



Dharma Lei

Bishop's Office Newsletter

Soto Zen Buddhism Hawaii Office

c/o Soto Mission of Hawaii 1708 Nuuanu Avenue, Honolulu HI 96817 U.S.A.

Tel & Fax: 808-538-6429

E-Mail: info@sotozenhi.org

WEB: <http://global.sotozen-net.or.jp/eng/>

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Bishop's Message:

Happy New Year from the Hawaii Soto Mission Bishop's Office! I hope you and your family are having a happy holiday season. What a year 2023 was! Although COVID-19 is still a public health concern, I feel that we were able to return to many of our activities that filled our daily lives prior to 2020.

Personally, 2023 was a challenging year. Since my cancer diagnosis and surgery 12 months ago, I have had to make many changes in my life. Although many of my days are filled with doctor visits and treatments, I have done my best to remain as active as possible with temple work. I am grateful that I have been well enough to travel to Kona Daifukuji to participate in their Lay Confirmation Ceremony in September. Most recently, I officiated another Lay Confirmation Ceremony here at the Soto Mission of Hawaii.

On October 21 and 22, the Hawaii Soto Mission celebrated its 120th anniversary and observed the Preliminary Memorial Ceremony for the 700th Anniversary of Daihonzan Sojiji's Founder Taisho Keizan Jokin Zenji. All in all, it was a busy year for the Hawaii Soto Mission.

As we look forward to 2024, the Year of the Dragon, I am filled with hope and optimism. I pray for your continued good health and prosperity.

In Gassho.

Bishop Shugen Komagata



“Living with the End in Mind” Weekly Zoom Dharma Study with Rev. Jikō Nakade Starting February, 2024

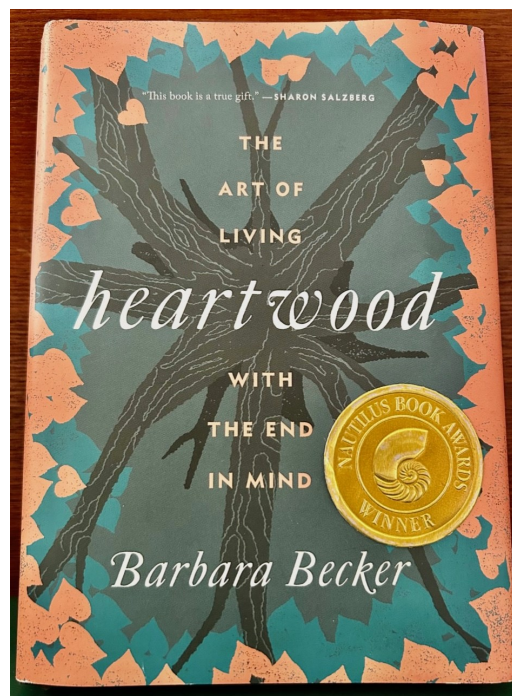
“When we live each day with the end in mind, looking into the face of impermanence, something extraordinary happens.”

~ Rev. Jikō ~

Registration is now open for an 11-session series of weekly Dharma classes which will be offered via Zoom by Reverend Jikō Nakade of Daifukuji Soto Mission. Sign ups will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis.

For this series, Reverend Jikō has selected the book *Heartwood: The Art of Living with the End in Mind* by author Barbara Becker, an interfaith minister, mother, writer, and hospice volunteer who has received mentoring from respected Soto Zen teachers Koshin Paley Ellison and Chodo Campbell of the New York Zen Center for Contemplative Care.

One is invited to register for either the Thursday or Saturday morning classes. Each class is an hour long, and a commitment to being non-judgmental and to holding others' personal stories confidential is required.



Please select group 1 or group 2 when registering.

Group 1: Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to Noon (February 1 - April 11)

Group 2: Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. (February 3 - May 11, skipping certain Saturdays)

Heartwood will be available through the Daifukuji Gift Shop at a reduced price for Dharma class members who are able to pick up a copy. Please contact Rev. Jiko if you would like to have a copy reserved for you. Unfortunately, the gift shop does not provide the service of mailing out books. This book is available for online purchase in hardcover, Kindle, and Audiobook formats.

Rev. Jikō offers the Dharma freely. There is no class fee. Donations may be offered to Daifukuji Soto Mission. For more information or to register, please contact Rev. Jikō at (808) 322-3524, rev.jiko@daifukuji.org.





SOTO MISSION OF HAWAII
&
One Plate Zen

Miso

Miso making and Zen Vegetarian Lunch

MISO is umami-rich, versatile fermented seasoning.

In this class, you will prepare MISO to take home and learn all about MISO including the history, nutritional values, and Japanese fermentation.

Date: Saturday, January 27th

Time: 9:30 am -12:30 pm

Place: Soto Mission of Hawaii Social Hall 1708 Nuuanu Ave.

Fee: \$50.00

(include a jar of MISO to take home, lecture, and Zen vegetarian lunch)

To Register: Email: info@sotomission.org

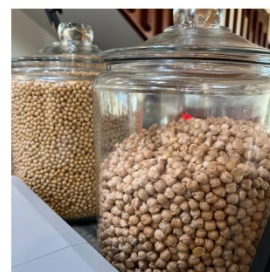
Phone: 808-537-9409

Instructor:

Naoko Komagata Moller

<https://www.oneplatezen.com/>

✉ naoko.moller@gmail.com



Announcement of Japan Tour from the International Center

Dear Dharma friends,

We are delighted to announce that the tour to Japan in honor of the great ceremonies for Keizan Zenji at the two head temples, Eiheiji and Sojiji, is ready for registration. Please see the attached flyer for details of the tour. Notice that there is a gathering at Soto Zen Headquarters on the final day of the tour. You can register by accessing the QR code on the flyer.

Our tour is limited to 100 participants from our four international dissemination regions outside of Japan (North America, South America, Europe, and Hawaii) which means basically that each region is allotted 25 spaces. If one region doesn't use all their spaces, the openings will be given to applicants from other regions.

We plan to create a waiting list if one of the regions fills quickly. Space permitting, we can open available spots from one region to other international regions. We are optimistic about accommodating all interested practitioners.

Deadline for registration is January 15, 2024

The payment information will be sent in February for registered participants.

We look forward to seeing you in Japan next April.

Deep bows from the International Center,
Konjin Godwin, Taiga Ito, and Zenki Nishimura

