai Soto Zen Temple Zenshuji on November 7 and 8, 2026.

This special gathering marks the first HSMA conference on Kauai in more than thirty years and offers a unique opportunity to experience the island's rich Soto Zen heritage, warm hospitality, and strong sense of community.

Highlights include a rare visit to the original plantation camp site where Kauai Soto Zen Temple first served Japanese sugarcane workers. Because the property is privately owned and generally inaccessible to the public, this is a unique opportunity to connect with an important chapter of Hawaii Buddhist history.

Participants will also have the opportunity to witness a traditional Soto Zen Hossenshiki, a Dharma combat ceremony rarely seen by many temple members, and attend Dharma sessions led by Brian Butsudo Turner Sensei, who will explore the practical wisdom of Zen koans with insight, humor, and warmth.

The conference will also feature temple tours, tea ceremony, fellowship with members from across the islands, and opportunities to deepen one's understanding of Soto Zen practice and history.

Whether you are a longtime member or new to Buddhism, we invite you to join us for a memorable weekend of Dharma, friendship, learning, and the aloha spirit of Kauai.

If you are interested in attending the conference or want more information, contact the temple at 671-3103 or email waipahutaiyoji@gmail.com

Thank You For Your Donations

General Donation

Arlene Ayakawa, Claude Ayakawa, Chinagu Eisa, Rev. Shunken Yokoyama (visiting from Fukushima, Japan), Susan Watanabe, **Linda Nakasone: Sewing Club, Yomen Misako: Yoga Class, Ikuko Ishii: Nihon-Go Circle, Derrick Iwata: Bon Dance Class, .**

Bon Service

Avis Connolly, Celia & Robert Fujioka, Gail Funai, Susan Goya, Joann Hale, Noreen Hayamizu, Genevieve Imai, Noreen Kenjo, Mildred Kihara, Kenneth Kimura, Constance Yoshioka-Kinoshita, Yvonne Laanui, Jan Takiguchi-Lee, Alice & Gerry Mishina, Eleanor Nakada, Stan Nakayama, Gordon Okamura, Lynn Okamura, Gail Ohta, George Sakurai, Richard Suzawa, Diane Sugai, Nancy Takiguchi, Kenneth Tsugawa, Koren Wakatsuki, Sadie Watanabe, Carolyn Yoshioka.

James & Toshiko Sato - In Memory of the Late Carol Oyama

Mildred Kihara - In Memory of the Late Akio Tokita

Stan Nakayama - In Memory of the Late Hiroko Nakayama 25th Memorial Service

Mary Nakayama Chambers - In Memory of the Late Hiroko Nakayama 25th Memorial Service

Carol Nakayama Kamemoto - In Memory of the Late Hiroko Nakayama 25th Memorial Service

Roy Mishina - In Memory of the Late Isao Yamashiro & the Late Hirozo Mishina

Noreen Hayamizu - In Memory of the Late Joyce Sakai 49 & 100 day Memorial Services

Roger Fujioka - In Memory of the Late Joyce Sakai 49 & 100 day Memorial Services

Alan Sakai - In Memory of the Late Joyce Sakai 49 & 100 day Memorial Services

Robert & Celia Fujioka - In Memory of the Late Joyce Sakai 49 & 100 day Memorial Services

Avis Connolly - In Memory of the Late Mary Endo

Eugene Fujioka - In Memory of the Late Raymond & Bessie Fujioka

Takiguchi Family - In Memory of the Late Ritsuko Takiguchi

Helen Shiraishi - In Memory of the Late Robert Shiraishi 3rd year Memorial Service

June Takiguchi - In Memory of the Late Ruth Takiguchi 1st year Memorial Service

Helen Shiraishi - In Memory of the Late Shiori Tanaka

Noreen Hayamizu - Inurnment Service for the Late Joyce Sakai

Father's Day Service

Shelly Buckely, Avis Connolly, Margaret Ginoza, Susan Goya, Deanna Kato, Margy Kodama, Kathryn Koshi, Marjorie Muraki, Walter Ozawa, June & Wallace Tamashiro, Koren Wakatsuki, Carolyn Yoshioka.

Memorial Service

Stan Nakayama, Deanna Kato, Les & Jocelyn Mokulehua, Bernie Pang, Miwa Nomura, Chloe Moore

Taiyoji Taiko

Junko Jiang, Sharon Kawaramori, Norene Ajimine, Marjorie Muraki, Jennifer Narimatsu

Announcements & News

Join Us, Get Involved, Meet New People, Reconnect

July/August 2026



2026 Annual O-toba Services

Services will be held on Thursday, July 16th at 7PM, July 18th and 19th at 10AM.

We will receive your flowers and food offerings at the reception desk near the entrance of the temple.

Chochin (lanterns) are available for purchase and will be hung in the temple and around the Bon Dance YAGURA. The donation per Chochin is \$10.00.

BON DANCE PRACTICE (Minyo, Niigata & Fukushima Ondo) SCHEDULE - 7/27(Only Minyo), 28(+Niigata), 29(+Fukushima) 7:00pm-9:00pm

Join us and learn the dances or come to review them. (Please plan accordingly.)

7/31 - 8/1 WAIPAHU TAYOJI BON DANCE 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Join us at this festival to honor and remember ancestors.

Taiko Performances: 6:00 PM

Taiyoji Taiko and Hawaii Eisa Shintuukai will perform for both nights. Throughout the

evening Waipahu Taiyoji Bon Dance Class will be performing, under the direction of Derrick Iwata.

Food:(Located in Ozawa Hall) 5:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Food Menu is as follows: Andagi, Anda Dog, Fried Noodles, Teri Burger, Spam Musubi, Croquette, Takoyaki, Okinawan Soba, Beef Stew, Pastele Stew (Friday only), Kim Chee Soup (Saturday only) BBQ Chicken w/rice, and Chicken Wings w/fries. For dessert enjoy Shaved Ice or Ice Cream and don't forget to get some Andagi to take home with you.

Shop: Commemorate the event by purchasing Taiyoji's Bon Dance Towel and traditional omamori (charms) at the temple booth. These lucky charms are designed to offer protection. Omamori for the family, Grandpa and Grandma, Father and Mother, Victory, Cat, Dog and Car charms are available. Chochin (lanterns) will be available for \$10.

Shop for kimonos and accessories; obis, zori, happi/hanten, uchiwa at the **Kimono Korner** located in Social hall.

Upcoming Events

This is a friendly reminder regarding our **2026 Bon O-Toba Service**. If you have already submitted your registration form, please disregard this message. ***If you have not yet registered, we kindly ask that you submit your registration form by July 12, 2026.***

BON DANCE on July 31 & August 1:

Food Booths 5pm-10pm
Bon Dance 7pm-10pm

PARKING: Parking will be available at Waipahu Elem. School and Waipahu Hongwanji (94-821 Kuhaulua St.)

FREE SHUTTLE
available from both sites. Shuttle Hours:
4:00pm - 11:00pm

Join Us, Get Involved, Meet New People, Reconnect

Bon Dance HELP NEEDED

We are seeking volunteers to help with preparations for the BON DANCE. Family members, neighbors, and friends are all welcome to join in. Below is the schedule:

July 11 (Sat) 8:00am - Yagura set up

- 10 strong volunteers

July 25 (Sat) 8:30am - Electrical and light set up

- 10 volunteers
- Bring tall ladders, gloves & tools.

July 26 (Sun) 8:30am - Clean up day/Set-up hall & prep tables

- 10 volunteers

July 30 (Thu) - 8:30am - Food Preparation.

- 15 volunteers
- Bring your own knife

July 30 (Thu) - 6:00pm - Set up lanterns and tents

- 10 volunteers
- Bring tall ladders, gloves, and tools

July 31 (Fri) & August 1 (Sat) - Bon Dance

- 4:00 pm Volunteers Report
- 5:00pm Food Sales Open

August 1 (Sat) - After Bon Dance, take down & clean up

- All volunteers

August 2 (Sun) - 9:00am - Continue to take down & clean up

- All volunteers

August 16 (Sun) - 8:00am - Move back Yagura

- 8 Volunteers

Call the Temple at 671-3103 to volunteer. Thank you for your continued assistance.



Announcements & News

Join Us, Get Involved, Meet New People, Reconnect

July/August 2026



Craft Workday on June 27

Left Photo: Susan Goya, Ikuko Ishii, Sensei Carolyn Yoshioka and Jeanette Monma.

Right Photo: Lorene Ginoza, Colleen Nakatsu, Marjorie Muraki, Avis Connolly, Linda Nakasone, Carol Okuma, June Tamashiro,



Craft Workdays

July 25 10:00 am- 4:00 pm

Aug. 29 12:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Sept. 26 12:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Join us to make crafts to sell at the Fujinkai event in October. If you are able to crochet, know how to sew, handy at craftmaking, please contact the temple to let us know you are available to help with sewing rice bags, patchwork throw rugs or crocheting the wash cloth (bring crochet hook and scissors). We're also open to new crafts ideas. Thank you for your continued support!

Open House, Crafts & Food (Bazaar) October 11

10:00am - 2:00pm

SAVE the DATE on your calendar and bring your Holiday Shopping List.

The Opening Doors Committee and Taiyoji Fujinkai is collaborating to expand the annual bazaar to promote and educate the community on the services, classes and events held at the temple. Along with

the informational booths, Taiyoji Fujinkai will sell their quilts, rugs, scrubbies, bags, tie hand towels, aprons, etc. You will be able to pre-order your favorite tsukemono items. More information will be available in the September Gyosho.

2nd Annual ONLINE AUCTION

Thank you for your participation in last year's event. Whether you donated items, placed bids, or simply shared your time viewing our offerings, your generosity directly supports our temple. These fundraising efforts help us replenish funds used for the Temple roof repairs and most recently, the construction of the new handicap accessible ramp.

We have already started accepting donations of gift cards. New or slightly used items will be accepted starting August 7.

We welcome a variety of contributions. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!**

In Gassho.

Auction will become live on
September 27 - October 9 at 9pm

Upcoming Events

Autumn Higan Service

September 20

9:30am

Online Auction

September 27 - October 9

Ends at 9:00am

Open House & Fujinkai Bazaar (crafts & food)

October 11

10:00am - 2:00pm

Rummage Sale

December 5 & 6

9:00am - 2:00pm

"Upcycling and Reusing"
Find your treasures at the Sale. We need your help letting your friends, families, neighbors, and community know to save the date for our Rummage Sale.





2026 Waipahu Taiyoji July Memorial Services

Phone: (808) 671-3103 / Email: waipahutaiyoji@gmail.com

1st Year (2025)

Fred Terutoshi Nagasawa 7/13/2025
Jeanette Eiko Sakauye 7/30/2025

3rd Year (2024)

7th Year (2020)

Fumie Yamasaka 7/8/2020

13th Year (2014)

Kenichi Watanabe 7/1/2014
Grace Yaeko Enomoto 7/14/2014
Mitsuo Benty Tachibana 7/20/2014

17th Year (2010)

Toshie Kon 7/9/2010
Mitsue Sato 7/19/2010

23rd Year (2004)

Noboru Higa 7/22/2004

25th Year (2002)

Mabel Hisayo Kumasaka 7/14/2002
Yasusada Nagamine 7/16/2002
Julie Keiko Saito 7/12/2002

27th Year (2000)

Herman Toshio Shigemasa 7/30/2000

33rd Year (1994)

Sachiko Tabe 7/31/1994

37th Year (1990)

Fujino Abe 7/10/1990
Toku Oshiro 7/27/1990

50th Year (1977)

Yoi Soma 7/9/1977

100th Year (1926)

Please contact Rev. Ishii to make a Memorial service appointment.

Please bring Ihai (Memorial tablet), picture, offering of flowers and food.

If you have any question, please let Sensei know.

In Gassho





2026 Waipahu Taiyoji August Memorial Services

Phone: (808) 671-3103 / Email: waipahutaiyoji@gmail.com

1st Year (2025)

Theodore Tadashi Sakauye 8/2/2025
Nancy Terumi Kazama 8/2/2025
Tsuneo Watanabe 8/10/2025

3rd Year (2024)

Dale Takayuki Sato 8/10/2024

7th Year (2020)

Fred Masayoshi Hashimoto 8/24/2020

13th Year (2014)

17th Year (2010)

23rd Year (2004)

Doris Yukiko Kurashima 8/30/2004

25th Year (2002)

Hideko Nakamoto 8/17/2002
Masayoshi Yokono 8/26/2002

27th Year (2000)

Kiyo Imai 8/8/2000
Lillian Kiyoko Sugawa 8/16/2000

33rd Year (1994)

Fukujiro Suzuki 8/12/1994
Masami Takahashi 8/17/1994

37th Year (1990)

50th Year (1977)

100th Year (1926)

Sakutaro Micake 8/13/1926

***Please contact Rev. Ishii to make a Memorial service appointment.
Please bring Ihai (Memorial tablet), picture, offering of flowers and food.***

If you have any question, please let Sensei know.

In Gassho



JULY 2026			Waipahu Soto Zen Temple Taiyoji 94-413 Waipahu Street Waipahu,HI 96797			Phone: (808) 671-3103 waipahutaiyoji@gmail.com https://www.waipahutaiyoji.com																																							
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AUGUST TEMPLE & OFFICE HOURS Office: Mon - Sun 8am - 2pm Nokotsudo (Columbarium): Mon - Fri * 8am - 3pm Sat & Sun * 8am - 4pm Call the temple before you leave to be sure someone is here. (808) 671-3103		<table><tr><td>Sept 12, 26</td><td>7:00pm-8:00pm</td><td>Zazen</td></tr><tr><td>Sept 26</td><td>12:00pm-7:00pm</td><td>Craft Workday</td></tr><tr><td>Sept 27</td><td>8:30am-12:00pm</td><td>Temple Clean-up</td></tr><tr><td>Thursdays</td><td>6:00pm-8:30pm</td><td>Okinawan Sanshin Practice</td></tr><tr><td>Fridays</td><td>8:30am-until done</td><td>Nokotsudo Clean Up</td></tr><tr><td>Saturdays</td><td>9:00am-12:00pm</td><td>Okinawan Dance Practice</td></tr><tr><td>Sundays</td><td>TBD</td><td>Taiko Practice</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table>					Sept 12, 26	7:00pm-8:00pm	Zazen	Sept 26	12:00pm-7:00pm	Craft Workday	Sept 27	8:30am-12:00pm	Temple Clean-up	Thursdays	6:00pm-8:30pm	Okinawan Sanshin Practice	Fridays	8:30am-until done	Nokotsudo Clean Up	Saturdays	9:00am-12:00pm	Okinawan Dance Practice	Sundays	TBD	Taiko Practice																		
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EXPERIENCE THE SPIRIT OF KAUAI

2026 HSMA FALL CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 7-8, 2026

KAUAI SOTO ZEN TEMPLE ZENSHUJI
HANAPEPE, KAUAI

*A Weekend of Dharma, History, Fellowship,
and the Aloha Spirit of Kauai*

FIRST HSMA CONFERENCE ON KAUAI IN OVER 30 YEARS



Rare visit to the original plantation-era camp site where Kauai Soto Zen Temple first served Japanese sugarcane workers.

Experience a unique gathering of Soto Zen members from across Hawai'i as we come together on Kauai for learning, friendship, and practice.



Experience the beauty, history, and warm hospitality of Kauai Soto Zen Temple Zenshuji.

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- ☘ Rare visit to the original plantation-era temple site where Kauai Soto Zen first served Japanese sugarcane workers
- ☘ Tradition honored and adapted to Hawai'i-style, an important Soto Zen training event rarely witnessed by many members
- ☘ Dharma teachings by Brian Butsudō Turner Sensei
- ☘ Tea ceremony and temple cultural experiences
- ☘ Guided temple tour and local history
- ☘ Fellowship with members from temples throughout Hawai'i



WHY ATTEND?

For the first time in more than 30 years, Kauai will host the Hawaii Soto Mission Association Fall Conference.

This special gathering offers an opportunity to deepen your connection to the Buddha Dharma while experiencing the history, culture, and hospitality of Kauai.

Conference registration includes scheduled meals and conference transportation.

CONTACT YOUR TEMPLE OFFICE
FOR REGISTRATION INFORMATION AND CONFERENCE DETAILS.
HOSTED BY
KAUAI SOTO ZEN TEMPLE ZENSHUJI
NOVEMBER 7-8, 2026

