



January 2024

Dates to Remember

January 7

New Year's Blessing Service &
O-fuda Yaki Service

January 21

New Year's Party

Our Mission: Paia Mantokuji is a Soto Zen Buddhist temple founded in 1906 by Reverend Sokyo Ueoka and a community of Japanese immigrants. Our mission is to be a place of compassion, respect and kindness for all who seek truth through the teachings of Buddha, the practice of Zen meditation and arts, and the fellowship of the temple sangha.

Our Vision: Paia Manokuji's short term vision is to stay in place in Paia, grow, develop and mitigate erosion if possible.

Our Values: Honor Traditions

- Respect Ancestors
- Embrace Inclusivity
- Nurture Fellowship
- Practice Compassionate Kindness
- Gratitude
- Appreciation & Humility
- Live the Dharma
- Embody Buddhism

Paia Mantokuji Soto Mission

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Mangan Team

Bobbie, Cathy & Isabelle

Reverend's Message

Aloha everyone.

Happy New Year! Akemashite Omedetougozaimasu!

The year 2024 is here! I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all of you for your support last year. I sincerely wish you a year filled with peace, good health and happiness.

At the beginning of this year, I would like to introduce this word, "誓願". It is read as "Seigan," meaning "vow" and "wish". It is a vow made by a Buddha or Bodhisattva to salvage all people. It also means to make a vow to oneself and hope that it will be fulfilled.

What is your "vow" and "wish" this year? It is said that when you are trying to achieve a big wish, it is better to achieve small goals little by little. My "vow" and "wish" for this year is to be healthier than last year. So I will try to achieve my smaller goals by walking to the post office in Paia instead of using a car. Let's all achieve our "vow" and "wish" step by step.

The New Year Blessing service will be held at Mantokuji Temple on Sunday, January 7. Let's pray for getting rid of suffering and welcoming happiness. You can get new Ofuda and Omamori at the service. And if you have old Ofuda or Omamori, please bring them with you as we will perform the Ofudayaki service and burn them.

This is the year of the Dragon, the fifth of the twelve animal signs of the Chinese zodiac. People born in the Year of the Dragon are those born in 1916, 1928, 1940, 1952, 1964, 1976, 1988, 2000, and 2012. In terms of personality, people born in the Year of the Dragon are visionary and ahead of others. They do not talk much, but they have big dreams. They often go their own way at their own pace and are often thought of as elusive.

Actually, I was born in the Year of the Dragon, and I am often told that I am a person who goes at my own pace. Yes, it is true.

I wish you all a happy new year. I am looking forward to seeing you soon!

Mahalo.

Tomoki Hirasawa

Happy New Year

2024

The Year of the Dragon

In this Issue...

Reports	2
2024 Calendar	3
Announcements	4,5
Memorial Calendar	6
Help Needed	7
Donations	7
Calendar	8

Enclosed: 2024 Membership Form

Fujinkai News

The Fujinkai will be having their monthly meeting and clean up as follows:

January 14, 2024 at 8:30am
February 11, 2024 at 8:30am

Thank you to the Fujinkai ladies who came to help prepare the lunch for the Jodo-e service on December 3, 2023.

Bobbie Arita, Kay Hanano, Donald Kimizuka, Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Judith Matoi, Eric Moto, Cathy Murayama.

Thank you to the Fujinkai ladies and the gentlemen who came on Sunday, December 11, 2023 to help clean the nokotsudo and the temple, and help with the maintenance on the temple grounds. We are always grateful.

Bobbie Arita, Kay Hanano, Rev. Hirasawa, Chester Kakiuchi, Donald Kimizuka, Shirley Ann Kimizuka, Judith Matoi, Eric Moto, Cathy Murayama, Diane Orikasa, Lois Sato, Isabelle Scholl, and Neil Watanabe.

Jodo-e (Bodhi Day) Service

Held on Sunday, December 3, 2023

Jodo-e is the day of Enlightenment for Siddharta Gautama who became Shakyamuni Buddha on this day, December 8, about 2600 years ago. Perhaps it is the most important in Buddhism as it marks the beginnings of Buddhism as we have today.

An excerpt from Rev. Hirasawa's sermon after the Jodo-e Service:

"Today we celebrated Buddha's enlightenment together. Some of you may have felt enlightenment is a special thing that only a great person like the Buddha could attain. But as I told you today, Soto Zen teaches that we too can become like the Buddha by leaving behind our ego, including our everyday worries and emotions, and face what is in front of us straight on. It also teaches that it is not something we can acquire in our hands, but that it is meaningful to keep practicing it constantly. Even if you cannot come to zazen, remember this, and try to do each of your daily activities with a careful and clear mind. You will surely be able to spend your time with a peaceful mind."

Shichi-Go-San Ceremony

Held on Sunday, November 19, 2023

The Shichi-Go-San Ceremony was held on Sunday, November 19th. Fifth grader Matthew Matoi opened the ceremony playing Vandana Ti-Sarana on the piano as Rev. Hirasawa and sangha sang. Upon the conclusion of the ceremony Rev. Hirasawa blessed Nicholas Matoi who turned 7 years in September and his family wrote on an emma (wooden plaque) with their wishes for a long, healthy life. He was then gifted with a bag of sweets (chitose-ame) as is the traditional custom.



We wish Nicholas a healthy long life!

Matthew Matoi playing Vandana Ti-Sarana.

2024 Calendar of Events

January	7	Sunday	10:00 am	New Year's Blessing Service & O-fuda Yaki Service
	14	Sunday	8:30 am	Kyodan, Fujinkai & Bazaar Committee Meeting Meetings, Clean up
	21	Sunday	11:00 am	New Year's Party
February	4	Sunday	10:30 am	Nehan-e & Ojuzu Mawashi Service, Bazaar Set-up
	11	Sunday	8:30 am	Clean up & Bazaar Preparation
	25	Sunday	8:30 am	Hawaii Soto Mission Association Spring Meeting (Honolulu)
March	3	Sunday	8am - 12:00 pm	45th Annual Bazaar
	10	Sunday	8:30 am	Fujinkai Meeting, Clean up, Bazaar evaluation
	17	Sunday	10:30 am	Spring O-Higan & Kaisan Rekiyuki Service
April	7	Sunday	10:00 am	Hanamatsuri Service & Spring Egg Hunt
	14	Sunday	8:30 am	Kyodan & Fujinkai Meeting, Clean up
May	19	Sunday	8:30 am	Fujinkai Meeting, Clean up O-Bon Newsletter Making & Committee Meeting
	26	Sunday	10:30 am	Memorial Day and Eitaikuyo Service
June	9	Sunday	8:30 am	Kyodan & Fujinkai Meeting, Clean up
	30	Sunday	8:30 am	Yagura Construction and Clean up Day
				O-Bon Committee Meeting
July	1 ~			House Visitation O-Bon Tanagyo Services begin
	7	Sunday	8:30 am	O-Bon Set-up, O-Bon Committee Meeting
	12	Friday	6:00 pm	O-Bon Services
	13	Saturday	3:00 pm	O-Bon Service at Mantokuji Cemetery
			6:00-7:00 pm	Taiko Performances
	13	Saturday	7:15 pm	O-Bon Dance Festival
	14	Sunday	8:30 am	Dismantling of Yagura and Clean up
21	Sunday	8:30 am	Clean up, O-Bon Committee Meeting – Evaluation	
August	1 ~			House Visitation O-Bon Tanagyo Services
	11	Sunday	8:30 am	Fujinkai Meeting, Clean up
September	8	Sunday	8:30 am	Kyodan & Fujinkai Meeting, Clean up
	15	Sunday	10:30 am	Autumn O-Higan and Ryosoki Service
October	6	Sunday	10:00 am	Daruma-ki Service / Daruma-sama Picnic
	13	Sunday	8:30 am	Fujinkai Meeting, Clean up
November	10	Sunday	8:30 am	Kyodan & Fujinkai Meeting, Clean up
	17	Sunday	9:00 am	Family Service – Shichi Go San Ceremony (7-5-3 Ceremony)
December	1 ~ 8	Sunday-Sunday	8:00 am	Rohatsu Sesshin (8 days of morning zazen meditation)
	1	Sunday	8:30 am	Fujinkai Meeting, Clean up
	8	Sunday	10:30 am	Jodo-e Service, Shakyo Session
	15	Sunday	8:30 am	End of the Year Clean-up Day
	31	Tuesday	11:00 pm	Joya no Kane

Note – Notice of family services and workshops scheduled will be posted in future Mangans.

Announcements

New Year's Blessing & O-fuda Yaki Services

Sunday, January 7, 2024, 10:00am

A New Year's Blessing Service will be held on January 7, 2024 at 10:00am. Rev. Hirasawa will perform "Daihannya Tendoku." Instead of reading the sutras page by page, he flips through the Daihannya book and prays for each attendee's happiness and rids their hearts of suffering. Ofuda will be passed out to each family.

The O-fuda Yaki service, the burning of sacred objects will be conducted following the Blessing Service. Please bring your old omamori, o-fuda, and other burnable altar objects to the temple before January 7 or on the morning of the service. **Please remove all metal and plastic before putting the items to be burned in the container labeled "For O-fuda Yaki Service" on the office lanai.** Omamori will be sold after the New Year's Blessing Service in the social hall. The cost is \$5 each.

New Year's Party

Sunday, January 21, 2024, 11:00am

Paia Mantokuji will be celebrating New Year's 2024 (year of the dragon) on Sunday, January 21, 2024 at 11:00am. Please join us for good food, fun games and prizes!

To help us with the preparation, please call Mantokuji at 808.579.8051 or email info@paiamantokuji.org by January 15 to let us know you are coming and how many of you will join us.

We will be delighted to have all of you join us for this festive occasion!



Mabo Tofu Cookoff at Mantokuji's New Year's Party

Sunday, January 21, 2024, 11:00am

Reverend Hirasawa claims to be a great cook of Mabo Tofu! Let's see if his claim to the top Mabo Tofu chef is true. If you would like to participate in this cookoff, please email Cathy Murayama at cathymurayama@gmail.com with your recipe. **Please no ready-made package mixes!** We will have copies of your recipe available alongside your dish. Here are the rules:



Mabo Tofu Cookoff

1. Send your recipe by email or text to cathymurayama@gmail.com or 808.283-6125 by January 15th
2. Bring a dish of your Mabo Tofu to the New Year's Party by 11:00am for people to taste
3. Fill out the registration form upon arrival

The Mabo Tofu dish with the most votes will win the cookoff. Here's to all the great cooks of Mantokuji!

United Hawaii Soto Shu Women's Association (UHSSWA) 57th Conference

April 27 & 28, 2024

Hilo Taishoji Soto Mission will be hosting the 57th UHSSWA Conference. The theme for the conference is "Hashu Kyōkō," Reach out and live in harmony with others.

The conference will be held at Hilo Taishoji Soto Mission and Hilo Hawaiian Hotel. If you are a Fujinkai member and are interested in attending this conference, call Cathy Murayama at 808.283.6125 as soon as possible.

2024 Annual Membership Dues & Nokotsudo/Cemetery Fees

We invite all of you to become Paia Mantokuji members or if you are already a member to renew your membership. Membership at Mantokuji offers the teachings of the Buddha, the practice of Zen meditation and arts, and the fellowship of the temple sangha. See the enclosed Membership Brochure to learn about all the benefits and privileges of being a member of Mantokuji. Also enclosed is the 2024 Annual Membership Dues Form.

Membership Dues:	\$50 per household
Nokotsudo Fees:	\$40/year or in perpetuity (\$2000) per niche
Cemetery Fees:	\$40/year or in perpetuity (\$2000) per plot

Dues and Fees help pay for the many expenses to keep the temple operating. Please submit your dues and applicable fees with the Membership Form enclosed in this Mangan by **April 1, 2024**, if possible or at your earliest convenience. When submitting your nokotsudo and/or cemetery fees, please be sure to indicate the names of those the fees are being paid for. If you know the number of the niche in the nokotsudo, please include as that is very helpful.

If you have not paid your 2023 Membership Dues and, if applicable, Nokotsudo/Cemetery Maintenance Fees, we encourage you to do so before the year's end.

Thank you for your support!

President's Message

Aloha everyone,

Shinen akemashite omedetou gozaimasu! Happy New Year! Thank you all for your help and support last year. I hope your holiday celebrations with family and friends were filled with love and good food. Nationally, our elections will occupy most of our thoughts this year, but back home we'll be busy as usual with our services and events and projects here at Mantokuji. We will keep you informed and updated throughout the year via the Mangan, and we will humbly ask for your continuing support of our work for and around the temple.

This month, Mantokuji will start the year with our traditional New Year's Blessing Service and Ofudayaki on Sunday, January 7 at 10:00 am. Bring or drop off any of your old, worn, or unwanted religious items you want properly blessed and disposed of during Ofudayaki. On Sunday, January 21 at 11:00 we gather in the temple hall for our New Year's Party. Please let us know if you plan on attending. Take care.

With aloha,

Eric Moto
President, Mantokuji Kyodan

2024 Memorial Services Schedule

One Year Memorial Service - 2023 一周忌

Ethel Otaguro	Takeji Nihei	Hideo Ogata	Harry Tanji	Meyer Leigh Ueoka	James Masa Shishido
Jeanne Saito	Masako Abe	Clint Gima	Baron Hisamune Ueoka	Thomas Umetsu	June Sachie Toyota

3rd Year Memorial Service - 2022 三回忌

Edith Hiraga	Yoshie Kimizuka	Sadako Nikaido	Margaret Murayama	Norma Nakamura	Bernice Ueoka
	Michie Tamane	Setsuko Takahashi	Naomi Suehisa	Albert Watanabe	

7th Year Memorial Service - 2018 七回忌

Kiyono Endo	Bryce Mikio Takahashi	Shiichi Horiuchi	Tsurue "Judy" Kuwashima	Betsy Ouchi	Patsy Murakami
Yoneko Hashimoto	Elaine Komine	Carol Moto	Satoshi Suzuki	Esther Hanzawa	

13th Year Memorial Service - 2012 十三回忌

Kazuo Hasegawa	Edward Y. Ogawa	Yaeko Umetsu	Natsuko Takayama	Richard Matsuura	Edwin Y. Tanno
Masae Mildred Yamada	Noriyuki Ueoka	Yukio Watanabe	Terry Hotta	Sadae Kasahara	

17th Year Memorial Service - 2008 十七回忌

Akiko Matsuda	Harumi Nikaido	William Yamada	Haruo Wada	Itsuo Suzuki	Hideo Saito
Daisy Kato	Shizuko Ohata	Violet Ishii	Tadashi Takahashi	Shizuo Takahashi	Haruo Takemura
Sekiko Nakamoto	Tomiko Ogata	Sumie Furuichi	Shirley Morimoto		

23rd Year Memorial Service - 2002 二十三回忌

Chozo Watanabe	Choji Suzuki	Toshio Hanzawa	Takeko Suzuki	Ume Miyasato	Tadayoshi Tamasaka
Robert K. Tomita	Harumi Yamashita	Misao Tanji	Satoru Kimura	Kenji Umetsu	Betty Takahashi
Naoji Watanabe	Yoshino Watanabe				

27th Year Memorial Service - 1998 二十七回忌

Yukio Nemoto	Shinichi Demura	Harold Kuwashima	Tsuyako Ohashi	Haruko Ogata	Isamu Watanabe
Yoshio Tanno	Alton Hiwatashi	Hisako Mukai	Takeyo Saito	Tona Yamashita	

33rd Year Memorial Service - 1992 三十三回忌

Tsuru Arakaki	Kimie Fukuyoshi	Yae Horiuchi	Kiyoko Nishijo	Maru Shimanuki	Take Ono
Darryl Akiyama	Yasu Matsuura	Buster Y. Suehisa	Tsune Abe	Kaoru Moto	Tatsuto Ishizaka
Toshio Kusunoki	Robert K. Shirokane	Kinuyo Tanaka	Yoshizo Nikaido	Ronald S. Suzuki	

50th Year Memorial Service - 1975 五十回忌

ShusouTakaike	Shinajiro Yokoyama	Miyotoshi Shishido	Yozo Ito	Kikuyo Nagashima	Hideko Ogawa
Yoshi Shishido	Chuichi Kobayashi	Yukino Watanabe	Tammy Minatogawa	Tadashi Shibuya	Kinsuke Takahashi
Yutaka Shirokane	Tori Nihei	Kazumi Watanabe	Iku Umetsu	Kikuji Shirokane	Fuji Itakura

The names on this list were found in the Mantokuji Kakocho Files. Because they are handwritten in kanji, some names were very difficult to read/decipher. Also, some names may have been inadvertently left off this list.

Please inform Cathy Murayama of any mistakes that you may find. Thank you very much.

Memorial Services (Nenkai Kuyo Hoyo) for the individuals listed above may be scheduled during the year.

Contact Mantokuji at (808) 579-8051 to make an appointment for a service or for any questions regarding services.

The service may be held at the temple, gravesite, or at your home.

We may have services done together for deceased family members who share the same memorial year.

Donations made in November

We would like to sincerely thank you for your very generous donations.

General Donations

Rev. Seigo & Jinko Hanuki, Susan Morohashi, Margaret Nakashima, Rev. Kenji & Naoko Oyama, Rev. Yodo & Setsuko Oyama & Family, Wendell & Janice Sakuma, Soto Shu Shumucho, Robert N. Suzuki, Eric Toyota & Lorna Toyota, Lynette Viela, Colin Watanabe.

Howard & Bobbie Arita	Shichi-Go-San Ceremony
Rev. Seigo & Jinko Hanuki	Maui Disaster Lahaina Fires Relief
Nobuo & Kikue Kanemoto	In Memory of Stella Kimura
Ileene R. Kawahara	In Memory of Clint Gima
Hideo & Joyce Kawahara	In Memory of Clint Gima, June Sachie Toyota & Scott Sato
Katherine Marushige	In Memory of Stella Kimura
Gary & Judith Matoi	Shichi-Go-San Ceremony & 13 Year Memorial Service for Shizue Matoi
Grant Matoi & Priscilla Rafferty	In Memory of Shizue Matoi
Ross & Arlene Matoi	In Memory of Shizue Matoi
Kathleen Miyagawa	In Memory of Stella Kimura
Brian T. Moto	In Memory of June Sachie Toyota
Allan & Cathy Murayama	Shichi-Go-San Ceremony
Rev. Kenji & Naoko Oyama	Maui Fire & Disaster Relief
Rev. Yodo & Setsuko Oyama & Family	Maui Fire & Disaster Relief
Eric & Lorna Toyota	Funeral Services for June Sachie Toyota on 11.3.23
Pamela N. Umeetsu	In Memory of Thomas Umetsu
Lynette Umetsu Viela	In Memory of Thomas Umetsu
Lynette Viela	Funeral Services for Thomas Umetsu on 11.12.23
Amy Watanabe	1 st Year Memorial Service for Albert Watanabe

Help Needed

45th Annual Bazaar - Donations and Help Needed

Sunday, March 3, 2024, 8:00am – 12:00noon

Paia Mantokuji is holding its 45th Annual Bazaar on March 3, 2024 from 8:00am – 12:00 noon. The Bazaar is one of Mantokuji's biggest fundraisers and, as in the past, depends on your generous donations and helping hands for its success!

We are currently accepting donations. Mark your calendars with the Bazaar date to remember the big day! The work schedule will be published in the February mangan. Please help us by cleaning the items before bringing them to the temple. We will not be accepting electronics. Call the temple at 808.579.8051 to arrange a drop off time.



Any and all help is appreciated. We work hard, eat well and have fun!

PAIA MANTOKUJI SOTO MISSION
P.O. Box 790207
Paia, HI 96779

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January 2024

	Sunday	Monday	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Friday	Saturday
January		1	2	3	4	5	6
	7 7:30am - 8:30am Zazen 10:00 New Year's Blessing Service & O-fuda Yaki Service	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14 7:30am - 8:30am Zazen 8:30am Cleanup, Fujinkai & Kyodan meetings	15	16	17	18	19	20 9:30am-11:30am Ikebana
	21 7:30am - 8:30am Zazen 11:00am New Year's Party	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28 7:30am - 8:30am Zazen	29	30	31			

Coming up in February (Tentative Schedule)	
Sunday 5	Nehan-e & Ojuzu Mawashi Service, Bazaar Set-up
Sunday 11	Clean up & Bazaar Preparation

Hospital and Hale Makua Visitations
are scheduled during the month.