

# JIKO - "Compassionate Light"

DECEMBER, 2024

VOLUME 70, ISSUE 12

Monthly Newsletter of  
The Aiea Hongwanji Mission

Building Healthy Sanghas: Sharing Nembutsu Moments

AIEA HONGWANJI  
MISSION



## MINISTER'S MESSAGE

### A Lasting Gift for Someone You Love This Holiday Season!



I am sure many of you are already pondering "What shall I get for (name) this year as a holiday gift?" As we approach the Holiday Season starting with Thanksgiving to New Year's which abounds with gift giving and sharing our life with each other, please allow me to share the thought of sharing a gift especially with our young. A gift that will last their entire lifetime and even beyond.

Robert Thurman, renowned American Buddhist, attributes Sakyamuni Buddha to saying,

*"...every intelligent being could understand the truth, that such understanding would lead to direct experience of reality, and that such experience would result in freedom, happiness and transformation. The greatest gift one could give others thus was teaching; it could help others come to understanding, freedom and happiness." (omit) "to encounter reality and be transformed by the encounter, one had to understand it, not just believe it. ...To understand something requires a process of inquiry, examination, and experimentation-in fact, a process of education... To make such a process available to his contemporaries and to posterity, the Buddha had to find a new educational institution, a school for people to learn about the Dharma and a community of people to live the Dharma. He called this new community the Sangha." (From "Wisdom and Compassion, The Sacred Art of Tibet" by Marilyn Rhie and Robert Thurman.)*

As Shinran Shonin said,

*"I have collected true words to aid others...in order that the process be made continuous, without end and without interruption, by which those who have been born first guide those who come later, and those who are born later join those who were born before." (From The Collected Works of Shinran, Volume I, page 291.)*

The gift I have in mind is the Dharma or Teachings of the Buddha, or as I share with the Preschool children, the "Wise and Kind Words of the Buddha." So much depends on our views, perspectives, thoughts and thinking. The guidance and nurturing we receive from the Buddha-Dharma can make a tremendous difference in our life. In fact, it is what can transform our life for the better especially the power of Namo Amida Butsu.

Minister's Message continued on page 2

## FOR ASSISTANCE OF THE MINISTER

Please call:

**Reverend**

**Eric Matsumoto**

808-487-2626 (AHM  
office)

If he is not  
available, leave a  
message on the  
answering  
machine.

\*\*\*

For religious  
Emergencies  
(Makuragyo or bedside  
services), please call  
Rev. Matsumoto on his  
mobile phone:  
808-488-5685

\*\*\*

**Aiea Hongwanji  
Mission,**

99-186 Puakala St,  
Aiea, Hawaii 96701  
Phone: 808-487-2626

**Email:**

[aieajiko@gmail.com](mailto:aieajiko@gmail.com)

**Website:**

[aieabuddhisttemple.org](http://aieabuddhisttemple.org)

However, that is getting ahead of ourselves. Let's start at a more fundamental and easier level as an introduction. I would like to recommend the following books as possible gifts for especially our youth, but also the young at heart. These books are easy reading and simple and contain great messages for us. You can find most of them on the Internet for sale. These books can also be found in video format.

Some recommended readings are: *"The Three Questions, Based on a story by Leo Tolstoy"* and *"Stone Soup"* by Jon J. Muth, a Jataka Tale, *"The Brave Little Parrot"* by Rafe Martin, *"The Fall of Freddie the Leaf"* by Leo Buscaglia, *"The Greedy Python"* by Richard Buckley, *"Because of You"* by B.G. Hennessy and *"The Golden Chain of Love"* by Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. These books or stories share about: what is important in life, the power of sharing with each other, perseverance and determination, impermanence including dying and connection, being greedy and its consequences, how one person can potentially make a difference for world peace, and the importance of interdependence encouraging positive thoughts, words and actions, respectively. These books/readings are not all necessarily Buddhist books, but contain important messages emphasized and valued by Buddhism.

Let me conclude this message by sharing two excerpts from Rev. Tatsuo Muneto's book *"Dharma Treasures: Spiritual Insights from Hawaii's Shin Buddhist Pioneers."* First, partially quoting a poem written by Ume Hirano of Kona, she says *"In hearts of parents as immense as this universe, nothing is more cherished than a child. Due to the devotion of parents, the child may become successful and be honored like a blossoming flower. (omit) If you truly love your child, teach him/her well about the teaching of Buddha, attaining birth in the Buddha land of peace. That is the compassion of parents that forever remains."* (omit) *"Let us say the Nembutsu in gratitude, Namu-amida-butsu, Namu-amida-butsu."* and secondly, a poem composed by Haru Matsuda, also of Kona, *"My children, please go to sleep while calling on the Name (Namo Amida Butsu). Sound, sound asleep in the arms of Oya-sama (Amida Buddha)."*

Finally, as we approach the end of 2024 and the beginning of the new year 2025, I would like to encourage you and your family including friends to join me at the temple especially on Sunday mornings at 9AM so we can avail ourselves to the Wisdom and Compassion of Supreme Enlightenment especially the Great Compassion of Namo Amida Butsu for a meaningful and fulfilled life. Hope to see you at the Temple!

Namo Amida Butsu/ Entrusting in All-Inclusive Wisdom & All-Embracing Compassion.  
Reverend Eric Matsumoto

---

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To Our Sangha:



As I mentioned last month, the Annual Members Meeting and New Year's Party will be held on January 25, 2025. Ballots were included in the **November** Jiko newsletter to elect the board of directors for the 2025 through 2026 term. If you have not done so already, please turn in your ballots by December 15, 2024. If you plan to attend the New Year's Party, please RSVP with your payment using the form on page 8 by December 31, 2024. If you will **not** be able to attend the Annual Members Meeting which starts at 5:00pm, please fill out and submit the proxy form found on page 10 of this newsletter. Also, as a reminder, December 15th is the deadline to submit photos of past and present members to share in Chad Okawa's slide show performance at the party. The details are in page 10 of the **November** Jiko newsletter.

On January 19th, we will have Retired Reverend Tatsuo Muneto as our guest speaker at our Ho'onko Service, which is the memorial service for our founder Shinran Shonin. I hope you will be able to attend this Sunday Service at 9:00am.

Our annual Mochitsuki, or mochi-making event, will be held on Saturday, December 28th. Refer to page 11 of this newsletter for the details. Your participation and help is sincerely welcomed.

Thank you to those who attended our special Eitaikyo/Columbarium service on Nov. 10th. It was refreshing to see all of you there. Thank you also to the BWA members who prepared the refreshments following the service.

In Gassho with hands together,  
Boyd Marumoto

## *Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii - HEADQUARTERS UPDATE*

1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 \*\* Phone: (808) 522-9200 Fax: (808) 522-9209  
Web: [www.hongwanjihawaii.com](http://www.hongwanjihawaii.com) Email: [hqs@honpahi.org](mailto:hqs@honpahi.org)

### MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP

#### TEMPLE PRESIDENTS RETREAT:

#### BUILDING CONNECTIONS AND STRENGTHENING LEADERSHIP



On November 16, 2024, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii held its first Temple Presidents Retreat at the Buddhist Study Center. Organized by Dr. Warren Tamamoto, Derrick Inouye, Nancy Shimamoto, Doris Oshiro, Prudence Kusano, and Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani, the retreat welcomed 26 temple presidents and representatives, providing them with time and opportunity, under very pleasant and peaceful surroundings, to NETWORK, INTERACT, and NURTURE ourselves and each other.

The retreat was inspired by Bishop Umitani's temple visits as a new Bishop, where he witnessed the incredible dedication temple presidents bring to their roles. In his welcome address, he expressed deep gratitude for their commitment to managing finances, maintaining temple properties, supporting ministers, nurturing their communities, and many more. He acknowledged the unique challenges each temple faces and emphasized the importance of collaboration and mutual support.

The program kicked off with a fun-filled ice-breaker facilitated by Nancy Shimamoto, fostering an atmosphere of open and engaging participation. Prudence Kusano presented each president with special leis adorned with colorful paper clips. These clips represent the different districts and headquarters, highlighting their interconnected nature. Doris Oshiro gifted each president with a cup of seeds to "Plant Your Garden of Daily Living."

Participants then broke into small groups to tackle key topics, such as attracting younger members, supporting small temples at risk of closure, encouraging member involvement, and cultivating future leaders. These groups, composed of presidents from various temple sizes and districts, shared diverse ideas and experiences, fostering a sense of camaraderie. Following the group discussions, representatives shared their insights with the larger group.

Derrick Inouye (Business Manager), David Atcheson (Communications Coordinator), and Emi Hashi (Youth Specialist) provided a brief overview of their roles and responsibilities to the presidents, emphasizing that the HQ offers essential support and resources to the temples. Additionally, Dennis Tashiro of Windward Buddhist Temple presented effective strategies that have helped strengthen his temple's activities and engagement.

As the retreat concluded, attendees left with a renewed sense of purpose and the reassurance that they are not alone in their journey. They returned to their temples with fresh ideas and the assurance that they have a network of fellow presidents and the support of Headquarters to help navigate the challenges ahead.

This inaugural retreat was a meaningful step in enhancing leadership throughout the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, fostering the ongoing vitality of our temples and communities.

In Gassho,  
Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani

#### PERSONNEL MATTER

**Reverend Masanari Yamagishi**, currently serving at Kamuela Hongwanji Mission as its Resident Minister as well as Honokaa Hongwanji Mission, Kohala Hongwanji Mission, and Paauilo Hongwanji Mission as their Oversee Minister, will resign from the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, effective February 28, 2025. Rev. Yamagishi has been serving Hawaii Kyodan as a Kaikyoshi Minister since February 2020. During the absence of the resident minister after March 1, 2025, Rev. Blayne Higa of Kona Hongwanji Mission, with help from the Hawaii District Ministers, will provide religious services and necessary support for the four temples.

*Headquarters Update continued on page 4*

December, 2024 JIKO



## CONDOLENCES

**Reverend Eijun Kujo**, a former Kaikyoshi minister of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, passed away on August 31, 2024, at the age of 87. Rev. Kujo became a Kaikyoshi minister in August 1960 and transferred to the BCA in August 1981. A private funeral service was held on September 14, 2024, at the San Mateo Buddhist Temple.

**Reverend Mary David**, a retired minister of Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, passed away on August 1, 2024, at the age of 76. Rev. David became a Kaikyoshi Minister in April 2006 and retired in March 2014. Her memorial ceremony was held privately by her family.

## 2025 GISEIKAI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

The 2025 HHMH Legislative Assembly (Giseikai) will be held on February 7 & 8, 2025, in the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Social Hall and via Zoom. The Legislative Assembly Aloha Luncheon & Living Treasures of Hawaii Recognition will be held on Saturday, February 8, 2025, at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballrooms. The registration fee is \$125.00 for both Giseikai delegates and observers and \$100.00 for the luncheon only. The registration form was sent on November 1, 2024, to the Temples & Council Presidents. Please submit your temple's completed registration form by December 31, 2024.

## NEW GATHA BOOK – PRAISES OF THE BUDDHA 5<sup>TH</sup> EDITION

The new Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Triple Celebration Commemorative gatha book, Praises of the Buddha 5th edition, that your temple pre-ordered in June, should be available beginning December 1, 2024. A special presale price of \$15 per book will be in effect from December 1, 2024, until January 31, 2025. At the end of January 2025, books will be available at the HQ Bookstore at a higher regular price.

We believe that this 5<sup>th</sup> edition Praises of the Buddha deserves the widest circulation possible as a volume unique in its extensive presentation of wonderful original gathas by HHMH composers and appealing English renditions of familiar Japanese gathas by the Translation Subcommittee of the Hawaii Kyodan Music Committee. And, of course, it includes so many favorite gathas from the past. As this volume highlights our Hawaii-grown creative expressions, it could certainly be considered as a special gift item, for someone's personal use or as a treasured memento. Please see the flyer for more details.

## 2024 MINISTER'S LAY ASSISTANT RETREAT

On October 12-13, 2024, the annual Minister's Lay Assistant (MLA) Retreat convened at the Hawaii Betsuin Temple in Honolulu to train 12 selected lay members to serve their temples and ministers. These "fellow travelers" (followers who learn side-by-side with their ministers) showed resolve and dedication to spend two full demanding days in learning about Jodo Shinshu traditions. Pete Doktor, Alan Goto, Brandon Hee, Jennifer Kane, Rene Mansho, Rod Moriyama, Linda Nagai, Jaryd Oshiro, Raymond Takiue Jr., Dennis Tashiro, Evan Watarida, and Wayne Yoshioka participated for their temples.

The primary focus was on how and why Sunday services are performed with workshops on altar setup, Kansho ringing, chanting, elements of the service, and Dharma messages. A faculty of Reverends Umitani, Baba, Hashimoto, Higa, and Soga; along with guest Rev. Dr. Jeff Wilson also provided insight on the additional roles of the MLAs in their temples, such as new visitor greeting and tours, MC scripting, and leading discussions.

Participating is an excellent way to learn and understand Shin Buddhist teachings. Temple ministers select lay members who show interest and integrity to represent their temples. The 2025 MLA Retreat will be held on October 25-26 at Hawaii Betsuin in Honolulu. Financial subsidies are available to support this training program.

By: Dexter Mar, MLA Retreat Coordinator

## Junior YBA Happenings

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!** We hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving and celebrated not only the turkey dinner but also the gratitude for all we have in our lives. We are so appreciative of our sangha and thank you for the continuous support you give us throughout the year.



As we are gearing up for the holidays, we are keeping our calendars full. A few members of the united attended Kagirinaki Ai to Jihi, the LGBTQ+ Equity & Inclusion Panel at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii. We got to hear from Supreme Court Justice Sabrina McKenna, the first openly LGBTQ+ Asian American to serve on a state supreme court, Bill Kaneko, the president of the Japanese American Citizens League, and Aiden and his mom Martha, co-authors of the book Two Spirits, One Heart, who shared their experience with transgender issues. It was an interesting and eye opening discussion but also very informative.



We also participated in the Veteran's Day parade in Wahiawa to honor the people who served in the armed forces and defend our freedoms. We are very grateful that we have the freedom to be Buddhist and follow our beliefs. We walked with members from Mililani and Wahiawa Hongwanji and after the parade enjoyed the small fair at Ka'ala School where the food was super delicious!

On December 7<sup>th</sup> We will be having a membership drive and going roller skating at Kapolei Inline Hockey Arenas. We are encouraging anyone to attend if you are between 6<sup>th</sup> grade through 2 years after high school! Please invite your friends! The cost is \$15 for entry and skates; make sure you have socks!

We are excited to participate in the collection for Toys for Tots! This is a new event for us so please see the attached flyer for the details. We will have collection boxes at select district temples: Aiea, Pearl City, Mililani, and Waipahu. If you have anything you wish to donate please make sure it is a new, UNWRAPPED gift and donations for any age group is appreciated. The donation boxes will be at the temples until December 15, at which time we will be taking them all to Aiea to be picked up by the Marines.

### Upcoming Important Dates:

**Membership Drive! Saturday, December 7 at Kapolei Inline Hockey Arenas:** Meet at 5:30pm for skate time 6pm-8pm. Cost is \$15.

**Next Meeting: Sunday, December 8, at Aiea Hongwanji at 12:30pm.** We will be finalizing some details for the Winter Federation Meeting.

**Sunday, January 19 – Monday, January 20: Winter Federation Meeting (Oahu is hosting)**

We welcome any youth who are entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade through 2 years after high school graduation are welcome to join Jr. YBA! You do not need to be a member of a temple so bring your friends! Please contact a Jr. YBA member or Auntie Arynn Ishikawa (advisor) at [arynn.m.ishikawa@gmail.com](mailto:arynn.m.ishikawa@gmail.com) or [jrybafoahu@gmail.com](mailto:jrybafoahu@gmail.com) if you have questions or for more information.



Follow us on Instagram! @jrybafoahu and @hawaiiifedjryba





## HONORING SERVICE AND DEDICATION: ANNUAL APPRECIATION GATHERING FOR RETIRED MINISTERS AND SPOUSES

On Wednesday, November 6, 2024, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii hosted its Annual Appreciation Gathering to honor retired ministers and their spouses for their invaluable contributions to sharing the Jodo Shinshu teachings throughout Hawaii. Organized by Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani and Hawaii Kyodan President Dr. Warren Tamamoto, the event brought together honored guests for a meaningful day of remembrance, gratitude, and fellowship.

This year's esteemed honorees included: Rev. and Mrs. Thomas Okano, Rev. and Mrs. Shigenori Makino, Rev. and Mrs. Tatsuo Muneto, Rev. Ryoso Toshima, Rev. and Mrs. Kevin Kuniyuki, Mrs. Chihoko Yosemite, Mrs. Hisako Igarashi, Rev. and Mrs. David Nakamoto, Rev. Alan Urasaki, and Mrs. Barbara Brennan.

The day began with a Memorial Service at the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Hondo. The service included the chanting of Sanbutsuge, a moment of silence to honor the HMMH ministers and spouses who passed away during the past year, and an incense offering led by Rev. Thomas Okano. Bishop Umitani offered a heartfelt message of gratitude, reflecting on the dedication and legacy of the ministers and their families.

Following the service, the celebration continued with an appreciation luncheon at the Bishop's Residence. This intimate gathering provided an opportunity for retired ministers and their spouses to reconnect, share stories, and enjoy laughter and camaraderie. The atmosphere was filled with warmth and joy as participants reminisced about their years of service and celebrated their shared commitment to the Dharma.

Bishop Umitani concluded the day by expressing his profound gratitude to the retirees for their past contributions and ongoing support. He emphasized the important role they continue to play in enriching the mission of Hawaii Kyodan and the wider community.

The Annual Appreciation Gathering is a cherished tradition, serving as a reminder of the enduring impact of retired ministers and their spouses in spreading the teachings of Shinran Shonin and strengthening the Hawaii Kyodan sangha.

Below: Participants of the 2024 Presidents' Retreat



and the Retired Ministers and Spouses honored



Left & Right:  
Attendees of the 2024  
Ministers Lay  
Assistants Retreat





# Hawaii's New Gatha Book!

## PRAISES OF THE BUDDHA (5<sup>th</sup> edition)

A commemorative project of Hawaii's joyful Triple Celebration, this edition offers:

- **WONDERFUL ORIGINAL GATHAS BY OUR HAWAII COMPOSERS**
- **ENGLISH VERSIONS OF FAMILIAR JAPANESE GATHAS**
- **OUR FAVORITES FROM EARLIER EDITIONS**

Let music from this volume enhance the joy of hearing the Teachings!



Hawaii temples have already ordered copies to replace the current edition.

**Individuals are invited to submit orders for personal copies and gifts to others.**

You may see a Table of Contents by contacting the HHMH Bookstore at 808-522-9202 ([hqbooks@honpahi.org](mailto:hqbooks@honpahi.org)).

ORDER BOOKS AT THE **PRESALE PRICE OF \$15 PER**  
**HARDBACK COPY DURING PRESALE DECEMBER 1, 2024**  
**UNTIL JANUARY 31, 2025. AFTER JANUARY 31, 2025,**  
**THE REGULAR PRICE WILL BE HIGHER.**  
(A shipping charge will apply.)

Order directly from Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Bookstore:  
telephone 808-522-9202, email ([hqbooks@honpahi.org](mailto:hqbooks@honpahi.org)).



## Remembering Gratefully with Illuminated Lotus Flowers



As we enter the Holiday Season and soon approach the most significant service (Hoonko) in the Hongwanji in honor of Shinran Shonin in January, please join other Temple members as we gratefully express our appreciation to Amida Buddha, Shinran Shonin and those family members and friends who have been an intimate part of our life.

Here at Aiea Hongwanji, we would like to decorate the lawn, fronting the temple (beautifully maintained by the Hosha Group), with dozens of these solar powered lotus blossoms in remembrance as an expression of gratitude and appreciation. The lotus is the flower of Buddhism.

In popular belief, it is commonly said that when someone passes away a lotus flower blooms in the

Pure Land. In remembrance and gratitude of those who have departed to the Pure Land, please consider a donation of \$20 per illuminating lotus blossom stem. We hope your collective contributions will result in a yard filled with bright lotus blossoms.

If you would like to donate, please contact the temple by leaving a message on the Aiea Hongwanji temple phone at 808 487-2626 and/or mail us your contribution with a memo stating that it is for the lotus blossoms with your name as you would like it listed. Deadline is December 18, 2024. A list of all donors will be posted for the months of December and January at the temple in recognition of your donation. If you wish to be anonymous, please mention it to us.

Also, please come by the temple, when the front gate is open, to take a photo of the illumination or during the day. Make it a part of your round of visiting holiday season lights. Please note that not all blossoms may look exactly like those pictured here. We ask for your understanding and cooperation.



### *New Year's Party (shin'nenkai) and Annual Membership Meeting*

**Saturday, January 25, 2025 at 5:00pm in the Aiea Hongwanji Mission's Social Hall**

**Please RSVP by sending in this form if you plan to attend.**

**Attendees ages 13 through 79:** \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10/each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Children ages 7 through 12:** \_\_\_\_\_ x \$5/each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**(No charge for children under age 7- indicate Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ each, and**

**Keirokai Honorees & those greater than age 79 - Quantity: \_\_\_\_\_ each)**

**TOTAL ENCLOSED:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Name (s) of NEW Keirokai Honoree age 80 and above:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Mail this form by 12/31/2024 to: Aiea Hongwanji Mission  
99-186 Puakala Street  
Aiea HI, 96701**

**Or email to: [AieaJiko@gmail.com](mailto:AieaJiko@gmail.com)**





## Join Project Dana's Public Presentation Meetings!

### Upcoming Events:

Meeting Date:	Wednesday, December 4, 2024
Time:	10:00 am to 11:30 am
Location:	Zoom and Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin (1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813)
Topic:	"Active, Happy, and Healthy Again (AHHA)" – Caregivers will learn about active, happy, and healthy aging (AHHA), including community-based group exercise program especially designed for older adults.
Speaker:	Dr. Kyoung Eun Lee, Associate Professor, Nancy Atmospera-Walch School of Nursing University of Hawai'i at Manoa

Meeting Date:	Saturday, December 14, 2024
Time:	10:00 am to 11:30 am
Location:	Zoom and Waipahu Hongwanji Buddhist Temple (94-821 Kuhaulua Street, Waipahu, HI 96797)
Topic:	"Pneumonia Aspiration Prevention" - The goal of the session is for caregivers to learn about pneumonia aspiration prevention, maintaining the quality of life and combating depression amongst the Kupuna community. Dr. Hawkins will also share about Hawaii Mobile Dental, Inc. which is a mobile dental clinic and the services they offer.
Speaker:	Bradley T. Hawkins, D.D.S., Hawaii Mobile Dental, Inc.

\*Zoom links will be provided by inquiry

**Please call or e-mail if you are interested on attending public presentations or need more information about the program:**

**Maria Morales**  
**Program Coordinator**  
**(808) 945-3736**  
**[cgsg@projectdana.org](mailto:cgsg@projectdana.org)**

*Donations of prizes and drinks for the New Year's Party can be dropped off at the Social Hall on Sunday mornings 8:00 am to noon. Thank you very much.*

**PROXY FORM  
FOR  
AIEA HONGWANJI MISSION  
ANNUAL MEMBERS MEETING  
JANUARY 25, 2025 AT 5:00 PM**

Please select Option #1 or Option #2 by circling Option #

**Option #1:** I hereby authorize \_\_\_\_\_ to serve as my proxy  
(Name of selected proxy holder)  
and to vote on my behalf at the Annual Members Meeting to be held on 01/25/2025.

This proxy is valid for: \_\_\_\_\_ All Matters voted on at the Meeting  
\_\_\_\_\_ Specific Issue/Matter only (please explain)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

A voting member wishing to vote via proxy shall personally contact the individual member whom the member wishes to exercise the proxy and must complete the proxy form in its entirety. Failure by the member to sign the form and complete all sections by hand will invalidate the proxy. The duly executed hand-written proxy form shall be mailed to Aiea Hongwanji Mission, e-mailed as a scanned attachment or photo to [aieajiko@gmail.com](mailto:aieajiko@gmail.com), or hand delivered by the proxy holder to the Aiea Hongwanji Mission Office.

**Option #2:** This Proxy is valid for quorum purposes only and no individual member shall be authorized to vote on my behalf.

Your signature attests that the above has been strictly followed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**ANNUAL DUES REMINDER**

The annual membership dues for Aiea Hongwanji Mission are \$125.00 for a **Family Unit** which consists of the Primary member, a spouse, and dependent children under 25 years of age. However, if the Primary member of a Family Unit is less than 40 years of age the annual dues is only \$50.00. Dues can be paid by checks made out to, "Aiea Hongwanji Mission" or simply "AHM", and mailed to 99-186 Puakala Street, Aiea, Hawaii 96701. *(Note that the online payment feature at the [AieaBuddhistTemple.org](http://AieaBuddhistTemple.org) website has been deleted.)*

## Temple Calendar of Events for January 2025

1 Sun	10:00AM	Aiea Hongwanji New Year's Day Service
5 Sun	9:00AM	Sunday Service
8 Wed	9:00AM-10:30AM	Preschool Temple Services by Rev. Eric Matsumoto
12 Sun	9:00AM	Sunday Service
19 Sun	9:00AM	Shinran Shonin's Memorial (Hoonko) Service & Dharma Fun Day Activity
25 Sat	4:30PM	Installation of AHM Board of Directors & Officers
	5:00PM	Aiea Hongwanji New Year's Party
26 Sun	9:00AM	Dharmachakra ("Turning of the Wheel of Dharma) Day Sunday Service
	10:30AM	AHM BWA Meeting (Tentative)

## Mochitsuki at Aiea Hongwanji Mission Saturday, December 28, 2024 8:00 am to 11:30 am



Each year, Aiea Hongwanji puts on their annual mochitsuki (mochi making) event and opens it to the public. We feel this is a great cultural experience for young and old alike and would like to perpetuate the tradition started by members of generations past. To do this, WE NEED YOUR HELP! Please come and embrace this experience while you help us at the various work stations: Steaming the mochi rice, pounding the rice in the "Usu" (stone mortar), forming and filling the mochi with "An" (red bean paste) and of course, EATING the little rice dumplings! AHM will also have a children's table so they can partake in the tradition. Parent supervision would be greatly appreciated. We will also be taking orders on a first come first serve basis for a nominal charge. If you have any questions or can sign up to help (even for a little time), please contact:

**Claire Tamamoto, [claire2164@gmail.com](mailto:claire2164@gmail.com) or at (808) 429-1282. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**



### Family Memorial Service



Buddhist consider the memorial service a significant occasion to remember the deceased with feelings of gratitude and love. The memorial service provides an opportunity to pay tribute and recall cherished memories of the departed, while listening to the Buddha Dharma. The service is not for appeasing the spirits of the deceased or for the sake of the deceased, but rather for the sake of the living. In remembering the deceased we acknowledge their influence on our lives as well as the importance of living the Buddha Dharma.

If your family would like to arrange a memorial service for your loved one, please call Reverend Eric Matsumoto at (808)-488-5685, or leave a message on the office phone: (808)-487-2626. You may schedule the service either before or after the memorial date.

### December 2024

17 th Masae	Yamamoto	33 rd Ekiso	Jike
25 th Richard	Kamei	50 th Ryuma	Tokushige
7 th Shingo	Higuchi	17 th Shirley T.	Higuchi

### January 2025

7 th Kerry Iwao	Okumura	25 th Nancy Natsuko	Gould
17 th Wayne Tadashi	Ichishita	33 rd Hazel Hatsuko	Jike
25 th John Haruto	Oka	50 th Tsuu	Suzukawa
25 th Fujino	Nakata	50 th Mineyo	Okada
25 th Masayuki	Morikawa	50 th Takeo	Miyashiro
25 th Teruko	Miyoga		



Aiea Hongwanji Mission  
99-186 Puakala Street  
Aiea, HI, 96701

Change Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Permit No. 42  
Aiea, HI 96701



#### Temple Calendar of Events for December 2024

1 Sun	9:30AM	Hawaii Buddhist Council Bodhi Day Service at Nichiren Mission of Hawaii with Lama Lekshe Tsomo as speaker. All are invited to attend; carpool recommended. Service will be Live-streamed in AHM Main Sanctuary.
6 Fri	7:00AM	Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Interfaith Service onboard USS Arizona (Invited Guests assemble at Visitor Center at 6:15AM)
7 Sat	9:00AM	HMH Board of Directors Zoom Meeting
8 Sun	9:00AM	Aiea Hongwanji Bodhi Day Service
	12:30PM	United of Oahu Jr. YBA Meeting at Aiea Hongwanji Mission
11 Wed	9:00AM-10:30AM	Preschool Temple Services by Rev. Eric Matsumoto
15 Sun	9:00AM	Dharma Fun Day Youth Service and Activity
19 Thu	10:00AM	Lotus Adult Daycare Center Service and Visitation by Rev. Eric Matsumoto
20 Fri	2:00PM	Preschool closes for Winter Break. Preschool resumes on 1/6/25.
22 Sun	9:00AM	Sunday Service
	10:30AM	AHM BWA Meeting
25		Christmas Holiday (Preschool and Lotus Adult Daycare Center are closed)
28 Sat	8:00AM	Aiea Hongwanji Mochi-making (Mochitsuki)
29 Sun	9:00AM	Sunday Service
31 Tue	3:00PM	Aiea Hongwanji New Year's Eve Service

*\*Rev. Matsumoto will be away on December 22-25, 2024, inclusive, and will be back in the Office on the morning of December 26, 2024. Please call Rev. Mariko Nishiyama of Pearl City Hongwanji for religious emergencies. She can be reached at (808) 455-1680.*