



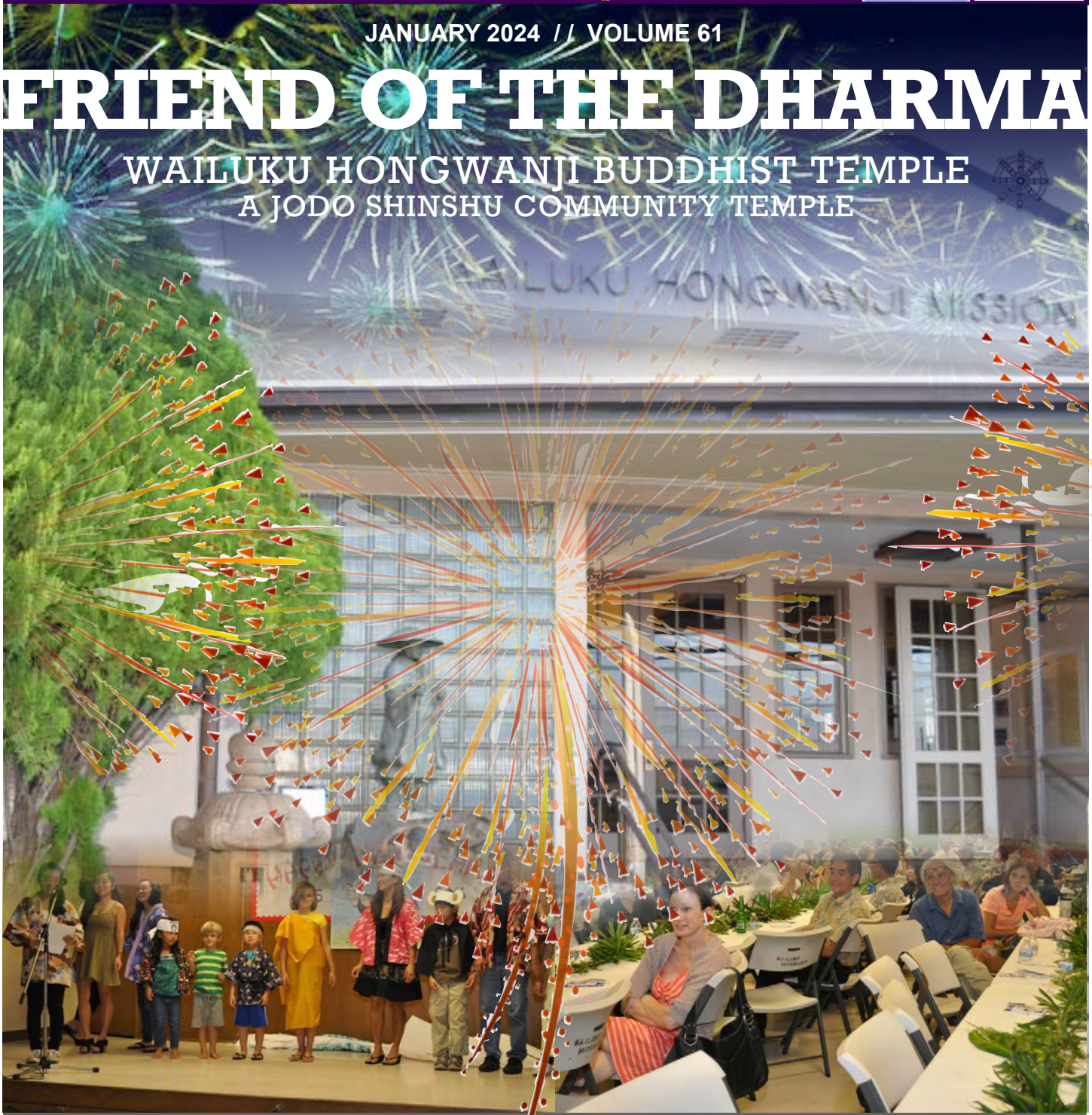
@wailukuhongwanji



JANUARY 2024 // VOLUME 61

# FRIEND OF THE DHARMA

WAILUKU HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE  
A JODO SHINSHU COMMUNITY TEMPLE



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**New Year's Party to be held on January 20, 2023**

WAILUKU HONGWANJI MISSION  
1828 Vineyard Street  
Wailuku, HI 96793

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**NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE**

# Gomonshu's New Year's Message for 2024

*Gomonshu Kojun Ohtani*



Happy New Year, everyone! At the beginning of this New Year, I would like to extend my best regards to you all.

Over the last year, innumerable people worldwide have been affected by natural disasters, such as earthquakes, floods, and forest fires. I was particularly shocked by the wild fires that devastated the island of Maui in the state of Hawaii. This disaster completely destroyed the temple hall of Lahaina Hongwanji Mission and one temple member was reported to have lost his life. I would like to offer my deepest condolences to all who have perished in those calamities. I would also like to express my sympathies to those who are still coping with the dire situations. It is my sincere hope that all who have been affected will soon be able to return to a normal daily life.

The Russian invasion of Ukraine that began in February 2022 is still continuing. Not only that, conflict between Israel and Palestine has once again flared up from October 2023, embroiling nations concerned with victimizing a large number of people many of whom are civilians. Looking at the appalling state of the world, the following words of Sakyamuni Buddha come to mind. "Everyone fears violence and is scared of death. In consideration of all life, do not kill and do not make others kill."

Every one of us who has received life as a human being, no matter the

reason, must be ensured equally of human rights, and no one's life should be threatened. In reality, however, conflicts and terrorist attacks have occurred everywhere in the world and for many people, their right to live and exist has been threatened. As Buddhists who aspire for peace, we must keep Sakyamuni Buddha's words seriously in our hearts and pursue our endeavor of contributing toward world peace and security.

During the last year, we observed the Joint Celebration of the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth and the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching at Hongwanji, Kyoto for a total of 30 days, divided into 5 sessions during the period from March 29 to May 21. On this occasion, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to those who came to Japan to attend, as well as those who supported it in various ways. This celebratory event could be realized only because our predecessors have cherished the Jodo Shinshu teaching as their spiritual foundation for many years no matter when or where they were, and carefully transmitted it to us today.

Let us, too, continue listening to the teaching as the center of our life while cherishing each day.

January 1, 2024

OHTANI Kojun  
Monshu  
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha

**Maui Hongwanji Council  
Invites You to the**

**Theme:  
"The Most Important  
Matter in Life!"**

**Speaker  
Rev. Kodo Umezu**

**Nembutsu  
Seminar  
2024**

**Saturday, January 20, and  
Sunday, January 21, at the  
Kahului Hongwanji Buddhist Temple**



Reverend Kodo Umezu  
Minister Emeritus of Buddhist Churches of America

Rev. Kodo Umezu was born in Fukuoka, Japan. He graduated from Ryukoku University in 1973 majoring in Buddhist Studies. He arrived in the United States in 1973 and was assigned to the Fresno Betsuin.

He took a leave of absence from Buddhist Churches of America and went to the IBS in 1976 and received his MA.

He served in the US Navy for 4 years in order to immerse himself in the US culture and language. After being discharged, he was assigned to the Los Angeles Honpa Hongwanji Buddhist Temple for seven years and later to the Buddhist Church of Oakland.

In 1996, he was assigned as the Executive Assistant to the Bishop under Bishop Watanabe and Bishop Ogui for 9 years. In 2005, he became the first director of the BCA Center for Buddhist Education in Berkeley.

In 2012, he was selected as Bishop of the BCA and served for two terms till he retired in March 2020.

**Saturday, January 20**  
8:30 a.m. - Registration  
9:00 a.m. - Lecture 1  
10:30 a.m. - Lecture 2  
12:00 noon - Lunch  
1 p.m. - Lecture 3

**Sunday, January 21**  
9:00 a.m. - Ho-onko Service  
10:30 a.m. - Lecture 4

**Registration Fee  
(Includes Lunch)  
\$10.00**

## 年頭の辞

新しい年のはじめにあたり、ご挨拶申し上げます。

昨年も世界各地で地震・洪水・山火事など様々な災害が起こり、多くの方が被災されました。特にハワイ・マウイ島における山火事ではラハイナ本願寺の本堂が全焼し、メンバーの方々の被害も報告されています。ここに災害によってお亡くなりになられたすべての方々に謹んで哀悼の意を表しますとともに、被災された皆さまに心よりお見舞い申し上げます。皆さまが一日も早く、日常の生活を取り戻されますことを願っております。

また、2022年2月に始まったロシア連邦によるウクライナ侵攻はいまだに続いており、2023年10月以来、イスラエルとパレスチナの武力衝突では関係国を巻き込んで、民間人を含む多くの犠牲者が出ています。私がいま思い起こしますのは、「すべての者は暴力におびえ、すべての者は死をおそれる。己が身にひきくらべて、殺してはならぬ。殺さしめてはならぬ。」(『ダンマパダ』第129偈)というお釈迦様のお言葉です。

この世に生を受けた私たちは、いかなる理由があろうとも等しく人権が保障され、命が脅かされるようなことがあってはなりません。しかし、現実には世界各地で紛争やテロが勃発し、生存の権利が脅かされている人々が数多くおられます。平和主義を掲げる仏教徒である私たちは、お釈迦様のお言葉を深く心に刻み、国際社会の平和と安全に大きく貢献することが求められています。

さて、昨年は本願寺において3月29日より5月21日までの5期30日間にわたり、「親鸞聖人御誕生850年立教開宗800年慶讃法要」をお勤めいたしました。ご参拝くださいました皆さま、お力添えを賜りました皆さまに心より感謝申し上げます。私たちが立教開宗800年の慶讃法要をお勤めできましたことは、時代や場所を超えて多くの先人の方々が、浄土真宗のみ教えを生きる支えとして、今日まで大切に受け継いでこられたからに他なりません。

これからもみ教えを聞き、それを支えとして、一日一日を大切に過ごしてまいりましょう。

2024年1月1日

浄土真宗本願寺派

門主 大谷光淳

**NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE**

# Bishop's New Year's Message for 2024

*Reverend Toshiyuki Umitani*



To welcome the New Year, I would like to extend my heartfelt greetings to you all. On behalf of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to all of you for your support, dedication, and participation in our services and activities.

Since I took the Headquarters Office as the new Bishop last July, I have been able to visit some of your temples. I bow my head to the ministers, temple leaders, and temple members for their tireless effort in protecting their temples and sharing with others the joy

of Namo Amida Butsu. Each temple has its challenges and opportunities. As a community of people joined together revering the teaching of Shinran Shonin, let us work toward the realization of a society in which everyone can live a life of spiritual fulfillment.

This year, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii will observe the Triple Celebration at Ala Moana Hotel on September 7-8, 2024. The Triple Celebration commemorates the 850th Anniversary of the Birth of Shinran Shonin, the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teachings, and the 135th Anniversary of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. The Steering Committee is working hard towards the two-day celebration event and its related programs. I would like to invite you all to attend this auspicious anniversary.

Our Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Theme and Slogan for 2024 is "Building Healthy Sanghas: Sharing Nembutsu Moments." What are the "Nembutsu Moments"? These are the moments when the voice of the Nembutsu, "Namo Amida Butsu," spontaneously flows from our lips.

The main body of the Sutra on the Buddha of Immeasurable Life explains the Forty-eight Vows of Amida Buddha, who undertook to establish a Pure Land

for the enlightenment of all sentient beings. Shinran Shonin regarded that our act of saying "Namo Amida Butsu" is derived wholly from the working of Amida's Vow. It means that the sound of "Namo Amida Butsu," the promise Amida Buddha made to embrace and never abandon all beings, is already fulfilled and extended to all beings. It is the calling voice from the Buddha of Immeasurable Light and Life that holds the Buddha's boundless empathy, concern, and compassion toward all beings. Such a message of universal compassion reaches into our hearts and minds, and flows from our lips spontaneously as "Namo Amida Butsu."

What we experience in our daily lives could be the opportunities to ascertain and appreciate the truth of Boundless Wisdom and Compassion that embraces our lives. Let us experience, savor, appreciate, and share the Nembutsu moments with our families and friends in our daily lives.

May the sound of the Nembutsu flow from our lips. May the Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha inspire and guide us always.

Namo Amida Butsu.

Rev. Toshiyuki Umitani  
Bishop  
Honpa Hongwanji  
Mission of Hawaii

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## *Goshoki-Ho-Onko on January 14, 2024 at WHM*

The Wailuku Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, will observe "Ho-onko" on Sunday, January 14, 2024, beginning at 9 a.m. Our speaker will be the Reverend Sol Kalu of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii.

The Japanese term Ho-onko, a gathering to repay a kindness, describes precisely the essential purpose for our assembly. Remembering the life of Shinran, we are able to see him as a signpost along the Nembutsu Path, a Bodhisattva guiding us in our struggles to walk the Pure Land Path with sincere intensity, determined courage, and pure humility.

*Such is the benevolence of Amida's great compassion,  
That we must strive to return it, even to the breaking of our bodies  
Such is the benevolence of the masters and true teachers,  
That we must endeavor to repay it, even to our bones becoming dust.*

Collected Works of Shinran

We invite you to attend the service with feelings of gratitude to Shinran Shonin for his efforts in making it possible for all of us to receive the compassion and wisdom of Amida Buddha.



**NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE**

# President's New Year's Message for 2024

*Warren Tamamoto*



Happy New Year! Akemashite Omedetou Gozaimasu! Hauoli Makahiki Hou!

I hope that you and your loved ones are healthy and in good spirits as we enter the New Year, 2024. The year 2023 was an eventful one. Many of our Sangha were able to attend the Joint Celebration (Commemoration of the 850th Anniversary of Shinran Shonin's Birth and the 800th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Jodo Shinshu Teaching) at our Honzan in Kyoto on May 10, 2023. The Joint Celebration program was well organized and meaningful. The 17th World Buddhist Women's Convention (WBWC) followed on May 11 and 12 at the modern (although 50 years old) Kyoto International Conference Center. These two events were a highlight

of the year for those who were able to attend. I will always remember the warm welcome that we received from our hosts at the Honzan and at the World Buddhist Women's Convention.

Soon after our return from Japan, we said "Mahalo and Aloha" to outgoing Bishop, Rev. Eric Matsumoto, Mrs. Tamayo Matsumoto, Chika and Caden at a luncheon in July. In August we warmly greeted incoming Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani, Mrs. Yoshiko Umitani, and daughters Naho and Riho at a luncheon.

Then, the disastrous Maui Wildfires of August 8, 2023 destroyed the historic town of Lahaina. Our Lahaina Hongwanji Mission, located near the center of the town was not spared. The temple, social hall, and minister's residence burned to the ground. Only the columbarium appears to have survived the fire. Fortunately, Rev. Ai Hironaka and family along with many other temple members evacuated in time. However, we have learned that one temple member lost his life in that fire. It appears that 2023 will be remembered as the year of the Maui Wildfires and the year that Lahaina Hongwanji was lost to the fire. This was a great loss for Lahaina town and the entire Hawaii Sangha.

However, this was not the end of the story. Community, state and federal agencies rushed into action and are still on the ground in Maui, planning for the future of Lahaina

town and helping those displaced by the fire. Maui temple ministers and Sangha have warmly supported Lahaina members displaced by the fire. The Hongwanji community statewide, nationally and internationally has responded with compassionate action in the form of postcards, letters, gifts and generous monetary donations. Like the recent "disaster" that affected us, the COVID-19 pandemic, we learned that we are adaptable and we are resilient. The Lahaina community, and Lahaina Hongwanji Sangha in particular, I believe will respond with grit and determination.

Our theme and slogan for 2024 is "Building Healthy Sanghas: Sharing Nembutsu Moments". We live with joy and gratitude for Amida's universal and unconditional compassion for us. Since we are connected with and care for the people around us, we share our Nembutsu moments, so that others may awaken to, and appreciate the Buddha's limitless Compassion. In this way, we can each contribute to building healthy Sanghas.

With Gassho,  
Warren Tamamoto  
President,  
Honpa Hongwanji  
Mission of Hawaii

## HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

The year 2023 will mark the 850th anniversary of the birth of Shinran Shonin, the founder of the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist tradition, and 2024 will be the 800th anniversary of the establishment of the teaching and the 135th anniversary of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. Accordingly in 2024, we will observe commemorative services and workshops for these occasions.

**Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Triple Celebration**

**Theme: Sharing the Joy of Nembutsu Together: Our Living Heart of Gratitude**

**Date: September 7 & 8, 2024**

**Place: Ala Moana Hotel**

TEACHINGS FROM THE REVEREND

A Happy New Year!

Reverend Shinkai Murakami



Namo Amida Butsu

At the beginning of 2024, let us commence our journey by reciting the Amida Buddha’s infinite light and life, Namo Amida Butsu, with joy and gratitude.

The year 2023 posed challenges for many of us. Following Maui’s wildfires, both our community and we endured sad and testing experiences. Nevertheless, every experience is an opportunity for growth, enabling us to move

forward and encounter new things with a mindset of gratitude.

In 2024, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii will mark its Hawaii Kyodan’s triple celebration (Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii’s 135th anniversary, Shinran Shonin’s 850th memorial, and the 800th year since the establishment of Hongwanji) in September at Ala Moana Hotel in Honolulu. Additionally, the Wailuku Hongwanji Mission will observe its 125th-anniversary celebration on October 20. It promises to be a joyful and busy year for all of us, providing an excellent opportunity to pass on our legacy and values to our children, grandchildren, and community.

About 125 years ago, our great Issei pioneers, despite facing severe and complicated lives, planted the significant seeds of the Nembutsu, embodying Amida’s infinite life and light. These seeds flourished, bringing great blessings, joy, and courage through the guidance of the Nembutsu. Unfortunately, due to World War 2, most Nembutsu plants were destroyed. However, even as the beautiful flowers of

the Nembutsu were lost, the seeds persisted in the hearts of our great Nisei. Through the extraordinary efforts of the wonderful Nisei and Sansei Nembutsu followers, these seeds sprouted in new generations.

As mentioned earlier, 2024 is a wonderful stepping stone for the entire Hongwanji Ohana to share profound guidance within our Ohana and rejoice in the joy and happiness of our friends and Ohana. Always remember, Jodo Shinshu is a dynamic teaching of Amida Buddha, and his infinite wisdom and compassionate heart continually reach ours, illuminating the path of truth. May we all welcome 2024 with a mindset of gratitude and rejoice in the joy and happiness of others.

In 2024, may we all entrust ourselves to Amida’s calling voice of the Nembutsu and live with Namo Amida Butsu. May all of you and your family be blessed with Amida Buddha’s Infinite Wisdom and Compassion, leading lives filled with peace and serenity.

Once again, Happy New Year!

Namo Amida Butsu

EDUCATION

Annual General Membership Meeting & New Year’s Party Scheduled

Michael Mumekiyo

Wailuku Hongwanji will hold its annual General Membership Meeting (Sokai) on Saturday, January 20th at 5:30 p.m. at the Temple. The General Membership Meeting will include a business session to address Wailuku Hongwanji’s 2024 budget and related business matters.

Immediately following the meeting, our annual New Year’s Party will be held in the Social Hall. A delicious dinner will be prepared by Ed Tamori and his crew. Entertainment will include a magic show by Kyle Ginoza. Please join us for an evening of fun and fellowship.

To ensure that we have an accurate head count for the meal preparation, we are requesting a \$3.00 donation per individual and a \$5.00 donation for each family. You may call the Temple office ((808) 244-0406) to confirm your attendance. In addition, you may sign-up at the office during morning business hours, or after Sunday service in the Social Hall.



**Everyone’s Invited!**

**WHM’s GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING (SOKAI) AND NEW YEAR’S PARTY**

**January 20, 2024**

Service, Dinner, Entertainment, Games, Prizes,  
and a **Magic Show!**

**Save the Date!**

## NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE

## WHM Board President's New Year's Reflections

Michael Munekiyo

**Happy New Year!**

As I approach my 73rd life milestone, I realize how finite a space we occupy on the time continuum. I don't know how far back "time" goes, nor do I know how far into the future it extends. I only know that I was here yesterday and that I am here today. That said, arrival of the New Year is an ideal time to reflect on the past, to consider the present, and to imagine the future. With this in mind, permit me to share a few personal thoughts on the past, present, and future.

**The Past**

My reflections of the past, perhaps in an offbeat way, drew me to think about events that shook my emotions. While many events over the course of my lifetime are buried in the depths of my memory, images of three (3) immediately popped up:

- 1963 – The loss of President John F. Kennedy
- 2001 – The losses incurred from the 9/11 attacks
- 2023 – The loss of Lahaina

These events brought sorrow, anger, frustration, and simply challenged our human spirit. While not at the forefront of daily news cycles, these occurrences also demonstrated that there absolutely exists, *good* in humanity. At each event, we found ourselves on common ground of grief and uncertainty. Each time, we saw our fellow men, women and children sharing the gift of *Dana or selfless* giving to sooth and comfort in ways only limited by our imagination. Reflecting on the past allows us to reaffirm that there is *good* in life, despite adverse circumstances that may have disrupted our daily journeys.

**The Present**

The New Year is also a time to express *gratitude* for all that we have today...not necessarily items of a material nature, but life occurrences that bring a response of peace, harmony and joy. Whatever our life stage and despite what may seem to be the ordinariness of daily living, each new day holds some condition or circumstance within which *gratitude* lies. Perhaps you've experienced some of these:

- Stayed up late; math and history tests today...grateful to meet friends afterwards
- Kids yelling; chaotic breakfast; multiple soccer games today...grateful to see that their night's sleep is peaceful and sound
- Car in the shop; kitchen plumbing leaks; a nasty email at work...grateful for a quiet dinner with my spouse
- Back aches; not much energy today; another doctor's appointment...grateful for that short morning walk down the street

Moments in each day exists for us to encounter *gratitude*. Make time to find those moments.

**The Future**

The New Year is a time to look towards the future. It is a time to reset, a time to dream and to consider possibilities. As I close in on my 73rd year, my view of the future is framed in the context of our Shin Buddhist reality of impermanence. While more limited, life at 73 is still full of possibilities and still full of Dana opportunities.

Quite honestly though, the future I more often think about is that of my children's and grandchildren's generations. Information and misinformation overloads make life complicated. Despite these complexities, I do trust that generations which follow, will find their way to lessons of the past and present. First, while the *good* in humanity visibly shows up in times of disaster or tragedy; it has always been, and always will be, a fundamental part of our human identity. Second, no matter how ordinary today may be, *gratitude* lies waiting to be uncovered.

Recognizing the *good* and finding that *gratitude* leads us to a path of kindness and compassion. That kindness and compassion will bring much needed balance to a world oftentimes occupied by greed and anger.

Namo Amida Butsu

**EDUCATION**



# WAILUKU HONGWANJI PRESCHOOL

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

*Jody Vinoray*

## PRESCHOOL IS HIRING! Preschool Teacher Needed



**Contact:**  
 Wailuku Hongwanji Preschool  
 at (808) 244-9545 or email  
[whpreschool808@gmail.com](mailto:whpreschool808@gmail.com).

**Working Hours:**  
 Monday - Friday 7:30am - 4:30pm

- Requirements:**
- AS Degree in ECE/CDA
  - 6-12 months classroom experience working with children ages 3-5 years old
  - Creativity & Flexibility
  - Infant/Child CPR & First Aid Certification

## Happy New Year!

Time flies when you're having fun... Where did the first half of our school year go? It's hard to believe that Winter break has come and soon it will be 2024! We had such a fun December, filled with memorable events!



**EDUCATION**

## Bodhi Day Service

*Rev. Shinkai Murakami*

In a touching Bodhi Day observance, preschool students recently crafted a special Bodhi Day tree adorned with their names, symbolizing the unity within their close-knit community. The personalized touch added a meaningful dimension to the event, showcasing the children's creativity and the oneness cultivated among them. Gratitude was extended to the dedicated preschool teachers and students who contributed to making this Bodhi Day celebration a memorable and heartwarming experience for all involved.



## REGISTRATION

**Regular Session:** August to May  
**Summer Session:** June to July

Closed during public school holidays and breaks, except teachers' institute day and teachers' end-of-semester day

**Contact Information:**  
 Phone: (808) 244-9545  
 Email: [whpreschool808@gmail.com](mailto:whpreschool808@gmail.com)  
 Site: <https://www.wailukuhongwanji.org/index.php/preschool>





EDUCATION

# Dharma School Celebrates Bodhi Day with “Enlightenment” Play

Joan Tamori

Much awaited plans to assemble at Iao’s Kepaniwai Gardens for WHM’s Bodhi day service did not materialize as light rains welcomed the few who drove in early to set up. Although it would have been nice to attend the service amidst the beautiful mountains and lush green environment of Iao Valley, the church members and dharma school students happily observed Bodhi day back at the temple. The students presented an impromptu play explaining the series of events that led up to Prince Siddhartha becoming the enlightened Shakyamuni Buddha on December 8, more than 2,500 years ago. For not having any practice at all, the students were willing to participate and did a wonderful job! After the service, delicious refreshments were provided and served by the dharma school teachers.



In the city surrounding his castle, Siddhartha comes upon an old man, a sick man, a monk, and a funeral, all sufferings of life. Pictures held by Emma and Jaxon.



“Prince Siddhartha” - Kaden, stands serenely as Naomi holds up a starving Siddhartha.



Five companions - Kora, Naomi, Emma, Jaxon, and Sophie, eat “a single grain of rice” along with Siddhartha.



Siddhartha accepts a bowl of rice milk from “Sujata” - Sophie



Siddhartha stands calmly as Jaxon holds up a picture of “the Enlightened One.”



Kellen, Logan, and Erik take turns reading the narration.

EDUCATION

## Dharma School Families Participate in Maui’s “Walk to End Alzheimer’s”

Joan Tamori

The Beauchamp, Tomita, and Tamori families walked the route more than once at the Queen Kaahumanu Center in support of the Alzheimer’s Association along with BWA members. It was good exercise and fun talking with each other as participants walked around the mall!



Bottom Left: Nahe, Ed, Sherri, Pat, Kaden, and Krystle carry symbolic flowers representing different categories of Alzheimer’s support while walking the mall.

Bottom Right: Franklin and friend take part as Haleakala Lions Club members.



**ADULT ORGANIZATIONS**

**Buddhist Women’s Association (BWA) News**

*Gwen Hiraga*

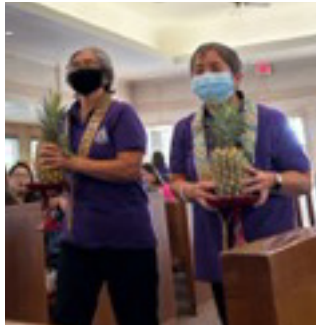


**MC: Tamara Manley**

The BWA Memorial Service, held on December 10th, was followed by refreshments and the final BWA General Membership meeting for 2023. Alongside regular business updates, members received information about the upcoming BWA Sokai scheduled for February 11, 2024, at Tante’s in Kahului. For those attending, lunch orders can be placed by contacting Elaine Akashi. The Sokai Committee, comprised of Elaine Akashi, Gail Iwamoto Hamai, Phyllis Sato, and Judy Toba Stillwell, is diligently planning the event, and further details will be provided to members.



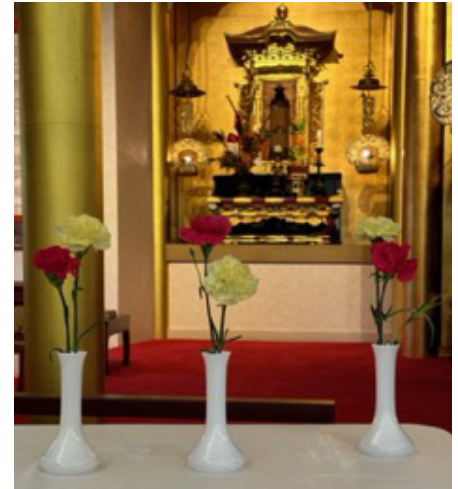
**Mary Tokumaru & Sandy Hirata, offering of candles**



**Gail Kushiyama & Molly Imoto, offering of fruits**



**Gail Iwamoto-Hamai & Dan Thompson, offering of flowers**



**Members Honored: Wailuku (Aileen Yuriko Higa, Fumie Hanada, Edith Misao Omuro, and Katsue Shishido) and Lahaina (Sugi Shibao, Kiyoko Thompson, and Anita Yamafuji)**



**Oatmeal Mix Recipe Provided Courtesy of Sylvia Ishikawa**



2 Cup oats  
1/2 tsp salt

1 1/2 Cup milk powder  
1/3 Cup brown sugar

1/2 Cup raisins  
1/2 tsp nutmeg (optional)

Boil ½ cup mix and ½ cup water for 2 to 3 minutes, constantly stirring; use 1 cup water, for a more liquid mixture. Or, using a deep bowl, microwave for 1 minute, stir, and microwave again for 1 minute.

# ADULT ORGANIZATIONS

## BWA News (continued)

Gwen Hiraga



The BWA bids a fond Aloha to Mark Miller, who, due to the Lahaina Wildfires, will be relocating to the Mainland. Mark's absence at church services and BWA meetings will be deeply felt, and the organization expresses gratitude for his unwavering support. As part of ongoing community outreach, BWA members continue to prepare 80 Peanut Butter and Jelly sandwiches twice a month for delivery to "A Cup of Cold Water."

Looking ahead to the new year, BWA members are reminded to submit their 2024 membership dues of \$25.00 (for those under 80) or \$10.00 (for those over 80 or turning 80 in 2024) to Sandra Matsuda. Payments can be left in the BWA tray at the church office or mailed directly to Sandra Matsuda. Lastly, the organization extends warm birthday wishes to members born in January: Susan Gushiken, Sylvia Ishikawa, Helen Ohigashi, Joyce Oki, Pat Tomita, Norma Jean Tamashiro, Betty Yamashiro, and Helene Yoshizawa.



Yuki Lei Sugimura had her son Michael and husband Tak assist her in preparing the PB&J sandwiches.



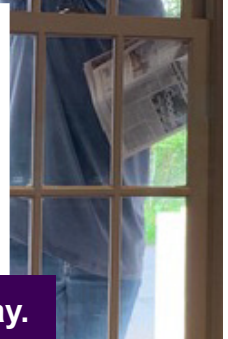
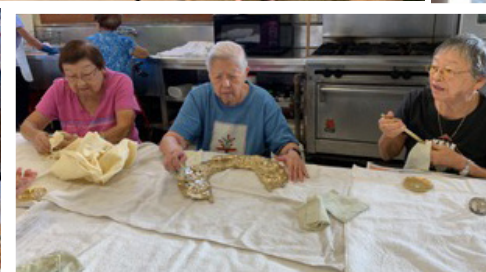
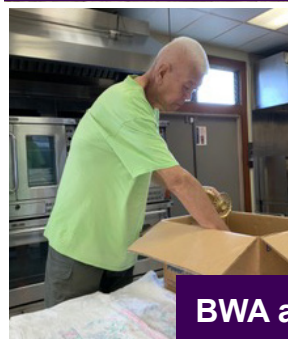
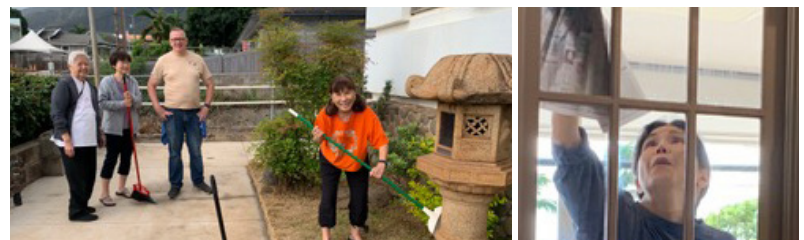
Pat Tomita & Rev. Murakami assisting Minae Murakami with the PB&J sandwiches.



BWA members, Mary Tokumaru, Machiko Moriyasu, Margaret Honda, Toshiko Sugiki & Sharon Higa, were making Spam musubis for the workers at the Saturday 12/16 Yard Clean Up. Missing from the picture are Janet Kubota, Tamara Manley & Sandy Hirata, who also helped prepare spam musubis for the Saturday workers.



Maui United BWA and DS students participated in the Alzheimer's walk.



BWA at the general clean-up and continuing with omigaki on Monday.

**YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS**

# Sakura 4-H Clubs ~ Moments in Time

*Sammy Takamura*

In November the Lōkahi Girls learned about the Maui County 4-H Teach-in event that will be held in Spring of 2024. The girls individually or in pairs will be judged on their presentation of a topic or poem in front of an audience of other 4-H participants, families and friends.

They also began planning for their care and comfort packages that they raised funds for in October's BWA Craft Fair and continued this work in December. The girls assembled 18 packages for children affected by the Lahaina and Upcountry fires. While they put their best efforts in writing cards and filling the packages with items like art kits, cards, journals and stuffies they also had moments to really think about the children and gave 100% in their work and thoughts for them. All packages have found their way to the 18 children.

Both the Lōkahi and Aloha Girls attended the 4-H County sponsored Christmas event and had enjoyed meeting other 4-H girls from other clubs, decorating gingerbread houses, playing games, and working together! Thank you to the Maui Girls 4-H Group for hosting this County event.

The Sakura 4-H Clubs wish everyone Health and Happiness in the New Year - New is the year, new are our hopes, new are the resolutions, and new are our warm wishes for you. Akemashite Omedetou Gozaimashita!



**Aloha Girls dressed in their uniforms for the County Event.**

**Aloha Girls and their Gingerbread House Making Awards.**



**Lokahi Girls worked hard prepping smaller items, some needed assembly or extra handwritten instructions.**

**4-H Mom Elizabeth watches over as the girls write cards to include with the packages.**



**The club did their best to personalize each comfort package.**

**YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS**

# Troop 40 Helps to Clear Minister's Residence's Lawn

*Celeste Rabang*

## PACK & TROOP 40 Need Assistant Scoutmasters

**Contact:**

Pack 40: (808) 280-1299 or email [cubpack40@gmail.com](mailto:cubpack40@gmail.com)

Troop 40: (808) 250-1891 or email [msdel7@hotmail.com](mailto:msdel7@hotmail.com)

**Scout Master Requirements:**  
Child must be a participating member of Wailuku Hongwanji Boy Scouts

*Join the County's best Troop since 1948!*

## PACK & TROOP CHILD REGISTRATION

**Registration Requirements:**

- Pack Registration:  
Boys and Girls ages 6-10
- Troop Registration:  
Boys and Girls starting at age 11
- Registration fee, Uniform, Handbook:  
About \$108 upon joining
- Annual dues \$15 (due in January)

**Contact Information:**

- Pack Registration:  
(808) 280-1299 or [cubpack40@gmail.com](mailto:cubpack40@gmail.com)

- Troop Registration:  
(808) 250-1891 or [msdel7@hotmail.com](mailto:msdel7@hotmail.com)



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# Amazing Results of the General Clean-Up!

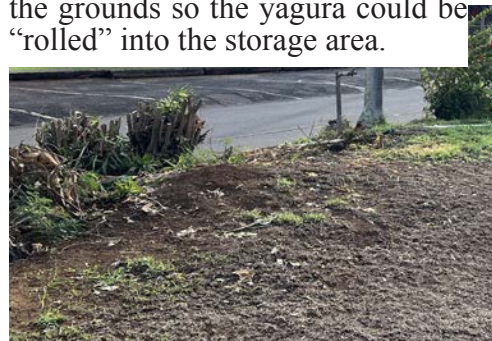
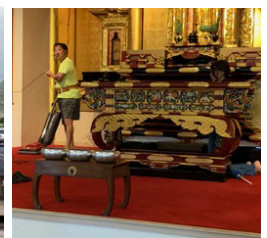
*Frank Hamasaki*

On Saturday, December 16, 40 members of the Boy Scout of Troop 40, along with their parents and temple members undertook the task of landscaping the temple. The volunteers cut the bougainvillea plant, trimmed the crown flower tree, cut all the plants, bushes, and trees surrounding the minister's house, and loaded all of the trimming into the dumpster. They cut the weeds along the front of the temple and along Kaniela Street. The BWA ladies volunteered and prepared Spam musubi and other goodies, along with refreshments for the workers.

Chairperson Eric Ikeuchi expressed his appreciation for the support he received from the Boy Scouts, temple members, and BWA ladies. The tasks were completed in 3 hours of work.

Another landscaping project is planned for February-March 2025 to trim the bird of paradise along Spreckels Ditch and the parking lot in Luuwai property.

In addition, Aldon Mochida, and his volunteers (Scouts and parents) completed the preparation of the grounds so the yagura could be "rolled" into the storage area.



**Camaraderie at the Clean-up!**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Calling All Graduates!*

Calling all Class of 2024 graduating high school seniors! Each year, Wailuku Hongwanji takes special pride in celebrating and recognizing the graduating class of students who have been actively involved with the church in some way. This year, we will be having our traditional in-person celebration! The following is a list of Class of 2024 students who we currently have in our records. If there are any others that you may be aware of, please email Joyce Chun at [jchun.maui@gmail.com](mailto:jchun.maui@gmail.com) or Shelley Quipolta at [shellquips@gmail.com](mailto:shellquips@gmail.com) or call (808) 250-0726 and leave a message.

**Class of 2024 Graduates Are:**

- |                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Royce Guzman-Tejero   | Caese Calaro           |
| Zachary Kuraoka       | Trent Tsukiyama        |
| David Arashiro-Garcia | Daniel Arashiro-Garcia |
| Ty Matson             |                        |

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Missing Something?*

Some items were left behind after the General Clean-up on Sunday, December 17, 2023. If you're the owner of any of these items, please call the office at (808) 244-0406. Thank you for all your amazing work!



**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Temple Wish List*

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

- |                           |                                             |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Forever postage stamps    | Ziploc bags (sandwich, quart, gallon sizes) |
| 33 Gal. Trash Bags        | Paper Towels                                |
| Forks (heavy wt. plastic) | Hashi (chop sticks)                         |
| 7" Dessert Plates         | 12oz Bowls                                  |
| Napkins                   | Coffee - Folgers or Yuban                   |
| Carton Packing Tapes      | General Use Masking Tapes (1/2", 1")        |
| Spam (for spam musubi)    | 15# Bag rice                                |
| Bottled Water             | Dawn or Joy dish washing soap               |

**Early Reminder: Don't Forget Your 2024 Gojikai Membership Dues**

**MEMORIAL SERVICES**

*January Hoji Memorial Services*

To schedule your family member's memorial service, please contact the main office at (808) 244-0406, Monday-Friday between 8:00am and 12:00pm.

**1st YEAR MEMORIAL - 2023**

**DAY NAME**

- |    |                                 |
|----|---------------------------------|
| 22 | Takeo Igawa (ZEN YU)            |
| 23 | Harold Hiroshi Kusunoki (KO DO) |

**3rd YEAR MEMORIAL - 2022**

**DAY NAME**

- |    |                                |
|----|--------------------------------|
| 20 | Suzanne Kimiko Kozaki (SHO KU) |
|----|--------------------------------|

**7th YEAR MEMORIAL - 2018**

**DAY NAME**

- |    |                             |
|----|-----------------------------|
| 05 | Haruye Imai (SHUN KO)       |
| 13 | Jane Tsutae Kurisu (CHI GI) |
| 27 | Kiyoko Komatsu (SHO JO)     |

**13th YEAR MEMORIAL - 2012**

**DAY NAME**

- |    |                                 |
|----|---------------------------------|
| 09 | Kiyoko "Sally" Inouye (SHO GAN) |
| 19 | Melvin Ikeuchi (RYO SHO)        |

**17th YEAR MEMORIAL - 2008**

**DAY NAME**

- |    |                        |
|----|------------------------|
| 14 | Akira Tanaka (SHO SEI) |
| 14 | Walter Manta (RYO SHO) |

**25th YEAR MEMORIAL - 2000**

**DAY NAME**

- |    |                         |
|----|-------------------------|
| 08 | Shizuyo Maeda (MYO SEI) |
|----|-------------------------|

**33rd YEAR MEMORIAL - 1992**

**DAY NAME**

- |    |                           |
|----|---------------------------|
| 04 | Ariyo Sodetani (SHOTOKU)  |
| 12 | Kiyoko Hamamuro (CHI KEN) |
| 20 | Shima Harada (KYO SEN)    |



# The Maui News

December 2, 2023 | Today's Paper | Submit News | Subscribe Today

<https://www.mauinews.com/news/local-news/2023/12/a-son-saved-a-temple-lost-reverend-returns-after-fire/>

## A son saved, a temple lost: Reverend returns after fire

MATTHEW THAYER

LAHAINA — Conversation in the car drifts to a stop as Rev. Ai Hironaka makes the turn onto Prison Street.

Houses flattened into white squares of ash, charred trees, burned-out cars and trucks, each with an X spray-painted on the side to let searchers know it has been checked for bodies. This is the first time Hironaka and his passengers have been back to the heart of Lahaina town since the fires of Aug. 8. As with most returnees, the devastation hits like a punch to the soul.

On the corner of Waiee Street, several houses inexplicably stand, passed over by the flames. Around them, nearly every ruin has people in white hazmat suits picking through debris. This is the first morning residents have been allowed in this zone and they are wasting no time.

Hironaka waves to a neighbor, then turns into the parking lot of Lahaina Hongwanji Mission. For the past 13 years, he has served as resident minister of the Shin Buddhist temple founded in 1904 and built in 1933. It is also the property where he and his family of six lived until they escaped the racing wildfire with little more than a car and the clothes on their backs.

Hironaka said Monday's return to the beloved temple stirred many emotions.

"I was trying to, as I see other houses, I was trying to make myself ready to see the Hongwanji," Hironaka said. "I didn't want to be too much emotional. Just trying to stay calm and strong."

When he and wife, Megumi, loaded their four children and family dog into the car to escape the smoke, he did not think the fire would reach this part of town. That quickly changed when his kids shouted that the neighbors' houses were on fire and he could see flames in his rearview mirror. The realization that the temple was in grave danger gnawed at him until he cleared town and pulled over at Puamana Park.

"I wanted to save the Buddha statue, our main object of worship," Hironaka said. "If I lost only myself, I may have turned around, but I had to think of my family first. I thought Puamana was safe enough. I asked my wife, can I try once?"

His wife begged him to stay and he begged for her forgiveness. If possible, he had to save the wooden Buddha. Leaving his car keys and cellphone behind, Hironaka set off through the dust and smoke on the 1.3-mile trek back to the Hongwanji. Reaching the intersection of Waiee and Shaw streets, he saw the Waiola Church Hall was already ablaze. There would be no reaching the Hongwanji, which was farther away and shrouded in dark smoke.

Turning back toward Puamana, Hironaka walked until he was able to hitchhike a ride most of the way to his family. Finally reaching the car, he was stunned to learn his son Hoken, 17, had set off after him.

"He thought I needed help, so he chased me. I was hoping, don't jump into the fire. Do not jump into the smoke. Your papa is not there."

Hoken made it to the same intersection where his father turned around.

"He asked people at the corner of Shaw Street, 'Did you see my dad? Did you see my dad?'"

Hoken said neighbor Tama Kaleleiki yelled, "Hey, do not go there! Your papa is not there!"

Hironaka credits Kaleleiki for saving his son's life. He says he knows Hoken would have rushed the flames if he thought his father was in danger. The slim Buddhist priest thanked the Hawaiian church elder again Monday when their paths crossed on Waiee Street. Kaleleiki was part of a crew picking through the debris of Waiola Church's buildings. He was riding by in a truck and stopped when he spotted Hironaka chatting with neighbors.

Kaleleiki says he merely did what anyone would do. Hironaka insists there is more to the story.

"How important is it that the neighbor knows me and that he knows Hoken is my son?" he asked. "For Tama san it is a small thing, but for me it is a lifetime happening. To me, he saved my son's life, and then he saved my whole family. Without my son, you cannot smile."

Hironaka said he was rushing back to the Hongwanji when he glimpsed the won-

derful sight of two familiar feet.

"As I run, from the smoke, I notice his Crocs. Oh, that might be Hoken! As the smoke gradually cleared, I confirmed it was Hoken."

Fast-forward seven weeks to War Memorial Stadium. Hoken is dressed in the red and white of the Lahainaluna High School football team and taking a handoff to score a fourth-quarter touchdown against Baldwin High. It is the Lunas' first game of the season and his displaced family is in the stands cheering and slapping high-fives.

Monday's visit included Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, mission Business Manager Derrick Inouye and two bureau staffers from Japan's Kyodo News. After a brief patrol of the grounds, Hironaka, Umitani and Inouye climbed to the top of the temple's front stairs to overlook the debris-filled foundation and chant the sutra of Sanbutsuge. Once that important ritual was completed, they donned hazmat gear from head to toe and climbed down into the rectangular hole that was once the Lahaina Hongwanji temple.

From the top of the stairs they could be seen combing through white-gray ash, paying particular attention to the areas beneath where the altars were located. It was slim pickings. Off in the neighborhood, several people shouted for joy. Word spread down Waiee Street that somebody found their wedding ring.

The temple's ruins yielded a small pile of battered artifacts, including a bent incense holder, a blackened ewer and cracked pieces of pottery. A highlight was a small metal statue of baby Buddha. Hironaka said he used it every April 8 in the ceremony marking Shakyamuni Buddha's birthday.

"I thought it would be hard to find such a small statue," he said. "When I found it, I was so happy. The fire was much strong enough to destroy everything."

"To me, it all seemed wrapped in white. All the colorful tea cups are white. The temple residence became ashes. That (continued on next page under "A son saved")"



## A son saved (cont.)

meant to me that the temple building was protecting Lahaina people's special home until he became ashes."

Nearly all contents of the family residence, from notes and keepsakes to wardrobes and computers, were lost.

"Mostly, that day was important for me to recover, to set my mind for the next phase mentally in my personal life as a Rev. Hironaka. Not a step going forward, but to move to a different phase," he said.

Several neighbors stopped to say hello while Hironaka sifted through the temple building's remains. "Where are you staying? How is your family?" On the way out of town, he parked the car to get out and talk to folks he recognized. He admits the aftermath of the fires has been hard on him and his family. Their lives have been turned upside down. He said it was cathartic to converse with people who shared the same experiences.

"I think in my life condition, when I see the people who survived, it makes me happy or excited or energetic," he said. "To witness neighbors working hard, it helps. Oh, he is doing it already? If he can do it, I can too. As father, minister and husband, there is responsibility to be strong. With these neighbors, we can talk without pretending. Talk to heal each other."

One friend was a distraught young man returning to the home he built for his family on rented land. The distant look in his eyes was familiar to Hironaka.

"His eyes are like mine," Hironaka said. "I see only a small light on inside his eyes. However, it wasn't dark. This small tiny light, how can we make a brighter and stronger light? I think, we need to encourage each other. He says to me, 'we need to keep our heads up.' I was helped by him."

"The fire on the town is contained, but the fire remains in the victims' hearts and minds. We are all spread out from Lahaina, but I think it is a time we are all together."

After the fire, he says he found himself wondering if it all was a bad dream.

"When I was informed that I could go into the site, I wondered if it was not real," he said. "But it happened to everybody. Everybody lost everything. I now truly understand we should not take it for granted. The fire made me transform into more the reality of this impermanent world. Nothing is permanent. Everything is impermanent."

When the Lahaina Hongwanji temple was built 90 years ago it was financed by the congregation and community. Hironaka says he expects the same to happen as it rises from the ashes. Assistance, he says, will come not just from local congregants, but from "Japan, the Mainland, all over."

"I think, regardless of any religion, the temple is built by the people's donations," he said. "I think it is going to be a wonderful temple when it is finished. That will be, I think, a wonderful service. I cannot wait for that."

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

# Disaster Relief for Lahaina Buddhist Temples

Luly Unemori

The Hawaii Association of International Buddhists is sharing information about disaster relief accounts established to help three historic Buddhist temples in Lahaina that were destroyed by the recent Maui wildfires. They include the Lahaina Shingon Mission (established 1902), Lahaina Hongwanji Mission (established 1904) and Lahaina Jodo Mission (established 1912).

For anyone wishing to make a dana contribution to support these Buddhist temples, their resident ministers and families, and temple members, please see the donation instruction below, or visit the HAIB Maui support webpage at <https://www.hawaiibuddhists.org/news/support-maui>.

### Lahaina Shingon Mission Hokoji

GoFundMe link: <https://gofund.me/6317428c>

or checks payable to

"Koyasan Shingon Mission of Hawaii" with a memo "Lahaina relief"

Checks can be sent to:

Koyasan Shingon Mission of Hawaii

457 Manono Street

Hilo, HI 96720

For further information please contact by email [hikoybof@gmail.com](mailto:hikoybof@gmail.com)

### Lahaina Jodo Mission

GoFundMe link: <https://gofund.me/df1b0cf2>

or a donation check payable to

"Jodo Mission" with a memo "Maui fire relief fund"

Checks can be sent to:

Jodo Mission of Hawaii

1429 Makiki Street

Honolulu, HI 96814

### Lahaina Hongwanji Mission

GoFundMe at the following link: <https://gofund.me/ff77a520>

or checks payable to

"HHMH" and in the memo line designate "Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief"

Checks and cash donations can be set to:

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii

1727 Pali Highway

Honolulu, HI 96813

or online at [www.hongwanjihawaii.com](http://www.hongwanjihawaii.com) by clicking on the "Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief" button under the "Donate" tab.



**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

**Thank You for Your Kindness & Support**

Sharon Higa & Pamela Miyagawa

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

**EITAIKYO**

Stephen & Farron Cabral  
 Ronald Hamai & Gail Iwamoto-Hamai  
 Grace & Teri Hamasaki  
 Roy & Gwen Higa  
 Sandra Hirata  
 Margaret Honda  
 Eric & Cathy Ikeuchi  
 Hideo & Joyce Kawahara  
 Janet Kubota  
 Carol Mae Kurisu  
 Machiko Moriyasu  
 Helen Ohigashi  
 Toshiko Oki  
 Richard Ouchi - *In memory of Patsy Ouchi, Roy Ouchi, Sueko Koyanagi, and Susumu & Mae Taketa*  
 Nancy Shimoda  
 Toshiko Sugiki  
 Edward & Joan Tamori  
 Cheryl Tanaka  
 Florence Tanaka  
 Leonard & Patricia Tomita  
 Raymond & Betty Toyama  
 Kenji Yoshizawa

**KYODAN**

Vince-Jacob Agtaguem  
 Bal & Takahashi Families - *In memory of Masae Murakami*  
 Clifford & Geraldine Beppu - *In memory of Harold Mizomi*  
 Claire Ching - *In memory of Katsue Shishido*  
 Itsue Hanada  
 Wayne & Kay Hedani - *In memory of Naoyuki Uradomo and Tony Arakaki*  
 Margaret Honda - *In memory of Katsue Shishido*  
 Roy & Cynthia Miyamoto, and Mitsue Miyamoto - *In memory of Yeiko Tony Arakaki*  
 Michael & Lori Munekiyo - *In honor of Peace Pole Dedication*  
 Alan & Faith Nakamoto  
 Rotary Club of Kihei - *In memory of Mark Harbison (Peace Pole Dedication)*  
 Linda Shibano - *In memory of Riichi & Ura Shibano*  
 Elsie Shimomura - *In memory of Yeiko Arakaki*  
 Ira & Marilyn Tagawa  
 Takahashi & Bal Families - *In memory of Itsuyo Kusuda*  
 Cheryl Tanaka - *In memory of Hideo Tanaka*  
 Florence Tanaka - *In memory of*

*Katsue Shishido*  
 Sarajejan Tokunaga - *In memory of Donald & Alice Tokunaga, Aaron Tokunaga, Mariye Tokunaga Lau, and Chaz Tokunaga*  
 Raymond & Betty Toyama - *In memory of Yoshio & Yukie Inaba, and Kristi Shintaku*  
 Glenn & Minnie Yoshimori - *In memory of Yutaka & Yoshie Yoshimori, and Gary Isao Yoshimori*

**MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS**

Anonymous – *Altar flowers, Assorted snacks, Craft items, Dessert plates, Plastic straws, Old newspaper, Brown paper packages, Popcorn, Wrapping Papers, Coffee*  
 Richard & Amy Blue – *Yard maintenance*  
 BWA Ladies – *Bougainvillea hedge trim*  
 Cubs – *Temple yard, campus cleanup*  
 Dharma Strummers – *Sunday service music*  
 Jeral & Karlynn Fukuda – *Altar flowers*  
 Alvin & Martha Fukunaga – *Altar flowers & lemons*  
 Margaret Honda – *Nokotsudo & flower cleaning*  
 HOSHA Gang – *Temple cleaning*  
 Eric Ikeuchi – *Repairs and maintenance*  
 Calvin & Teri Kaneda – *Altar flowers*  
 Carol Mae Kurisu – *Altar flowers*  
 Machiko Moriyasu – *Altar flower arrangements*  
 Minae Murakami – *Sunday service organist*  
 Mike Nishimoto – *Yard maintenance*  
 Celeste Rabang – *Office support*  
 Erwin & Aimee Shibata – *Bounty paper towels, Dawn dish washing detergent*  
 Nancy Shimoda – *Nokotsudo & flower cleaning*  
 Dale Sugiki – *Sunday service organist*  
 Ed & Joan Tamori – *Altar flowers & yard maintenance*  
 Mary Tokumaru – *Office Support*  
 Sarajejan Tokunaga - *Nature Garden Deluxe Mix*  
 Linda Ann Unemori – *Office support*

**NEW YEAR'S ACTIVITY**

Sarajejan Tokunaga

**NOKOTSUDO**

Karen Aguinaldo  
 Gilbert Ikeda - *In memory of Shigeo & Yoshiko Ikeda*  
 Wayne & Lena Kaneyama - *In memory of Nobue, Minoru, & Juji Hanada*  
 Hideo & Joyce Kawahara - *In memory of*

*Yukie Kawahara*  
 Jane & Irving Koja  
 Thomas & Winona Lau Hee - *In memory of Thomas Ansa*  
 Cheryl Tanaka - *In memory of Hideo Tanaka*  
 Shelby Thompson - *In memory of Patricia Mainaga*

**OFUSE**

Charles Araki - *In memory of Mary Takane*  
 Christopher & Robin Hunter - *In memory of the late Morihiro & Takaki Families*  
 Glenn & Dawn Mukai - *In memory of Naoyuki Uradomo*  
 Eleanor Nishida - *In memory of Torio Nishida*  
 Roy Nishida - *In memory of Torio Nishida*  
 Takeo Shishido - *In memory of Katsue Shishido*  
 Diane Tabangay - *In memory of Henry N. & Nancy N. Y. Honda*  
 Garner Teruya

**SOCIAL CONCERNS**

Stephen & Farron Cabral  
 Richard Hamai & Gail Iwamoto-Hamai  
 Franklin & Guy Hamasaki  
 Sandra Hirata  
 Eric & Cathy Ikeuchi  
 Hideo & Joyce Kawahara  
 Janet Kubota  
 Carol Mae Kurisu  
 Machiko Moriyasu  
 Caroline Oishi  
 Richard Ouchi  
 Nancy Shimoda  
 Florence Tanaka  
 Leonard & Patricia Tomita  
 Kenji Yoshizawa

Raising Awareness about Alzheimer's Disease and Brain Health



**Alzheimer's Association**  
**Hawaii Chapter**  
 Care, Support, & Education  
 Local Phone: (808) 591-2771  
 24/7 Helpline: (800) 272-3900  
 Email: [alohainfo@alz.org](mailto:alohainfo@alz.org)  
 Website: [www.alz.org/hawaii](http://www.alz.org/hawaii)

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

If you would like to donate to any services or programs, please make checks payable to Wailuku Hongwanji Mission and send to Wailuku Hongwanji Mission at 1828 E Vineyard St. Wailuku, HI 96793.

If you would like to volunteer time on any of the upcoming or ongoing projects, please contact the office at (808) 244-0406, Monday-Friday between 8:00am and 12:00pm.

**REFERENCES**

**Organization & Project Sign-up Info**

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

Altar Flower Donations	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email <a href="mailto:Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com">Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com</a>
Buddhist Womans Association (BWA)	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email <a href="mailto:Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com">Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com</a>
Building Fund Donation	Payable to Wailuku Hongwanji Mission Send to Wailuku Hongwanji Mission at 1828 E Vineyard St. Wailuku, HI 96793
Boy Scouts	Call (808) 250-1891 or email <a href="mailto:msdell17@hotmail.com">msdell17@hotmail.com</a>
Buddha Reads Book Club	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email <a href="mailto:Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com">Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com</a>
Choir	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email <a href="mailto:Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com">Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com</a>
Cub Scouts	Call (808) 280-1299 or <a href="mailto:cubpack40@gmail.com">cubpack40@gmail.com</a>
Dharma School	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email <a href="mailto:Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com">Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com</a>
Dharma Strummers	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email <a href="mailto:Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com">Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com</a>
4-H	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email <a href="mailto:Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com">Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com</a>
Gakuen (Japanese Language School)	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email <a href="mailto:Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com">Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com</a>
Hosha Day Clean-up (First Thursday of Month)	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email <a href="mailto:Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com">Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com</a>
Junior Young Buddhist Association (Jr. YBA)	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email <a href="mailto:Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com">Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com</a>
Judo Club	Call (808) 244-9094 or email <a href="mailto:rhiyakumoto@hawaii.rr.com">rhiyakumoto@hawaii.rr.com</a>
Karate	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email <a href="mailto:Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com">Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com</a>
Kendo	Call (808) 244-2650 or email <a href="mailto:michael.sone@gmail.com">michael.sone@gmail.com</a>
Office Support	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email <a href="mailto:Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com">Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com</a>
Preschool	Call the Preschool at (808) 244-9545 or email <a href="mailto:whpreschool808@gmail.com">whpreschool808@gmail.com</a>
Social Concerns Fund Drive	Payable to Wailuku Hongwanji Mission Send to Wailuku Hongwanji Mission at 1828 E Vineyard St. Wailuku, HI 96793
Website & Facebook	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email <a href="mailto:Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com">Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com</a>
Yard & Facility Maintenance	Call the main office at (808) 244-0406 or email <a href="mailto:Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com">Wailuku.hongwanji.mission@gmail.com</a>

**FRIEND OF THE DHARMA**

**Publishing Staff**

**Submission Deadline** is the 15th of the month, prior to the publication date. Submit to [robynmgarner@gmail.com](mailto:robynmgarner@gmail.com)

STAFF	
Editors	Robyn Garner Rev. Shinkai Murakami Frank Hamasaki Joan Tamori Michael Munekiyo Sharon Higa Celeste Rabang Gary Murai
Publishers	HELP WANTED
Website & Facebook	HELP WANTED & Donna Ikeuchi
CONTRIBUTING REPORTERS	
Acknowledgments	Pamela Miyagawa
BWA	Gwen Hiraga
Boy Scouts	Celeste Rabang
Buddha Reads	Danny Topp
Calendar	Sharon Higa
Choir	Joan Tamori
Cub Scouts	Pamela Miyagawa
Dharma School	Sandra Hirata Joan Tamori
Dharma Strummers	Danny Topp
4-H	Samantha Takamura
Gakuen	Rev. Shinkai Murakami
Jr. YBA	Donna Ikeuchi
Judo Club	Ronald Hiyakumoto
Karate	TBD
Kendo	Michael Sone
Preschool	Jody Vinoray
Sympathy	Sharon Higa

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January / February 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <b>New Year's Day (Office Closed)</b>	2	3	4 8:00am HOSHA 7pm Troop mtg	5	6
7 8am Family Service 10:30am Cubs	8 Gakuen Students return 5:30pm Dharma Strummers	9 10am Buddhist Service at Roselani Place 6:30pm Cubs Mtng	10 5:30pm Obon Practice	11 7pm Troop mtg	12	13
14 9am Hoonko Service - Rev. Kalu (DS activity) 10:30am - 12:30pm 4-H	15 <b>MLK Jr. Day(Office Closed)</b>	16 <b>Shinran Shonin's Memorial Day (Hoonko)</b>	17 5pm Kyodan Board Meeting	18 7pm Troop mtg	19 Newsletter sbmsn due	20 5pm Annual Sokai Mtg
21 (No Service) 1pm-3pm 4-H	22 6pm Maui Hongwanji Counsel mtg @ WHM	23	24	25 7pm Troop mtg	26	27
28 8am Family Service	29 5:30pm Dharma Strummers	30	31	1 8:00am HOSHA 7pm Troop mtg	2 Gakuen Waiver Day (No school)	3
4 8am Scout's Sunday Service (DS Activity)	5 Central Maui Hanamatsuri Assn. Mtg. @ KHBT 5:30pm Dharma Strummers	6	7	8 <b>State Minister's Association Meeting</b> 7pm Troop mtg	9 <b>112th HHMH Legislative Assembly</b>	10 <b>Aloha Luncheon &amp; Living Treas. Recog.</b>
11 8am Nirvana Day Service BWA Dana, Sokai, & Meeting (Alzheimer's Assoc. Mtng w/ Shirley Kan) 10:30am-1pm 4-H	12 5:30pm Dharma Strummers	13 6:30pm Cubs Mtng	14 5:30pm Obon Practice	15 <b>Nirvana Day</b> 7pm Troop mtg	16 Institute Day (No Gakuen) Newsletter sbmsn due	17 6pm Spring Eitaikyo Service
18 8am Family Service 1pm-3pm 4-H	19 9:30a-1:30p Hawaii Kyokukai Annual Wkshp <b>President's Day (Office Closed)</b>	20	21 5pm Kyodan Board Meeting	22 7pm Troop mtg	23 5:30p Gakugei Kai in Social Hall	24
25 8am Family Service	26 5:30pm Dharma Strummers	27	28 Propagation Program Grant Committee Mtg.	29 7pm Troop mtg		