

# 和

‘WA’  
harmony

## HIGASHI HONGWANJI HAWAII BETSUIN BULLETIN

11  
November 2017

### HIGASHI HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

At Higashi Hongwanji, we remain true to our origins as an open Sangha, welcoming anyone who wishes to learn more about the Jodo Shinshu tradition of Buddhism.

A registered 501(c)3 organization

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Editor: Ken Saiki

## WHERE IS YOUR HOME?

Rev. Koen Kikuchi

November is the memorial month for our founder, Shinran Shōnin. His exact memorial day is November 28, 1262. Jōdō Shinshū followers have celebrated this day and expressed gratitude to his great work by gathering at temples, chanting sutras and Shōshin-ge, hearing the Buddha Dharma, and singing *Ondokusan* at the end of the service.

However, why do we celebrate Shinran Shōnin’s memorial day every year?



Rev. Koen Kikuchi

Traditionally, Jōdō Shinshū followers say that the old year ends at Hōonko and the new year begins at Hōonko. This means that Hōonko is the time and the temple is the place where we can return. Our ancestors hoped this would be our home to which we would always come back. But this also shows the reality that our busy lives gradually take us away from this peaceful place. Even if we feel true happiness or joy at the moment of awakening, we naturally move away from this experience. This is because of our attachment to the past and illusion of the future.

Where are we now? Do we live in the past? Do we live in the future? We all think we are living now without any doubt. But, we sometimes live in the past. You remember the past through your senses. For example, a sight, scent, taste, or sound can remind you of a person, place, or experience. We feel nostalgia when we think the past was good or bad. “I should have or shouldn’t have done something that way,” or “I have this kind of experience so I know the answer.” Even though time has passed and things are changing, we stay in the past.

What about living in the future? We look at the future and we hope we want more changes or improvement. We try to reach our goals. Or, we live in the fear of the future, which is to be worried about losing our youthfulness, beauty, fame, property, money, strength, eyesight or hair. We are living in the future illusion in both positive and negative ways.

Even though we think we are living in the present moment, sometimes we are living someone else’s life. We hope our children will live happy lives and try to raise them in a better way. Sometimes it becomes too much. What about our parents? What about our wives? What about our husbands? We devote ourselves to others so that we forget to live our lives. This means we are living others’ lives.

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***“There are two kinds of homeless. One is physical homeless. The other is spiritual homeless.”***

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What is your life in the present moment? What is your comfortable place to return to? Where is your home? There are two kinds of homeless. One is physical homeless. The other is spiritual homeless. Does each of us have a spiritual home where we can come back however terrible the situation is? Our life may be a journey to find our spiritual home.

Past Jōdō Shinshū followers and our ancestors have shown us the meaning of Hōonko. One important aspect of Hōonko is the service in which we express appreciation to the founder Shinran Shōnin.

Also, another important meaning found in Hōonko is that this is the time and place that people can learn and share the Buddha Dharma. What our ancestors have shown us is that the place and the time could possibly be our spiritual home. We might be able to find joy and peace by the teaching, teacher, and Dharma friends at Hōonko. What we find for ourselves depends on causes and conditions.

In Gassho,  
Rev. Koen Kikuchi

# SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNIC

Sunday, Nov. 12, starting at 10:00 am  
Magic Island, Area 38 (near lagoon)

**EVERYONE IS INVITED!**

**Potluck lunch! Join us for games, fun and fellowship!**

**G**rab your folding beach chair, goza and blanket, and head on down to Ala Moana Park with the rest of your family for a fun picnic with the Sunday Dharma school kids and others from the Betsuin family!

The date is Sunday, Nov. 12, starting at 10 am, at Area 38, at the far end of Magic Island, near the lagoon blessed with a row of shade trees.

Since it's a potluck, you're welcome to bring a dish to share. So far we have the standby favorites BBQ chicken and Spam musubi on the menu. Of course, if you don't have the time—or temperament—to prepare something yourself, you can always pick something up along the way. Kimchee and takuan would go well with what we have so far!

For organized games and prizes, there'll be spoon races to test your balancing skills, water balloon toss and more! Recall the good, old-fashioned fun you had as a kid at those kenjinkai picnics!

A lagoon beach is nearby so be sure to pack your swimming gear and towel, plus sun block.

The picnic is our outdoor activity this year for our Golden Deer Sunday school program. These activities include planned outings that children would enjoy, such as hiking, going to the beach and picnics.

So mark your calendar right now! **Sunday, Nov. 12, 10 am: Temple picnic at Magic Island, Area 38, no Sunday service...**and let the rest of the family know!



*Here's where all the fun is going on at Magic Island!  
See you there!*

## Betsuin Golden Deer Sunday Dharma school marks four years of children's activities

**I**t's hard to believe that four years have already passed since Higashi Hongwanji's Golden Deer Sunday Dharma school began in the fall of 2013. Three children—Ren, Kokoro and Hana—are currently enrolled.

After receiving a special message during the regular Sunday service, they are excused to attend their own class in the conference room while ministers present the day's dharma message at the service.



Activities vary, including reading stories and learning fun crafts.

Led by the tireless Jeanne Kawawata, the children have been busy with projects such as decorating the Otani Center kitchen window and making Mother's Day and Father's Day cards for Sunday service attendees. They are now painting backdrops and making props in preparation for a presentation at our annual Shinnen Enkai New Year Party in February.

Through the program, we hope the young enrollees will find more importance and preciousness in their lives and learn the way of life through Buddha's teachings.

Please encourage your children, grandchildren and friends to participate. Call 531-9088 for more information.



### Buddhists help victims of hurricane disasters

As you are well aware, Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria wreaked havoc on fellow Americans in Texas, the southeastern part of the U.S. and Puerto Rico. Even after weeks and months of relief efforts, many folks are still without essential services such as water and electricity and are suffering from preventable diseases and loss of life.

The Hawaii Buddhist Council (HBC) fund to assist victims of these disastrous hurricanes thousands of miles away also conveys a message that Hawaii Buddhists care. Your tax-deductible contributions go to support the American Red Cross, Salvation Army and American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA).

To assist in this humanitarian effort, HBC-affiliated Buddhist temples throughout the state are collecting disaster relief donations. For Betsuin families, please send checks made payable to **Higashi Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii** to 1685 Alaneo St., Honolulu, HI 96817, noting "HBC Hurricane Relief Fund," by Nov. 30.

While donations will continue to be accepted after Nov. 30, timely receipt of disaster relief funds will ensure delivering our message with the most impact and providing aid when needed most, which is right now.

### Dharma Study Center lecture series features Buddhism and Western Culture by Dr. Tanabe

How did an Eastern religion such as Buddhism get introduced to Europe and beyond, and spread to become one of the world's great religions? What role does Buddhism play in our society today?

Dr. George Tanabe, Professor Emeritus, Department of Religion, UH-Manoa, will be guest lecturer for the two-part series, *Buddhism and Western Culture*. Dr. Tanabe taught university-level World Religion and Japanese Religion classes from 1977 to 2006..

The lectures will be held on Thursday, Nov. 9 and Friday, Nov. 10, at the Betsuin main hall, beginning at 7:00 pm. Fee for each lecture is \$9, collected at the door.

A question & answer period will follow each lecture, as well as light refreshments.

For more information, please call 531-9088 or email [betsuin@hhbt-hi.org](mailto:betsuin@hhbt-hi.org).

### Koreeda's *After the Storm*: Life is what you make of it

Movie Night regulars are familiar with Director Hirokazu Koreeda and past showings of *Our Little Sister*, *Like Father, Like Son* and *Still Walking*, each featuring a familiar cast of characters trying to cope with the present while dreaming of the future, with a mother-figure right in the middle of things.

*After the Storm* has Ryota (Hiroshi Abe), a middle-aged man who won a literary prize 15 years ago and continues to pursue his dream of success as a writer. He works at a private detective agency to make ends meet and get material for a new novel. He tries to get back with his ex-wife, Kyoko (Yoko Maki), who's tired of his excuses for his failure to keep up with child support payments and has a new boyfriend.

One day, Ryota, Kyoko and their 11-year-old son, Shingo (Taiyo Yoshizawa) end up at the apartment complex of Ryota's mother, Yoshiko (Kirin Kiki), when a typhoon forces them to stay together for the entire night, providing another chance to bond.

Nominated in 2016 for Best Film at Cannes, Nikkan Sports & Chicago International Film Festivals; also earlier this year for Best Cinematography at Asian Film Awards.

Showtime: 6:30 pm, Tues., Nov. 28, 117 min. Released 2016. Color, Japanese audio, English subtitles. Free admission. Light refreshments, or bring to share!

#### 海よりもまだ深く (うみよりもまだふかく)

「海街diary」「そして父になる」の是枝裕和監督が、「歩いていても」に続いて阿部寛と3度目のタッグを組み、大人になりきれない男と年老いた母を中心に、夢見ていた未来とは違う現在を生きる家族の姿をつづった人間ドラマ。

15年前に文学賞を一度受賞したものの、その後は売れず、作家として成功する夢を追い続けている中年男性・良多(阿部寛)。現在は生活費のため探偵事務所働いているが、周囲にも自分にも「小説のための取材」だと言い訳していた。別れた妻・響子(真木よう子)への未練を引きずっている良多は、彼女を「張り込み」して新しい恋人がいることを知りショックを受ける。

ある日、団地で一人暮らしをしている母・淑子(樹木希林)の家に集まった良多と響子と11歳の息子・真悟(吉澤太陽)は、台風で帰れなくなり、ひと晩を共に過ごすことになる。

賞歴：第29回日刊スポーツ映画賞最優秀作品賞、カンヌ映画祭第69回、シカゴ国際映画祭ベスト・フィーチャー、第11回アジア映画賞最優秀撮影監督

公開：2016年、カラー、言語：日本語、字幕：英語、映時間：117分、11月28日(火)午後6:30時、入場無料。



# Hoshin Kanri

## Strategic Planning Enlightenment

by Fay Uyema

July 30 and August 6 were key dates in kicking off a planning process for our Betsuin to embark on a new initiative to open its gates and look to its future.

Members were invited to join with board members to devote two of their Sunday afternoons to experience *Hōshin Kanri*.

### A History and Description

*Hōshin Kanri*, a strategic planning method developed in Japan, is credited as a key element in the success of numerous Japan-based companies in their recovery and rebuilding efforts during the period of post-World War II.

The literal translation of *hōshin* is a course, a policy, a plan, an aim. *Kanri* translated into English is "administration, management, control, charge of, care of." (It should be noted that where Japanese words have different meanings largely depending on its usage, some of the intent can be lost in English translation). For our purposes, *Hōshin Kanri* is the process which will serve as a "direction needle,"

# 方針管理

hō shin kan ri

a compass of sorts to steer us through charting our course in planning for the Betsuin's future initiatives.

We would be remiss to not pay homage to the late W. Edwards Deming, an American statistician and mathematician whose work with the Japanese Union of Scientist and Engineers and Japanese businesses spurred the creation and use of *Hōshin Kanri*.

Deming, often regarded as the "Father of Quality," introduced statistical methods and company-wide quality concepts to the Japanese starting in 1950, a technique known today as Total Quality Management (TQM). In applying for the coveted Deming Application Prize, winning Japan-based companies such as Toyota, Ricoh, and Matsushita have attributed their success to the use of *Hōshin Kanri*. Over the next two decades, Japan rose to global prominence, especially in the automotive and electronic industries.

It wasn't until the late 70's that the United States took notice of Deming's achievements in Japan. His expertise was highly sought in the U.S. thereafter until his death in 1993. TQM's standards became the basis for service excellence, customer focus and process improvement and re-engineering. American businesses competing for global presence like numerous Fortune 500 companies integrated these philosophies in their missions and operations. Standards developed around TQM became the assessment measurements used in competing for the prestigious Malcolm Baldrige award.

The purpose of *Hōshin Kanri* is to discover the sustaining strategic advantage for an organization. Its governing principles are simply two words: FOCUS and ALIGNMENT. It is a method for organizing efforts to focus on critical issues impacting an organization's success.

### Planning Process in a Nutshell

To kick off the process, participants were asked to contribute their responses to a key question:

***"What are all the issues in having the Betsuin optimally become the highest quality center to teach the Nembutsu in responding to the innermost needs of its members and the community?"***

The more than hundred responses collected and recorded on Post-It notes were silently organized by the entire group according to their affinity and six categorical headers resulted to represent the groups of like issues.

Through intense dialogue and consensus building, members looked at two issues at a time in a cause-and-effect analysis. Charting the interrelationships of the headers in a diagraph resulted in a sequenced list of the six issues. Three issues organically emerged as high priority challenges.

### Establishment of Task Forces

The planning group which generously participated with FOCUS and ALIGNMENT led to this discovery. The action planning effort commenced immediately following the two days of intense *Hōshin* exercises. The 14

participants organized themselves into three task forces to work on strategies with timelines and responsibility assignments. The Governance Task Force, the Understanding Shin Buddhism Task Force and the Activities to Engage Stakeholders Task Force were established.

Future efforts via the action planning process will position the Betsuin to chart its coming years with a "SUSTAINING STRATEGIC ADVANTAGE" (the stated purpose of *Hōshin Kanri*). The deliverable is a PLAN (our Compass) for the long haul.

With everyone's continued hard work, honest intentions, and good purpose in *gasshō*, there is little that stands in the way of the successful implementation of the Plan.

The three task forces are meeting regularly to develop their action plans to present to the board of directors for approval.

This is an open process and all Betsuin members are invited to participate. For meeting schedules or more information, please call the temple office at 531-9088.





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## TEMPLE ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

### NOVEMBER

11/5	Sun	10 am	<b>Shōtsuki service/Sunday school</b>
11/5	Sun	12pm	<b>The Larger Sutra</b> study class led by Rinban Kawawata in Japanese
11/6	Mon	10 am	<b>Betsuin study class</b>
11/9	Thu	7 pm	<b>Dharma Study Center lecture series, Pt 1</b>
11/10	Fri	7 pm	<b>Dharma Study Center lecture series, Pt 2</b>
11/12	Sun	10 am	<b>Dharma school outing</b> at Magic Island (No Sunday service at Betsuin)
11/14	Tue	3 pm	<b>Ukulele class/band practice</b>
11/16	Thu	7 pm	<b>The Larger Sutra</b> study class led by Rinban Kawawata in English
11/18	Sat	9 am	<b>Oahu MAP class</b>
11/19	Sun	10 am	<b>Hōonko service at Palolo Hongwanji</b> (No Sunday service at Betsuin)
11/20	Mon	10 am	<b>Betsuin study class</b>
11/21	Tue	7 pm	<b>O-kō:</b> Dharma discussion at Kaneohe
11/26	Sun	10 am	<b>Sunday service/Sunday school</b>
11/26	Sun	12 pm	<b>Betsuin board meeting</b>
11/26	Sun	12 pm	<b>Art of Paper Folding class</b>
11/28	Tue	10 am	<b>Shinran Shōnin memorial service</b>
11/28	Tue	3 pm	<b>Ukulele class/band practice</b>
11/28	Tue	6:30 pm	<b>Movie night: <i>After the Storm</i></b> (海よりもまだ深く)

### DECEMBER

12/3	Sun	10 am	<b>HBC Bodhi Day</b> service (No Sunday service at Betsuin)
12/3	Sun	12pm	<b>The Larger Sutra</b> study class led by Rinban Kawawata in Japanese
12/4	Mon	10 am	<b>Betsuin study class</b>
12/10	Sun	10 am	<b>Betsuin Bodhi Day</b> service
12/10	Sun	12 pm	<b>Omigaki</b> altar items polishing
12/12	Tue	3 pm	<b>Ukulele class/band practice</b>
12/14	Thu	7 pm	<b>The Larger Sutra</b> study class led by Rinban Kawawata in English
12/17	Sun	10 am	<b>Shōtsuki service/Sunday school</b>
12/17	Sun	12 pm	<b>Betsuin board meeting</b>
12/17	Sun	12 pm	<b>Art of Paper Folding class</b>
12/18	Mon	10 am	<b>Betsuin study class</b>
12/19	Tue	7 pm	<b>O-kō:</b> Dharma discussion at Betsuin
12/24	Sun	9 am	<b>Mochi pounding</b>
12/26	Tue	3 pm	<b>Ukulele class/band practice</b>
12/26	Tue	6:30 pm	<b>Movie night: <i>Jazz G-Men</i></b> (Jazz 爺 Men)
12/28	Thu	10 am	<b>Shinran Shōnin memorial service</b>
12/30	Sat	9 am	<b>Oosōji</b> temple cleaning
12/31	Sun	5:30 pm	<b>Year-end service - Jōya-e</b> Ritual bell-ringing 108 times After-service toshi-koshi soba

Everyone is welcome to join the morning chanting held at 7 am daily (except on Sundays & the 28th day of the month) in the Betsuin main hall.