

Namo Amida Butsu - With Gratitude and Kindness Beyond Words

FRIEND OF THE DHARMA

WAILUKU HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE
A JODO SHINSHU COMMUNITY TEMPLE

Volume 63 **November 2026** **https://wailukuhongwanji.org**



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TEACHINGS OF THE NEMBUTSU

The Great Value of Eitaikyo

Reverend Shinkai Murakami

Namo Amida Butsu --

During November, many Buddhist temples observe their annual Sangha memorial services. In our Hongwanji tradition, this special service is called Eitaikyo, meaning “sutra chanting for generations.” It reminds us of the importance of receiving the Buddha’s precious teachings and passing them from one generation to the next. In Jodo Shinshu, memorial services are not conducted to benefit the deceased, but offer us, the living, opportunities to encounter the Buddha Dharma and reflect upon the countless lives and acts of kindness that have supported us.

One beautiful Japanese word our parents and grandparents often used is arigatai, meaning “deeply appreciated” or “truly grateful.” But when do we genuinely experience this feeling?

I once spoke with a second-generation Japanese American temple member who remembered growing up in poverty, experiencing discrimination, and working long hours in the sugarcane and pineapple fields. He told me, “Sensei, during those days, the only thing we could do was gaman—to endure and be patient. Those were difficult times. But today, looking back, I realize those hardships helped make me stronger. Arigatai desu yo. I am truly grateful.”

His words remind me of a story I heard from a Zen minister several years ago about a mother and her two young sons who lost their father in a traffic accident. Having lost their home and nearly everything they owned, they found shelter in a small room through the kindness of a friend. The children used apple boxes as desks while their mother worked long hours cleaning buildings and washing dishes to support them.

After ten months of hardship, the mother was exhausted and losing hope. One morning, she left instructions for her older son, Takeshi, to prepare soybeans for dinner, explaining how to boil them and add two tablespoons of shoyu.

When she returned late that evening, her sons were asleep. Overwhelmed by despair, she had purchased sleeping pills, intending to end her life. But before taking them, she noticed a note her son had left on an apple box.

“Dear Okaasan, I tried my best to cook the beans just as you told me. But my brother said they were too salty, so I added more water. Mom, I am sorry. Please teach me how to cook them as well as you do. No matter how early it is, please wake me up before you go to work. I know you must be very tired. I know you are working so hard for us.Arigato, Mom. Thank you for everything.”

As she read his words, tears filled her eyes. She realized how deeply her children loved her and how hard they, too, were trying. She picked up one of the beans and slowly tasted it. It was a little salty, but at that moment, her eyes were opened to the love that had surrounded her all along. She threw away the sleeping pills.

Years later, she recalled that evening, saying, “Now I truly understand the meaning of arigatai and okagesamade. Without my son’s letter, I would not have realized how precious and wonderful my sons were.”

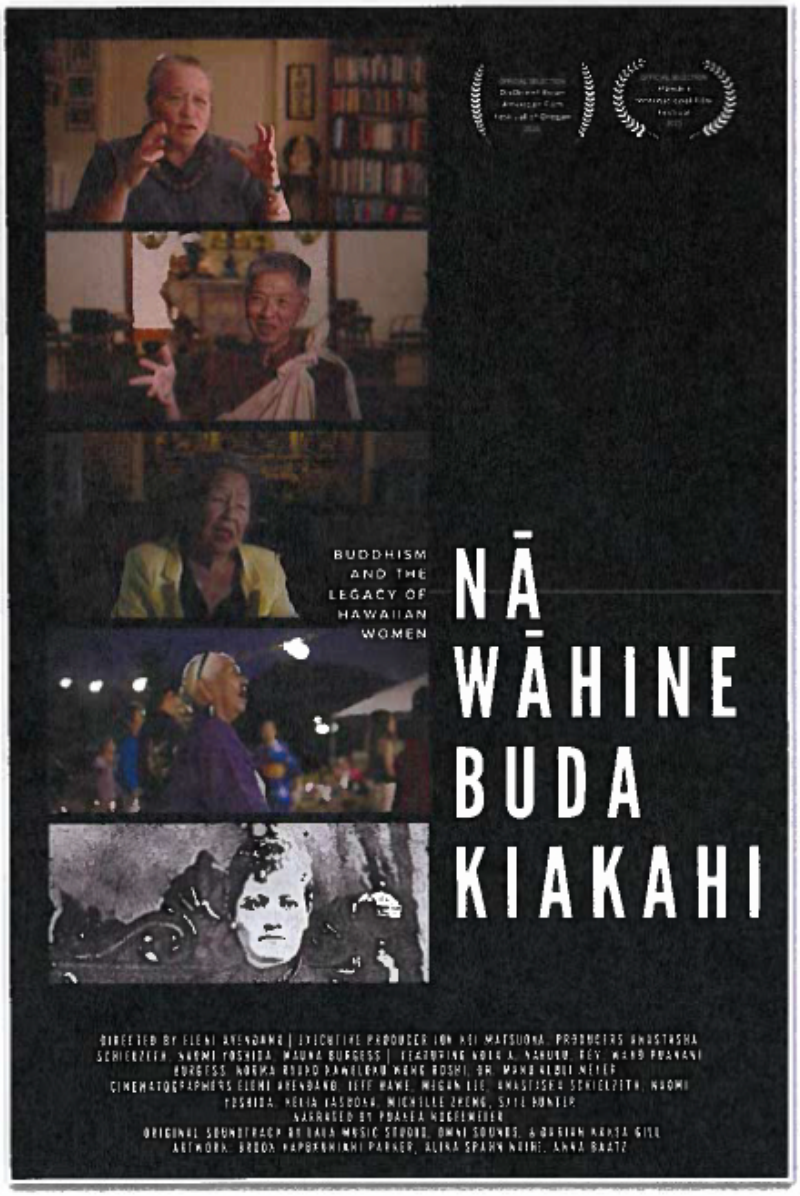
Sometimes what is most precious in our lives is already before us, yet we are unable to recognize it. Even when I hear the Buddha Dharma and appreciate Amida Buddha’s compassion, after only a short time, I forget. But Amida Buddha never stops reaching out to me. Amida Buddha never stops reaching out to you.

This is the great value of Eitaikyo. As we remember our parents, grandparents, teachers, and loved ones, we recognize the countless causes and conditions through which the Buddha Dharma has been passed down to us. Through listening to the teachings, the eyes of our hearts gradually open to Amida Buddha’s wisdom and compassion. When we place our hands together in gassho and recite Namo Amida Butsu, the Nembutsu arises as an expression of gratitude for the compassion that has always embraced us.

With grateful hearts, may we receive these precious teachings and pass them on to future generations.

Arigatai. Okagesamade.

-- Namo Amida Butsu



Maui Hongwanji Temples
NEMBUTSU SEMINAR 2026
November 21, 2026 10 a.m.

Makawao Hongwanji Buddhist Temple
1074 Makawao Ave, Upcountry Maui

Free Showing of Nā Wāhine Buda Kiakahi: The Legacy of Hawaiian Women Buddhists

A Film by Eleni Avendaño

"Nā Wāhine Buda Kiakahi is a 42 minute documentary film about the legacy of Hawaiian women Buddhists beginning with the life of Mary Mikahala Robinson Foster, lady in waiting to Queen Lili'uokalani. While many have visited Foster Botanical Gardens in Honolulu, little has been known of her work to perpetuate the practice of Buddhism, even beyond Hawai'i, where she is revered in India and Sri Lanka for her contributions. Narrated by Puakea Nogelmeier and featuring Nola Nāhulu, Puanani Burgess, Norma Wong and Manu Aluli Meyer who bring contemporary practice of Buddhism into Hawaiian leadership."

— View the Trailer here: www.wahinebudafilm.com

The Hongwanji Buddhist Temples of Maui cordially invite everyone to a free showing of the film, ***"Nā Wāhine Buda Kiakahi: The Legacy of Hawaiian Women Buddhists"***, which explores of the remarkable yet unknown contributions of Hawaiian Women Buddhists to Buddhism in Hawaii and around the world.

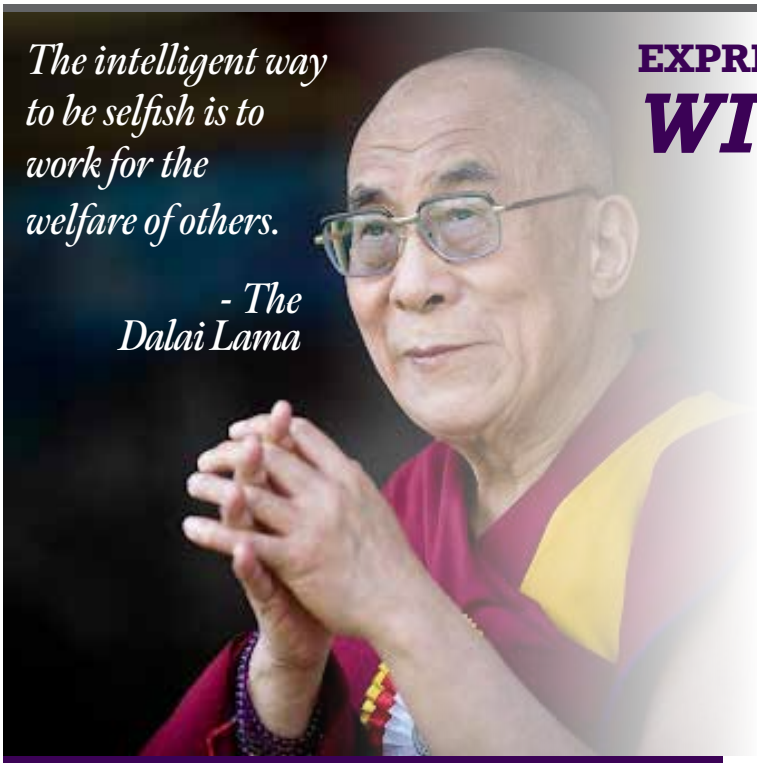
The 42-minute documentary will be followed by a Panel Discussion with Director & Co-Writer Eleni Avendaño, Producer and Co-Writer Jon Matsuoka, and Dr. Miki Tomita Okamoto, a life-long Hongwanji Buddhist and Hawaiian Cultural Practitioner, moderated by Rev. Kerry Kiyohara of Makawao Hongwanji.

Following refreshments and talk story about the film, the day continues with Nembutsu Seminar 2026, which will focus on the teachings, practices, and benefits of Nembutsu in everyday life, seeking to answer the questions:

- What is *Nembutsu* Mindfulness of Amida?
- What is *Shinjin*, the Entrusting Heart and Mind of No Doubt?
- What are the benefits of the Path of Nembutsu and Life of Gratitude?

Nembutsu Seminar 2026 is for Hongwanji members and friends, newcomers to the Hongwanji, and anyone interested in Buddhism. Everyone is welcome, come as you are!

Don't miss out, please register today!
https://forms.gle/TBeHwaepMWih1YEA9



EXPRESSIONS OF DANA
WITH GRATITUDE

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

AIR CONDITIONING FUND (as of October 07, 2026)

David & Sharon Ansai - *In memory of Yukita & Shizue Ansai; and ES David Ansai - 1956*
Calvin & Kayoko Endo - *In honor of ES Calvin Endo - 1958*
Jonathan & Sharon Eno - *In honor of ES Jonathan-James T. Eno - 2003*
Jonathan-James Eno - *In honor of ES Jonathan-James T. Eno - 2003*
Lane & June Fujii - *In appreciation of ES Ian Fukuda - 2009; and ES Dyllon Oishi-Mochida - 2017*
Alvin & Martha Fukunaga – *In honor of ES Alvin Fukunaga – 1955; ES Adam Fukunaga – 2023 ES Tate Fukunaga – 2026; Scout Leader Chad Fukunaga; and In memory of Tadaichi & Tamako Fukunaga*
Paul & Susan Gushiken – *In honor of ES Ian Fukuda – 2009*
Teri Hamasaki – *In memory of Kazuichi & Grace Hamasaki; and in honor of ES Mark Hamasaki – 1971*
Howard R. & Sheri N. Hanada – *In honor of ES Howard R. Hanada – 1963; and ES Jon M. Hanada – 1965; and In memory of ES Keene T Hanada – 1968*
Jon M. Hanada (Eagle Scouts – 1965) – *In memory of ES Keene Hanada – 1968*
Sandra Hirata – *In appreciation of ES Ty Higa – 2011*
Ronald Hiyakumoto – *In recognition of All Eagle Scouts of Troop 40 & their Scout Leaders*
Mari Ann Kato – *In memory of ES Kenneth Kato – 1956*
Herbert & Alice S. Kogasaka – *In appreciation to the Eagle Scouts of Troop 40 & their Scoutmasters and Scout Leaders*
Keiji & Janet Kukino – *In memory of ES George Okamoto – 1956*
Lester & Jodi Kunimitsu – *In appreciation of All WHM Eagle Scouts & their Scout Leaders*
Alan & Ruth Murata - *In honor of ES Alan Murata - 1973*
Alan & Faith Nakamoto – *In memory of ES Casey A. Nakamoto – 1998*

With Sincere Apologies and Gratitude to the Hanada Ohana: Wailuku Hongwanji extends its heartfelt apologies to the Hanada ohana for an error in our Eagle Scout records. A generous donation to the Eagle Scout Air Conditioning Fund in honor of Jon M. Hanada brought to our attention that his surname had been mistakenly recorded as “Honda.” We have since confirmed and corrected our records to recognize all three Hanada brothers who earned the rank of Eagle Scout through Wailuku Hongwanji Troop 40: Howard Hanada (1963), Jon M. Hanada (1965), and Keene Hanada (1968). We deeply regret this oversight and sincerely appreciate the family’s understanding, generosity, and continued support. Mahalo for helping us preserve and honor the accomplishments of our Troop 40 Scouts.

EXPRESSIONS OF DANA
WITH GRATITUDE

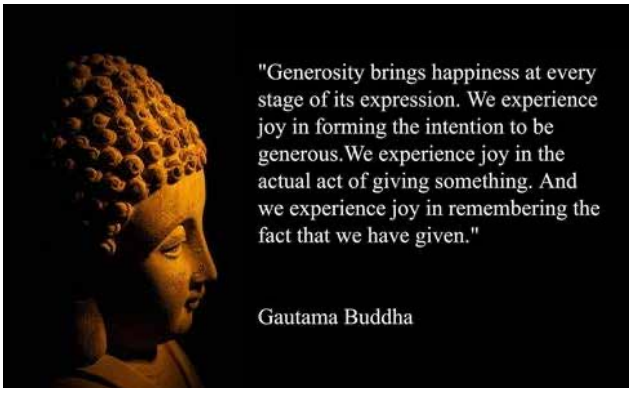
Michael Nishimoto – *In appreciation of ES Floyd Nagoshi – 1964, and ES Ty Higa – 2011*
Patrick & Sue Nomura – *In appreciation of ES Patrick Nomura – 1962*
Rumi Shoda – *In appreciation to the Eagle Scouts of Troop 40 and their Scoutmasters and Scout Leaders*
Jeffrey Tsai & Laurie Fukushima – *In appreciation of All WHM Eagle Scouts*
Darren & Luly Unemori – *In appreciation to the Eagle Scouts of Troop 40 and their Scoutmasters and Scout Leaders*
Joy Unemori – *In memory of ES Alan Unemori – 1968*
Edwin G. & Jacqueline Y. Yamaguchi – *In memory of Yoshito & Kimiko Inamasu, and Diane Aiko Tadakuma*
Lydia Yamaguchi – *In memory of Scoutmaster William Tets Yamaguchi & In honor of ES David Jay Yamaguchi – 1994*

KYODAN
Clifford & Geraldine Beppu - *In memory of Calvin Nishimura*
George & Alice Fukushima - *In memory of Toshio Tengan*
Riley & Jackye Kaneshina - *In memory of Lowell Uchida*
Hideo & Joyce Kawahara - *Donation for Lei*
Maui Taiko - *Donation for Lei*
Iris Nitta - *In memory of Alvin Nakamura*
Donald & Rie Taketa - *In memory of Anna Ayako Umehira*
Gayla Tarumoto - *In memory of Aiko Tarumoto*
Gayla Tarumoto - *Kunisaki Scholarship Fund*
Roy Umehira - *In memory of Anna Ayako Umehira*

NOKOTSUDO
Jeanette Kozuki

OBON
Craig S. & Jean L.H. Kawaguchi
Marion Maekawa - *In memory of Hisako & Masao Tamiya*
Akie Sakumoto
Leslie S. & Ryoko Ushiro

OHIGAN SERVICE
Calvin & Kayoko Endo
Lydia Furomoto
Ronald Hamai & Gail Iwamoto-Hamai
Teri A. Hamasaki
Wayne & Kay Hedani
Roy & Gwen Hiraga
Sandra K. Hirata
Margaret T. Honda
Eric & Cathy Ikeuchi
Hideo & Joyce Kawahara
Janet Kubota
Carol Mae N. Kurisu
Machiko Moriyasu
Gary & Jacqueline Murai
Frances Ota
Dennis Ouchi
William T. & Jeanne N. Smythe
Dale Sugiki
Toshiko Sugiki



Making Every Gift Count: Every gift to Wailuku Hongwanji is an expression of dana 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 dana and your continued support of our Sangha. Namo Amida Butsu.

EXPRESSIONS OF DANA
WITH GRATITUDE

GENEROSITY & SERVICE

Altar Flowers:
Teri Kaneda, Jeral & Karlynn Fukuda, Clifford & Geraldine Beppu, Jeanetter Kozuki, Ed & Joan Tamori, Margaret Honda, Toshiko Sugiki

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:
Danny Topp, Julie Petro, Donna Ikeuchi

Temple & Nokotsudo Care:
Margaret Honda, Nancy Shimoda, HOSHA Gang

Temple Wish List:
Dustin Kitagawa, Linda Ann Unemori

With Gratitude for Our Altar Flowers: We extend our heartfelt mahalo to everyone who has generously donated flowers to beautify our temple altar. Your thoughtful gifts help create a welcoming and peaceful space for worship and reflection. Donations of fresh flowers are always appreciated, as are monetary contributions to our Ohanayo Fund, which helps provide flowers for our altar arrangements. Thank you for your continued kindness, generosity, and spirit of dana.

HONPA'S Statewide Social Concerns Fund Drive Begins on November 1, 2026

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i will launch its annual Statewide Social Concerns Fund Drive on November 1, inviting temple members across the islands to reflect on the countless blessings in their lives and to remember our deep interconnectedness with one another and with the world around us.

In this spirit of gratitude, the annual Statewide Social Concerns Fund Drive will be held from November 1, 2026, through March 31, 2027. This spirit of Dana (selfless giving) is something we strive to practice throughout the year. This special season, however, provides an opportunity to pause, count our blessings, express our gratitude, and extend our support to those who are facing hardship.

Funds raised through this campaign will support worthy organizations and programs while also providing compassionate assistance during disasters affecting our local, national, and global communities.

Thanks to your continued commitment to the Buddhist values of compassion and loving-kindness, Honpa Hongwanji has been able to respond to disasters in Hawai'i, the continental United States, and abroad; support food and housing assistance programs serving families, keiki, and kūpuna; and strengthen local efforts to grow and distribute food. We have also supported social justice and community organizations working for human dignity and equity, provided omimai to temples that suffered damage, funded Golden Chain service projects, and stood in solidarity with interfaith partners and communities affected by violence and intolerance.

An appeal letter and donation envelope are included with this newsletter. Please make checks payable to Wailuku Hongwanji Mission. The suggested donation is the cost of one meal per person, although any amount is greatly appreciated. Every contribution can make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

Your support is essential as we continue our mission of sharing the Dharma through compassionate action.

Mahalo for your generosity and kindness.

CALLS TO CARE



Invitations to Practice Compassion in Action

Dana * Compassion * Service

Continuing Troop 40's Cool Legacy

One of Wailuku Hongwanji's five temple air conditioning units has reached the end of its service after approximately 15 years. With both the circuit board and compressor beyond repair, the Kyodan Board approved replacement of the unit at its August meeting. The cost of the new unit is $10,202.

Our temple's air conditioning systems have a special connection to Wailuku Hongwanji's Troop 40. The five original units were installed in 2011 through the generosity of our Eagle Scouts, whose contribution has helped keep the temple comfortable for services, activities, and community gatherings for many years.

As we replace this unit, we invite our members and friends, including former Troop 40 Eagle Scouts and their families, to help continue that legacy by contributing to the Air Conditioning Replacement Fund. Donations of any amount are greatly appreciated and may also be made in honor, memory, or appreciation of an Eagle Scout.

To Make a Donation

Please make checks payable to Wailuku Hongwanji Mission and write "AC Fund" in the memo line.

If you would like to recognize an Eagle Scout with your donation, please indicate:

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

Mahalo for your generosity and continued support of Wailuku Hongwanji. Your contributions will help keep our temple a comfortable and welcoming place for everyone.

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
- Lunch Napkins

A Sweet Way to Support Wailuku Hongwanji

Love Krispy Kreme? Make your next doughnut run count! Krispy Kreme Fundraising Cards are available for $30 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.

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

Rev. Shinkai Murakami Guest Speaker for Eitaikyo Memorial Service on November 08, 2026

Reverend Shinkai Murakami, resident minister of Wailuku Hongwanji Mission, will be the speaker at the annual Eitaikyo Memorial Service on Sunday, November 8, beginning at 9 a.m.

He encourages members and friends to attend the Eitaikyo Service. This service is defined as a "perpetual memorial service." It is to perpetuate the memories of our departed by means of dedicating the sutra-chanting to remember our debt to them and remind ourselves of what is essential for us to receive our spiritual strength during this life of travail through listening to the Teaching of the Nembutsu.

He continued, "we honor those names, which have been placed in our temple's Eitaikyo Register. The word Eitaikyo actually means "perpetual sutra." Eitai means "perpetual" and Kyo means "sutra," or "teaching of Buddha." Eitaikyo means to chant in perpetual memorial tribute to our deceased loved ones for as long as the temple exists. Eitaikyo services are held twice a year. A sutra is the Eitaikyo book and that a sutra is chanted perpetually.

Families usually provide an offering of dana towards the Eitaikyo Perpetual Fund. This fund is held in a separate account from the temple's other funds, set aside for use by the temple in special circumstances or extreme emergencies. It is a fund that is not to be used for the general upkeep and day-to-day expenses of the temple.

Dana Award Submission Due October 30, 2026

Deadline to submit nominees to the Tadaichi Fukunaga Dana Award for Wailuku Hongwanji Buddhist Temple members is Friday, October 30, 2026. Nomination forms may be picked up at the temple office. The completed form must be submitted by the deadline. The award, established by the family of the late Tadaichi Fukunaga, recognizes a member's outstanding dedication, services, and contributions to Wailuku Hongwanji Mission. The awardee's selection is based on criteria, with the final selection being made by the Tadaichi Fukunaga Dana Award Committee. The 2025 Dana Award recipient was Sandra Hirata.

November Hoji Memorial Services

1st Year - 2025
- 18th - Calvin Itsuo Kaneda (ITSU NEN)

7th Year - 2020
- 20th - Hideo Tanaka (EI SHIN)

13th Year - 2014
- 15th - Reiko Jan Karakawa (CHI KO)

17th Year - 2010
- 25th - Shizuko Honda (JO MYO)

25th Year - 2002
- 11th - Thomas Higashi (KEISHO)
- 15th - Mitsugi Umehira (KO SHIN)
- 15th - Richard Honda (MYO DO)

33rd Year - 1994
- 15th - Shigeru Kimura (TOKU SHO)
- 17th - Yoshio Ono (E SHO)

50th Year - 1977
- 16th - Shizuno Oishi (MYO JO)
- 28th - Yutaka Kojima (KEN CHO)

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.

November Gakuen Schedule

Rev. Shinkai Murakami reminds families that Gakuen classes will not be held November 3, 11, 26, or 27. The temple office will remain open on Election Day, November 3, but will be closed on the other listed dates.

Lost & Found Ukulele



Wailuku Hongwanji Buddhist Temple has an ukulele that was found following the Hanamatsuri Festival held in April. It appears that one of the festival performers inadvertently left it behind.

The office staff chose not to publicize the discovery earlier because the instrument appeared to be valuable, and staff wanted to ensure that it was returned to its rightful owner. As several months have now passed, the staff is asking organizations and groups whose members performed at the festival to please check with their performers. If the ukulele belongs to you or someone in your group, please contact the office to claim it.

To verify ownership, the claimant must be able to provide a description of the ukulele, including its make/brand and serial number. Thank you for helping to reunite this instrument with its owner.

Important Notice: Protect Yourself from Email Scams

Wailuku Hongwanji recently learned that Rev. Shinkai Murakami's personal email account was hacked and used to send fraudulent messages without his knowledge. One message, titled "Please Check," asked recipients to click a link to download a PDF. **Rev. Murakami did not send this message. Please do not click the link or download the document.**

Hongwanji temples throughout Hawai'i have experienced similar scams involving spoofing, where criminals impersonate ministers using fake email accounts. Previous messages impersonating Rev. Murakami came from addresses such as senseivdr@icloud.com and rev.reverend@keemail.me. His legitimate address is shinkai528@gmail.com. This incident is different because criminals gained access to his actual account and sent messages directly from it.

These scams are called phishing, when criminals trick people into clicking dangerous links, sharing personal information, or downloading harmful software. Artificial intelligence (AI) now helps scammers write convincing messages that sound like someone we know. Even a familiar email address or writing style cannot guarantee a message is genuine.

Rev. Murakami has updated his account security and changed his password. Wailuku Hongwanji continues to report these incidents to the FBI. We encourage everyone to follow these precautions:

- **Think before you click.** Avoid unexpected links or attachments, even from people you know. They may lead to fraudulent websites or harmful software.
- **Verify unusual requests.** Rev. Murakami will never personally email you asking for money. If something seems suspicious, call him or the temple office using a trusted telephone number.
- **Use long, unique passwords.** Choose at least 15–20 characters, preferably longer. Length matters more than special characters or numbers. Never reuse passwords, and enable two-factor authentication whenever possible.
- **Report suspicious activity.** Report fraudulent emails and online scams to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center at **www.ic3.gov.** If you clicked a suspicious link or shared personal information, promptly secure your accounts and seek assistance.

Remember: Cybercriminals exploit our trust and willingness to help. Taking a moment to verify an unexpected message can protect you, your family, and our Sangha.

Mahalo to everyone who has helped bring these incidents to our attention.

Sustaining Our Sangha Through Gojikai

As 2026 draws to a close, we extend our heartfelt appreciation to all who sustain Wailuku Hongwanji through their membership and continued support. Your annual gojikai (membership dues) helps preserve our temple as a place where the Buddha Dharma is shared, friendships are nurtured, and generations come together in fellowship and gratitude. Members who have not yet submitted their 2026 dues are kindly encouraged to do so before the end of the year. Mahalo for your generosity and commitment to the continued well-being of our Sangha.

SANGHA STEWARDSHIP



Shaping Our Temple's Future Together

Care* Planning * Growth

2027-2028 Kyodan Officer Election Ballot Enclosed

Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, Gary Murai, reported that his committee has met and nominated for the years 2027 and 2028 Kyodan officers and directors. He stated that ballots will be mailed with this month's (November) newsletter and requested that members vote and mail ballot (no envelope is required—fold flyer as instructed and placed a stamp on it) or drop the ballot in the temple's mail slot no later than Friday, November 20. He reported that there is space for write-in candidates.

The elected officers and directors will be announced in the January issue of the Honotomo. Shown below are the nominated officers and directors.

OFFICERS

Chair of the Board	Gary Murai
Vice Chair of the Board	Luly Unemori
Director of Activities	Michael Munekiyo
Director of Properties	Ronald Fukumoto
Director of Records	Faith Tengan
Director of Religious Affairs	Tamara Manley

DIRECTORS

Laurie Fukushima	Robyn Garner	Susan Gushiken
Franklin Hamasaki	Gwen Hiraga (BWA)	Eric Ikeuchi
Aldon Mochida	Gregg Okamoto	Shelley Quipotla
Joan Tamori (DS)	Danny Topp	

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.

Fall Fellowship with Maui United BWA

The Maui United BWA Fall General Assembly will be held on Saturday, November 14, at Kahului Hongwanji Buddhist Temple. Registration begins at 9 a.m.

The lunch cost will be announced at the next BWA meeting, with Wailuku Hongwanji BWA covering a portion of the cost. Members attending the luncheon should make their payment payable to Wailuku Hongwanji BWA and submit it to Sandy Matsuda. If you plan to attend the assembly but not the luncheon, please let Sandy know.

Please register by Sunday, November 8, at the BWA meeting. Mahalo for responding by the deadline so the committee can finalize arrangements.

SHINING SPIRIT AWARD

Name of Award: Shining Spirit Award
Deadline: November 15, 2026



Jaimee Yokoyama was the 2026 recipient of the Shining Spirit Award. Nominations are now open for a 2027 honoree. Due date: 11/15/26.

PURPOSE:
To recognize youth in Hawaii for their outstanding community service and embodying the spirit of selfless giving. Our aim is to inspire the next generation to understand and embrace the importance of serving and contributing to the greater good of society. With this honor, we believe these young individuals will continue to grow into Living Treasures in our community.

ELIGIBILITY:
- 10-20 years old
- Legal resident of Hawaii
- Engaged in activity for at least 12 months prior to date of application

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION:
Impact on Community: Evidence of meaningful change, whether through addressing a community need, improving quality of life, or inspiring others.
Initiative: How does the individual demonstrate leadership, show creativity in problem-solving or developed new ways to address issues.
Effort: How does the individual exemplify dedication and resilience, demonstrate consistent, sustained effort in their projects or causes, even under challenging circumstances
Personal Growth: Describe how the individual gained new skills, built confidence, or learned valuable lessons that have contributed to their personal development.

NOMINATION PROCEDURE:
An organization or person from the community (teacher, advisor, counselor, mentor, clergy, coach, etc.) may nominate a young person for this recognition by submitting the following:
- Nomination form with information on the nominee (see form on Google Drive)
- Recommendation letters (maximum of three)

You may submit completed nomination forms and recommendation letters:
- By mail - Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii
  Attn: Youth Award
  1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813
- By Email - admin@honpahi.org
- Dropped off at Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii during office hours

The completed nomination form and letters of recommendation must be received by the Living Treasures of Hawaii™ Committee no later than November 15, 2026. Any nomination received after December 1 will be considered for the following year. If selected, parental consent will be required if the nominee is under 18 years of age. The selection committee reserves the right to not select an honoree and that the decision of the committee is final. For more information, please call the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii main office at (808) 522-9200.

TEMPLE EDUCATION & YOUTH PROGRAMS

Paths of Learning

Dharma School and Preschool

DS Begins Innovative Media Projects

Joan Tamori

For the first time, Dharma School students will be creating presentations similar to public service announcements (PSAs) using videos, audio, photos, and other visual media. Living in a technological world, students are able to adapt quickly and share their knowledge and creativity through these modern forms of communication.

Media teacher Lori Koyama introduced the project and shared a list of topics based on the temple's monthly service themes. The 12 students were divided into three groups, with the oldest student in each group taking a leadership role while working with younger students. Each group selected a theme and began "brainstorming" ideas and discussing ways to present their message. As their first group activity, students were challenged to work with classmates of different ages and personalities while practicing cooperation and leadership.

Their next session will focus on "filming", and students were encouraged to keep their eyes open for ideas—and perhaps capture photos or videos—as they experience their chosen theme.

DS media groups "brainstorming" ideas for their selected themes.









DS students, Daryl and Sophia, served as chanting helpers at a Sunday service

Preschool Progress, Play, & Discovery

Jody Fuentes



Zo Gumi - we can line up!

Premier Restoration has begun closing in the preschool walls and ceiling. Meanwhile, our students have been exploring colors and shapes through creative, hands-on activities that encourage artistic expression and creativity.

We enjoyed a restful fall break and are continuing to reinforce fire-safety practices through engaging lessons and activities. Sensei will visit us on October 15.

On October 30, our annual Trunk or Treat(this year called, "Table or Treat") event will be held in the playground area at St.Anthony School. This special event would not be possible without the participation and support of our preschool families. Thank you, preschool parents!



Cool treats after Fun Run 2026

Compassion Leads to Peace

Joan Tamori

The peace dove is an internationally recognized symbol of peace. Over the years, various stories and traditions have helped explain how the dove came to represent peace. In September in celebration of International Peace Day, teacher Sammy Takamura opened her whole group lesson on peace and compassion with a question for all students. "Why do people have conflicts and arguments, why do people fight?" and "What are some of the ways in which we can resolve conflicts?" Various students offered answers and ideas. She also shared a story of how the dove came to be known as the "peace dove".

DS students' Peace Day doves displayed along temple windows



YOUTH PROGRAMS SPOTLIGHT

Growing Together

4-H Activities in October

4-H Clubs Kick Off a New Year of Learning & Friendship

Sammy Takamura

The Shining Stars 4-H Cloverbuds held their first club meeting at Kama'ole III in September. The girls played games and ice breakers with the newest Cloverbud 4-Hers.

The Lokahi Girls started their new 4-H year by working towards their project theme, sewing. They were lucky to have the support of 4-H alumni, Patricia Fujita and her parents Barbara and Roy Huntley this past September at Sew Special. One of their goals for the year was to sew shorts. Patricia and family made it happen just in time for the girls to wear as they marched in the County Parade. For most, this was the first time touching a sewing machine. Thank you to Patricia and the Sew Special family for teaching the girls and sharing your love and support for all of them.

Our Sakura 4-Hers also enjoyed themselves as they marched in the 99th Maui County Fair Parade this year!

















ADULT ORGANIZATIONS SPOTLIGHT

Walking the Path

Reflections and Activities from the BWA

BWA Autumn Fair Success and Community Highlights

Gwen Hiraga

The BWA thanks everyone who helped and supported the Autumn Craft and Food Fair held on October 17th. The fair featured local Maui vendors and vendors from Oahu, with crafts and food items. We were pleased to have the participation from our temple affiliates (Judo Club, Preschool, Friends Forever 4-H Club and Scouts). As in past years, the BWA had an assortment of food items and baked items. This year, members from Lahaina Hongwanji and Kahului Hongwanji prepared the Nishime for us. Much appreciation to our BWA members, and family and friends for your donations. The Craft and Sewing Group sold its popular favorite, the origami lei. The Group gathers every Thursday for lei making and sewing. The BWA Craft table was located in the Social Hall and sales went well with the hand sewn items and other items donated by BWA members and members' families and friends.

A special thank you to the Scouts for your continued assistance with the Autumn Craft and Food Fair. Your help with setting up of the vendor spaces in the Courtyard, movement of tables and chairs in the Social Hall, and helping with clean-up is greatly appreciated!

A few of our BWA members, together with members from other BWA units, participated in the Alzheimer's Walk on October 10th. Thank you participants for supporting this worthy cause.

The next BWA General Membership meeting is scheduled for November 8th, following the church service.

The BWA, together with other senior clubs, will be participating in the Maui County Senior Fair at the Cameron Center on November 21st. Please stop by and visit the senior clubs. This event would be a great opportunity to start your holiday shopping!

Happy Birthday to our members born in November: Ethel Fujii, Emiko Goshi, Eric Ikeuchi, Gail Iwamoto-Hamai, Patrice Matsumoto, Michiko Sato, Toshiko Sugiki and Frances Teshima.

Recipe of the Month: Prune Mui

Ingredients:
6 lemons juiced
¾ cup brown sugar
3 tsp li hing powder
1 ½ tsp Chinese Five Spice
1 ½ tsp Hawaiian Salt
3 cups dried pitted prunes
3 cups dried apricots
¾ cup Yuzu peel
¾ cup orange peel
1 ½ cups dried mandarin oranges
¾ cup dried rambutan bits
2 cups dried Hashimoto persimmons (sliced in 1/2 or 1/3)

Preparation:
In a small bowl add lemon juice, brown sugar, li hing powder, Chinese Five Spice, and Hawaiian Salt.

Mix until well combined.

Pour mixture over dried fruits.*

Allow to sit for 3-5 days, mixing once daily.

*May use any other dried fruit of your liking.





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

November/December 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 8am Sunday Service	**2** 5:15pm Dharma Strummers 7pm Troop Mtg.	**3** Election Day (Office Open) Gakeun Closed	**4** Social Hall Rental	**5** BWA Hosha Day BWA ACCW Delv. Craft & Sewing Grp State Ministers Cont. Ed. Seminar	**6**	**7**
8 8am Eitaikyo Service 9:30am BWA Mtg. 10:30am - 2pm Cub (Conf. Rm)	**9** 5:15pm Dharma Strummers 7pm Troop Mtg.	**10** 6:30pm Pack Mtg.	**11** Veteran's Day (Office Closed) 5:30pm Obon Pract Gakeun Closed	**12** Craft & Sewing Group	**13**	**14** 9am MUBWA Fall Assembly at KHM
15 8am Sunday Service DS Gratitude Activity / Buddhist class for Adults 10:30am-12:30pm: Shining Stars 4-H 1pm-3pm: 4-H Aloha Girls (Conf Rm)	**16** 5:15pm Dharma Strummers 7pm Troop Mtg.	**17**	**18** Retired Ministers & Spouses Appreciation Service & Luncheon 5pm Kyodan Board Meeting via Zoom	**19** BWA ACCW Delv. Craft & Sewing Group	**20** 6pm Cubs (Social Hall)	**21** 10am Na Wahine Buda Kiakahi movie @ MHM 1pm Maui Island Nembutsu Seminar @ MHM 5pm Na Wahine Buda Kiakahi movie @ WHM Social Hall
22 8am Sunday Serv. DS Media Proj.	**23** 5:15pm Dharma Strummers 7pm Troop Mtg.	**24**	**25**	**26** Thanksgiving Holiday (Office Closed) Gakeun Closed	**27** Family Day (Office Closed)	**28**
29 8am Family Serv.	**30** 5:15pm Dharma Strummers 7pm Troop Mtg.	**1**	**2**	**3** BWA Hosha Day BWA ACCW Delv. Craft & Sewing Grp	**4**	**5** Social Hall Rental
6 8:30am Bodhi Day Service at Kepaniwai Park 10am BWA mtg 10:30am - 12pm Cubs Conf. Rm	**7** Bodhi Day Visit 5:15pm Dharma Strummers 7pm Troop Mtg.	**8** Happy Bodhi Day 6:30pm Pack Mtg.	**9** 5:30pm Obon Pract	**10** Craft & Sewing Group	**11** 9am Sanmu Mtg 1pm Sanmu-Kanji Mtg. 6pm Cub Scouts (Social Hall)	**12** 9am State Hongwanji Board of Directors Mtg.
13 8am BWA Memorial Service (Maui Hongwanji Choir)	**14** 5:15pm Dharma Strummers 7pm Troop Mtg.	**15** 8am BWA Memorial Service (Maui Hongwanji Choir)	**16** 5pm Kyodan Board Meeting via Zoom	**17** BWA ACCW Delv. Craft & Sewing Group	**18**	**19** BWA Omigaki
20 7:30am General Clean-up No Service	**21** 5:15pm Dharma Strummers 7pm Troop Mtg.	**22**	**23**	**24** Temple Office Open Until 12pm	**25** Christrmas Holiday (Office Closed)	**26** Social Hall Rental
Winter Break						
27 8am Family Service	**28** 5:15pm Dharma Strummers 7pm Troop Mtg.	**29**	**30**	**31** Temple Office Open Until 12pm 11:15pm New Year's Eve Service		
Winter Break						