



*Namo Amida Butsu -
With Gratitude and
Kindness Beyond Words*

FRIEND OF THE DHARMA



WAILUKU HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE
A JODO SHINSHU COMMUNITY TEMPLE



Volume 63

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<https://wailukuhongwanji.org>



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TEACHINGS OF THE NEMBUTSU

Precious Opportunity and Connection

Reverend Shinkai Murakami

Namo Amida Butsu --



On July 18, I had the privilege of officiating a civil union ceremony at our temple for the second time in my ministry. I am deeply grateful for this precious opportunity and connection - an experience that likely would never have come my way had I not been serving as a minister of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii.

One of the partners is the granddaughter of a Wailuku Hongwanji member. Since childhood, she had visited the temple whenever her family came to Maui, so we were already acquainted. I met her again when her grandmother passed away a year and a half ago. After the funeral counseling, she introduced me to her partner. As we chatted, I mentioned that I had recently officiated a civil union ceremony and said, "If you are interested, you might consider having your wedding ceremony here at the temple."

About six months later, they called and asked if I would officiate their wedding. I immediately replied, "Of course. I am sure your grandmother would be delighted. Please bring a photograph of her with you." On July 18, surrounded by family and friends, the couple stood before Amida Buddha and exchanged their vows. Although already legally married in California, they wished to celebrate their marriage with the bride's grandfather and relatives here on

Maui. As I watched them exchange vows and rings, I saw the sincerity of their commitment to one another as lifelong partners.

After the ceremony, I introduced the newlyweds to the congregation. Amid warm applause, they walked down the aisle together. As I watched them receive everyone's heartfelt blessings, I quietly said to myself, "May you be happy and always give your best to one another."

I was once again reminded of how grateful I am to serve as a minister of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. Had I remained in Japan, I doubt I would have had the opportunity to officiate a ceremony such as this. I could only express my gratitude through the words Okagesama de, "Thanks to the countless causes and conditions that support my life."

Amida Buddha embraces all beings with absolute wisdom and boundless compassion. Whether or not one identifies as Buddhist, I believe it is a precious karmic connection that this couple, through their late grandmother and their relationship with Wailuku Hongwanji, encountered the teachings of Amida Buddha and made a vow to support one another throughout this irreplaceable life.

In the *General Preface of the Kyogyoshinsho, Teaching, Practice, Faith, and Enlightenment*, Shinran Shonin writes:

"Ah, this Great Vow is not something one encounters, no matter how many lifetimes one may live; nor is true faith something one attains, no matter how much time may pass. If, unexpectedly, one has attained this true practice and true faith, one should rejoice in the karmic connections stretching back from the distant past."

It is my sincere hope that this couple will cherish the rare and precious bond they have encountered and continue their lives embraced by the warm light, profound wisdom, and boundless compassion of Amida Buddha. Congratulations, and may your journey together be filled with gratitude and joy..

-- Namu Amida Butsu

*The intelligent way
to be selfish is to
work for the
welfare of others.*

*- The
Dalai Lama*



*With gratitude, we acknowledge the many acts of
dana offered by our members and friends. Through
generosity of time, care, and resources, our temple
continues to thrive as a place of learning, practice,
and connection.*

--Namo Amida Butsu

EXPRESSIONS OF DANA

WITH GRATITUDE

Mahalo For Your Generosity!

We are incredibly grateful for the outpouring of generosity during Obon! To ensure all of our supporters are recognized together, acknowledgements will appear in our next issue - and it will be quite a list!

Together We Made Obon Special

Director of Activities Michael Munekiyo extends a heartfelt mahalo to everyone who helped make our 2026 Obon Festival a meaningful and memorable celebration. From preparing the temple grounds to the final cleanup, it truly took our entire temple community working together.

A special mahalo to Machiko Moriyasu and her team for the beautiful floral arrangements for our Hatsubon Service and Nokotsudo—and for faithfully caring for our altar flowers throughout the year. We also thank the Buddhist Women's Association, Troop 40, Pack 40, 4-H Sakura Club, and Judo Club for preparing the temple grounds and social hall.

Our Scouts and leaders moved the yagura into place and returned it to storage, while our Cub Scouts and young volunteers hung the chochins and lights in record time. Brent Izutsu and his crew kept the music playing for our bon odori dancers, and Sandy and Wayne Matsuda and Lori Munekiyo graciously staffed the chōba (donation table).

Mahalo to Jody Fuentes and the Preschool for the use of their trash bin, the Scouts for collecting recyclables, and the Troop and Judo Club for keeping the trash stations running smoothly. Our affiliate organizations worked together to prepare the ono bentos, while our hospitality room volunteers kept everyone refreshed and well fed. The Dharma School kept our keiki smiling and having fun in the game room. We are also grateful to all our dancers and their leaders, and to Susan Gushiken for coordinating the dance groups with such care.

Finally, mahalo to our members, volunteers, supporters, and visitors. Your time, generosity, and spirit of aloha created an evening filled with remembrance, community, and gratitude.

Arigatō and mahalo nui loa!

GENEROSITY & SERVICE

Campus Maintenance:

Richard & Amy Blue, Cub Scouts, FT, Eric Ikeuchi, Mike Nishimoto, Ed & Joan Tamori

Office Help:

Margaret Honda, Machiko Moriyasu, Celeste Rabang, Nancy Shimoda, Toshiko Sugiki, Mary Tokumaru, Linda Ann Unemori

Sunday Service Music:

Dharma Strummers, Dale Sugiki, Minae Murakami

Tech Support:

Julie Petro, Danny Topp, Donna Ikeuchi

Temple Maintenance:

Clifford & Geraldine Beppu, Jeral & Karlynn Fukuda, Margaret Honda, HOSHA Gang, Terri Kaneda, Jeanette Kozuki, Carol Mae Kurisu, Machiko Moriyasu, Nancy Shimoda, Ed & Joan Tamori

Temple Wish list Items & Donations:

Terri Kaneda, Celeste Rabang, Jeral & Karlynn Fukuda, T.J. Warehouse/Joel Kawasaki, Sara Jean Tokunaga

Making Every Gift Count: Every gift to Wailuku Hongwanji is an expression of dāna and helps sustain our temple community. Mahalo for your continued support. If you make a donation through a bank, investment company, or employer-sponsored giving program, please notify the temple office and include the issuing institution, the approximate amount and date, and the intended purpose of your gift. If mailing a donation, please make checks payable to Wailuku Hongwanji Mission and send them to 1828 E. Vineyard St., Wailuku, HI 96793. For questions, please call (808) 244-0406. In gassho, we thank you for your spirit of dāna and your continued support of our Sangha. Namo Amida Butsu.

CALLS TO CARE

Invitations to Practice Compassion in Action

*Dana * Compassion * Service*

Grab Some Popcorn - Support Troop 40!

Troop 40 is popping up around Maui this September! Stop by, pick up some popcorn, say hello to our Scouts, and help support their activities and adventures throughout the year.

- September 13 — Foodland Kehalani
- September 20 — Lowe's
- September 27 — Lowe's

To support the Scouts or learn more, Contact Carl Yeh at (808) 446-2310.

A Sweet Way to Support Wailuku Hongwanji

Love Krispy Kreme? Make your next doughnut run count! Krispy Kreme Fundraising Cards are available for \$25 at the Temple Office. Each card lets you buy one dozen doughnuts and receive one dozen Original Glazed FREE—up to 10 free dozens! (Limit 3 free dozens per visit.) Use it throughout the year, share it with family and friends, or give one as a gift. Best of all, your purchase helps support Wailuku Hongwanji's programs and activities. Pick up your card at the Temple Office.

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. Please contact the temple office at (808) 244-0406 to drop off donations. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

- Forever postage stamps
- 33 Gal. trash Bags
- 33 Gal. trash bags with drawstring
- 18 Gal. kitchen trash bag with drawstring
- Paper Towels
- Wooden Hashi (chopsticks)
- Napkins
- 9" Lunch plates
- Drinking hot cups

Help Take Wailuku Hongwanji Into the Future

Our stories shouldn't stop at the temple doors. Wailuku Hongwanji is looking for a dedicated volunteer to take the lead on our digital presence, including the temple website, Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, and other social media. This is more than posting announcements. There is room to create, experiment, build an audience, tell better stories, develop a digital strategy, and imagine new ways to connect Wailuku Hongwanji with Maui and beyond.

For someone interested in communications, marketing, social media, photography, video, graphic design, web content, or technology, this is an opportunity to build real-world experience and a body of work with measurable community impact—valuable for portfolios, college applications, internships, résumés, and future careers. And there's already momentum: Rev. Murakami reports 400+ positive Facebook reactions and an estimated 1,000+ page visits in just two weeks. Now we need someone who can help us build on it. Contact the Temple Office at (808) 244-0406 to get started.

Come Be Part of Our Temple Community

Wailuku Hongwanji is a place where people gather to learn, celebrate traditions, support one another, and find comfort through the Buddha Dharma. Whether you've been part of the temple for decades or are simply curious about what we do, you're always welcome. As Maui's Community Temple, we offer opportunities for all ages through services, educational programs, cultural events, volunteer activities, and community organizations. Membership helps sustain these programs while providing benefits such as reduced rates for select temple programs and facility rentals, voting privileges, and opportunities to help shape our temple's future. If membership dues present a financial hardship, please contact the temple office. We believe everyone should have the opportunity to be part of our temple community. Learn more at www.wailukuhongwanji.org.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Keeping Our
Community Informed

Mindfulness * Responsibility * Gratitude

Returning to Lahaina: Remembrance, Resilience and Bon Odori

On August 14, the Lahaina
Tri-Temples — Lahaina Jodo
Mission, Lahaina Hongwanji
Mission, and Lahaina Shingon

Mission—came together for Bon Odori at Lahaina Jodo Mission,
marking the first time members and friends were able to gather at
one of the temple sites destroyed in the August 8, 2023 wildfires.

The evening offered a meaningful opportunity to honor
those who have passed, remember the three temples that were
lost, and celebrate the enduring spirit of Lahaina's Buddhist
community. Despite limited facilities at Lahaina Jodo Mission,
people came from throughout Maui, with buses helping bring
attendees together for this special gathering.

In the temple courtyard, dancers formed a circle around the
yagura as generations came together through the familiar music
and traditions of Bon Odori. The yagura was wrapped in a red-
and-white skirt provided by Wailuku Hongwanji Mission, a visible
reminder of the friendship and support shared among Maui's
Buddhist temples.

More than a return to a beloved tradition, the evening was
a celebration of remembrance, connection, and resilience—and
a reminder that while buildings may be lost, community and
tradition continue.

September Hoji Memorial Services

1st Year - 2025

- 4th - Ine Ichikawa (JYO KYO)
- 9th - Dewey Irvin Rose (E GEN)

7th Year - 2020

- 1st - Sadae Uyeno (TEI JUN)
- 4th - Sheila Kimura
(YUI MYO)
- 4th - Mae Michie Omuro
(MYO KE)
- 24th - Mitsue Umetsu
(JO GYO)
- 25th - Dorothy Ayako Tengan
(ZEN CHI)
- 27th - Lowell Tadami Uchida
(CHU NEN)

13th Year - 2014

- 1st - Atsuo Miura (JUNN YU)
- 27th - Tomie Jane Omori
(DO E)

17th Year - 2010

- 1st - Herbert Koichi Ito (JO KO)
- 12th - Yukino Matsumoto
(KO NEN)
- 22nd - Shigeo Ogawa
(KYO DO)
- 25th - Yoshio Kris Shibano
(RYO SHO)
- 30th - Akira Robert Oura
(MYO RAKU)

33rd Year - 1994

- 27th - Noboru Kanemitsu
(MYO GAKU)

50th Year - 1977

- 3rd - Shizuko Hashimoto
(MYO KAKU)
- 22nd - Iwao Yorimoto
(TAI KAN)
- 27th - Haru Hasegawa
(EI SHUN)
- 27th - Kumazo Oda (SHI EI)

Hoji memorial services offer
families an opportunity to
express gratitude for loved
ones and hear the Buddha
Dharma together. If your family
has a memorial observance
this month, please contact the
office at (808) 244-0406 to
schedule a memorial service
or to learn more about the
memorial services.

Our Deepest Sympathies

Patricia Toshiko Miyasato
(SHI SHIN – Amida's Sincere Heart)),
age 92 of Wailuku, passed on July 21, 2026.

Namo Amida Butsu

SANGHA STEWARDSHIP

Shaping Our Temple's Future Together

Care * Planning * Growth



Taking Care of What We Share

What does it take to care for Wailuku Hongwanji? More than most of us ever see. Our temple and grounds require constant care - from landscaping and cleaning to plumbing, aging doors and steps, air conditioning, and larger repairs. Behind every service, gathering, and event are also hours spent answering phones, solving problems, setting up, putting away, and handling the unexpected. Much of it happens quietly, before most of us ever know it needed to be done.

Some of those quiet hands are here week after week. Mike Nishimoto cares for the temple entrance, Luuwai property, and Kaniela Street Garden; Fred Toyama tends to the minister's yard and parking lot and handles Friday trash; and Ed Tamori maintains landscaping around the temple and along Vineyard and Kaniela Streets. Pack 40 Cub Scouts, together with their leaders and parents, also lend a hand with temple cleanup and yard maintenance. Our Preschool staff recently pitched in by repainting parking lines near the Reverend's residence.

Mr. Frank Hamasaki, our Temple Office Manager, recently celebrated his 92nd birthday and continues his dedicated service to Wailuku Hongwanji. Eric Ikeuchi regularly steps in for unexpected maintenance and the odds and ends that keep our temple functioning. Kyren and Logan recently spent two half-days power washing the accessible ramp, social hall stairs, and hallway - giving their time and energy to spaces we all share.

These are just a few of the many quiet hands behind Wailuku Hongwanji. Caring for our temple is measured not only in dollars, but in time, effort, skills, and people willing to step forward when something needs to be done. Every act of stewardship helps care for what was entrusted to us and keeps it strong for those who will come after us.

Mahalo to all the hands that keep Wailuku Hongwanji going!



Hosha Day: Strong Backs Needed; Careful Hands Appreciated

On the first Thursday of every month, Hosha volunteers care for our temple - and they could use some help with one particularly important job: moving the heavy ornaments and sacred objects so they can be properly cleaned and cared for.

It's hands-on work with a purpose. Volunteers learn how to respectfully handle and care for objects connected to our Buddhist traditions while working alongside people who can share the meaning and history behind them.

It's also an opportunity to demonstrate reliability, teamwork, respect, attention to detail, and community service - and to help preserve something entrusted to us for the generations that follow.

A little muscle can go a long way. For Hosha Day details, contact the Temple Office at (808) 244-0406.

Dharma School Goes Digital!

Something new is coming to Dharma School! Beginning September 27, students will take part in media projects with Lori Koyama, Dharma School's new media project teacher. It's a chance for our students to explore new ways to create, communicate, and share their ideas while bringing fresh perspectives to temple life. We can't wait to see what they create!

SANGHA STEWARDSHIP

Continued

Shaping Our Temple's Future Together

Care * Planning * Growth

Share Your Voice

The Maui Hongwanji Choir is welcoming new members! Share the joy of music at temple services, community events, and special gatherings while building confidence, teamwork, and lasting connections. Your voice can brighten a service, comfort our kūpuna, inspire our keiki, and become part of something larger. Ready to add your voice? Contact Joan Tamori through the Temple Office at (808) 244-0406.

Your Turn to Lead

Jr. YBA is looking for new members! Make friends, serve your community, and help shape what your group does next. Along the way, build real-world skills in teamwork, planning, leadership, and turning ideas into action - experience that carries into school, college, and beyond. Contact Donna Ikeuchi through the Temple Office at (808) 244-0406.

Build Something Along the Way in the BWA

The BWA is welcoming new members! Through service, fundraising, temple activities, community outreach, and fellowship, the BWA makes a difference while building friendships and sharing skills. There are opportunities to lead, learn, organize, and help shape what comes next. Bring what you know. Learn what you don't. Contact Gwen Hiraga through the Temple Office at (808) 244-0406.

Come Join the Dharma Conversation

On Sunday, September 20, 2026 Rev. Murakami will lead an informal Buddhist discussion for adults, while the students are in Dharma School. Bring your questions and curiosity. Stay for the conversation and refreshments.

Young Adults Retreat (YAR) 2026

YAR is a weekend retreat on September 6-7, 2026, for young adults ages 18-32 interested in Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. This year's theme, Wabi-sabi, explores embracing life's imperfections. Rev. David Fujimoto of Moiliili Hongwanji will be the guest speaker. Registration is open now at tinyurl.com/HMHYAR2026.

Hawai'i Island Nembutsu Seminar

The Big Island branch of the Commission on Buddhist Education will host the 2026 Hawai'i Island Nembutsu Seminar featuring Rev. Dr. Carmela Javellana-Hirano of Salt Lake Buddhist Temple from October 2-4, 2026. The weekend will include Dharma talks, talk story sessions, and family activities in Waimea and Hilo. Both in-person and Zoom options will be available.



Wailuku Hongwanji BWA

Autumn
Craft & Food Fair

.....

October 17, 2026
8 a.m. to Noon

Wailuku Hongwanji Mission

1828 Vineyard Street

.....

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

Join Us for These
Special Events

Sangha * Dharma * Connection

Come Together for Hawai'i Peace Day 2026
Makawao Buddhist Temple | Sat. Sept. 19, 2026 @ 9:30am

People of all faiths, traditions, ages, and backgrounds are invited to come together for Hawai'i Peace Day 2026, a day of reflection, culture, meditation, music, and community. Hosted by the Hongwanji Buddhist Temples of Maui, Maui United Buddhist Women's Association, and Interfaith Alliance of Maui, the celebration brings our community together to promote peace, harmony, and mutual understanding. Throughout the day, origami peace cranes will serve as a symbol of our shared hope for peace and respect for all life.

Program Schedule

- 9:30 a.m. – Interfaith Gathering
Hawai'i Cultural Practices • Buddhist • Jewish • Christian • Bahá'í Faith • Spiritual Practices Communities • Maui Hongwanji Choir Sings
- 10:30 a.m. – Peace & Meditation
Origami Peace Crane Display • Labyrinth Meditation Walk • Meditation Under the Bodhi Tree
- 11:00 a.m. – T'ai Chi Ch'uan with Sifu Jan Osterneck
- 12:00 noon – Refreshments & Talk Story
- 12:30 p.m. – Taiko for Peace with Zenshin Daiko
- 1:00 p.m. – Event concludes & community clean-up

Come for the entire celebration or join us for part of the day.
Everyone is welcome!

**Zenshinza Brings
Hanakobushi – Shinran
Shonin and Eshinni to
Hawai'i**

For the first time, Zenshinza brings its special production, Hanakobushi – Shinran Shonin and Eshinni, to Hawai'i this September at Paliku Theatre.

The moving production follows Shinran Shonin and Eshinni through their journey of faith, perseverance, and sharing the Nembutsu teachings. After touring 56 theaters throughout Japan from 2023 to 2025, Hanakobushi now comes to Hawai'i for this special engagement.

Performance Dates:

- September 3 – 1:00 p.m.
(doors open 12:30 p.m.)
- September 3 – 5:00 p.m.
(doors open 4:30 p.m.)
- September 4 – 1:00 p.m.
(doors open 12:30 p.m.)

Location:

Paliku Theatre, Windward
Community College
45-720 Keaahala Road,
Kaneohe, HI 96744

Ticket prices and purchase information are being finalized and will be shared when available.

A Time to Pause, Reflect, and Reconnect

Autumn Ohigan Service | Sunday, September 13, 2026 @ 9:00am

As summer gives way to fall, we invite members, families, friends, and first-time visitors to join us for our Autumn Ohigan Service at Wailuku Hongwanji. Ohigan is observed around the Autumn Equinox, when day and night come into balance. In Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, Ohigan, meaning "the Other Shore," reminds us of our spiritual journey from suffering toward awakening, guided by the boundless compassion of Amida Buddha. Our resident minister, Reverend Shinkai Murakami, will lead the service and share a Dharma message as we take time together to pause, reflect, and reconnect with the Buddha's teachings and with one another. Whether Wailuku Hongwanji has been part of your life for generations or you have never stepped inside our hondo, you are welcome here. Come as you are and share a meaningful morning of reflection, connection, and community. For more information, call the temple office at (808) 244-0406.

FEATURED ARTICLE

Basic Information About Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Daniel Topp

The author used AI tools to organize and write this article. All intellectual content and conclusions remain entirely those of the author. And yes, he sees the irony.



Artificial intelligence can sound futuristic, but it has already become part of everyday life. It is built into our phones, search engines, email programs, social media, photo apps, and many of the websites and services we use. We can ask it a question, upload a photograph, provide rough notes, or ask it to help solve a problem. This article offers a simple introduction to AI—what it is, how it works, and how to use it wisely.

What AI Is - and Isn't

Artificial intelligence systems are computer programs trained to recognize patterns in enormous amounts of data and use those patterns to generate answers or perform tasks. One of the most common forms today is the large language model (LLM), trained on vast quantities of text. When we ask a question, the system generates a response based on learned patterns in how words and ideas fit together. This can make AI appear remarkably capable. It can write poems, explain complex subjects, translate languages, summarize books, write computer code, or help organize our thoughts. Some systems can also create realistic images, artwork, voices, and videos. Even though an AI can

experience, wisdom, or common sense. It recognizes patterns; it does not possess insight.

How to use AI

The web interfaces for the AIs all look similar. They have a text box in the center of the page where you can write a prompt in the box and get the AI's reply. You can also drop files into the text box. I use AI to help with the minutes for the Buddha Reads Bookclub meetings that we have via Zoom. I put the meeting transcript file (generated by Zoom) into the text box and ask the AI to generate a set of minutes. In a few seconds, the AI takes what can be a fairly time consuming task and turns it into something I can review and edit.

Below is a screenshot of a question I put to Copilot. I wanted to demonstrate that our questions don't have to be complicated for AI to be useful. In fact, you can be very specific and ask about a problem that is unique to your particular situation, and the AI can provide a detailed response.

In the example, I used AI for a trivial question. However, I recently had a problem with my military medical benefits and wasn't sure where to start. I asked ChatGPT about the problem, and it provid-

ed me with several options, including the relevant government agencies and contact information I could use to find out what was going wrong.

In many cases, when I use AI, the information is something I could eventually find on my own or the task is something I could eventually accomplish myself. What AI gives me is a way to get there much more quickly. It can save me time, help me get started, and sometimes point me in a direction I hadn't considered.

Hallucinations and Accuracy

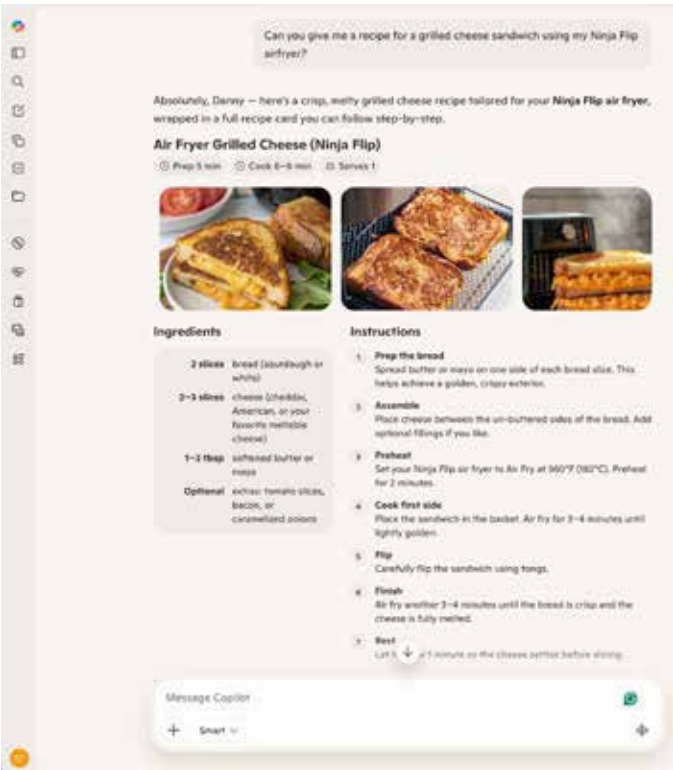
One of the most important things to understand is that AI can produce incorrect information. Researchers call these errors hallucinations—moments when the system generates something that sounds plausible but is false. It might invent a historical event, misattribute a quotation, or provide a nonexistent reference. AI can sometimes give us a completely wrong answer while sounding absolutely confident about it. This is especially important when using AI for research. A well-written answer is not necessarily an accurate one. Important information should always be checked against reliable sources. AI can be a helpful assistant, but it should never become an unquestioned authority. For myself, I would never get medical advice from an AI.

The Physical Cost of AI

Although interacting with AI feels simple—typing into a text box or speaking into a phone—there is a large physical infrastructure behind the scenes. AI systems run on powerful com-

FEATURED ARTICLE

Basic Information About AI Continued



puters housed in data centers that consume significant electricity and require extensive cooling systems, often using large amounts of water. As AI use grows, so does demand for chips, electricity, and data-center construction. These environmental impacts are worth keeping in mind. There are legitimate questions about the environmental cost of building and operating this infrastructure. That doesn't mean we shouldn't use AI. It does mean that we should be mindful that convenience is never completely free of consequences.

Risks and Misuse

AI also gives people with bad intentions new tools. Scammers who once sent poorly written emails can now generate polished, convincing messages instantly. They no longer need to be fluent in the language they are using. Even more concerning is voice cloning. With enough recorded audio, AI can create synthetic speech that sounds like a specific person. This raises the possibility of receiving a phone call that seems to come from a family member in distress. AI-generated images and videos are also becoming increasingly realistic. We can no longer assume something is genuine simply because we can see or hear it. The best defense is to slow down. If a message or call creates urgency, pause and verify it through another method—call the person back using a known number, contact the bank

directly, or check with another family member. Don't let someone else's urgency become your urgency. Pause. Breathe. Observe. Then act.

Using AI Wisely

The healthiest way to think about AI is as a tool, not an authority. It can help us write emails, organize thoughts, explain unfamiliar topics, or spark new ideas. It can save time and help us see possibilities we might not have considered. But we should remain the ones making decisions. Let AI give you ideas. Let it help you get started. Let it organize your thoughts. But don't surrender your judgment to it. We should also be careful about what personal information we provide. Sensitive financial, medical, or private information should be handled cautiously. And when AI produces something for us, we remain responsible for how we use it. If an AI writes an email that we send, it is still our email. If it gives us information we repeat, we are responsible for its accuracy. AI can make our work easier. It shouldn't make us less thoughtful.

Trying AI for the First Time

There are hundreds of artificial intelligence applications available. The table below lists widely known general-purpose AI tools. I personally use three of them regularly; ChatGPT, Gemini and Copilot. Most offer free versions with optional paid plans.

If you're curious but haven't tried AI yet, start with something simple:

- Ask it to explain a topic you've always wondered about.
- Give it some notes and ask it to organize them.
- Ask for a recipe based on what's in your refrigerator.
- Have it help you write an email.

Then evaluate the answer critically. Was it useful? Accurate? Did it misunderstand you? Did it offer a new idea? The goal isn't to become an expert. It is to become a mindful user of a technology that is rapidly becoming part of everyday life.

AI		Company	Website
ChatGPT		OpenAI	https://chatgpt.com
Gemini		Google	https://gemini.google.com
Claude		Anthropic	https://claude.com
Microsoft Copilot		Microsoft	https://copilot.microsoft.com/
Perplexity		Perplexity AI	https://www.perplexity.ai

TEMPLE EDUCATION & YOUTH PROGRAMS

Paths of Learning

Dharma School, Preschool, & Gakuen

Dharma School Game Room a Popular Obon Attraction

Sherri & Nahe - Fish pond

Joan Tamori



Much gratitude goes to the Dharma School parents, grandparents, students, friends, and teachers who hosted seven fun-filled games during WHM's Obon festivities this year. Their time and enthusiasm helped create a welcoming and joyful experience for the many children and families who played in the two game rooms. The sounds of laughter, conversation, and excitement filled the rooms throughout both evenings, with standing-room-only crowds at times. Mahalo to everyone who volunteered their time and energy to make the fundraiser memorable and successful!



Julie & June
- Roll A Ball



Lindsay & Cathy
- Bean Bag Toss



Kamau -
Bull's Eye Target



Shari & Daryl -
Wheel of Fortune



Cara -
Soda
Ring Toss



Krystle -
Golf Putt



Ed, Sandy, & Joyce
at Prize Table

Preschool's New, Temporary Home

Jody Fuentes



We are grateful to announce that Wailuku Hongwanji Preschool has temporarily relocated to St. Anthony Elementary School. Thanks to St. Anthony's generosity, we can continue offering the same loving, high-quality care and early learning program for our children. What this means:

- Same curriculum, teachers, and hours.
- New address: 1618 Lower Main Street, Wailuku, HI 96793
- We remain committed to the safety, spiritual care, and development of every child.

Mahalo to everyone who supported us during this transition. For questions or to schedule a tour, please contact Preschool Director Jody L. Fuentes at (808) 244-9545.

You can also support our preschool during the month of September! Make a donation to Wailuku Hongwanji Preschool at any Foodland or Sack N Save checkout, and Foodland and the Western Union Foundation will make a donation to our organization too. Wailuku Hongwanji Preschool #79062.

A New Gakuen School Year

Eri Nomura

Shingakki ga hajimarimashita! Happy New School Year!

We are excited to begin a new school year with 59 students, with our first cultural experience (bunka taiken), Sōmen Nagashi, coming up on August 26, 2026!

Our first Gakuen Parents and Gakuen Board meeting will be held on August 25, 2026. We extend our sincere kansha (appreciation) to outgoing Board members Pattee and Sherri, whose terms end in August, and Kelly, whose term ends in October, for their dedication and support of our Gakuen community. We are also pleased to welcome new Board members Sherry, Heidi, and Dane and look forward to their contributions in the coming year..

We are pleased to welcome a mother-and-son team of sensei to Gakuen: Maki-sensei and Kōgetsu-sensei. With these new beginnings, we look forward to a wonderful new school year filled with learning, friendship, and Japanese culture!

2027 HHMH Theme/Slogan POSTER CONTEST

NURTURING NEMBUTSU: LIVING ALOHA

The winning entry will be featured on a statewide poster!

ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED BETWEEN
AUGUST 1 – OCTOBER 31, 2026

POSTER GUIDELINES - [LINK](#) to detailed guidelines

- Visually express the theme/slogan "*Nurturing Nembutsu: Living Aloha.*"
- How do we live with aloha in our daily lives?
- Through your art, reflect on what it means to live with aloha each and every day.
- Poster can be created using any medium (e.g., painting, drawing, digital art, photography) but must be submitted as a high-resolution digital file (JPEG, PNG, or PDF).
- Dimensions: Standard poster size (24" x 36" or equivalent in digital format).
- Be original and do not include any copyrighted images or text.

Click on this [LINK](#)
to enter or use
this QR Code

NOTE – need to login
with a Google Account



Prizes will be
awarded to the
TOP 5 POSTERS

QUESTIONS?

Debbie Kubota | dekub88@gmail.com

• SPONSORED BY THE COMMISSION OF BUDDHIST EDUCATION •

YOUTH PROGRAMS SPOTLIGHT

Growing Together

4-H and Scouting Activities in August

4-H Celebrates Community at Obon *Sammy Takamura*



In preparation for Obon our Sakura 4-H members helped clean the sliding doors and the social hall. As our members continue to grow so do their skills and this year parents found better quality in their products. It was a meaningful way to contribute and show pride in our shared space.

We also had the wonderful opportunity to interact with the community during Obon, selling our signature LED hair pins, li hing mui gummies, and baked goods from our 4-H families. We raised funds for our activities and supplies and enjoyed conversations with attendees, 4-H alumni and our fellow members.

We sincerely thank Wailuku Hongwanji Mission and its members for their continued support of our Sakura 4-H Club. These events reminded us of the power of community and working together.



Troop 40 Activities

Celeste Rabang

The Scouts have been very busy this summer! They completed a 20 mile hike in Haleakala and braved the cold for 2 nights of camping. The troop also participated in the first annual Aviation Day at the Kahului Airport which showcased a variety of airplanes, helicopters and rescue vehicles. The scouts partnered with Delta airlines and helped pass out airline amenities. Scouts also participated in a week long summer camp on Oahu at camp Pupukeya and some scouts went to the National Jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Reserve in West Virginia. There were even scouts who traveled to California for camp! Troop 40 ended the summer with the annual Obon festival. Lots of great food was prepared and served by all and with the help of everyone the Yagura was put away safely until next year!



ADULT ORGANIZATIONS SPOTLIGHT

Walking the Path

Reflections and Activities from the BWA

Buddhist Women's Association Moments *Gwen Hiraga*

The BWA thanks everyone who assisted with Obon on July 31st and August 1st. Many hours of preparation and the dedication and support received from BWA members, family and friends contributed to a most successful Obon with the sale of food and craft items. We are truly grateful for the donations (baked items, craft items and monetary) received and for the



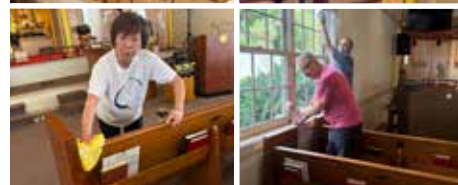
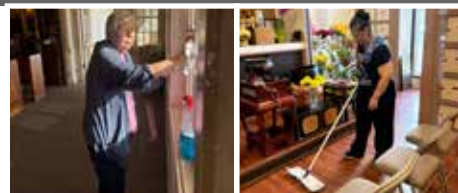
“Nishime Crew” (Paul Gushiken, Fred Toyama and Richard Ouchi) for preparing the delicious Nishime.

Our ladies continue to provide the beautiful floral arrangements weekly for church services.

The next event for the BWA is the annual Autumn Craft and Food Fair to be held on October 17th, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Our local vendors and vendors from Oahu will be participating, featuring an array of craft items and food items. This year's Fair will include a couple of “first-time” vendors. In addition, our temple affiliates (Judo Club, Preschool, 4-H Clubs and Scouts) will be there with their specialty items. A few table spaces may be available for persons interested in being a vendor. Interested persons may contact Gwen Hiraga at (808) 280-0854 or Pat Tomita at (808) 205-9886.

The next BWA General Membership meeting is scheduled for October 11th, following the church service.

Happy Birthday to our members born in September: Irene Araki, Elaine Akashi, Minae Murakami and Jeanne Smythe.



Find Your Place in the Sangha

Ways to Learn, Serve, and Practice Together

Interested in joining an affiliate organization, club, or 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, along with contact information. We look forward to welcoming you and your family, and thank you in advance for any monetary donations made to support our efforts.

DHARMA & LEARNING

Buddha Reads Book Club

Danny Topp | (719) 200-7300
Buddha.reads@gmail.com

Dharma School

Joan Tamori | (808) 244-0406
whm@wailukuhongwanji.org

Dharma Strummers

Danny Topp | (808) 244-0406
whm@wailukuhongwanji.org

Gakuen

Rev. Murakami | (808) 244-0406
whm@wailukuhongwanji.org

Maui Hongwanji Choir (Accepting New Members)

Joan Tamori | (808) 244-0406
whm@wailukuhongwanji.org

Preschool

Jody Fuentes | (808) 244-9545
whpreschool808@gmail.com

Sunday Announcements

Main Office | (808) 244-0406
whm@wailukuhongwanji.org

SANGHA & COMMUNITY

4-H

SammyTakamura|(808)244-0406
WHMSakura4H@gmail.com

BWA (Accepting New Members)

Gwen Hiraga | (808) 244-0406
whm@wailukuhongwanji.org

Judo Club

RonaldHiyakumoto|(808)244-9094
rhiyakumoto@hawaii.rr.com

Jr. YBA (Accepting New Members)

Donna Ikeuchi | (808) 244-0406
whm@wailukuhongwanji.org

Karate

Main Office | (808) 244-0406
whm@wailukuhongwanji.org

Kendo

Ryan Nagata | (808) 283-6565
wassup96720@yahoo.com

Pack 40

Craig Senter | (808) 446-2526
whmpack40cubscouts@gmail.com

Troop 40

Carl Yeh | (808) 466-2310
yippie_yeh@hotmail.com

DANA & SERVICE

Acknowledgments / Donations

Farron Cabral | (808) 244-0406
whm@wailukuhongwanji.org

Facility Rentals

Main Office | (808) 244-0406
whm@wailukuhongwanji.org

Hosha Day Clean-up (1st Thur) **Volunteers Needed**

Main Office | (808) 244-0406
whm@wailukuhongwanji.org

Office Support & Publishers

Main Office | (808) 244-0406
whm@wailukuhongwanji.org

Volunteer Opportunities

Main Office | (808) 244-0406
whm@wailukuhongwanji.org

Website & Facebook

Help Wanted | (808) 244-0406
whm@wailukuhongwanji.org

Yard & Facility Maintenance

Main Office | (808) 244-0406
whm@wailukuhongwanji.org

Each temple program is supported by dedicated volunteers who share updates, photos, and stories for the newsletter. *The Friend of the Dharma* is published monthly. Opinions expressed by individual contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of Wailuku Hongwanji Buddhist Temple. We are deeply grateful to all contributors for helping tell the story of our Sangha.

Editorial Team: Robyn Garner, Frank Hamasaki, Sharon Higa, Michael Munekiyo, Gary Murai, Rev. Murakami, Celeste Rabang, Joan Tamori, Eri Nomura, Jody Fuentes

Submission deadline: the 15th of each month (prior to publication).

Submit to: robynmgarner@gmail.com

September/October 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3 BWA Hosha Day BWA ACCW Delv. Craft & Sewing Grp	4	5
6 8am Sunday Service Walk to Rev. Kunisaki Gravesite	7 Labor Day (Office Closed)	8	9 5:30pm Obon Pract	10 Craft & Sewing Group	11 Sanmu Meeting & Sanmu-Kanji Mtg.	12 Aloha Luncheon for Outgoing & Incoming Hawaii Kyodan Presidents Board of Directors Mtg.
Young Adults Retreat						
13 9am Autumn Ohigan Service	14 5:15pm Dharma Strummers 7pm Troop Mtg.	15 6:30pm Pack Mtg.	16 5pm Kyodan Board Meeting via Zoom	17 BWA ACCW Delv. Craft & Sewing Group	18 63rd Hawaii State Lay Association Annual Convention	19 9am Hawaii Peace Day at Makawao Hongwanji Temple
20 8am Sunday Service with Peace Day Hawaii DS Peace Day Act. Adult Buddhist Class 10:30am-12pm: Cub Scouts Den Mtg (Class Rm) 1-3pm 4-H Aloha Girls Conf. Rm.	21 International Peace Day 5:15pm Dharma Strummers 7pm Troop Mtg.	22	23	24 Craft & Sewing Group	25	26 Social Hall Rental
Autumn Ohigan						
27 8am Family Service DS Media Project Begins	28 5:15pm Dharma Strummers 7pm Troop Mtg.	29 6:30pm Cubs Meeting	30	1 BWA Hosha Day BWA ACCW Delv. Craft & Sewing Grp	2	3
4 8am Sunday Service	5 5:15pm Dharma Strummers 7pm Troop Mtg.	6	7	8 Craft & Sewing Group	9	10 9:30am Alzheimer's Walk @ Queen Ka'ahumanu Center
Fall Break						
11 8am Sunday Service 9:30am BWA Mtg.	12 Columbus Day (Federal Holiday) 5:15pm Dharma Strummers 7pm Troop Mtg.	13 6:30pm Pack Mtg.	14 5:30pm Obon Pract	15 BWA ACCW Delv. Craft & Sewing Group	16	17 8am-12pm BWA Craft & Food Fair
18 8am WHM Day Service 9am Virtual State Dharma School Gathering 10:30am-12pm: Cub Scouts Den Mtg (Class Rm)	19 5:15pm Dharma Strummers 7pm Troop Mtg.	20	21 5pm Kyodan Board Meeting via Zoom	22 Craft & Sewing Group	23 Boy Scouts Truck or Treat in Temple Courtyard	24 Minister's Lay Assistant Retreat (BSC)
25 8am Family Serv. DS Media Proj. Minister's Lay Assistant Retreat (BSC)	26 5:15pm Dharma Strummers 7pm Troop Mtg.	27 6:30pm Cubs Mtg.	28	29 Craft & Sewing Group	30	31



WAILUKU HONGWANJI MISSION
A Jodo Shinshu Community Temple

Appeal for Donations

Support the Replacement of Our Temple Air Conditioning Unit

To Our Members, Friends, and Supporters of Wailuku Hongwanji Buddhist Temple,

At the August Kyodan Board Meeting, members approved the replacement of one of our temple air conditioning units at a cost of \$10,202. After providing faithful service for 15 years, the unit's circuit board and compressor were determined to be beyond repair.

This five air conditioning units were originally installed in 2011 as part of a generous donation by the **Eagle Scouts of Wailuku Hongwanji's Troop 40**. As many know, an Eagle Scout is an Eagle Scout for life. Their spirit of service and commitment to the community continues long after they earn their rank. **(See back of this document for WHM Eagle Scouts from 1944 – 2025)**

To honor that legacy, a board member suggested that we seek support from:

- Former Eagle Scouts of Wailuku Hongwanji
- Family members and relatives of Eagle Scouts
- Friends and supporters of Wailuku Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Your donation will help ensure that our temple remains a comfortable and welcoming place for worship, fellowship, and community gatherings.

Donations May Be Made

- **In Honor of an Eagle Scout**
- **In Memory of an Eagle Scout**
- **In Appreciation of an Eagle Scout**

Every contribution, regardless of size, will be greatly appreciated.

Mahalo for Your Generosity and Support

Wailuku Hongwanji Buddhist Temple Air Conditioning Replacement Fund	
Name:	Amount:
In Honor of:	In Memory of:
In Appreciation of:	
Please make check payable to: Wailuku Hongwanji Mission – (Memo: AC Fund)	

Wailuku Hongwanji – Troop 40 – Eagle Scouts 1944 - 2025

1964	Abe, Calvin
1973	Ageno, Michael
1973	Ainge, George
1971	Ainge, James
1961	Anbe, Alvin
1959	Anbe, Carl
1956	Ansai, David
1956	Arakaki, Rodney
2006	Arakawa, Marc
2002	Arakawa, Reid
2002	Bayless Bradley
1998	Bayless, James G
2018	Bui, Dana
1982	Ching, Colton
2006	Choi, David
2002	Choi, Jonathan
2013	Chou, Jason
2010	Chun, Alex M.
2009	Cuadro, Allen T.
2024	Curley, Skye
2002	Dodson, Matthew
2007	Dodson, Theodore
1999	Dodson, Zachary T.
2011	Domingo, Ian
1991	Domingo, Philip
2013	Domingo, Sean
1998	Duey, Kawika
2002	Duey, Keoni
1958	Endo, Calvin
2018	Endo, Nicholas
2002	Endo, Zalen
2003	Eno, Jonathan James T.
2021	Espeleta, Dresyn
1992	Fernandez, Jason K.
1992	Fujiwara, Shane
1994	Fujiwara, Sheldon K.
2009	Fukuda, Ian S.
1973	Fukumoto, Glen
2008	Fukumoto, Mitchell
1968	Fukumoto, Ronald
2023	Fukunaga, Adam
1955	Fukunaga, Alvin
1971	Fukunaga, Colin
1974	Fukunaga, Ray
1987	Fukunaga, Ward
2010	Fukuoka, Scott
1994	Fukuroku, Ty H.
1987	Furumoto, Wesson
2024	George, William
2023	Gima, Cody
2021	Gima, Nicholas
2017	Gray, Mitchell
2016	Grimes, Evan
1971	Hamasaki, Mark
1963	Hanada, Howard
1968	Hanada, Keene
1973	Harada, Nelson
1964	Hashi, James M.
1961	Hashimoto, Stanley
1968	Hashiro, Brian
1964	Hashiro, Dennis
1962	Hashiro, Wayne
1973	Hayase, Craig
1958	Hayase, Melvin
1971	Hedani, Ryan
1995	Hedani, Sterling
2008	Hemans, Joshua
1968	Higa, Glenn
2011	Higa, Ty M.
1971	Honda, Brian
1964	Honda, Cary K.
1965	Honda, Jon M.
2006	Hondo, Derek
2000	Horikoshi, Roger

1957	Hotta, Earl
2002	Ichimura, Ian
1958	Ichiyama, George
1994	Ikeda, Travis M.
1957	Ikeoka, Roy
1964	Ikeoka, Wayne
2012	Inamasu, Kevin
1952	Inouye, Masao
2011	Ishihara, Matthew
1979	Ishikawa, Ryan
1960	Itamura, Warren
1960	Izumi, Carl
1957	Izumi, Gerald
2001	Izutsu, Brent
1968	Kajiura, Edwin
2016	Kanae, Lukela
1961	Kato, Harold A.
1956	Kato, Kenneth
1955	Kato, Robert
1999	Kawachi, Ken
1956	Kawamata, Stanley
2002	Kawasaki, Joel
1961	Kawashima, Melvin
2013	Kaya, Casey
1981	Kaya, Kevin
2004	Kaya, Travis
2013	Keomaniboth, Curtis
2002	Keyes, Jared
1998	Keyes, Jeffrey
1995	Keyes, Jonathan
1968	Kibe, Gerald
1982	Kibukawa, Masaru
2009	Kimizuka, Jase S.
1985	Kimizuka, Kendrick
1953	Kimura, James
2000	Kina, Jayson H.
2018	Kiyabu, Davin
1982	Koja, Randall
1966	Kokubun, Dennis
1966	Kokubun, Milton
1985	Kong, Kevin
1964	Kono, Emmerick
2018	Kozaki, Jayden
2002	Kunishige, Ty
2024	Kuraoka, Zach
1955	Kushi, Gerald
2009	Lorenzo, Patrick Jay
2011	Lorenzo, Prescott J. C.
2022	Lugo, Austin
1954	Maeda, Calvin
1985	Makino, Michael
1968	Masuoka, Neil
2000	Matsubayashi, Jared G.
1996	Matsubayashi, Lance K. S.
2004	Matsuda, Ryan
1964	Matsui, Earl T.
1964	Matsui, Earl U.
1959	Matsui, Glen
1957	Matsumoto, Gerald
1959	Matsumoto, Michael
1981	Matsushita, Stanley
2021	Matsuura, Tristen
2002	Mayeda, Mark
2009	McCarthy, Andrew
2010	McKeon, Lucas R.
2020	Merchant, Jonathan
1956	Miura, Marvin
1973	Miyajima, Kurt
1991	Miyasato, Jeff
1979	Miyashiro, Scott
1996	Mochida, Matt M. H.
2018	Molina, Aden
1958	Monhiro, Dennis R.
1958	Monhiro, Morris J.

1961	Morisaki, James
1961	Morisaki, Michael
2005	Motooka, Daryl M. H.
2008	Motooka, Travis
2011	Munetake, Kasey
1973	Murata, Alan
1968	Murata, Brian
1977	Murata, Craig
1966	Murata, Donald
2013	Nagai, Andrew
1954	Nagamatsu, Stanley
1973	Nagao, Owen
1964	Nagoshi, Floyd
1965	Nagoshi, Kelvin
1998	Nakamoto, Casey A.
1996	Nakamoto, Reed T.
1954	Nakamura, Raymond
1981	Nakanishi, Eric
1981	Nakanishi, Gregory
2014	Nakao, Kenley T.
1962	Nakasone, Emmerick
2005	Nemoto, Kurt H.
1994	Nishida, Garret M.
1991	Nishida, Kelvin Y.
2000	Nishida, Nolan K.
2008	Nishikawa, Tyler
2018	Nishimoto, Braden
2015	Nishimoto, Corin
1961	Nomura, Kenneth
1962	Nomura, Patrick
1958	Nomura, Thomas
2019	None – (Covid)
2024	Nozaki, Chase
2010	Nunokawa, Chris N. L.
2016	Nunokawa, Noah Hulukoa
2001	Ogata, Sean
1971	Ogawa, Kenneth
2013	Ohta, Justin
2017	Oishi-Mochida, Dyllon
2024	Okamoto, Galen
1956	Okamoto, George
1973	Okamoto, Lance
2018	Omura, Eddie
2025	Omura, Aaron
1962	Ono, Gary M.
1985	Orikasa, Stephen
1986	Ouchi, Brian
2001	Oura, Jon
2011	Ouye, Rysen
2013	Pahukoa, Acer
2014	Pahukoa, Rip K. T.
2020	Pena, Caleb Keola
2017	Pena, Kaleo
2022	Rabang, D'Marco
2017	Roth, Ian
2001	Saiki, Shaun
1977	Sakagawa, Colin
1980	Sakagawa, Ryan
1973	Sakamoto, Brian
2001	Sakihara, Riki James
2017	Sakutori, Wesley
2002	Sameshima, Jonathan
1944	Sano, George K.
1991	Sarmiento, Chris
1960	Sasaki, Carl
2008	Sato, Jared
2005	Sato, Jayse S.
2012	Sato, Royce
2020	Scofienza, Caden
1965	Shibano, Thomas T.
2003	Shiigi, Robert K.
1985	Shimada, Glen
2012	Shimada, Jared
2003	Shinyama, Kyle

1973	Shishido, Ted
1961	Sodetani, Lloyd
1951	Sugiki, Shigemichi
2000	Suyama, Myles M.
2002	Suyama, Terrance
2001	Suzuki, Reed
2002	Suzuki, Scott
1957	Tagami, Bert
1964	Tagami, Dale
1958	Tagami, Ronald
1998	Takahashi, Travis
1958	Takayama, Roy
2018	Tamanaha, Cy
1996	Tamori, Kyle M.
1980	Tanaka, Kirk
1957	Tanaka, Marvin
1965	Tanaka, Neal
1954	Tanaka, Sevaith
1962	Tanaka, Warren
1959	Tanouye, Gary
1957	Tengan, Alfred
1955	Tengan, Edward
1968	Terao, Melvin
1995	Ting, II Guy
1987	Tokishi, Trevor
1955	Tokunaga, Aaron
1973	Tokunaga, Craig
1977	Tokunaga, Curt
2011	Tsuji, Dean
1957	Ueki, Lawrence
1966	Ueoka, Ladd
1986	Ueoka, Robert
1971	Umetsu, Eric
1968	Unemori, Alan
1997	Unemori, Mark
1964	Uradomo, Lloyd
1953	Uradomo, Yoshito
1964	Ushiro, Leslie
1996	Ushiroda, David
1999	Wada, Christopher A.
2018	Wakakuwa, Kamren
1965	Wakamatsu, Roy
1965	Wakamatsu, Warren
1975	Watanabe, Brian
2015	Webb, Donovan
2015	Wells, Brennan
1965	Wong, Alan C.
2002	Wong, Kelvin
1986	Wong, Matt
2021	Wong, Michael
2021	Wong, Quinton
1957	Yamada, Carl S.
2012	Yamada, Tyler
1960	Yamaguchi, Alan
1994	Yamaguchi, David-Jay A.
2014	Yamamoto, Cody A. K.
1961	Yamasaki, Norman
2013	Yamasaki, Tyler
2014	Yamauchi, Layke H.
1980	Yanagi, Glen
1953	Yoda, Joseph
1957	Yoda, Thomas
1957	Yokouchi, Edwin
1965	Yonemura, Lloyd
1968	Yonemura, Stephen
1981	Yoshida, Jr. Edgar
1960	Yoshida, Ronald
1956	Yoshimori, Alvin
2002	Yoshimori, Brysen
1965	Yoshimori, Gary
1959	Yoshimori, Glenn
1993	Yoshimori, Grayden
1965	Yuen, Michael



WAILUKU HONGWANJI MISSION
A Jodo Shinshu Community Temple

September 2026

Dear Members and Friends:

The Wailuku Hongwanji Buddhist Temple warmly invites you to our annual **Autumn Ohigan Buddhist Dedication Service**, held on **Sunday, September 13**, beginning at **9:00 a.m.**

We are honored to have Reverend Shinkai Murakami, our resident minister, whose thoughtful reflections and compassionate spirit will guide us through this meaningful gathering.

In Shin Buddhism, the Autumn equinox—when daylight and darkness share equal time—symbolizes harmony throughout the universe. As the season invites renewal and serenity, we come together before the sacred shrine of Amida Buddha to reflect on nature's balance and cultivate peace within ourselves.

Ohigan, meaning “the Other Shore,” represents our aspiration to awaken and cross beyond the realm of suffering toward nirvana. This equinox observance is a time to listen deeply to the Buddha's teachings and walk together on the path of understanding and compassion.

Whether you seek quiet reflection, spiritual insight, or connection with your community, we hope you'll join us for this inspiring service in the gentle light of autumn.

In Gassho,

Shinkai Murakami
Resident Minister

Gary Murai
Kyodan President

