



MINISTER’S MESSAGE

The Spirit of Kākou



“Aloha Kākou in gassho with a bow and a smile” has become my favorite greeting. It is a combination of greetings from 3 geographical areas, Polynesia, the Indian subcontinent (including Southeast Asia) and East Asia.

We are most familiar with the “bow” from East Asia. It shows deep respect and humility, simultaneously. In the larger Buddhist Tradition, though we in Jodo Shinshu don’t normally greet ourselves in this way, the gassho or anjali is such a beautiful gesture of mutual respect and acknowledgement of each other. As we know anjali or gassho especially in a religious context expresses our deepest and highest reverence as when we gassho to Amida Buddha. However, from the perspective of the Buddhas and Great Bodhisattvas, they see in all of us, you and me, the potential to become enlightened and so, at times, we see statues of the Buddhas and Bodhisattvas in gassho. Here, to me, it expresses an unparalleled world of equality that Buddhism speaks of which is Wisdom at its pinnacle. We are all familiar with the greeting “Aloha” from the Indigenous Culture of Hawaii and its deep significance.

However, did you know that by adding the word “kākou,” it takes “Aloha” to another whole new level? I am not an expert on the topic, but the following is my amateurish understanding. “Aloha Kākou” means “Aloha to all of us” as “kākou” has the meaning of “all”, “we” or “us” and is used in a group of 3 or more people. When someone greets you with “Aloha Kākou” it includes, literally, “one and all” and embraces even the person who is saying “Aloha” with Aloha. It is no longer “aloha” from me to you, but “Aloha to all of us!” The Aloha embraces all of us, all together! More than ever, this feeling of connectedness, togetherness and oneness is so important as we try to deal with all the suffering, dissention and division that our world is facing including sharing the message of Enlightenment with all.

We are aware of the Great Compassion that we speak of in Jodo Shinshu, the unconditional, unqualified Compassion of Amida Buddha or Namo Amida Butsu which includes everyone and everything especially this spiritually, very ordinary person, bonbu, known as Eric Matsumoto. This Compassion which is Compassion at its ultimate does not distance itself from

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

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Email:

aieajiko@gmail.com

Website:

aieabuddhisttemple.org

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anyone and anything and especially directs itself to me, who is most distant from Enlightenment, for that is the nature of True Compassion. Truly, all-inclusive and all-embracing!

This is what we have had the good fortune of encountering and experiencing, thanks to Shinran Shonin, a Great Wisdom and Compassion beyond ordinary comprehension and that which is unending in its quest to bring ultimate peace and happiness to, literally, all, kākou! This mind set of “kākou” is needed more than ever as we live in times of divisions and dichotomies which prevent us from coming together and working together towards a common goal or brighter future. We, each one of us, in our own way, as best we can, should try to embrace this spirit of “kākou.”

For me, kākou, is also the spirit of Bodhisattva Dharmakara/Amida Buddha. Did you know that every single vow-all 48 vows-of Bodhisattva Dharmakara-states that “when I attain Buddhahood, if such and such is not so, then may I not attain the perfect enlightenment.” The Buddha places a condition on the Buddha’s own perfect enlightenment by saying, in essence, unless all these things that I have promised or vowed are not true or become a reality, then, I have not attained the perfect enlightenment yet either.

As we know, Amida Buddha is the one and only Buddha that will liberate a bonbu, ordinary person, just as we are. In all other forms of Buddhism an individual must improve or better themselves to be saved or become enlightened. The other Buddhas help those who help themselves. However, out of the millions or maybe even billions of Buddhas of the past, present and future, Amida Buddha is the only Buddha that is promising to save, literally, all forms of life, all existence by embracing them with Compassionate Light, just as we are. As the late Rev. Zuiken Inagaki wrote in a poem “Just as you are-Really Just as you are!” When we realize this or become aware of this, then, the Nembutsu of Gratitude flows from our hearts-and-minds escaping our lips. This is the special kākou character of Amida Buddha. No other Buddha promises to include and embrace us all, just as we are, promising us nirvana or enlightenment equal to the Buddha’s.

To conclude, in the most fundamental sacred literature of Jodo Shinshu (Shin Buddhism), “The True Teaching, Practice and Realization of the Pure Land Way,” Shinran Shonin ends it with the following quote from a sutra which is quite profound and awe-inspiring:

*On seeing a bodhisattva perform various practices,
Some give rise to a positive mind and others to a not so positive mind, but the bodhisattva
embraces them all.*

Bodhisattva Dharmakara/Amida Buddha’s Wisdom and Compassion give us hope and shows us the path to true peace. Many times, we human beings live disoriented by our greed, anger and ignorance in that we only see what is right before our eyes and the emotions we are directly experiencing in the moment. However, let us not forget that there are deeper truths and greater aspirations which are all-inclusive and all-embracing which aspire for the peace and happiness of kākou, all life, all existence!

Let us avail ourselves to All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion that illumines the path that we should try our best to tread by responding in gratitude to Namo Amida Butsu, the Buddha’s Name That Calls Me to Entrust by reciting Namo Amida Butsu, The Buddha’s Name Which I Call in Gratitude along with trying to live with the Dharma as my guide, so there is more peace and harmony in the world.

Namo Amida Butsu/Entrusting in All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion.

Reverend Eric Matsumoto

*Thank you to all who donated desserts, door prizes, and gift cards
for our New Year’s Party, and to all who attended and made it a
joyful event!!*



Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii - HEADQUARTERS UPDATE

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Web: www.hongwanjihawaii.com Email: hqs@honpahi.org

HHMH 114TH GISEIKAI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

BISHOP'S WELCOME MESSAGE

Good morning, everyone. Welcome to the **114th Giseikai**, the Legislative Assembly of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. I would like to thank all of you—our delegates, observers, and guests—for taking the time, despite your busy schedules, to participate in this Giseikai. I am deeply grateful for your dedication and for all that you do for the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii.



Whether this is your first Giseikai or you have attended many over the years, I sincerely hope that this session will be a meaningful one for all of us—that we will enjoy our time together, meet new Dharma friends, engage in good conversations and thoughtful discussions, and cultivate a sense of oneness as the Hongwanji Sangha. Your dedication and commitment truly form the foundation of the Hongwanji and enable us to move forward.

I would like to extend a warm welcome and aloha to our special guests: Mr. Glenn Inanaga and Mr. Jeffrey Matsuoka from the Buddhist Churches of America; Ms. Laura Sugimoto from the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada; and Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara from the Jodo Shinshu International Office. I am always encouraged and grateful to be connected with our sister organizations on the U.S. Mainland, in Canada, South America, and Japan. I am grateful to Shinran Shonin and the Nembutsu teaching that continue to bring us together beyond borders and distances. Welcome back to Hawaii, and thank you very much for being with us.

Last year, several temples observed important commemorative services: Papaikou Hongwanji's 115th Anniversary; Honohina Hongwanji's 125th Anniversary; Kona Hongwanji BWA's 125th Anniversary; Moiliili Hongwanji BWA's 100th Anniversary; Lihue Hongwanji's 125th Anniversary; and Lanai Hongwanji's Centennial. Our sister organization, the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada, also observed its 120th Anniversary. At the same time, we witnessed the closing of the Waianae Hongwanji Mission, which officially closed its doors at the end of last year.

I was fortunate to take part in many of these commemorative services. As I prepared messages for them, I spent time learning about each temple's history. Every temple has its own unique story. When I reflect on the ministers and members who laid the foundations of these temples, protected them through turbulent times, and ensured that this precious legacy would be passed on to future generations, I am deeply moved by their commitment, vision, and perseverance.

The history of our Hongwanji temples is truly a collection of living stories—stories of countless individuals who gathered, supported one another, and walked the Nembutsu path together.

More than one hundred years ago, ministers' responsibilities extended far beyond the temple walls. Records tell us that many ministers traveled 20 or 30 miles from their homes—sometimes on horseback, sometimes by slow-moving train, and often on foot. They endured sun, rain, and strong winds. They lost their way in mountains and fields, fell into ditches, and faced unwelcoming words and harsh criticism. And yet, they continued on. Guided by the Nembutsu and sustained by the support of devoted members, they dedicated their lives to sharing the Buddha-Dharma.

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March, 2026 JIKO

There is one story that especially touched my heart—the story of Rev. Hiseki Miyasaki, who served the Lihue Hongwanji Mission for 45 years from 1902 to 1948.

A man once invited Rev. Miyasaki to his home to hold a Dharma gathering. On the appointed day, Rev. Miyasaki walked sixteen miles to reach the home—only to be told that no such invitation had been made and that he was not welcome. Wearing his minister’s robe, he did not argue. He quietly walked away and stopped at a nearby coffee shop for dinner. When he shared what had happened and his commitment to sharing the Dharma, the shop owner was deeply moved by his sincerity. The owner invited several local residents to gather, and right there, in that small coffee shop, Rev. Miyasaki held a Dharma service.

This story speaks to his unwavering commitment to sharing the Buddha-Dharma and to offering spiritual guidance to the Issei immigrants and their families on Kauai. I cannot help but feel deep respect and admiration for his burning devotion to the Dharma. I often wonder what motivated ministers such as Rev. Hiseki Miyasaki to continue sharing the Dharma despite the many hardships they faced. I believe it was their deep appreciation for Amida Buddha’s Wisdom and Compassion.

Having realized that their lives were embraced by Amida Buddha’s Compassion and having received comfort and joy through the Nembutsu, they could not help but move forward to share that joy, gratitude, and assurance with others. Their work was not simply a means of livelihood; it was an expression of their firm belief that Amida Buddha’s Compassion would enrich the lives of immigrants and their families in this new land of Hawaii.

I, too, believe that Amida Buddha’s Wisdom and Compassion can enrich people’s lives today. Even as science and modern technologies—such as artificial intelligence—continue to advance at a remarkable pace, I believe the Dharma still offers meaning, guidance, and assurance in times of uncertainty and isolation.

People today experience feelings of disconnection, being lost, or being overwhelmed by life’s complexities. They are searching for messages that guide them through darkness and uncertainty. They are searching for people and communities that welcome them with empathy and care. They are searching for a place where their entire existence is affirmed as they are, and where they feel they are not alone. That is precisely what we, as the Hongwanji, can offer.

The word *Hongwanji* literally means “the temple of Amida Buddha’s Vow.” Our temples are places where the *Hongwan*—Amida Buddha’s Vow—prevails, and where people find comfort in its warm embrace. Our temples have been such places for generations, and it is our shared responsibility to ensure that they continue to be so.

Each of us gathered here today has a role and responsibility in embodying Amida Buddha’s Vow. Through our words and actions, the all-inclusive Wisdom and Compassion of Amida Buddha are shared and made real in the lives of those who come to our temples. I sincerely thank each of you for what you do at your respective temples and districts.

I found the following statement in the 80th Giseikai booklet.

“Since its humble beginning, the Giseikai convened for 80 times over the past 84 years. Despite the many changes it underwent, the significance and value of the Giseikai can be understood as being the highest body that constantly defines the goals and aims of the Hawaii Kyodan. The Hawaii Kyodan observed its centennial in 1989 and has now entered into the 2nd century of existence. It behooves each

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and every one of us to plan a propagational program and temple administration conducive to the needs of our present generation. To transmit the Nembutsu dharma in a new era most effectively, the Hawaii Kyodan must revise the methods of reasoning and implement a strong and effective program of propagation. Standing at the threshold of our 2nd century, the Giseikai, as the legislative body of the Hawaii Kyodan, has a greater role to play in projecting the Hawaii Kyodan into the maelstrom of our ever-changing world.”

With these words, we are reminded that the Giseikai is an important gathering where we reflect on who we are, where we stand, and how we move forward together as the Hongwanji Sangha. As the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii faces many challenges ahead, it becomes all the more important that we carefully observe and remain mindful of the needs of our surrounding communities, and share the Dharma in ways that truly respond to our time. That is not easy. We all know. But I believe we are making a difference. We are contributing something unique and invaluable to the enrichment of our community. I humbly ask for your continued support and cooperation in making our Hongwanji truly *Hongwanji*—a place where Amida Buddha’s profound aspiration and compassion prevail.

Once again, welcome to the **114th Giseikai**. Thank you very much. Namo Amida Butsu.

Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani
February 20, 2026



GISEIKAI MESSAGE FROM THE JODO SHINSHU HONGWANJI-HA GOVERNOR GENERAL BISHOP GIKO SONOKI

On the occasion of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii 114th *Giseikai* at the Hawaii Betsuin, I humbly extend my appreciation to you, the ministers and sangha representatives from throughout the state of Hawaii. I would also like to express my heartfelt gratitude for your ongoing efforts in propagating the Jodo Shinshu tradition and maintaining the temples within your respective districts, and my deepest respect for your tireless efforts in sharing the Nembutsu teaching across generations in the religiously and culturally diverse American society, even in the midst of the present chaotic situation.

At present, the world is experiencing great division and uncertainty. In addition, international tensions are rising due to the conflict between Russia and NATO allies at the forefront, the situation in the Middle East, and the situation in Taiwan. Furthermore, as natural disasters globally prevail and society becomes increasingly complex as technology rapidly advances, the teaching of Amida Tathagata’s Primal Vow is needed more than ever because of its universality that can guide all people regardless of nationality or language.

As one sangha in which the joy of the Nembutsu is shared beyond nation, culture, and language, let us join together and move forward under the organizational principle clearly stated in the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha Constitution as, “The organization transmits the wisdom and compassion of Amida Tathagata to all people, and in doing so, contributes to the realization of a society in which everyone, both within and outside of the organization, is able to live a life of spiritual fulfillment.”

In closing, it is my hope that the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii will continue to prosper and that many fruitful results will arise from this annual meeting.

February 20, 2026
Governor General Sonoki Giko
Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha



HMMH WELCOMES NEW KYODAN PRESIDENT

During the 114th *Giseikai*, the slate of officers, Advisors, and Directors for the year 2026 was approved by unanimous consent, and the HMMH welcomed **Mr. Michael Munekiyo** as the new statewide Kyodan President.

Mr. Munekiyo has been active at Wailuku Hongwanji since returning to Maui in the late 1980s. He served as Temple President from 1992-1993, 1999-2000, and 2013-2025.

At the statewide level, he served as a past Director on the HMMH’s Board of Directors and as a past Advisor to the HMMH’s Board. He served as the past Chair of the HMMH’s Research and Planning Central Committee and is currently a member of the Bylaws Committee. He previously worked with an Ad Hoc Committee to formulate a new governance and operating structure for the Hawaii State Lay Association (HSLA). In addition, he leads the HMMH’s Ad Hoc Lahaina Hongwanji Recovery and Rebuilding Committee, which guides the planning process to rebuild Lahaina Hongwanji.

The HMMH and its members would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation and welcome to Mr. Michael Munekiyo for assuming this leadership role. We would also like to express our gratitude to Dr. Warren Tamamoto, who completed his six years of service as our President.

HMMH OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, ADVISORS, SANMU, AND KANJI FOR 2026

President:	Michael Munekiyo		
Immediate Past President:	Warren Tamamoto		
Vice Presidents:	Joanne Kealoha (H) Gary Murai (M)	Rene Mansho (O) Jill Atwal (HI)	Carol Valentine (K)
Secretary:	Boyd Marumoto	Assistant Secretary:	Carol Yamamura
Treasurer:	John Toguchi	Assistant Treasurer:	Wayne Y. Yoshioka
Advisors:	Joel Determan Evan Watarida Ivan Nakano	Dexter Mar Rodney Moriyama Frederick S. Nonaka	Alan Goto Wayne Fujioka
Honorary Advisors:	Roy Miyamoto	Keiji Kukino	Pieper Toyama
Directors:			
- Honolulu (6):	Cynthia Alm Wayne Y. Yoshioka	Jackie Furuta Joanne Kealoha	John Toguchi Prudence Kusano
- Oahu (5):	Russell Nonaka Carolyn Uchiyama	Rene Mansho Boyd Marumoto	Clifford Togo
- Kauai (2):	Lynne Matsumura	Carol Valentine	
- Maui (4):	Wayde Toyama Gary Murai	Aileen Cockett	Carol Yamamura
- Hawaii (7):	Jill Atwal Margie Kaiser Jennifer Kurohara	Edwin Hara Linda Nagai	Delbert Nishimoto Jason Hashimoto
Sanmu (4):	Rev. Kazunori Takahashi Rev. Blayne Higa	Rev. Shinkai Murakami	Rev. Yuika Hasebe
Kanji (5):	Rev. David Fujimoto (H) Rev. Kerry Kiyohara (M)	Rev. Joshin Kamuro (O) Rev. Satoshi Tomioka (HI)	Rev. Tomo Hojo (K)





**Aiea Hongwanji Buddhist Temple invites you to:
Buddha Day Celebration with Children’s Initiatory Rite
Sunday, April 12, 2026, 9AM.**

Could you imagine a birthday cake with 2569 candles? If there is such a cake, it would be here at the temple on April 12th of this year as we celebrate, the Wise and Kind Buddha, Prince Siddhartha Gautama’s birthday.



Together with celebrating the Historic Buddha’s

birthday, we invite you to bring younger members, up to 12 years of age, of your family to participate in a special ceremony formally introducing them to the Buddha, the Dharma and the Sangha. Let us bring awareness, joy and gratitude into the life of our younger people and foster and nurture the next generations who will support Aiea Hongwanji. A small gift and certificate will be presented to each young participant. Please fill out the form below and return to the temple on or by April 5, 2026. Look forward to seeing you!

2026 Aiea Hongwanji Buddhist Temple’s Young People’s Initiatory Rite

Participant’s Name _____

Age _____, Gender _____, Hobbies & Interests _____

Contact Information _____

Submission of this form implies consent to publish photo and/or name of young participant in a newsletter and/or temple website.

TEMPLE LEADERSHIP RECRUITMENT

**Workshop for Hawaii State Lay Association via Zoom
Saturday, March 14, 2026, from 9:30 am to 11:00 am
Presenter: Pieper Toyama**



Learn how Jikoen Hongwanji recruited new leaders for the temple’s board of directors. After a few years of work, Jikoen now has a 17-member voting board made up of only one person who is over 70 years old, and four who are under 40 years old. The Strategies used by Jikoen can be used at your temple to encourage others to take leadership roles, rebuild leadership, or add to current efforts. The presentation will include interactive activities and takeaways that can be used right away. Please register by March 11 to receive the Zoom link.



<https://bit.ly/4ajBSSk>

HONPA HONGWANJI HILO BETSUIN SPRING SEMINAR

Sunday, March 15, 2026, from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

To be held in person and on Zoom at the Sangha Hall Conference Room, 424 Kilauea Avenue, Hilo
Lecturer: Dr. Kenneth Kenshin Tanaka, Professor Emeritus at Musashino University, Tokyo
Topic: **“Everyday Shin Buddhist Path Toward a Life of Happiness, Gratitude, and Inner Peace”**

Advance registration is requested but not required. Please call (808) 961-6677 or visit the temple office at 398 Kilauea Avenue, Hilo.



**Zoom link and information: [https://zoom.us/j/93470607158?](https://zoom.us/j/93470607158?pwd=NTdqRDBaUmhSQ2VXZHM5ZzdGOEZGUT09)
[pwd=NTdqRDBaUmhSQ2VXZHM5ZzdGOEZGUT09](https://zoom.us/j/93470607158?pwd=NTdqRDBaUmhSQ2VXZHM5ZzdGOEZGUT09)**

Meeting ID: 934 7060 7158 Passcode: HHHB



Upcoming Events:

Meeting Date:	Wednesday, March 11, 2026
Time:	10:00 am to 11:30 am
Location:	Zoom and Honpa Hongwanji Hawai'i Betsuin (1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813)
Topic:	"10 Health Habits for your Brain and Alzheimer's & Music" – Caregivers will learn about healthy habits for your brain that can boost cognitive function, slow brain aging and reduce the risk of Alzheimer's disease. The speaker will also discuss how music can be a wonderful therapeutic tool for relaxation, redirection, reminiscing, and social interaction.
Speaker:	Calvin Hara, Advocate for Hawai'i Alzheimer's Association
Meeting Date:	Saturday, March 14, 2026
Time:	10:00 am to 11:30 am
Location:	Zoom and Waipahu Hongwanji Buddhist Temple (94-821 Kuhaulua Street, Waipahu, HI 96797)
Topic:	"Aloha Independent Living Hawai'i" – Caregivers will learn an overview of AILH's services and the many programs that can support their loved ones in maintaining independence, strengthening self-advocacy skills, and accessing community resources. This session will help caregivers better understand available supports that promote safety, dignity, and quality of life for individuals aging in place or living with disabilities in Hawai'i.
Speaker:	Thomas Lum, Aloha Independent Living Hawai'i

*Zoom links will be provided by inquiry—contact Shelly Paet at (808) 945-3736, cgs@projectdana.org

YESS CAMP

YESS Camp 42 will be held on **April 3-5, 2026**, at Kona Hongwanji with Rev. Blayne Higa as the guest speaker. The theme is "The Dharma Awakens" based on the Star Wars franchise. There are many fun activities planned for the weekend including a campfire, skits, Star Wars movie night, community service project at Greenwell Gardens, Easter Egg Hunt, and attending Hanamatsuri service. The main value of YESS Camp is the mixers, games, and bonding that happens between the campers and counselors over the weekend and allows them to get away from the hustle and bustle of high school and college life to reflect on the Dharma.

Any youth aged 13-23 with an interest in Jodo Shinshu Buddhism (no experience necessary), is encouraged to attend. They should sign up at tinyurl.com/yesscamp42 and follow [yess_camp](#) on Instagram for more information about camp. We're also having a special rate for first time campers at \$60; regular registration is \$90 until March 10, and final registration is \$120 until March 25. Registration includes all lodging, food, activities, and transportation for the weekend but does not include flights to Kona. Flight subsidies will be available for neighbor island campers.



Junior YBA Happenings



Happy Spring! Wow, it's already March!

On Jan 24-25 we had our Winter Fed meeting. After a meeting at the Buddhist Study Center, we hung out at Ala Moana at Dave and Busters new location. We stayed overnight at the BSC and attended service at Mo'ili'ili where we saw Rev. Fujimoto. The Juniors had such a good time and went out after the Fed meeting.

Aunty Arynn had a free room at Air Park Karaoke through Yelp. Amane, Ruby, Aunty Gay and Aunty Arynn had a great time singing and having mocktails!

Aunty Gay and Aunty Arynn braved the weather and went to Punahou Carnival to support Taylor as it was her class' carnival. We bumped into Federation President, Maslyn, and bought 4 dozen malasada. Aunty Arynn didn't win her silent auction item but it was still an enjoyable afternoon!

Upcoming Important Dates:

Sunday March 1, 8:30am at Mililani Hongwanji. This is an Oahu Hongwanji Council event so everyone in the district is included. Juniors will be providing beverages for lunch and will participate in the breakout session so please make sure you're registered. The Keynote Speaker is Gerald Oda, the Coach of Honolulu's Little League World Series Champions.

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/hXrXG6W9Qi8F77EM7>

Bento Order Link: <https://bit.ly/SDBento2026>

Next Meeting: Beach Meeting Day on Sunday, March 8, 1:00pm at Haleiwa Jodo Mission

Please meet at Mililani Hongwanji at 12:00 for carpool. We look forward to meeting Rev. Ezaki and his family. This is also a great opportunity to invite other Jr. YBA youth to come out for fellowship and enjoy the afternoon together.

Mililani Hongwanji Spring Fling: Saturday, March 21, 9:00am-1:00pm

Jr. YBA will be running a fish pond booth. We will have a sign up sheet for shifts at our next meeting. We will also be putting together the goody bags for the kids who are fishing.

YOU CAN STILL REGISTER FOR YESS CAMP!

Young Enthusiastic Shinshu Seekers (YESS) Camp: Friday, April 3-5, 2026 in Kona. Theme: Star Wars

Regular Registration by March 10: \$90

Final Registration by March 30: \$120

For more information and to register visit the website: [YessCamp.com](https://www.yesscamp.com)

Scan QR Code for Serendipity Federation Newsletter or [CLICK HERE](#)

We welcome any youth who are entering 6th 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 Aunty Arynn Ishikawa (advisor) at arynn.m.ishikawa@gmail.com or jrybafoahu@gmail.com if you have questions or for more information.



Follow us on Instagram! @jrybafoahu and @hawaiiifedjryba



CONDOLENCES

Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani conferred the following posthumous titles (Ingo) on those who recently passed away and made exceptional contributions to the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii and its efforts to share the Nembutsu teaching.

Mr. Gordon Watanabe (Mililani Hongwanji Mission):

JO-RAKU-IN 常樂院, meaning "The one who attained the eternal bliss"

Mr. Rowan Matsumoto (Paauilo Hongwanji Mission):

HEN-JO-IN 遍照院, meaning "The one who is embraced by the light that shines over the worlds of the ten quarters."

JINJI - MINISTERIAL ASSIGNMENT

Rev. Shingo Furusawa, an Associate Minister of the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin, will be assigned to the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin as its **Fuku Rimban (Vice Chief Minister)** effective April 1, 2026. Rev. Furusawa will continue serving as the Liaison Minister for the Windward Buddhist Temple.



Family Memorial Service



Buddhists 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.

MARCH 2026

1st George	Hoshino	17th Fujiko Grace	Okamura
7th Harold Saburo	Tasaki	17th Minoru	Nakagawa
13th Judith	Tateishi	17th Bert Tetsuo	Maeda
17th Tadamasu	Yoshioka	17th Kikuo	Fujimoto
17th James Yoshio	Yamamoto	50th Moto (Mrs)	Onishi
17th Jiro	Tamao	50th Mitsumo	Nishida

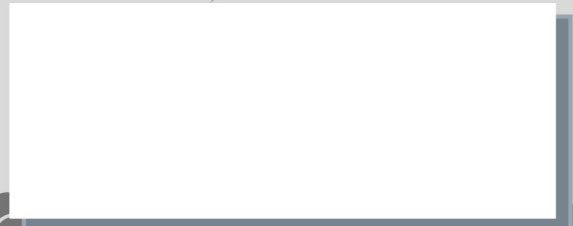
APRIL 2026

1st Ross Masato	Yoshioka	3rd Itsue Shimazu	Masaki
1st Mary Takayo	Nakashima	7th Paula Joy	Igawa
1st Roddy Mamoru	Yamachika	13th Asako Kamada	Miyata
3rd Stella Kazuyo	Nishikawa	17th Yoshihiko	Yamate
3rd Marcia	Shimabukuro	17th Jane Miyoko	Furukawa

Aiea Hongwanji Mission
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Aiea, HI, 96701

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Temple Calendar of Events for March 2026

1	Sun	8:30AM	Oahu District Sangha Day (at Mililani Hongwanji, no service at AHM) United Jr. YBA Meeting
3	Wed	9:30AM	Oahu District Ministers Meeting
5-6	Thu-Fri		Ryukoku-BSC Ministers Spring Seminar at BSC
8	Sun	9:00AM	Sunday Service
11	Wed	9:00AM	Preschool Temple Services
14-22			Preschool Spring Break & Parking Lot Repaving
15	Sun	9:00AM 4:00PM	Sunday Service with Dharma Fun & Taiko for Youth Pacific Buddhist Academy Taiko Festival
16	Mon	7:00PM	Oahu District Hongwanji Council meeting
17	Tue	7:00PM	AHM Board of Directors Meeting
20	Fri	10:00AM	Lotus Adult Daycare Service and Visitation
22	Sun	9:00AM	Spring Higan & Remembering Rennyō Shōnin Service
23	Mon		Preschool resumes
28-29	Sat-Sun		15 th BWA State Membership Conference at Ala Moana Hotel
29	Sun	8:00AM	Temple Beautification Day (No Sunday service)

Partial Temple Calendar of Events for April 2026

1	Wed	9:30AM	Oahu District Ministers Association Meeting
3-5			YESS Camp at Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple
5	Sun	9:30AM	Hawaii Buddhist Council (HBC) Buddha Day Service at Hi Betsuin with Dr. George Tanabe as guest speaker (No Service at AHM)
8	Wed	9:00AM	Preschool Temple Services
12	Sun		AHM Buddha Day Service and Children's Initiatory Rites
		8:00AM	Hanamido Floral Shrine Decorating
		9:00AM	Buddha Day Service and Children's Initiatory Rites