



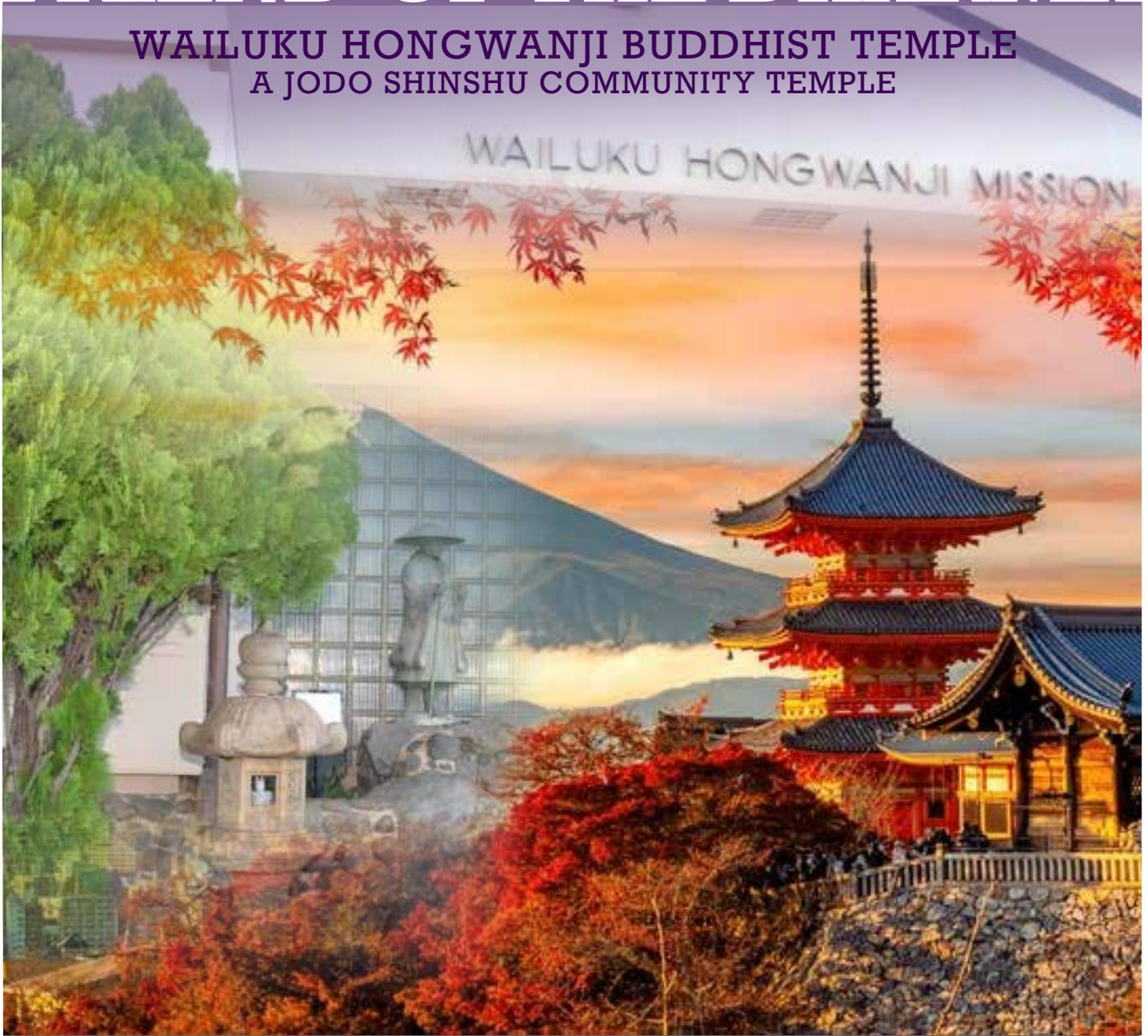
@wailukuhongwanji



SEPTEMBER 2025 // VOLUME 62

FRIEND OF THE DHARMA

WAILUKU HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE
A JODO SHINSHU COMMUNITY TEMPLE



IN THIS ISSUE

Bowling with DS BWA Craft & Food Fair

**Sept. 14 at 9am:
Autumn Ohigan Service**

WAILUKU HONGWANJI MISSION
1828 Vineyard Street
Wailuku, HI 96793

U.S. POSTAGE
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Permit No. 39
Non-Profit Organization
Wailuku, HI 96793

TEACHINGS FROM THE MINISTER

Joy and Dedication

Reverend Shinkai Murakami

Namo Amida Butsu

Dear Wailuku Hongwanji members and families, I heard the good news that the Maui Fair will return this year on the first weekend of October! Unfortunately, we will not be participating in the Chow Fun booth fundraising this time. However, I fondly remember the many games, rides, and delicious foods at the fairgrounds. The Maui Fair is truly one of the most significant events for the people of Maui. Many local organizations rely on it as a major fundraiser. For children and young people, it is a source of joy and excitement: four days filled with fun and cherished memories here on our island.

At the fair, many organizations run booths, including groups we recognize from our daily activities and community events. People work together as a team to accomplish their fundraising goals. But beyond that, I see something even more meaningful: through working together, they create joy and lasting friendships.

When I used to help at the Chow Fun booth, I found it interesting that even if we didn't know each other, conversations would naturally flow about the economy, sports, politics, and daily life. Interestingly, we rarely talked about religion (it seems people aren't too interested in that during the fair!). But everyone was open-minded, and we shared a lot of laughter.

Many newcomers, especially parents of

preschool children, often don't know I'm a minister. They speak in strong local dialects, using expressions I sometimes don't understand, including frequent use of "F-words" as part of their natural way of communicating. Then someone would say, "Eh, watch what you say, we get one minister here!" That always made everyone laugh and deepened our sense of togetherness.

It's true, when we talk about topics we care about, we can engage for hours, sharing thoughts, building understanding, and forming new friendships. I was always impressed by how informed many people were. Sometimes, I told myself that they should run for County or State office, because their comments were so insightful!

In the teachings of the Buddha, there is a passage I always respect and aspire to follow:

"It is a very good deed to cast away greed and to cherish a mind of charity. It is still better to keep one's mind intent on respecting the Noble Path."

We are encouraged to let go of selfishness and cultivate a sincere heart dedicated to helping others. One act of kindness can inspire another, and from that, happiness is born.

Another passage from the Buddha teaches:

"Thousands of candles can be lit from a single candle, and the life of the candle will not be shortened. Happiness never decreases by being shared."

As you may know, our lives are always interconnected. Through sincere offerings and sharing, we can discover true joy and happiness and pass along these wonderful legacies of dedication to the people around us.

Wailuku Hongwanji Mission is truly a place where we can learn and share this important guidance through temple services, member support, volunteer activities, and educational workshops.

The month of September is a time for rededication through the great guidance of Amida's infinite wisdom and compassion.

Namo Amida Butsu

Why Do You Come to Sunday Service?

I come to Sunday Service because it helps me feel connected to my community, my values, and my culture. Helping with the temple clean-up and volunteering at Obon reminded me how important it is to give back and support each other. Sunday Service is a chance to reflect, feel grateful, and remember that we're all part of something bigger.

~ Krystle Beauchamp

THANK YOU

Thank you for your time, effort, and monetary donations. We are so fortunate to have your support! Through your donations, we continue to service multiple temple programs and work towards securing our future by accomplishing many goals in our 2030 Modernization Strategy. We are extremely grateful for any and all donations towards helping our congregation and advancing our community-minded efforts.



Sharon Higa & Farron Cabral

DHARMA SCHOOL

Barnes & Noble
Franklin Hamasaki
Sandy Hirata
Joan Tamori

KYODAN

Noreen Saiki
Lloyd & Janis Uradomo - *In memory of Yaeko Uradomo*

OFFERTORY

Troy Hashimoto
Tamara Manley

OHANARYO

Machiko Moriyasu

EXPRESSIONS OF DANA

Anonymous – *Altar flowers, Assorted snacks, Plastic straws, Brown paper bags, Assorted wish list items, Newspaper, Yard and campus maintenance, Dessert plates, plastic forks*
Richard & Amy Blue – *Landscaping & maintenance*
Cubs – *Temple yard & campus cleanup*
Dharma Strummers – *Sunday service music*
FT – *Campus maintenance & yard cleaning*
Jeral & Karlynn Fukuda – *Altar flowers*
Teri Hamasaki – *13 gallon Hefty Trash bags & Coffee mate creamer*
Stanley Hashimoto – *15# bag of rice*
Margaret Honda – *Altar flowers, Nokotsudo & flower cleaning, office support*
HOSHA Gang – *Temple & Nokotsudo cleaning*
Eric Ikeuchi – *Campus maintenance*
Calvin & Teri Kaneda – *Altar flowers*
Irving & Jane Koja – *Lunch napkins, Ziploc Quart & gallon bags, and Dessert plates*

Carol Mae Kurisu – *Altar flowers*
Machiko Moriyasu – *Altar flowers & arrangements, and office support*
Minae Murakami – *Sunday service organist*
Mike Nishimoto – *Landscaping & maintenance*
Alan & Joan Oura – *Ziploc sandwich bags, Kirkland Quart freezer bags, Dixie Bowls, Wooden chopsticks & Packing tape*
Jon & Rusty Oura – *Ziploc sandwich bags, Ziploc freezer quart bags, 12oz. No tree bowls, Reynolds wrap aluminum foil & 20# Rice*
Celeste Rabang – *Office support*
Noreen Saiki – *Nabisco cookies, Japanese snacks, Coke & Sprite*
Nancy Shimoda – *Nokotsudo & flower cleaning, office support*
Dale Sugiki – *Sunday service organist*
Toshiko Sugiki – *Office support*
Roy & Flora Tamiya – *Luncheon napkins, Luncheon plates, Ziploc Variety pack, Ziploc sandwich bags, 33 Gallon trash bags, 13 Gallon trash bags, Packing tape, Duct tape and Folgers coffee*
Ed & Joan Tamori – *Altar flowers & yard maintenance*
Danny Topp - *A/V support for services, events, workshops, & meetings*
Mary Tokumaru – *Office support*
Leonard & Pat Tomita – *Hand sanitizing soap*
Linda Ann Unemori – *Office support*

**Eric Ikeuchi:
the man
behind the
scenes.**



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OBON

Ronald & Myrna Amimoto
Irene Aquino - *In memory of Howard Takemoto & Mitsuyo Takemoto*
Irene Arakaki
Miyoko Arakaki
Melvin & Aimee Arakawa - *In memory of Janice Kitagawa*
Marilyn Araki
Kaena Brown
Madge Cabudol
Claire Ching - *In memory of Fusayo Koiki*
Lauren Chun - *In memory of Kyutaro Kitagawa & Family*
Carol Mae Kurisu - *In memory of Nobuo & Jane Kurisu*
Doreen Crawford
Catherine Davenport
Steven & Robyn Deeks - *In memory of Isamu & Barbara Iwaishi*
Michael & Susan Emura
Calvin & Kayoko Endo - *In memory of Masato Endo, Dorothy Endo, & Eugene Endo*
Ethel Fujii
Randy & Sharlene Fujimoto - *In memory of Judy Sakai*
Yoshiko Fujiwara
Lisa Fujiyama
Jeral & Karlynn Fukuda
Ronald & Kay Fukumoto
Alvin & Martha Fukunaga
Myrna Fung
Emiko Goshi - *In memory of Stan Goshi, Terukichi & Kogimi Matsuri, Yuichi Matsui & Family, and*

Tommy Sato
Paul & Susan Gushiken - *In memory of Micah Saito*
John & Kelli Ha - *In memory of Micah Saito*
Ronald Hamai & Gail Iwamoto-Hamai
Franklin & Guy Hamasaki - *In memory of Elaine Hamasaki*
Grace & Teri Hamasaki - *In memory of Hamasaki, Izuo, and Nishizawa Families*
Teri Hamasaki
Tod & Wendy Hamasaki - *In memory of Elaine Hamasaki*
Tomone Karen Hanada
Howard & Alma Hanzawa
Rev. Gensho Hara
Rev. John Hara
James & Takane Hashi - *In memory of Bert Tagami, Fred Araki, Ralph N. Tanaka & Family*
Brian Hashiro
Ellie Hayase Asasaki
Craig & Pat Hayase - *In memory of Charlotte Hayase*
Karen Higa - *In memory of Aaron Higa*
Calvin & Sharon Higuchi
Dennis & Myra Hinahara - *In memory of the Sueda family*
Roy & Gwen Hiraga
Heidi Hiraoka - *In memory of Douglas & Clara Sodekani, and Tomosuke & Yukie Kawahara*
Sandra Hirata - *In memory of Tadayoshi & Helen Kimura,*

and Sheila Kimura
Cary & Sharon Honda
Margaret Honda
Carolyn Hozaki
Roy & Barbara Huntley
Nolan & Merle Ideoka
Cynthia Ikeda
Jerry Imai
Audrey Inaba
Harley & Martha Ishii - *In memory of James & Yvonne Nagoshi, Kenji & Miyoko Nakamoto, Thomas Nakamoto, Kenneth Nakamoto, & Lillian Yoshizawa*
Jake Ishikawa
Ronald & Sylvia Ishikawa
Donald & Faith Ito
Amy Izutsu - *In memory of Elaine Yamagata, Minoru & Mitsu Yamagata, and Tsukio & Tomiko Yamagata*
Brent Izutsu - *In memory of Elaine Yamagata, and Tsukio & Tomiko Yamagata*
Calvin & Terri Kaneda - *In memory of Steven & Aileen Kaneda*
Tetsuo Kanemitsu
Mae Karimoto - *In memory of Donald Karimoto*
Mari Ann Kato
Dennis & Linda Kawachi
Alan & Geraldine Kawaguchi
Craig & Jean Kawaguchi
Hideo & Joyce Kawahara - *In memory of Douglas & Clara Sodekani, Tomosuke*

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& Yukie Kawahara, and
Jonathan Shibata
Sheila Kawahara
Kyp & Carissa Kawamura - *In
memory of Janice Kitagawa*
Melvyn & Sylvia Kawashima
Calvin & Janet Kaya
Pearl Kaya - *In memory of
Mr. & Mrs. Matsuki Matsui*
Fran Kekahuna
Mikaela Kenney
Nelson Kina
Dustin Kitagawa - *In memory
of Walter Fujiwara,
Yoshiko Fukagawa &
Carol Madden, and Wayne
& Helen Tanaka*
Herbert & Alice Kogasaka
Irving & Jane Koja
Randall Koja
Ricky Komatsu
Reiko Kondo
Darren & Mayumi Konno
June Konno
Lori & Ziva Koyama
Brian Koyanagi
Lyn Koyanagi
Candice Kubo - *In memory
of Patsy Yorimoto*
Janet Kubota
Lester & Jodi Kunimitsu
S. Kurata
Gail Kushiya
Layne Kushiya
Yaeko Kuwata - *In memory
of Satoru & Ayame
Matsushima, and Helen
Matsushima*
Tom & Krystene Lam - *In*

*memory of Jonathan
Shibata*
Dr. Jonathan Lau
Marion Maekawa - *In memory
of Masao & Hisako Tamiya,
and Henry Maekawa*
Kyle Mainaga - *In memory of
Yoshio & Patricia Mainaga*
Wayne & Sandra Matsuda
Ellen Matsui
Leon & Renee Matsui
Patrice Matsumoto
Robert & Edith Matsumoto -
*In memory of Hitoshi &
Shizuko Matsumoto*
Milton & Lisa Matsuoka
Joni & Kelly McGinnis
David & Irene Miyake
Scott & Linda Monden
Sakakihara
Minako Mori
Stanley Mori - *In memory of
Shoichi & Elaine Mori*
Michael & Lori Muneakiyo - *In
memory of Micah Koa
Nobuo Saito*
Gary & Jacqueline Murai
Guy & Eunice Muraoka
Joyce Murashige
Alan & Cathleen Murayama
Machiko Nagao
Floyd & Sharon Nagoshi
Ray & Bobbie Nakagawa
Alan & Faith Nakamoto
Alan Nakashima
Dean Nakashima
Audrey Nashiwa
Lawrence & Gloria Nashiwa
Joann Nikaido

Stacey Nikaido
Linda Nishida
Cyd Nishino
Bette Nomura
Patrick & Sue Nomura - *In
memory of Tanio Nomura,
Sumi Nomura, and Naoki
Nomura*
Liane Ogata, and Sean
Ogata & Family - *In memory
of Val Ogata*
Helen Ohigashi
Toshiko Oki
Lynn Omuro Yamauchi
Warren & Helen Orikasa
Dorothy Oshiro
Irma Ota
Raymond & Sharon Otsubo
Richard Ouchi
Sheri Oura Lew
Alan & Joan Oura - *In memory
of Larry & Julie Sugahara,
Lori Yuki Oura, Inouye
Family, and Oura Family*
Jon & Rusty Oura - *In
memory of Lori Yuki Oura*
Keith Regan & Lynn Araki
Regan - *In memory of Mr.
& Mrs. Robert Shimada
and Fred Araki*
Elaine Rodrigues
Louis & Shirley Rosado - *In
memory of Francis Kimoto*
Noreen Saiki - *In memory
of Satoru & Harumi
Kawakami*
Derrick & Carly Saito - *In
memory of Micah Saito*
Janet Saito

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Jane Sato - *In memory of Donald Karimoto and Val Ogata*
 Phyllis Sato - *In memory of Itsue Hanada*
 Lee Seki
 Linda Shibano - *In memory of Tomiyoshi Shibano*
 Grace Shigeta
 George & Aileen Shigezawa
 Alan & Susan Shimada
 George Shimada - *In memory of Robert & Yoneko Shimada*
 Janet Shimada
 Brian & Dayni Shimomura
 Glen Shiotsugu
 William & Jeanne Smythe
 Garth Sodetani and Nina Ho - *In memory of Douglas & Clara Sodetani, and Senkichi & Ariyo Sodetani*
 F.S. Sodetani - *In memory of Douglas & Clara Sodetani, and Senkichi & Ariyo Sodetani*
 Lloyd & Sharon Sodetani
 Valerie Sowder
 Dale Sugiki
 Toshiko Sugiki
 Earl Suzuki
 Lynn & Diane Tadakuma
 Deborah Takahashi
 Takamiya Market
 Lance & Cheryl Takamiya
 Colleen Takamura - *In memory of Gilbert Takamura*
 Patricia Takatani, Jones

Takatani, and Heen Families - *In memory of Dennis Takatani*
 Lois Tambalo
 Mr. & Mrs. Alan Tamiya - *In memory of Masao & Hisako Tamiya*
 Flora & Roy Tamiya - *In memory of Masao & Hisako Tamiya*
 Edward & Joan Tamori
 Steve & Ileene Tanabe - *In memory of Douglas & Clara Sodetani, Tomosuke & Yukie Kawahara, and Jonathan Shibata*
 Florence Tanaka - *In memory of Patsy Suzuki*
 Shirley Tanaka - *In memory of Tanaka, and Takamatsu Families*
 Mark & Alison Tiwanak - *In memory of Helen Nakashima*
 Roy Stillwell & Judy Toba-Stillwell
 Sarajeen Tokunaga - *In memory of Donald & Alice Tokunaga, Aaron Tokunaga, Mariye Tokunaga-Lau, and Chaz Tokunaga*
 Stefanie Tome
 Leonard & Patricia Tomita
 Wallace & Carolyn Towata
 Frederick & Arlene Toyama
 Lucille Tsuzaki
 Clarence Uehara & Cheryl Okuma

Aileen Unemori
 Unknown - *In memory of Helen Nakashima*
 Lloyd & Janis Uradomo
 Leslie & Ryoko Ushiro
 Gary & Karen Wasano
 Alan & Janet Watanabe - *In memory of Yukitaka & Shizue Ansai*
 Scott & Wendy Wells
 Amelia Weyerstall
 James & Gail Wright - *In memory of June & Iwao Kanada, Ishibashi Family, and the Kanada Ohana*
 Roy & Evee Yamada
 Rene Yamafuji
 Jodi Yamagata - *In memory of Elaine Yamagata & Family*
 Jackie Yamaguchi - *In memory of Yoshito & Kimiko Inamasu*
 Lydia Yamaguchi
 Mathew & Sharon Yamamoto
 Carol Yamamura
 Randy & Shawn Yamanuha
 Terri Yap
 Shinyei Yogi
 Millie Yokouchi
 Elaine Yokoyama - *In memory of Alan Yokoyama, Yoshio & Yukie Inaba, Yoshiharu & Edith Inaba, Fumiko Inaba, Yoshikatsu Kuwae, Yoshihiro & Jean Kuwae, Kristi Shintaku*
 Alma Yoshimori
 Helene Yoshizawa
 Earl Zaan

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EDUCATION



WAILUKU HONGWANJI PRESCHOOL

144 Kaniela Street, Wailuku, Hawaii 96793 * Phone: (808) 244-9545
Email: whpreschool808@gmail.com * Hours: Mon-Fri, 7:30am - 4:30pm

Jody Vinoray



As we welcome a new school year, we are thrilled to embrace the joy and learning that comes with preschool. This year promises to be filled with fun activities, engaging lessons and new friendships.



Kumu Nitahara, we want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude for your years of dedicated service as a preschool teacher's aide at Wailuku Hongwanji Preschool. Your passion for nurturing young minds and your unwavering support have made a lasting impact on the children and the entire community. Happy Retirement Kumu!



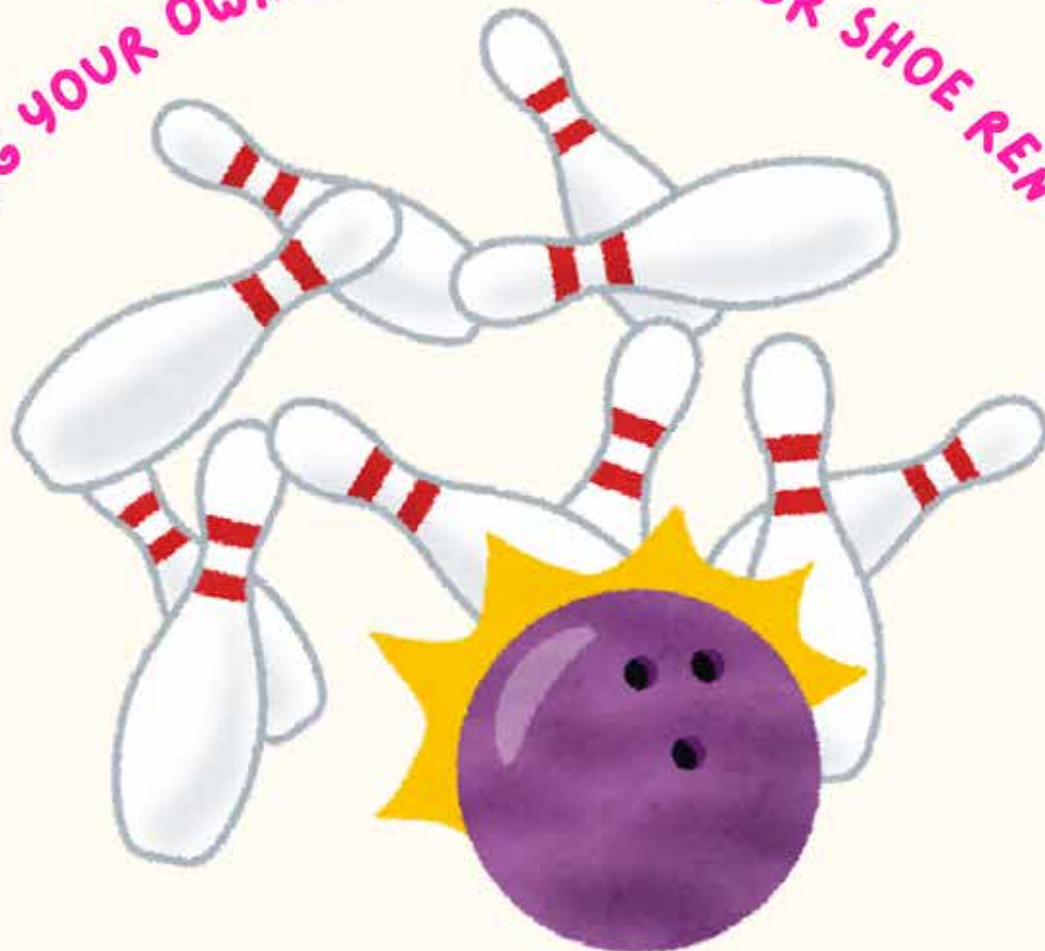
DS GOES BOWLING!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2025

1:30 – 3:30 P.M.

WAILUKU LANES, 1976 E. VINEYARD ST., WAILUKU

BRING YOUR OWN SOCKS, \$2.50 FOR SHOE RENTAL



\$225 Private Buyout Rate – Use of 10 Lanes; 6 players to a lane
(Thank you Tamara Manley for generously donating \$100; DS will pay balance.)



RSVP by August 24 via BAND app

EDUCATION

Dharma School's Obon Game Room Fundraiser Success

Joan Tamori

The Dharma School once again hosted a fun and successful game room fundraiser during Wailuku Hongwanji's Obon Festival on August 1 and 2. Seven carnival-style game stations: golf putt, tic-tac-toe, roll-a-ball, fish pond, wheel of fortune, ring toss, and the new bull's eye target, were set up and enthusiastically operated by Dharma School students, parents, and teachers. Children and families were warmly welcomed to play and win tickets to redeem for a wide array of prizes.

For the second year in a row, the game room was held in classrooms 1 and 2 above the social hall, which continues to serve the event well. Fathers also took on the role of hall monitors, ensuring the safety of all by kindly but firmly reminding children to walk carefully up and down the stairs.

A heartfelt thank you to the Koyama, Quipotla, Osajima, Tomita, Cabral, Petro, Beauchamp, Fukushima-Tsai, Ikeuchi, K. Tamori, E. Tamori, Hirata, Orikasa, and Higa families who contributed their time, energy, and dedication to making this fundraising event a success!



ADULT ORGANIZATIONS

Buddhist Women's Association News

Gwen Hiraga

The BWA held Obon food pre-sales on July 13 and 27, offering salads, rice dishes, desserts, and pickled vegetables. On August 1–2, members sold food, crafts, origami tsuru, and washi flower lei. Thank you to Paul Gushiken, Fred Toyama, and Richard Ouchi for preparing the Nishime, and to everyone who supported the sales.

On August 10, BWA members joined “A Gathering of Compassion and Honor,” sponsored by the Maui Hongwanji Council and others, honoring those affected by the Lahaina and Kula wildfires.

The General Membership meeting was held August 17 with updates on projects and activities.

Upcoming events include the 120th Anniversary Celebration on September 21 (service at 9:00 a.m., brunch by Carl Yeh) and the Autumn Craft & Food Fair on October 18 from 8:00 a.m.–12:00 noon. Vendor tables are full; for the waiting list, contact Gwen Hiraga at (808) 280-0854.

Happy Birthday to September members: Irene Araki, Elaine Akashi, and Minae Murakami.



Creamy Coconut Cake - Courtesy of Bette Nomura



1 box Duncan Hines Butter Cake mix
1 14oz can Condensed Milk
1 package frozen coconut milk
1 container Cool Whip
Unsweetened coconut flakes

Prepare and bake cake according to package directions. Mix together condensed milk and coconut milk; set aside. Poke holes in warm cake. Pour milk mixture over warmed cake. Cool and chill cake. Frost with Cool Whip, sprinkle with coconut flakes. Cover and refrigerate until ready to serve.



Wailuku Hongwanji BWA

Autumn

Craft & Food Fair

.....

October 18, 2025

8 a.m. to Noon

Wailuku Hongwanji Mission

1828 Vineyard Street

.....

Beautiful crafts by the
BWA and vendors from
Maui and O'ahu!



SPORTS

Judo Club at Summer Nationals

Ronald Hiyakumoto

On July 19 and 20, 2025, eighteen judokas from the Wailuku Hongwanji Judo Club participated in the Summer Nationals in Honolulu, Hawaii. The tournament was held at the Hawaii Convention Center. 780 contestants from Hawaii and the mainland competed in this national event. Wailuku Hongwanji Judo Club members who placed, include:

First Place:
Mahea Vares

Second Place:
Truth Kamaunu
Ethan Yeh

Third Place:
Aaron Ikehara
Madelein Milliet



Maui
Judokas



Mahea pinning her
opponent.



Mahea using a leg throw
to counter her opponent.



Jaxon
throwing &
attempting
to pin his
opponent.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join Our Temple Community Today!

Join us at Wailuku Hongwanji and become a cherished member of our temple community! We embrace diversity and welcome individuals and families from all backgrounds with open arms.

Membership: Support our shared spiritual journey by becoming a regular gojikai member through annual dues; your contribution ensures the vitality of our community.

Financial Support: Everyone's circumstances are unique. If dues present a challenge, reach out to discuss a rate that works for you. Your presence matters most, and we're happy to accommodate.

Ohana: Joining our ohana enriches your spiritual journey. Attend services, events, or activities to experience our vibrant community firsthand.

Membership Benefits: Enjoy special rates for temple programs, facility rentals, and a voice in decision-making at meetings. Embrace the warmth of community and join us today!

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

Sakura 4-H Clubs' Clover Report

Krystle Beauchamp

During the past month, the Sakura 4-H Club came together as one to participate in two special events at the Wailuku Hongwanji Mission (WHM). With members from Friends Forever, Lōkahi Girls, Aloha Girls, and Shining Stars, we combined our efforts take part in the WHM General Clean-up and Obon Festival.

In preparation for the Obon Festival, Sakura 4-H members helped clean the sliding doors and the social hall to make the temple grounds welcoming for the many visitors who would soon arrive. It was a meaningful way to contribute and show pride in our shared space.

We also had the wonderful opportunity to volunteer during this year's Obon Festival. From selling bowls of delicious ramen and li hing mui crawlers to fun hair pins and glowing LED lanterns.

It felt amazing to be part of such a cherished tradition while helping raise funds and creating joyful memories.

We would like to sincerely thank the Wailuku Hongwanji Mission and its members for their continued support of the Sakura 4-H Club. These events reminded us of the power of community and working together. It truly felt like everyone coming together as one, and we're so grateful to be part of it.



Finished cleaning the social hall and sliding doors.



Enjoying some yummy refreshments with Cub Scout friends.



Sakura 4-H members ready and excited for the Obon Festival to start.



Sakura 4-H members working hard and having fun at their booth.

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

A Season of Service & Growth

Celeste Rabang

Boy Scouts had a Cub Scout graduation camp, an eagle scout project, summer camp, and a service project.



Caden and Dominic making chili



Ethan preparing the rice



Left: Aaron & D'Marco serving the miso soup and chili

Below: New Eagle Scouts Cody, Zach, Skye, Galen, Adam, Chase, and William with Scoutmaster Celeste



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Help Wanted: Student Volunteer

Looking for a volunteer to take out 5–10 bags of trash each week (about 10–35 lbs). It only takes about one hour, perfect for Fridays after school!

- Great for high schoolers
- Community service hours
- Easy to support the temple

If interested, please call the office at (808) 244-0406.

Mahalo for giving back!

SPECIAL EVENTS

Court of Honor Celebration

On Saturday, August 9, Wailuku Hongwanji hosted a Court of Honor recognizing seven new Eagle Scouts, the highest rank in Scouting. We congratulate these young men for their dedication, service projects, and commitment to Scouting values. Their accomplishments are a source of pride for their families, fellow Scouts, and our temple community. The evening was a celebration of achievement and a reminder of the leadership and service that lie ahead.

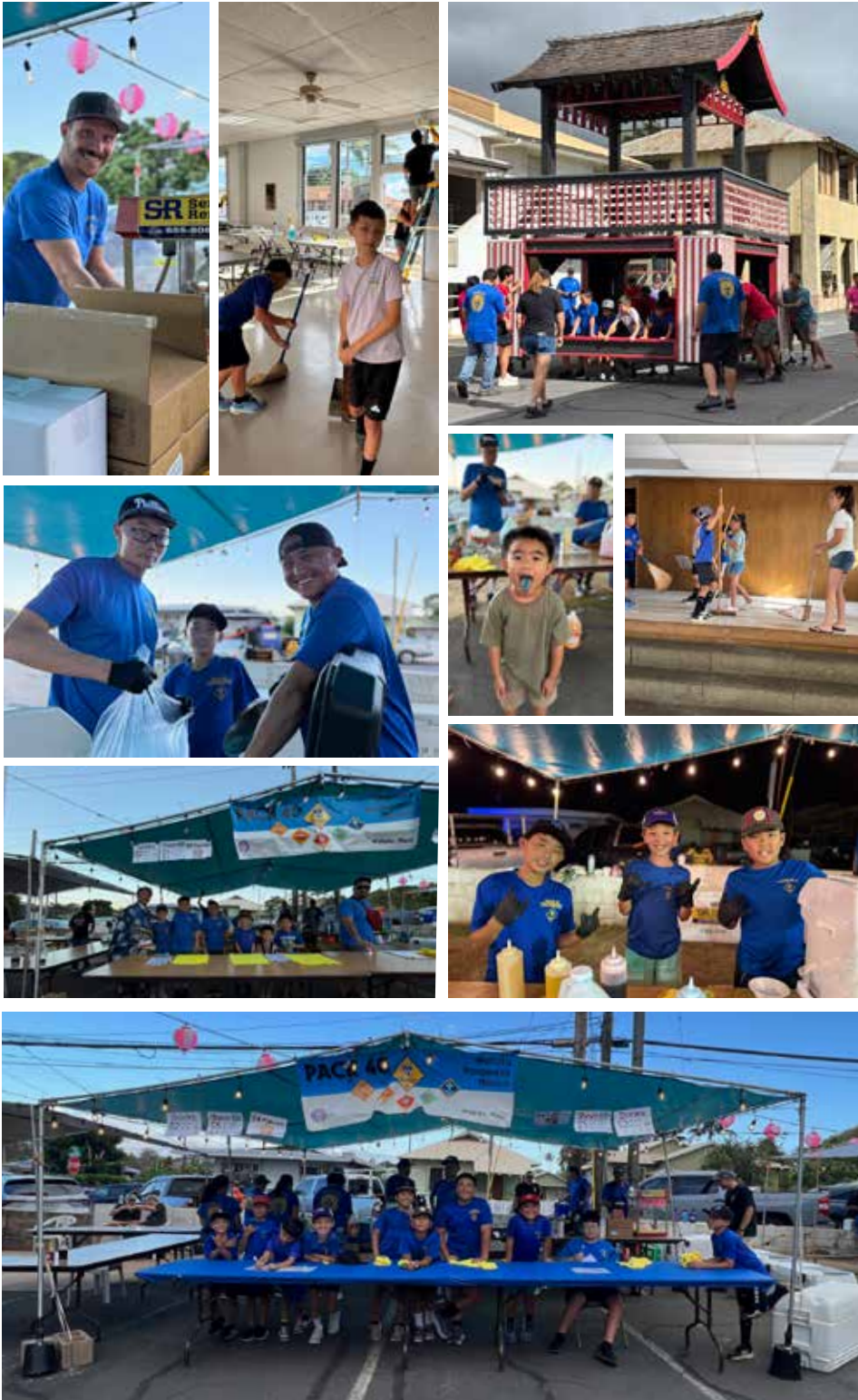


YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

A Cub Scout Journey

Kawika Beauchamp & Paul Petro

The Cub Scouts volunteered to help in the semiannual church clean up in July. We had a blast at the Wailuku Hongwanji Obon festival. Cub Scouts learn customer service skills by selling drinks, popcorn and shave ice. All the proceeds will be used to fund learning and pack activities throughout the year.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Temple Wish List

We kindly request your support in contributing to our temple's wish list, which includes essential items to enhance our space and activities. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

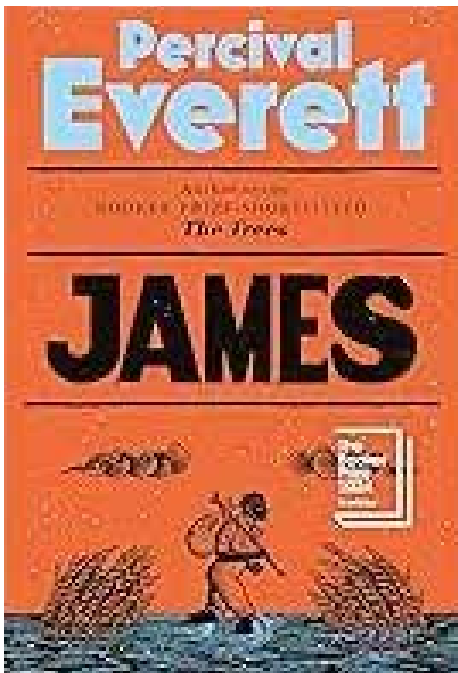
- Aluminum Foil
- 12 Cups and larger coffee filters
- Forever postage stamps
- 33 Gal. Trash Bags (No Flex Tech)
- 18 Gal. Kitchen Trash bag w/ draw string (No Flex Tech)
- Paper Towels
- Wooden Hashi (chopsticks)
- 7" Dessert Plates
- 12oz Bowls
- Coffee: Folgers or Yuban
- Clear Carton Packing Tapes
- General Use Masking Tapes (1")
- Ziploc bags (sandwich, quart, gallon)
- Duct Tape
- Napkins
- 15# Bag rice
- 9" Lunch plates
- Blue Painters tape
- Antibacterial hand soap
- 9 oz. Cold cups
- 9 oz. Hot cups
- Spoons



DHARMA CIRCLES

Buddha Reads “James: Percival Everett’s Reimagining...”

Danny Topp



Our latest Buddha Reads Book Club gathered Bob, Joan, Gary, Laura, Farron, and Danny for a lively discussion of James by Percival Everett, a reimagining of The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn told through Jim’s perspective. In this retelling, Jim is portrayed as intelligent and resourceful, with his hopes and fears at the center of the story. While much of Twain’s plot remains, the novel diverges in the final third, moving the timeline to the Civil War and offering a new ending.

Discussion ranged from the novel’s pacing, satire, and historical context to critiques of style and character portrayals. Members compared James to works like Uncle Tom’s Cabin and 12 Years a Slave, reflecting on the importance of context when reading stories about slavery. Most recommended the book, though a few noted it might resonate more if paired with Twain’s original.

The group will meet again on Sunday, September 14, to discuss Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi.

Call for Submissions 2026 HONGWANJI CALENDAR

Five-Year Theme (2025-2029): NURTURING NEMBUTSU.

2026 Slogan: Sharing Gratitude

The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii (HHMH) Calendar Committee invites members, Dharma friends, and affiliates to provide photos for the 2026 Hongwanji Calendar that shows,

“NURTURING NEMBUTSU: SHARING GRATITUDE.”

- You may submit several photos for consideration by the Calendar Committee for the 2026 Hongwanji Calendar.
- We do welcome cell phone photos. Photos will need to be able to be clearly enlarged.
- Preferably, please submit pictures in landscape format (horizontal), like this flyer.
- For **EACH photo, please include a brief caption expressing the 2026 slogan** and your name/temple for photo credit.
- If you have questions, please leave a message for Yumi Suzuki at the Hongwanji Headquarters Office at (808)522-9200 or email: hgs@honpahi.org.
- For photo submissions, please submit directly to Alan Kubota at lenscapeshawaii@gmail.com. He will respond directly to any technical questions. Thank you.



Deadline:
Monday, September 15, 2025.



Our Deepest Sympathies

Edward Shoichi Hirata
(SHO GAKU – Perfect
Enlightenment), age 92, of
Wailuku, passed on
June 7, 2025.

Helen Motooka Nakashima
(Man TOKU – Fullfilled
Buddha's Great Virtues), age
95, of Kahului, passed on
June 27, 2025.

Namo Amida Butsu

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Ofuse & Nokotsudo: *Thank You*

Allan Hasegawa - *In memory of
Miyakichi & Misayo (Motooka) Sawamoto*
Scott & Shirley Ageno - *In memory of
Shinayo & Midori Hamasaki, and
Shizue Ageno & Kikue Ageno*
Ronald & Myrna Amimoto
Emiko Goshi - *In memory of Stan Goshi,
Terukichi & Kogimi Matsui,
Yuichi Matsui & Family, Tommy Sato*
Allan Hasegawa- *In memory of
Miyakichi & Misayo (Motooka) Sawamoto*
James & Takane Hashi - *In memory of
Richard & Alma Hashi and Chiyo Hashi*
Margaret Honda
Irving & Jane Koja - *In memory of the
Tomokiyo Family*
Wallace & Geraldine Matsuda - *In memory of
Takeyuki & Ochiyo Yoshizu*
Glenn & Dawn Mukai
Noreen Saiki - *In memory of
Satoru & Harumi Kawakami*
Rene Shimoda - *In memory of the
Shimoda and Lum Families*
Leonard & Patricia Tomita - *In memory of
Rose Ohashi and Ronald Ohashi*
Miki Tomita & Jon Okamoto

MEMORIAL SERVICES

September Hoji Memorial Services

Below: August 16, 2025,
Wailea Bay, Sea burial service.



3rd YEAR - 2023

DAY NAME

- 10 Gladys Asako Watanabe (DO AN)
- 18 Anita Toshiko Yamafuji (HO ETSU)

7th YEAR - 2019

DAY NAME

- 16 Haruko Yogi (AN RAKU)
- 17 Howard Hideki Takemoto (SHU SHIN)
- 17 Hatsuto Nagai (TO GAN)

13th YEAR - 2013

DAY NAME

- 08 Geraldine Mitsuko Honda (MYO KO)
- 15 James Sadao Morisaki (TEI DO)

25th YEAR - 2001

DAY NAME

- 30 Mike Masaki Ikeda (JYO KI)

33rd YEAR -1993

DAY NAME

- 11 Tamano Inouye (KO REN)
- 18 Kiyomi Ikeuchi (SHI JUN)

50th YEAR - 1976

DAY NAME

- 19 Seki Mochizuki (AN DO)
- 22 Masayo Kunitake (MYO ON)
- 27 Shoichi Sakagawa (SHO NEN)

To schedule a memorial service, contact the
main office at (808) 244-0406, M-F between
8am to 12pm/noon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Invitation to the Autumn Ohigan Service on Sunday, Sept. 14 starting at 9am

Wailuku Hongwanji Buddhist Temple welcomes all to its Autumn Ohigan Service on Sunday, September 14, at 9:00 a.m. in the hondo (main hall). Observed at the Autumn Equinox, Ohigan, known as the “Other Shore”, symbolizes the journey from suffering to awakening, guided by Amida Buddha’s compassion. Rev. Shinkai Murakami will lead the service with reflections on balance, peace, and interconnectedness. All are invited to join in contemplation, community, and the Buddha’s timeless teachings. For details, call the temple office at 244-0406.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Ring the Bell for Peace on Sept. 22

Temple members and Preschool students will join in the “Ring the Bell for Peace” on Monday, September 22, at 9:00 a.m. Guided by compassion and Shinran Shonin’s teachings, the program will include a minute of silence and the ringing of the Kansho bell for peace. May its sound ripple outward, steadily and tenderly, planting seeds of kindness, hope, and empathy in our world.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Tri-temple Bon Odori Held at Lahaina Jodo Mission on August 9th

On Saturday, August 9, the Lahaina Tri-Temples (Lahaina Jodo Mission, Lahaina Hongwanji Mission, and Lahaina Shingon Mission) joined together to hold their Bon Odori at Lahaina Jodo Mission. This was the first time members and friends could gather at one of the temples lost to the August 8, 2023 wildfires, offering compassion and gratitude for the Tri-Temples’ enduring legacy.

Despite limited facilities, the event gave members and the community a chance to honor ancestors, remember those lost, and celebrate the unity of the Maui Buddhist community. Buses brought attendees from across the island to join in the observance. Participants formed a circle in the temple courtyard around the yagura (music tower), draped in a red and white skirt provided by Wailuku Hongwanji Mission, symbolizing the continuity of Buddhist tradition and culture.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Kiwanis Kupuna Spelling Bee



The Maui Regional Kiwanis Kupuna Spelling Bee will be held at Wailuku Hongwanji Social Hall on Saturday, September 6, at 9:00 a.m.

Hawai'i residents age 60+ are invited to compete for a good cause. Registration is \$35 (benefiting the Alzheimer's Association), and only the first 20 entrants can participate. The deadline is Friday, August 30.

The top two spellers advance to the State Finals in Honolulu on September 20, with a grand prize of round-trip tickets for two on Alaska Airlines, a 4-night stay at the California Hotel in Las Vegas, and cash prizes.

Register at www.kupunaspellingbee.com.



SPECIAL EVENTS

Maui Wildfires Special Memorial Service Was Held at Wailuku Hongwanji Buddhist Temple



On Sunday, August 10, Wailuku Hongwanji hosted a special Maui Wildfire Memorial and Recovery Service. The heartfelt gathering brought together ministers, members, guests, and community leaders in a spirit of compassion, remembrance, and healing. We were honored to welcome Maui County Mayor Richard Bissen, Senator Troy Hashimoto, and Councilmember Yuki Lei Sugimura, along with Richard Carosso, Principal of Lahainaluna High School, who delivered the keynote message. His words centered on healing, unity, and the enduring strength of Lahaina, a testament to leadership grounded in empathy and hope. Mayor Bissen shared reflections on the resilience of residents in Lahaina, Kula, and across Maui, affirming that these communities grow stronger as they face and overcome tragedy. Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani offered spiritual guidance, inviting all to reflect on the Buddhist teachings of interconnectedness and shared humanity. "Recovery begins not just with rebuilding homes, but with reconnecting hearts," he reminded us.

This memorial service was originally proposed by the Buddhist Women's Federation of Japan at its 17th World Convention in Kyoto. The Federation wished their donation to provide comfort and solidarity to those affected by the wildfires, sending the message: "Our hearts and minds are with you." The service stood as a reminder of compassion, strength, and hope, guiding us as we walk the path of recovery together.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Call for Lahaina Hongwanji Historic Photos

The HHMH Recovery and Rebuilding Committee continues to make steady, consensus-based progress toward restoring the Lahaina Hongwanji campus. Recent milestones include visioning sessions with the Lahaina Sangha, completion of property cleanup by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, coordination with FEMA and HiEMA on funding, and the engagement of FAI Architects to lead a feasibility study and masterplan. The committee's current priority is completing that study, which will guide the next phase of rebuilding.

Help Needed: To support this effort, FAI Architects is seeking pre-fire photos of Lahaina Hongwanji buildings, especially those without architectural plans. These images are critical for recreating the campus and meeting federal requirements. Please share copies with the Wailuku Hongwanji office or email digital files to WHM@wailukuhongwanji.org. Your support will help preserve Lahaina Hongwanji's legacy.





Living Gratitude Program

Living Gratitude:
Building the future of Buddhism in Hawaii

The Living Gratitude Program will support Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii's efforts to **EDUCATE** members, youth, and the public about Jodo Shinshu, **INNOVATE** through the use of technology and targeted outreach, and **SUSTAIN** Hawaii Kyodan into the future.



EDUCATE

We **EDUCATE** our members and the general public about Shin Buddhism.

- Dharma centered programs for members, youth and the public,
- Ministerial education and lay assistant programs
- Technology based tools for education



INNOVATE

We **INNOVATE** by utilizing technology to expand our Dharma outreach.

- Digital ministry program
- Video production studio at the Buddhist Study Center
- Facilitate distance learning and online dharma
- Marketing and outreach team



SUSTAIN

We **SUSTAIN** the essence and maintain the heart of Shin Buddhism in Hawaii.

- Headquarters support with maintenance and upgrades
- Kyodan operations and ability to provide spiritual guidance throughout Hawaii
- Grow the Living Gratitude Endowment Fund





MOVING SHIN BUDDHISM INTO THE FUTURE



Jodo Shinshu Buddhism came to Hawaii in the 1880's when Japanese laborers came to work on the sugar plantations. These newcomers struggled to survive because of hard physical labor, poor living conditions, and minimal pay. By turning to the temple for guidance, they found the Buddhist teachings to be comforting. Ministers and lay members supported each other and built a thriving, gathering place of Nembutsu followers. They persevered and dealt with their hardships to succeed in their new home.

The roots of Jodo Shinshu planted by these early immigrants continue to grow and inspire many generations. For over 130 years, our temples have been vibrant, spiritual communities that have shared the Buddhist teachings through Dharma education, spiritual support, and community service. We welcome the inclusion of all people into our Sangha. We seek to share with others the wisdom and compassion of Amida Buddha.

The Dharma continues to be relevant, and even more necessary, in these turbulent and chaotic times. We believe the Nembutsu teaching has the power to transform lives and create a more humane world. We must continue to preserve and enhance our dharma-centered programs into the future so people may enjoy lives of harmony, peace, and gratitude. Please join us as we build a pathway to the future of Jodo Shinshu in Hawaii.

Living Gratitude Program:
The Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii
is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization
EIN 99-0073500





HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

STATE HEADQUARTERS

1727 PALI HIGHWAY HONOLULU, HI 96813 PH: (808) 522-9200 FAX: (808) 522-9209

www.hongwanjihawaii.com

Dear Dharma Friends,

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii (Hawaii Kyodan) needs your support as we strive to preserve our rich history and transition into the future. Our Living Gratitude Program is destined to build a promising future for Buddhism in Hawaii. Your contribution will support Honpa Hongwanji's efforts to **EDUCATE** our members, youth, ministers, and the public about Jodo Shinshu; **INNOVATE** using technology and outreach; and **SUSTAIN** our Hawaii Kyodan into the future as we provide guidance to communities throughout Hawaii.

Please consider a gift today or a recurring gift to the Living Gratitude Program. This generous gift is your commitment that ensures the future of Shin Buddhism in Hawaii.

In Gassho,

Bishop Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani

President Dr. Warren Tamamoto

RETURN FORM & CHECK TO:
HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII
LIVING GRATITUDE PROGRAM
1727 Pali Highway
Honolulu, HI 96813

TO MAKE A GIFT ONLINE,
PLEASE USE THIS QR CODE:



TO MAKE A GIFT BY MAIL:

Circle one: \$5000 \$2500 \$1500 \$1000 \$500 \$250 \$100 \$ _____

Make it recur every: _____ month _____ 3 months _____ 6 months _____ one time

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE ZIP: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

TEMPLE AFFILIATION, if any: _____

☐

I would like to learn more about making a planned giving gift through my will or trust or another type of gift to HHMH.

We gratefully accept matching gifts from your employer or direct payment through your bank to HHMH Living Gratitude Program

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii is recognized as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization under the rules and regulations of the Internal Revenue Service. Tax ID #99-0073500

REFERENCES

Organization & Project Sign-Up Info

Interested in joining an affiliate organization, club, association, or looking to volunteer or donate to a project? Below is a list of sponsored organizations and ongoing or upcoming projects at Wailuku Hongwanji and their contact information. We look forward to seeing you and your family, and thank you in advance, for any monetary donations you make to support our efforts!

Altar Flower Donations	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org
Buddhist Womans Association (BWA)	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org
Boy Scouts	Call (808) 250-1891 or email msdel17@hotmail.com
Buddha Reads Book Club	Call the main office at (719) 200-7300 or email Buddha.reads@gmail.com
Choir	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org
Cub Scouts	Call (808) 280-1299 or cubpack40@gmail.com
Dharma School	Call the main office at (719) 200-7300 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org
Dharma Strummers	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com
4-H	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email WHMSakura4H@gmail.com
Gakuen (Japanese Language School)	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org
Hosha Day Clean-up (First Thursday of Month)	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org
Junior Young Buddhist Association (Jr. YBA)	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org
Judo Club	Call (808) 244-9094 or email rhiyakumoto@hawaii.rr.com
Karate	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org
Kendo	Call (808) 244-2650 or email michael.sone@gmail.com
Office Support	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org
Preschool	Call the Preschool at (808) 244-9545 or email whpreschool808@gmail.com
Facility Rentals	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org
Sunday Morning Announcements	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com
Volunteer Opportunities	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org
Website & Facebook	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org
Yard & Facility Maintenance	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email whm@wailukuhongwanji.org

FRIEND OF THE DHARMA

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The Friend of the Dharma is published monthly. The opinions written by individual contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of the Wailuku Hongwanji Buddhist Temple.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September / October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Labor Day (Office Closed) Ministers' Spouses Assn. Seminar	2	3	4 BWA Hosha Day BWA ACCW Delv. 7pm Troop Mtg.	5 Sanmu Mtng. & Sanmu-Kanji Mtng	6 Social Hall Rental 9am Kiwanis Kupuna Spelling Bee Honpa Hongwanji BoD Mtng.
7 8am Sunday Service DS Registration Day 9:15am BWA Mtng 11am Cub Den Mtng 1:30-3:30pm DS Bowling Event	8 5:15pm Dharma Strummers	9	10 5:30pm Obon Pract.	11 7pm Troop Mtg.	12	13 6pm Cubs Carnival Hawaii State Lay Assn. Annual Convention
14 9am Autumn Ohigan Service	15 5:15pm Dharma Strummers	16	17 5pm Kyodan Board Meeting via Zoom	18 BWA ACCW Delv. 7pm Troop Mtg.	19	20 10am - 1pm MUBWA Peace Day at MHM Choralfest 2025 (Hi Betsuin) Autumn Ohigan
21 9am BWA 120th Anniversary Service w/ Peace Day Hawaii (Brunch hosted by BWA) Choralfest 2025 (Hi Betsuin)	22 9am Ring the Bell for Peace! 5:15pm Dharma Strummers	23	24	25 7pm Troop Mtg.	26	27
Autumn Ohigan						
28 8am Family Service DS temple assignment review and practice 3-5pm WHM Success. Plan. Mtng.	29 5:15pm Dharma Strummers	30 6:30pm Cubs	1	2 BWA Hosha Day BWA ACCW Delv. 7pm Troop Mtg.	3	4 Social Hall Rental
5 8am Sunday Service	6 5:15pm Dharma Strummers	7	8 5:30pm Obon Pract.	9 7pm Troop Mtg.	10	11
12 8am Sunday Service 1st Session Youth Choir 9:15am BWA Mtng MUBWA Fall Rep. mtng. @ KHM at 1pm	13 Columbus Day (Federal Holiday) 5:15pm Dharma Strummers	14	15 5pm Kyodan Board Meeting via Zoom	16 BWA ACCW Delv. 7pm Troop Mtg.	17	18 BWA Crafts & Food Fair
19 8am Sunday Service 10am State Virtual DS Student Gathering 11am Cub Den Mtng	20 5:15pm Dharma Strummers	21	22	23 7pm Troop Mtg.	24 Social Hall Rental	25 Socail Hall Rental Minister's Lay Asst. Retreat (BSC)
26 8am Family Service Youth Choir Minister's Lay Asst. Retreat	27 5:15pm Dharma Strummers	28 6:30pm Cubs Mtng	29	30 7pm Troop Mtg.	31 Preschool Truck or Treat in temple courtyard	