



MINISTER'S MESSAGE

Nourishment For Our Hearts-and-Minds



Today, I would like to briefly share 3 Japanese words which can enrich our lives. They are “Arigatai”, “Mottainai” and “Itadakimasu.” I would like to refer to the life of Rennyō Shōnin who we remembered at our recent Spring Higan Service. Rennyō Shōnin’s son, Jitsunyo Shōnin is known to have said,

“(Once) When Rennyō Shōnin spotted a scrap of paper in the corridor, he said, “How dare you waste something that is given by the Buddha!” So, saying, he held it up with both hands and bowed (to it) in gratitude. Since he considered everything, down to a piece of paper, to be the Buddha’s gift, Rennyō Shōnin never wasted anything.”

Such was the person of Rennyō Shōnin. The fact that his early life was filled with poverty certainly was a factor too, but Rennyō Shōnin being nurtured by the Buddha-Dharma lived with “Arigatai”, “Mottainai” and “Itadakimasu” as guiding principles.

However, what do these 3 expressions mean? First, “Arigatai,” looking at the Chinese characters for it, we see that “ari” comes from the verb “aru” which means “to have”, “to exist”, or “to be” and -gatai (or -katai) is a suffix which means “difficult” or “hard” so when combined it has the meaning of “difficult to have or be.” The thinking behind the word is that there are so many causes and conditions which had to come together in just a certain way for someone or something to exist, so it is “difficult to have or be” thus making it so precious and rare.

Secondly, “Mottainai” is a word which has a direct Buddhist connection. Its original meaning is that everything and everyone has no unchanging and permanent shape or form because it is a result of various causes and conditions coming together and then at some point in time dispersing. This is a basic, fundamental Buddhist teaching or truth that all including people exist because of causes and conditions and thus, everything and everyone is equal. In the relative world in which we (normally) live, we make distinctions between animate life and inanimate existence. We make a distinction between human life and non-human life and so forth. However, from the standpoint of the Wisdom of Enlightenment or the Buddhas’ perspective

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

Website:

aieabuddhisttemple.org

Minister's message continued from page 1

based on Wisdom, or the absolute, everything and everyone is equal because essentially we are all the same. In other words, nothing is superior or better, or inferior or less than anyone or anything else. Again, from an enlightened perspective, everything and everyone is equal in that we all arise from causes and conditions and thus we should mutually treat each other with care and respect since we are all equal. To me, besides the fact everything at the temple comes from donations of the members who donate out of gratitude to Amida Buddha in response to the Buddha's virtues, this understanding made Rennyō Shōnin bow to the piece of paper to show his respect and appreciation. That someone had carelessly ignored the piece of paper thinking that it was worthless was "mottainai." It deserves our respect and appreciation. From this Buddhist concept of "mottainai" evolved the Japanese value of "not to waste."

Lastly, "Itadakimasu," which, basically means "I humbly receive." It expresses a very different perspective from the predominant modern western thinking of "I deserve it." "I own it." "I worked for it." "I have a right to it." which is centered on "I", the self and one's ego. The thinking behind "Itadakimasu" is that I am being gifted something or I am the recipient of (this) which has come to me because of so many various causes and conditions. This spiritual insight results in humbly receiving or a humble attitude towards food, other items or objects, and even life itself including the Buddha's Wisdom and Compassion. I am a recipient of so much!

To me, Rennyō Shōnin's life was filled with the spirit of "Arigatai", "Mottainai" and "Itadakimasu." The episode from Rennyō Shōnin's life I shared in the beginning comes from a record of his "Memoirs" or Rennyō Shōnin Goichidaiki-kikigaki. The wonderful thing about Rennyō Shōnin's "Memoirs" is that it shows us that Jōdo Shinshū spirituality is not just about chanting and reading the scriptures, or attending services and memorial services, but also about our attitude towards life, the things around us, and how we live our everyday life including matters such as eating which seem mundane and routine but truly isn't.

To slowly close, I want to introduce to you a short film entitled "Itadakimasu." Here is the link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NglbnRUSp5U> to it. It is filmed by Fumiya Nakagawa and produced by Yamachika Co., Ltd. The company says, "our mission is simple: to share the value of "Itadakimasu" with Japan and the world." Also, "Through this film, we hope to share the spirit of "Itadakimasu"-a quiet expression of gratitude that transcends language, culture and borders." As you watch the short film two parts that I would like to point out for you to notice is the mother's explanation to her young son about why we say "Itadakimasu" and note that the son, in the end, is responding in gratitude. My suggestion is that you watch this short film with your family and friends at a home gathering such as before dinner or lunch maybe at Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's or any other gathering. Watch it together and don't forget to say "Itadakimasu", as well as "Arigatai" and "Mottainai" but, most of all live it!

To conclude, as I often say, gratitude is more than just a feeling or emotion. It motivates us. It inspires us to move in a positive direction. For me, the life of a Shin Buddhist is a life of Responding in Gratitude to Amida Buddha's Wisdom and Compassion (including all that make my life and living possible).

Thank you very much/Arigato gozaimasu and Namō Amida Butsu/Entrusting in All-Inclusive Wisdom and All-Embracing Compassion.

Reverend Eric Matsumoto

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

We would like to extend a very warm welcome to new members who joined in 2025: **Reid & Cathy Yoshioka, Andrew & Rachael Nagao, Cara & Ronden Numasaki, Jordon Higa, and Ellen Yamashita**; and to those who joined this year: **Carol & Ricky Saiki-Dela Cruz, and Scott Morishige**.

We look forward to their participation in our temple activities.



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 Email: hqs@honpahi.org

MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP (also available as a [YouTube video](#))



Nurturing What Is Unseen

I would like to share a part of my Giseikai closing message. This reflection was inspired by *The Purpose-Driven Church*, written by Pastor Rick Warren. Pastor Warren, an American Christian minister and founder of Saddleback Church in California, writes about his love of gardening and the lessons it offers.

He describes a particular type of bamboo tree. When it is first planted, there is no visible growth for four or even five years. You water it and fertilize it, then water it and fertilize it again. You repeat this over and over, yet there is no visible growth. None at all. But around the fifth year, everything begins to change. In just about six weeks, the bamboo suddenly begins to grow, reaching as tall as 30 meters (100 feet). It may seem unbelievable that a plant which appeared to lie hidden underground for years would suddenly shoot up like a rocket.

Pastor Warren introduced this bamboo story and reflected that we should not worry too much about whether the church is growing. Instead, he admonished that we focus on whether the church is aligned with its God-given purpose. He wrote that we should faithfully continue to water, fertilize, cultivate the soil, pull out the weeds, and prune the branches. There may be years of service without visible results. Yet, beneath the surface, unseen by human eyes, something is happening. Deep underground, roots are spreading and being prepared.

This image of the bamboo offers us a meaningful perspective as Jodo Shinshu Buddhists.

In many ways, our own lives are like that of bamboo. Before we became aware of Amida Buddha's Compassionate work, before we awakened to the Nembutsu, there were countless causes and conditions supporting us. There were people who gently and patiently nurtured us—family members, ministers, and fellow Sangha—who helped prepare the ground for our awakening. They prepared the conditions for us to rise and grow.

Just as we have been nurtured through countless causes and conditions, now it is our turn to “water the soil” with sincerity and gratitude, staying aligned with our purpose as a Jodo Shinshu organization in Hawaii, so that others, too, may awaken to the joy of the Nembutsu. I firmly believe that every action we take today, no matter how large or small, creates the conditions for someone to discover true meaning in the Dharma. Even if the results are not yet visible, beneath the surface, something magnificent is unfolding.

Namo Amida Butsu

Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani

CONDOLENCE

Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani conferred the following posthumous title (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.

Ms. Dianne Sumida (HQ)

EN-NYU-IN 円融院

Meaning: The one who exemplified the perfect interpenetration

HHMH Headquarters Update continued on page 4

April, 2026 JIKO

SOCIAL CONCERNS: STORM IMPACTS AND RELIEF

Temples around the state experienced varying impacts from the recent “Kona low” storm events March 10-16 and March 19-23.

Kahului Hongwanji was particularly hard-hit during the first event, as its preschool experienced floodwaters in its classrooms up to the height of benches. Flooring, furniture, and supplies were damaged and community cleanup and fundraising efforts are underway. (An independent [GoFundMe fundraiser](#) is active.) Hawaii News Now covered the recovery effort in a [March 17 video story](#).

These storm events have tested our facilities and emergency planning. Assessing and documenting the leaks, water intrusion, and damage is one step in preparing for future events.

The statewide [Committee on Social Concerns](#) is gathering information on impacts to Hongwanji temples across the state. The committee has resources to help provide some limited relief thanks to its annual Social Concerns Fund collections. The specifics of relief gifts for temples and the wider community will be determined pending more complete information. To support Hongwanji Hawaii’s Social Concerns Fund: You may [donate online](#) (PayPal link) or write a check to Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii (with “Social Concerns Fund” in the memo line) and mail it to HMMH at 1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813.

RESOURCES FOR SAVING ARCHIVAL COLLECTIONS

Hongwanji Hawaii’s Archives Committee receives helpful, archives-related information through its membership in the Association of Hawai’i Archivists. A recent post to the email listserv included resource links and contacts for addressing water impacts.

If your temple or organization’s collections have materials damaged by water, please take advantage of these resources from the **American Institute for Conservation:**

[Emergency Programs and Assistance](#) pages

[Water Resources](#) pages, including “Salvaging Water-Damaged Items”

For emergencies, institutions may contact a 24/7 [National Heritage Responders](#) hotline: **202.661.8068** (or email at NHRPublicHelpline@culturalheritage.org)

Not urgent? Email emergencies@culturalheritage.org

BUDDHIST STUDY CENTER SPRING FESTIVAL ON APRIL 18

BSC Spring Festival “Appreciating Our Ohana”

April 18, 2026, 9:30 am – 2:00 pm at the Buddhist Study Center 1436 University Avenue

Activities:

- Informational booths like games, counseling, cardmaking, and a bookstore.
- Food, snacks, and drinks from the YESS Camp counselors, Jikoen Hongwanji, Hawaii Betsuin, and the Oahu United BWA.
- Workshops and entertainment will be available.

Schedule

9:30 Pacific Buddhist Academy **Hyaku Sen Ki Kai Taiko**

10:10 **Dancing Through the Ages** (downstairs)
“**Gratitude Chain**” workshop (upstairs)

10:50 “**Body and Brain Yoga**” workshop

11:30 **Shakuhachi and Koto**

12:10 “**Read Together**” workshop

12:50 “**Intergenerational Conversations**”

1:30 Pacific Buddhist Academy – **Oubaitori** (Japanese and Okinawan folksongs)



YOUNG BUDDHIST INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL STUDY EXCHANGE

JAPAN TRIP

JUNE 30 - JULY 9, 2026

YBICSE is an educational **trip to Japan** which offers young Buddhists from North America, Hawaii, Canada, and South America the unique opportunity to experience Japanese culture. You will visit our mother temple and other historic sites in Kyoto, engage in peace programs in Hiroshima, and connect with Dharma friends from around the world. Join this once-in-a-lifetime adventure of discovery and connection!

Eligibility: Participants should be **high school graduates to 24 years of age**, have an interest in Jodo Shinshu Buddhism, able to travel internationally and participate in program activities.

Estimated Cost: \$2,000 (final price announced at time of booking; trip includes international flights, lodging, and meals)



MINSTER CHAPERONE:
REV. BLAYNE NAKASONE SAKATA

APPLY NOW UNTIL APRIL 25, 2026

<https://forms.gle/1UPtmmLr2JJwgwfA7>



SPONSORED BY THE JODO SHINSHU INTERNATIONAL OFFICE, JODO SHINSHU HONGWANJI-HA, AND HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

Junior YBA Happenings

We hope you had a nice Spring Break and if you attended Mililani Hongwanji's Spring Fling, we want to thank you for supporting the Jr. YBA Fishing Booth!



Our March meeting was held at Haleiwa Jodo Mission. Thank you to Rev. Ezaki and his family for graciously allowing us to come to visit. It was so nice to meet Rev. and Mrs. Ezaki and their daughters, Miku and Sae. We picked up lunch from Kua 'Aina Sandwich and after eating we visited the Hondo and had a short service. Rev. Ezaki shared a little bit of history of Haleiwa Jodo Mission and it was cool to learn that the sugar trains used to go right through the property where the Hondo now stands! We stayed in the Hondo to conduct our meeting and make the goody bags for Spring Fling. We ended the afternoon hanging out at the beach. Shout out to Ruby who brought her bestie, Isla, to join in the fun afternoon.

Last chance to register!

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

Final Registration by March 30: \$120

First time attendees: \$60

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

REGISTER NOW! 69th Jr. YBA State Convention in Hilo Friday, June 19-21.

Register via link below:

<https://www.hilobetsuin.org/home/affiliates-temple-organizations/jr-yba/2026-jr-yba-convention#h.fsscvcfbeydi>

Please try to register before our next meeting.

Upcoming Important Dates:

Next Meeting: Sunday, April 12, 1:00pm at Aiea Hongwanji

Spring Federation Meeting: Saturday April 25, 3:00p-5:00p via Zoom. Link will be sent to those who confirm attendance.



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 Auntie Aryn Ishikawa (advisor) at arynn.m.ishikawa@gmail.com or jrybaofohu@gmail.com if you have questions or for more information.

arynn.m.ishikawa@gmail.com or jrybaofohu@gmail.com if you have questions or for more information.

Follow us on Instagram! [@jrybaofohu](https://www.instagram.com/jrybaofohu) and [@hawaiifedjryba](https://www.instagram.com/hawaiifedjryba)



BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION NEWS

The many hands within the BWA often work quietly and steadily behind the scenes at major events. Without the help, generosity, and Dana, successful events such as our recent Shinnenkai would not have been possible.

First and foremost, thank you to all the BWA members who were involved in planning and ordering the menu, setting up the decor in the hall, and preparing the beverages. We would also like to express our appreciation to those who provided and donated the delectable treats that adorned the dessert and pupu tables!

This list does not stop here- bingo and lucky numbers are annual activities at our New Year's Party, and many look forward to the anticipation and excitement of winning numerous prizes throughout the evening. The task of purchasing the prizes was handled by a few BWA ladies, and the setup was completed the evening prior. In addition to purchasing prizes, the BWA also donated goods for the bingo prizes and lucky number drawings.

The evening festivities also included entertainment during dinner. Okinawan folk music, Enka, and Taiko drums filled the hall, enlivening the atmosphere. The program was coordinated and planned by members who were also instrumental in creating and preparing the pamphlet.

While the women try to relax and enjoy one another's camaraderie, it is not unusual to spot them leaving their seats to refill the buffet line, consolidate the dessert area, and clean up in the kitchen throughout the evening.

There is a saying, "Behind every great man, there is a great woman." This is especially true and speaks volumes, as the members of BWA continue to support and execute many tasks that have contributed to the overall success of all major events held at Aiea Hongwanji over the years. We believe that the BWA continues to be the backbone of the Hongwanji Sangha, and that we work with great compassion and kindness to continuously bring joy and happiness to all whose lives we touch.

In Gassho,
D. Okawa

Below: Taiko performance by Bishop Shuji Komagata of the Soto Mission of Aiea & Chad Okawa as the Hyaku Sen Ki Kai Taiko performers look on.



Above: Keirokai Honorees Norma Tamashiro and Sharyn & Dennis Sekine.

Below: The Afuso Ryu Choichi Kai USA-Hawaii Sanshin Performers



Thank you Dr. Warren Tamamoto for your service as President of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii



**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.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE



To Our Sangha,

I hope you are well on your way to recovering from the recent storms and flooding. For those who were fortunate to avoid the catastrophes caused by the inclement weather, you can help those who were less fortunate through several means as noted by headquarters on page 4 of this newsletter.

The Aiea Buddhist Temple was spared from flood damage, but as a result of the continuous rainfall, the repaving of the parking lot had to be postponed. It is now scheduled for the week of May 26th through the 30th when the preschool is on its next break.

The work to repair the cracks in the exterior steps to the temple hondo began on March 30th and will continue into April until completed. There will always be access to the Hondo (Main Sanctuary) and Columbarium via the ramp between the parsonage and the temple building. Also, only one section of the steps will be worked on at a time.

Enclosed with this newsletter is a flyer describing the Living Gratitude Program and an envelope to send in your donations. Please take a minute to review the merits of this program.

In Gassho,

Boyd Marumoto





Join Project Dana’s Public Presentation Meetings!

Upcoming Events:

Meeting Date:	Wednesday, April 8, 2026
Time:	10:00 am to 11:30 am
Location:	Zoom and Mō‘ili‘ili Hongwanji Mission Temple, upstairs (902 University Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96826)
Topic:	“Ho‘ola ‘Āina Pilipili, UHM Accessible School & Community Garden” – Caregivers will learn about about Cultivating Care: A Memory Café, a dementia-friendly community program held at the Ho‘ōla ‘Āina Pilipili Accessible Garden at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. The presentation will highlight how nature-based activities, social connection, and inclusive garden spaces can support individuals living with memory loss and their care partners. Caregivers will also receive information about program accessibility, volunteer support, and opportunities to participate or refer families.
Speaker:	Melody Hazel
Meeting Date:	Saturday, April 11, 2026
Time:	10:00 am to 11:30 am
Location:	Zoom and Waipahu Hongwanji Buddhist Temple (94-821 Kuhaulua Street, Waipahu, HI 96797)
Topic:	“Older Adult Home Modification Program (OAHMP)” – Caregivers will learn how the OAHMP provides home modifications for eligible older adults (62+) to improve safety and support independence in their homes. The program focuses on reducing fall risks and enhancing accessibility within your home through a visit with an Occupational Therapist, Registered Nurse, and a Licensed Contractor.
Speaker:	Catia Garell, Thrive for Life LLC

*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:

**Shelley Paet, C4C Program Specialist
(808) 945-3736
cgsg@projectdana.org**

May	2026						
Saturday	5/9/2026	10:00 a.m.	11:15 a.m.	Public Presentation	HI SHIP	Medicare Coverage of Preventive Services	Waipahu Hongwanji
Wednesday	5/13/2026	10:00 a.m.	11:15 a.m.	Public Presentation	Nanette Watalae, M.B.A.	Hawaii, UnitedHealthcare	Honpa Hongwanji
Wednesday	5/20/2026	10:00 a.m.	11:15 a.m.	Support Group	Shelley Paet	Talk Story	Honpa Hongwanji
Monday	5/25/2026	7:00 p.m.	8:00 p.m.	Support Group	Shelley Paet	Talk Story	Zoom only

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



Temple Calendar of Events for May 2026

2	Sat	9:30AM-4:30PM	OBE sponsored State Dharma School Retreat
3	Sun	9:00AM	Sunday Service Oahu United Jr. YBA Meeting
6	Wed	9:30AM	Oahu District Ministers Association Meeting
8	Fri	6:00PM	AHM Movie Nite
10	Sun	9:00AM	Mother's Day Service
13	Wed	9:00AM	Preschool Temple Services
15	Fri	10:00AM	Lotus Adult Daycare Service and Visitation
17*	Sun	9:00AM	Sunday Service with Dharma Fun and Taiko for Youth PBA Commencement Exercises
18	Mon	7:00PM	Oahu District Hongwanji Council Meeting
19	Tue	7:00PM	Board of Directors meeting
24	Sun	9:00AM	Shinran Shonin's Birthday Celebration (Gotan-E) Service AHM BWA Meeting (after Service)
25	Mon		Memorial Day (Holiday) Temple, Preschool and Adult Daycare closed
26 – 30 th			Parking lot paving work during Preschool intercession break
30	Sat	(TBA)	HMMH Board of Directors Meeting
31	Sun	9:00AM 1:00PM	Sunday Service Oahu United BWA Meeting at Waipahu Hongwanji

*Rev. Eric Matsumoto will be away at Windward Buddhist Temple as Guest Speaker for their Gotan-E Service.

 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.

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

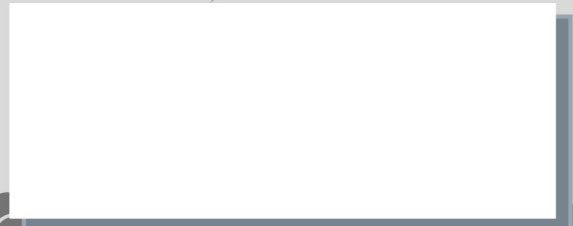
MAY 2026

3rd Michele Misako	Hough	17th Kimiko "Eva"	Omori
3rd Frank Kazuichi	Takenouchi	17th Tokio	Higa
3rd Gayle	Ikehara	33rd Takeo	Yamamoto
3rd Sandra Kazuko	Tsuchida	33rd Shotaro	Honda
7th Gregory Hideo	Nitta	50th Hosho	Ono
7th Thelma Masako	Nakagawa	50th Tsunao	Koga
13th Richard	Goshi		

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

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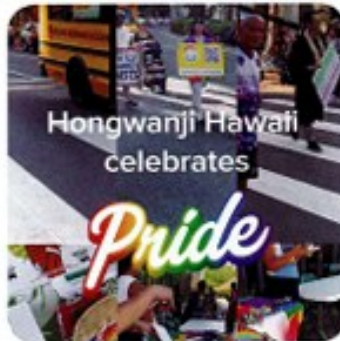
Temple Calendar of Events for April 2026

1	Wed	9:30AM	Oahu District Ministers Meeting
3-5			YESS Camp at Kona Hongwanji Buddhist Temple
5	Sun	9:30AM	Hawaii Buddhist Council Buddha Day Service at Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin with Dr. George Tanabe as Guest Speaker. To be live streamed at Aiea Hongwanji Buddhist Temple. Oahu United Jr. YBA Meeting
8	Wed	9:00AM	Preschool Temple Services
12	Sun		<u>AHM Buddha Day Service & Children's Initiatory Rite</u>
		8:00AM	Buddha Shrine (Hanamido) Decorating
		9:00AM	Hanamatsuri Service and Children's Initiatory Rite
17	Fri	10:00AM	Lotus Adult Daycare Buddha Day Service and Visitation
18	Sat	9:30AM	BSC Spring Festival
19	Sun	9:00AM	Earth Day Sunday Service with Dharma Fun and Taiko for Youth
21	Tue	7:00PM	AHM Temple Board Meeting
25	Sat	TBD	HAIB Annual Membership Meeting and Program
26	Sun	9:00AM	Lady Eshinni and Lady Kakushinni Day Service



LIVING GRATITUDE

Spring 2026



LIVING GRATITUDE . . .

The future of Shin Buddhism in Hawaii

The response to the Living Gratitude Grant 2025 Fall appeal has been encouraging. The committee received a grant proposal from the Commission on Buddhist Education for a short video project. It was approved because the project focused on the strategic goals of Living Gratitude.

The videos on Instagram/Facebooks Reels and YouTube Shorts are occurring under the Honpa Hongwanji umbrella. The HHMH official socials Instagram/Facebook have posted the following: "Young Adult Retreat Power Point Night," "Honolulu Pride Month with UH Manoa Coming Out Day and the Pride Parade," and the "Unique

Hongwanji Series teaser." On the Buddhist Study Center Facebook is the BSC Fellowship Club's "Boba Exchange." Through your sincere generosity in 2025, we collected \$32,000. Our total Living Gratitude fund is \$106,005. Your strong support helps us push forward with expanded goals for Hawaii Kyodan. We live in gratitude!



In 2025, HHMH advanced many goals financed through various sources that fall into Living Gratitude's three strategic areas

EDUCATE

- Supported three Hawaii members to complete Tokudo ordination
- Presented and supported peace-focused programs – 80th anniversary of the end of WWII
- Expanded LGBTQ+ education and outreach through brochures and activities
- *Published Sharing Your Nembutsu Moments and Praises of the Buddha*, to share the living teachings

INNOVATE

- Launched a Video Project, supported by the Living Gratitude Grant, to share Hongwanji initiatives through social media
- Expanded programs through collaboration between the BSC Director, Youth Specialist, and other groups
- Hosted statewide workshops on cybersecurity and archive work on preservation of temple records

SUSTAIN

- Established and strengthened the Ryukoku University Hawaii Office at BSC
- Continued recovery and rebuilding efforts for Lahaina Hongwanji Mission and hosted *A Gathering of Compassion and Honor*
- HQ provided various administrative support and guidance to the temples

Please use the enclosed envelope to make your contribution.

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii | 1727 Pali Highway | Honolulu, Hawaii 96813