



Hamakua Four-Temple



Honohina-Papaaloa, Honomu and Papaikou Hongwanji Missions

Nurturing Nembutsu: Sharing Gratitude

April 2026

HHMH 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 HHMH 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 HHMH's Board of Directors and as a past Advisor to the HHMH's Board. He served as the past Chair of the HHMH'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 HHMH's Ad Hoc Lahaina Hongwanji Recovery and Rebuilding Committee, which guides the planning process to rebuild Lahaina Hongwanji.

The HHMH 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.

President's Message

A Hui Hou, Until We Meet Again



Aloha kākou! I hope that you are well.

This is my last message to you as President of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i.

As I explained in a previous letter, our Hawaii Kyodan Bylaws specifies term limits for the Office of President and the last of my three 2-year terms ended with the close of our Legislative Assembly in February 2026.

This is a good thing for Hawai'i Kyodan and for myself. It "forces" Hawai'i Kyodan to look for and develop new leaders while allowing me (as ex-President) a break from the duties and responsibilities of President.

(Cont'd next page)

Papaikou Hongwanji Mission
4-Temple Newsletter
P.O. Box 20
Papaikou, Hawaii 96781

(Return service requested)



2026 Hanamatsuri

(Cont'd next page)

It is not a “goodbye,” as I recently explained to members at one committee meeting. I plan to remain active on the Kyodan Board of Directors as Immediate Past President and perhaps on a few Hawai'i Kyodan committees as well.

I look forward to seeing many of you in the future via Zoom or in person at various activities.

Serving as your president has been a wonderful life experience for me. Remember, my presidency started in February 2020 and a month later, we were shut down by the Covid-19 pandemic. It was a difficult time for everyone, but especially for healthcare professionals and first responders.

Let us remember to express our gratitude to our first responders and healthcare professionals who risked their own lives while containing the pandemic. We, the Hawai'i Kyodan, responded to the challenge in the most positive way possible.

I am grateful to all of you for helping our temples survive and thrive through the pandemic.

My granddaughter was born in April 2020, just a month into the Covid-19 pandemic. It was fortuitous that I had retired in February 2020 and I was able to help with babysitting duties while adjusting to the Office of President.

I'm not sure which was the more challenging responsibility — babysitting an infant or being President of HHMH! Granddaughter is now a healthy and happy kindergartener — thankfully.

My knowledge of and appreciation for Jodo Shinshu Buddhism over the past six years has increased simply by being attentive and listening — in temple service, at Zoom and in-person meetings, and by reading Dharma messages written by our teachers.

I am aware that I have experienced many “Nembutsu Moments” throughout my lifetime. My life is richer because I have had the chance to interact with so many of you.

Namo Amida Butsu.

Of course, one side benefit of this presidency is that I have had a lot of chances to share information about myself (my favorite topic). My childhood, family, education, profession and life experiences.

You know about my struggles with my bonbu nature. I've shared my struggles with golf (ongoing). I know with certainty that the problem is my ego, but I can't get past it! Thank you, Master Shinran for showing us the way.

Over the past six years, I have made Dharma friends across our state, nationally and internationally. I treasure these relationships and hope that our paths will cross again and again.

Finally, I would like to express my deep appreciation to every member of our sangha including our community friends, for assisting in our mission to “share the living teachings of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism so that all people can have lives of harmony, peace and gratitude.”

Your dedication, creativity and determination in sharing the Nembutsu teachings makes a difference in our world. Trying to make this world a little better is the reason that I will continue to support Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i.

I hope that you will enjoy peace and happiness!

A hui hou! See you on the journey.

In Amida's warming, assuring light — in this light, yes, you will walk on.

“To My Daughters” Lyrics Ryuuji Yonemura, music by Kouichi Iwashiro

With Gassho,

Warren Tamamoto

Immediate Past President

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawai'i.



The Founding Fathers of America: 10 interesting facts

On July 4, 2026, America will celebrate 250 years of independence. With a single sheet of parchment and 56 signatures, America began the greatest political journey in human history.

Fact 3. A varied group of men

The centuries passed, and the wigs on the portraits have created **the illusion of the Founding Fathers being a group of old men**, but this is not exactly right. Although Benjamin Franklin was around 70 years old during the Revolutionary War, most Founding Fathers were young enough to fight and were between 30 and 45 years old.

The **differences of age, background, and ideology** between the Founding Fathers were the cause of many discussions, enmities, and rivalries, but these differences contributed to the foundation of the United States of America.

Next month: “Fact 4. A lawyer for the enemy”

Announcement

Four-Temple Talk Story Sessions with Rev. Blayne Nakasone Sakata



Papaikou Hongwanji Mission is happy to continue our very successful, relaxed adult educational gatherings, this time facilitated by Rev. Blayne Nakasone Sakata. These "Talk Story" sessions offer a welcoming space for Shinshu seekers to come together — no formal lectures, just open discussion. Bring your questions, life experiences, or topics you would like to explore, and we will reflect together on how the Dharma can guide us in our daily lives.

Sessions are held at the Papaikou Hongwanji YBA Hall
from 7:00–8:30 pm on the following upcoming Wednesdays:

- Wednesday, **April 22, 2026**
- Wednesday, **May 20, 2026**
- Wednesday, **June 24, 2026**

All are warmly welcome — invite family, friends, or anyone curious. No prior knowledge of Buddhism is required. Come as you are and join the conversation.

PS. We will broadcast these discussions on ZOOM. If you cannot join us in person, please request ZOOM link by addressing your email request to papaikouhm@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you there!

Namo Amida Butsu

Honohina-Papaalooa Hongwanji Annual Tsunami Memorial Service

Honohina-Papaalooa Hongwanji will be observing the annual Tsunami Memorial
This year will be the 80th anniversary. Please join us for this memorial service

Date:	Saturday, April 4, 2026
Time:	10 A.M. Service, Refreshments to follow
Place:	Large Pavilion, Laupahoehoe Beach Park
Officiant:	Rimban Kazunori Takahashi
Guest Speaker:	Mrs. Tomo Izumi Mohideen

Papaalooa Hongwanji held an annual memorial of the 1946 Tsunami since the mid 1950’s. Each year temple and community members gather to remember the lives lost on that day. A memorial service is held, flower offerings are placed at the Tsunami Memorial, memories shared and quiet reflection on the lives of those lost. Gratefully, this tradition will continue with Honohina-Papaalooa Hongwanji.
The Temple remains committed to the memory of the 1946 Tsunami, the lives lost and its lasting effects on the community.

In Gassho
Honohina-Papaalooa Hongwanji

Four-Temple Council thanks **Shirley Nishioka** for her generous donation
to support Four-Temple Newsletter production

April 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Holy Thursday	3 Good Friday	4 10:00 AM 80 th Tsunami Memorial Service Honohina-Papaaloa Laupahoehoe Point
5 Easter 11:00 AM Monthly Memorial Service Papaikou HM	6	7	8	9	10	11 11:00 AM 4-Temple Buddha B-Day (Hanamatsuri) Service Honohina-Papaaloa
9:00 AM BIBF Hanamatsuri Hilo Betsuin						
12	13	14	15 Tax Day	16	17	18 Newsletter publishing date
19 1:30 PM Papaikou HM Kyodan Board Mtg	20	21	22 7:00-8:30 PM 4-Temple Talk Story Session with Rev. Blayne Nakasone Sakata In Papaikou HM -Live and ZOOM-	23	24	25
6 4:00 PM Guitar Class Papaikou HM	27	28	29	30		

All services

2026 – Four-Temple Hongwanji Council Officers

President:	Alvin Yoshimoto	(Papaikou)	Treasurer:	Rose Broughton	(Honohina-Papaaloa)
Vice-Pres.:	Wayne Nakanishi	(Honomu)	Auditors:	Tilden Jio	(Papaikou)
Secretary:	Gail Maesato	(Honohina-Papaaloa)		Bob Mento	(Honomu)
				Bob Nishimoto	(Honohina-Papaaloa)

To arrange bedside, pre-cremation, funeral, memorial services please contact your temple President.

Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin	(808) 961-6677 (office)
Honohina-Papaaloa Hongwanji	Harold Uyeno , President (808) 959-9974 or (808) 936-9052 (cell)
Honomu Hongwanji	Wayne Nakanishi , President (808) 339-7849 or (808) 657-9657 (cell/text)
Papaikou Hongwanji	Alvin Yoshimoto , President (808) 938-1842 (cell/text)

Newsletter Publisher	
Email: PapaikouHM@gmail.com.	Address: Papaikou Hongwanji, P.O. Box 20, Papaikou, HI 96781



The articles and opinions expressed by the editor and individual contributors are their own and do not necessarily represent those of Hamakua Four-Temple Hongwanji Missions.

Honohina – Papaaloa



Hongwanji A Jodo Shinshu Temple Newsletter



April 2026

P.O. Box 72, Ninole, HI 96773

Nurturing Nembutsu: Sharing Gratitude

Contact Information

President, Harold Uyeno 808-959-9974

808-936-9052 (cell)

Church Cleaning Schedule:

- March 22, 2026: Umauma Group
- April 5, 2026: Papaaloa Group
- April 19, 2026: Kahuku Group
- May 3, 2026: Hilo Group

To all those who clean and maintain our beautiful Temple
Thank you for your hard work and dedication!

Family Memorial Service

In the Jodo Shinshu tradition, memorial services provide us with the opportunity to quietly meditate and reflect upon the cherished memories of the deceased and to remind us of the impermanence of life.

If your family would like to arrange a memorial service, please contact President, Harold Uyeno to make arrangements for ministerial coverage.

Memorial Services for April & May 2026

50 Years Memorial Service for 1977

Kichisuke Sugikawa	5/4/1977	age:92
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33 Years Memorial Service for 1994

Otono Sugioka	4/06/1994	age: 95
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25 Years memorial Service for 2002

Hajime Tamamoto	4/12/2002	age: 85
Midori Takemoto	4/19/2002	age: 82
Tutomu Sugiyama	5/4/2002	age: 81

7 Years Memorial Service for 2020

Beatrice Toshiko Abe	4/22/2020	age: 97
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1 Year Memorial Service for 2025

Tooru Iwahashi	5/27/2025	age: 94
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Honohina-Papaaloo January & February 2026 Donations

IMO Ken Maesato

Gail Maesato

IMO Hatsuko Kishaba

June & Cathy Nishie

Linda Voss

Lena Kishaba

Annie Iwahashi

Shinnen Enkai Donations:

Lena Kishaba, Annie Iwahashi and Kara Iwahashi: (Gift cards & Merchandise)

Gerald & May Otomo: (Gift cards)

Anonymous: (Gift card)

Nick Ah Yo

Susan Forbes

Delbert Nishimoto

Akiko Masuda

Alvin Yoshimoto

Brad Kurokawa

Jane Heit

Gail Uchida

Richard Mitsutani

Dorothy Kansako

Roy Todoroki

Hoonko Donations

Jerry/Rose Broughton

Annie Iwahashi

Lena Kishaba

Ken/Lin Kumasaki

Glenn Takemoto

Gail Maesato

Mitsuko Takasaki

Bob Mento

May Fukui

Lynn/Neal Arisumi

Hideaki/Caroline Doi

Gary Yoshida

Jerry Yoshida

Hoonko/Shinnen Enkai

Harold Uyeno

Leo/Tilden Jio

Helen Shiota-Benevides

Roy Oka

Lucille Takemoto

Mel/Dianne Kunimoto

Greg/May Navarro

Warren/Lorraine Okabayashi

Carrie Luke-Knotts

Wayne/Janet Nakanishi

February 2026 Monthly Donations

Harold Uyeno

Ken/Lin Kumasaki

Wallace/Leatrice Uchida

Glenn Takemoto

George/Doris Araki

Hideaki/Caroline Doi

Lynn/Neal Arisumi

Jerry Yoshida

Gary Yoshida

Robert/Ingrid Nishimoto

IMO Nobue Oba

Harold/Elaine Oba

Gordon/Vivian Lee

IMO Hatsuko Kishaba

Kara Iwahashi

Save the Date

- April 4, 2026 Saturday: 80th Annual Tsunami Memorial Service
Honohina-Papaaloo Hongwanji
10 am, at Laupahoehoe Point, Large Pavilion.
- April 11, 2026 Saturday: Four-Temple Combined Hanamatsuri Service
11 am, at Honohina-Papaaloo Hongwanji
- April 22, 2026 Wednesday: Four-Temple Talk Story Session
with Rev. Blayne Nakasone Sakata
7:00-8:30 pm, In Papaikou Hongwanji
Live and ZOOM
- April 26, 2026 Sunday: Guitar Class
4:00 pm, Papaikou Hongwanji YBA Hall
- May 10, 2026 Sunday: Four-Temple Combined Gotan-E Service
11 am, at Honomu Hongwanji
-

Honohina-Papaaloo Hongwanji February 14, 2026 Meeting Minutes

11 Attendees: Doris Araki, George Araki, Lynn Arisumi, May Fukui, Ken Kumasaki, Lin Kumasaki, Carrie Luke-Knotts, Glenn Takemoto, Harold Uyeno, Gary Yoshida, Jerry Yoshida, Rev. Blayne Nakasone Sakata

- Called to Order:** 11:48 AM
Aspiration: Reverend Blayne Nakasone Sakata
Secretary Minutes: Carrie Distributed, 2 corrections for November 15, 2025 minutes:
Minister's Report: Reverend Blayne Nakasone Sakata is not available for next meeting; vacation at end of March.

Business items:

1. **Graveyard maintenance** – next scheduled April 17, 2026, 3rd Friday, George
2. **Treasures of Hongwanji evaluation** – shouldn't be in January. Too many Japanese celebrations on that day. Papaikou did crafts.
3. **Shinnen Enkai evaluation** – Next year's suggested date January 16th. Carrie will write thank you letter to Carmela Orchids for New Year's Orchids donations.
4. **Storage Room Doors** – Gary and Jerry Yoshida – 99% done; just have to attach bracket on bottom.

- 5. **Gutter repair and Roof leak** – repairman never showed up.
Jerry put up the bamboo to temporarily shore up the gutter.
- 6. **Storage room for chairs** –storage room will be made outside so chair holders can be rolled outside for special events.
- 7. **Tooru Iwahashi's investments** – Per Harold, Edward Jones, an advisor who did Tooru's investments is the financial advisor we asked to manage the investments of the donation.
- 8. **Year-end lunch at Poly Feng Yuan** – We had an anonymous donation for the whole bill. We each paid the church \$10.00.
- 9. **Bon Dance 8/23/2025-** Jane Heit (who leads the dances) said that the tent was too hot for the dancers. It steams. She suggested just covering over the dancers/observers on the outside. Some suggested, it might be even hotter, if the dancers were exposed to the sunlight.
- 10. **Tsunami Memorial: 4/4/2026, Laupahoehoe Point**, speaker, Mrs. Tomo Izumi Mohideen; Need donations of food? Wait till Jerry and Rose's return to discuss.
- 12. **Minister salary compensation (Differentials)** – Undisclosed due to *personal* privacy concerns.

Meeting was adjourned at: 12:15 pm

Honohina-Papaaloe Hongwanji
Annual Tsunami Memorial Service

Honohina-Papaaloe Hongwanji will be observing the annual Tsunami Memorial Service as follows:

Date:	Saturday, April 4, 2026
Time:	10 A.M. Service, Refreshments to follow
Place:	Large Pavilion, Laupahoehoe Beach Park
Officiant:	Rimban Kazunori Takahashi
Guest Speaker:	Mrs. Tomo Izumi Mohideen

Papaaloe Hongwanji held an annual memorial of the 1946 Tsunami since the mid 1950's. Each year temple and community members gather to remember the lives lost on that day. A memorial service is held, flower offerings are placed at the Tsunami Memorial, memories shared and quiet reflection on the lives of those lost. Gratefully, this tradition will continue with Honohina-Papaaloe Hongwanji. The Temple remains committed to the memory of the 1946 Tsunami, the lives lost and its lasting effects on the community.

This year will be the 80th anniversary. Please join us for this memorial service.

In Gassho
Honohina-Papaaloe Hongwanji



THE HO-U

(Dharma Shower)

Honumu Hongwanji Mission



April 2026

Honumu Hongwanji Mission, P.O. Box 38, Honumu, HI 96728

Phone: (808) 657-9657

President's Message

Wayne Nakanishi

President, Honumu Hongwanji Mission



ALOHA to you all,

This month, I would like to share a message given by Rev. Tomo Hojo of West Kaua'i Hongwanji Mission at Hilo Hongwanji in January.

"Attaining Buddhahood through the Nembutsu is the true essence of the Pure Land way; the myriad practices and good acts are the temporary gate.

Unless one distinguishes the accommodated and the real, the temporary and the true, One cannot possibly know the Pure Land that is naturalness (jinen)."

(Hymns of the Pure Land #71).

This passage gently reminds us that, in the Pure Land teaching, attaining Buddhahood through the Nembutsu is grounded in the Primal Vow and accords with Shakyamuni Buddha's intent. Other teachings and practices have long served as helpful means, guiding people toward the Nembutsu. Shinran Shonin clearly stated, "*Attaining Buddhahood through the Nembutsu: this is the true essence of the Pure Land Way.*" Even though he passed away more than 800 years ago, he continues to clearly show us "the path."

Speaking of paths, I started going to Kōke'e about five years ago. During the COVID-19 pandemic, I was looking for a safe way to relax and exercise on my days off. I train for triathlons, so I usually run and swim, often in the same places. While thinking about other ways to exercise safely on Kaua'i, I remembered a conversation with a Kapaa Hongwanji member. They



Rev. Tomo Hojo

mentioned that because of the two-week quarantine, there were very few tourists, and the north shore beaches looked like Kaua'i in the 1970s. So, I decided to go to Ke'e Beach.

That day, only a few people were there, and the quiet scenery gave me time to refresh and relax. Near Ke'e Beach is the entrance to the Kalalau Trail. I walked a short distance and felt that hiking would be good exercise and a way to refresh my mind in Kaua'i's beautiful nature.

I began researching Kaua'i trails and learning what to be careful about, such as avoiding hikes after heavy rain. I started with short and easy trails and gradually tried longer ones. One day, I went to the Nu'alolo Trail, the longest trail I had attempted. It is about 3.75 miles one way, with many ups and downs. I went later in the morning and found that there were no other cars at the trailhead.

As I hiked, I went uphill, then downhill, and through a muddy forest. I did not see anyone until I reached the end of the trail. The trail was well maintained, and I never felt in danger, but I did feel lonely. On major trails, I usually see other hikers and exchange greetings, but that day, I saw no one. When I looked down at the trail, I noticed another person's footprint. At that moment, I felt that someone had walked this path before me, and I was not alone. By following this path, I knew I could reach my goal. That single footprint eased my loneliness. If you have ever hiked in the forest, you may understand this feeling.

Our lives are similar. Shinran Shonin walked the Nembutsu path and showed it to us. As we walk through life, when we know our path and our goal, we can live with peace and comfort. Shinran Shonin said, "*Attaining Buddhahood through the Nembutsu, this is the true essence of the Pure Land way.*" As we follow this path, let us continue to listen to the teachings of Shinran Shonin together.

Namo Amida Butsu.

Honomu Hongwanji Board Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2026

Called to order at 10:00 am

Attendance: Wayne Nakanishi, Bob Mento, Penny Okura, Lorraine Okabayashi, Dorothy Kansako, Elsie Oka, Warren Okabayashi, Russell Okura, Paul Yaley.

Aspiration led by Wayne Nakanishi

Secretary's minutes: distributed by Penny Okura. Motion moved to accept by Dorothy Kansako, 2nd by Penny Okura

Treasurer's report: distributed by Lorraine Okabayashi. Motion moved to accept by Bob Mento, 2nd by Dorothy Kansako

Assistant Treasurer's Report: Dorothy Kansako gave to Lorraine Okabayashi

Correspondence: to be reviewed by Wayne Nakanishi TBA next meeting

Unfinished Business: Stairs to temple - date to be set pressure washing? scraping date of project TBA by Russell Okura. Bento's suggested to be bought for volunteers

New Business: Technology upgrade.

- ✓ Wayne spoke to Jerry Broughton regarding various technical components to have installed to Honpmu Hongwanji. Including, but not limited to: WIFI, computer/laptop, television.
- ✓ 4-Temple council meeting moved to Wednesday nominees for positions V.P., Secretary, Treasurer
- ✓ Bon Dance set for July18, 2026 HHM committees assigned:

- floral – TBA
- finance - Elsie and Lorraine
- towels - Bob and Penny
- concession/food - Kupuna Pride Softball team (help to set up tent, lights set up – Russell/Warren/Paul
- PA system – Jerry
- Music - Dorothy to talk to Jane to set up
- Advertisement - Bob and Penny (Banners and flyers to be made)
- Security – Russell
- ✓ Removal of gas tank. To be replaced with a smaller tank
- ✓ HELCO to remove pole and to redirect lines from church to rental

Announcements:

- Treasures of Hongwanji (Hilo Betsuin) 1-16-26; 10-2pm
- 4 Temple Honk Service - Shinnenkai, Honohina/Papaaloa 1-24-26 @ 10am
- Papaikou Shinnenkai - 1-31-26 @ 10am
- Honomu monthly service 2/15/26 @ 11am refreshments to follow
- Honomu council meeting 2/22/26 @ 10am. (Set-up and clean up 2/14/26 @ 9am)

Closing prayer:

Adjournment: motion made to adjourn meeting by Dorothy 2nd by Penny @ 11:45 am

Special Donations:

Karen Irie	IMO Norman Irie 7 yr.	\$500.00
Dorothy Kamikawa	Nokotsudo (Masami & Sadami Ichinotsubo)	\$200.00
Shirley Nishioka	IMO Yoshio & Momoye Matoba	\$200.00
Shirley Nishioka	Newsletter	\$50.00
Virginia Yukutake } Kathleen Omoto & } Wesley Takai }	1 yr. memorial for Eliot Sadao Takai	\$500.00

Donations at Monthly Service - 2/15/26 and O-Higan

Karen Irie	Warren & Lorraine Okabayashi	Ruth Ouye
Roy & Elsie Oka	Robert Otomo	

Dues

Hideo Hamada	George Hanashiro
Karen Hamada	Paul Yaley

Memorial (Nenki) Services

33 years service (1994)

Tamae Kawasaki	4/04/1994	age 80
Robert Shinichi Nagano	5/28/1994	age 73

17 years service (2010)

James Shigemi Tanaka	4/10/2010	age 55
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13 year service (2014)

Akira "Sonny" Omonaka	5/09/2014	age 88
Toyoko "Toyo" Hokomoto	5/24/2014	age 86

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

If you plan on having a memorial service for your family member, please call or text Wayne Nakanishi, at (808) 339-7849 to make arrangements. Service may be held at the temple, your home, or at the cemetery

Motivationals and inspirations

Always be thankful for all of the simple pleasures: family, Friends, food, love, laughter and hope.
It's not what we have in life, but, who we have in our life. That really matters. Thank you for being in mind.
At the end of the day, remind yourself that you did the best you could do today, and that is good enough.
People will come and go in life. But, the right ones will always stay.

Junirai

(2013 Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha)
Junirai ("twelve adorations") was composed by nagarijuna, the first of the seven masters of Jodo Shinshu. Since he repeatedly praised and expressed his reverence of Amida Buddha twelve times, thus it is named. Nagarjuna lauds the beauty, grandeur and preciousness of the Pure Land which manifests the virtues of Amida Buddha, and expresses the desire to be born in the Pure Land. Amida's Aspiration is to save all beings and enable them to attain birth in the pure land.

Gobunsho - Letters of Rennyo

(2013 Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha)

The Gonbunsho are letters that were written by the eighth Monshu of the Hongwanji, Rennyo Shonin, so that anyone could easily understand Shinran's teaching. It is said that he Began composing these letters in 1461 (Kansho 2) when he was forty-seven years old.

Through them, to the people whose lives were filled with Imminent danger during the era of turbulence and chaos, he explained the Jodo Shinshu teaching equally to everyone, indicating that for lay persons, regardless if someone were old or young, male or female, by simply relying on Amida Buddha and saying the Nembutsu with an entrusting Heart, (*shinjin*) all are saved. Rennyo's heartfelt wish was for everyone to live the joy of entrusting to the working of Amida's primal vow.

Later, those of special significance were compiled by the Ninth Monshu, Jitsunyo Shonin, into five fascicles containing Eighty Letters.

*You are younger today
than you ever will be again.
Make use of it
for the sake of tomorrow.*

Honomu Hongwanji Points of Contact:

Wayne Nakanishi

President

Honomu Hongwanji Mission

(808) 339-7849 (cell/text)

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If you wish, you still can keep your paper copy subscription active.
To subscribe please send your request to papaikouhm@gmail.com

Papaikou Hongwanji

Newsletter



Image by Kaori Ukaji - kaoriukaji.com

P.O. Box 20, Papaikou, HI 96781 | Email: papaikouhm@gmail.com

April 2026

Acknowledgements with Gratitude - Gojikai Dues & Donations Received

From February 18, 2025 till March 17, 2026

- ✿ **Gojikai Dues:**

Leo & Tilden Jio, Greg & May Navarro, Alvin & Judy Yoshimoto, Floyd Yoshimoto & Susan Mochizuki

✿ **Memorial Service:**

• ***1 Year Memorial Service: In Memory of Toyomi Nonaka***

Greg & May Navarro

✿ **February 2026 Joint Memorial Services:**

• ***In Memory of Namio Haraguchi***

James Haraguchi

✿ **March 2026 Joint Memorial Services:**

• ***In Memory of Hiroko Matsumoto***

Mel & Diane Kunimoto

• ***In Memory of Mitsue Morigaki***

Ernest & Joanne Houghton, Mel & Diane Kunimoto, Wesley & Sharon Ogata

• ***In Memory of Stanley Yoshiyama***

Alvin & Judy Yoshimoto

✿ **April 2026 Joint Memorial Services:**

• ***In Memory of Kinuko Kawamoto***

Helen Shiota-Benevides

• ***In Memory of Masae Kawamoto***

Helen Shiota-Benevides

• ***In Memory of Toyomi Nonaka***

Alvin & Judy Yoshimoto

• ***In Memory of Herbert Suganuma***

Newton Inouye, Helen Shiota-Benevides, Alvin & Judy Yoshimoto

• ***In Memory of Mitsuyo Vega Takemoto***

Lucille Takemoto

• ***In Memory of Doris Michiko Watanabe***

Eunice Hamamoto
- ***In Memory of Nancy Sachiko Watanabe***

Helen Shiota-Benevides, Alvin & Judy Yoshimoto

• ***In Memory of Cabby & Nancy Watanabe***

Eunice Hamamoto

✿ **Shinnenkai Donations:**

Esther Onaga, Abel & Yoshie Wakida, James Yoshiyama

✿ **Spring Ohigan Donations:**

Ivane Aoki, Lynn Arisumi, Jerry & Rose Broughton, May Fukui, Eunice Hamamoto, Etsuko Hanamoto, Annie Iwahashi, Lembi James, Leo & Tilden Jio, Dorothy Kansako, Leslie Kawamoto, Lena Kishaba, Mel & Diane Kunimoto, Carrie Luke-Knotts, Masue Masu, Russell Masu, Bob Mento, Richard & Dale Mitsutani, Hiroko Nagamine, George & Karen Nekoba, Roy & Elsie Oka, Warren & Lorraine Okabayashi, Esther Onaga, Mitsuru Ozaki, Ausaf & Gail Rahman, Kelly Saturnio, Florence Shibata, Kay Shiota, Helen Shiota-Benevides, Lucille Takemoto, Betty Tanaka, Sally Tayama, Roy Todoroki, Gail Tsuha-Maesato, Wayne & Janet Nakanishi, Abel & Yoshie Wakida, Myles & Cory Watanabe, Gary Yoshida, Jerry Yoshida, Alvin & Judy Yoshimoto, Yoshiko Yoshioka, James Yoshiyama

✿ **Rummage Donation:**

Bob Mento

✿ **Special Temple, Kyodan Donations:**

Raymond & Hisae Yamada

• ***In Memory of Seiji & Kimie Aoki***

Betty Tanaka

• ***In Memory of Yoshiwo Murashige***

Mitsuo Murashige

• ***In Memory of Roy S Tanaka***

Betty Tanaka

• ***In Memory of Lillie Tsuchiya***

Eunice Hamamoto, Newton Inouye, Leo & Tilden Jio, Kelly Saturnio, Alvin & Judy Yoshimoto

Papaikou Hongwanji Mission Kyodan Board Meeting

Sunday, February 22, 2026, 1:30 pm, YBA Hall & Virtual Zoom

Meeting was called to order by President Alvin Yoshimoto at 1:35 pm

Aspiration led by Alvin Yoshimoto - The Three Treasures

Attendance: Alvin Yoshimoto, Helen Shirota-Benevides, Tilden Jio, Diane Kunimoto, May Navarro, Lauren Kamei, Ken Okimoto, Judy Yoshimoto

Excused: Melvin Kunimoto, Lucille Takemoto, Lili Lambeth, Rimban Takahashi, Rev. Blayne

Minister’s Report (Alvin):

Sunday, 3/1/26, 11:00am – 4TC Spring Higan Service at Papaikou, Rev. Blayne, Leo-MC

Saturday, 4/4/26, 10:00am – Tsunami Memorial Service at Laupahoehoe Point, Rimban Takahashi

Sunday, 4/5/26, 11:00am – Monthly Memorial Service & Hanamatsuri at Papaikou, no minister.

Saturday, 4/11/26, 11:00am, 4TC Hanamatsuri Service at Honohina

Secretary’s Minutes: Minutes of January 18, 2026 approved by unanimous consent.

Treasurer’s Report: Income & Expense Reports for January 2026 approved by unanimous consent subject to audit.

- January resulted in a net loss of \$19,871.21 due to a 2025 expense of \$18,500.00 for rental unit renovation.
- Funds available as of Jan. 31, 2026 was \$62,449.67. Change in funds available mainly due to increasing cash available by redeeming \$30,000 American Century Ultra Funds.
- Rental Unit: No renter yet.
- MPH Rentals: 8 reservations from February – July 2026
- We have new members, Floyd Yoshimoto & Susan Mochizuki.

Correspondence: Received thank you letter from The Food Basket.

Project Dana (Ken): Fall Prevention workshop, Sat., 3/7/26, 10am-2pm at Hilo Betsuin YBA Hall.

ICE discussion on 2/19/26 before Giseikai about knowing your rights if Federal agents want to enter your temple or other facilities. Green Hongwanji is a statewide committee that is helping temples and members be more environmentally aware.

Buddhist Education: Need to complete forms to remove Judy, and add Alvin, Helen, & Leo to OFCU account.

Try It Committee: (Judy) Proposing 2 rummage sales for Fall 2026, Sept. 26 and/or Oct. 31.

4 Temple Council (4TC): Next 4-Temple Board meeting, Wed., March 11, 9:30am at Papaikou YBA Hall.

Maintenance:

- MPH Men’s bathroom leaking; change Temple ceiling light bulb
- Pending – Storage doors replacement; railings along stairs & walkways.

Old Business:

- T-shirt – Cost for new t-shirt is \$8.37; we will be selling the new t-shirt for \$20.00 each.
- Shinnen Enkai recap – 135-140 people attended. Food was sufficient (consider ½ tray more vegetarian dish); fried mochi was easy to prepare; each attendee received a gift bag; event ended early around 1:00 pm due to shorter entertainment program.
- 4-H Cloverbuds – Onomea Kou 4-H Club next meeting will be Sun., 3/15/26, 10am – 12pm. Eight children (ages 3yo – 11yo) attended first meeting with parent/guardian. Plant/gardening activity, snacks provided. Lauren & Judy working on grant money for activities, supplies. Alvin & Helen will look into obtaining & pricing 20-foot containers for storage.
- Giseikai report (Ken): The new State Kyodan President Michael Munekiyo of Wailuku Hongwanji was elected, term effective 2/21/26. There were 10 resolutions. Reso #1, the 2026 State Budget was adopted. Reso #2, closing of Waianae Hongwanji was approved effective 12/31/25, remaining funds will be used for several scholarships for the Waianae community to be administered by Hawaii Kyodan.
A fairly new grant program started in 2022 by the Giseikai emphasizes new temple activities that “educate, innovate, and sustain”. Next application deadline is 4/30/26.
HHMH Short Video Project is a new project that asks all temples to create and share very short videos about what they do at their temple.
- Change of MPH Manager – **Motion to change MPH Manager from Lorna Ganigan to Lauren Kamei effective April 15, 2026. (Ken/motion/, Diane/2nd/) Discussion. (6 ayes, 1 abstention) Motion carried.**
- Pending – MPH contract, Community bulletin board, Security gates

New Business:

- Minister Pay increase – Undisclosed due to personal privacy concerns.
 - Budget – **Motion to accept the consolidated 2026 Budget for Papaikou. (Helen/motion/, Tilden/2nd/) Discussion. Motion carried.**
- **Motion to remove Hilo Realty as property manager effective immediately and Board will self-manage the rental property. (Ken/motion/, Diane/2nd/) Discussion. Motion carried.** Alvin has

a tenant ready to move in from March 1 and willing to pay \$2500 per month.

- Web Page - tabled

Closing Aspiration led by Alvin Yoshimoto – Nembutsu

Next Board Meeting – Sunday, March 15, 2026, 1:30 pm (in-person or by Zoom)

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm

Submitted by May Navarro

Welcome Packets

Papaikou Hongwanji's Buddhist Education Committee has provided 'Welcome Packets' to our 15 newest member households over the past year—one packet per household, plus a nenju for each person.

Anyone interested in receiving a packet or a replacement nenju should contact Alvin at 808-938-1842 or via email to alvinyo4@gmail.com.



Onomea Kou 4-H Club

Onomea Kou 4-H Club is about having fun with friends while learning life skills and making memories. We focus on cooking, growing, learning about agriculture, and livestock. We are excited about doing a tons of hands on projects like sewing and building a chicken coop to care for egg laying hens.

Hope to see you at our upcoming benefit!
Come join us - 3rd Sunday of each month

from 10-12 pm at Papaikou Hongwanji.

March 15th, we painted, worked on hydroponic kits, learned to make summer rolls, and had an Easter egg hunt.

For more information, please call
Lauren Kamei at **808-936-8955**

"Aloha Buddha"-- Featured Movie



Papaikou Hongwanji Mission would like to invite you to our Movie Matinee on

**April 18, Saturday, 2:00 pm
at our YBA hall.**

This FREE event will feature a 72-minute movie on the story of Japanese Buddhism in Hawaii.

The production started in 2007 and finally came out in theatres on January 1, 2011. The documentary details a fascinating history of Buddhism in Hawaii and how a movement

is underway to save the religion - by adding a little Aloha into the practice.

Everyone is welcome! Invite your friends and family!

Upcoming Memorial Services (Nenki)

50 years Service – 1977

Seiryō Hirokane 5/21/1977 age 59

25 years Service – 2002

Satoshi Mori 4/7/2002 age 78

Masao Ogata 5/6/2002 age 88

13 year Service – 2014

Takeshi "Blackie" Matsunaka 4/23/2014 age 94

1 year Service – 2025

Sachiko Matsui 4/4/2025 age 91

Toyomi Nonaka 4/9/2025 age 99

George Joji Shigenaga 5/18/2025 age 91

NOTE: Family members may contact President Alvin Yoshimoto to arrange for this special memorial service. If a Memorial Service for your family member has inadvertently been missed in our newsletter and you would like to schedule a service, please contact our president Alvin Yoshimoto at (808) 9381842 (cell/text) "Arigato!"

Monthly Memorial Service List

A Joint Monthly Memorial Service is held as part of the regular Sunday Service, for everyone who passed away during that month. Look at the calendar in this newsletter to know when is the Joint Monthly Service for a particular month; usually on the first Sunday. All affected families and friends are welcome to offer incense at that service.

This is not the same as the Memorial Nenki Service, such as 1st yr., 3rd yr., 7th yr., 13th yr., 17th yr., 25th yr., 33rd yr. or 50th yr., that a family arranges for an individual person, who passed away. To schedule your individual person's memorial service, please contact our president Alvin Yoshimoto at (808) 9381842 (cell/text).

April (1976 -2026)

Mitsuo Asamoto
Harold Tetsuro Ashida
Hayano Haimoto
Michie Hayashida
Donald Haito Hirokane
Kiyoko Ishimoto
Kimiyo Kawamoto
Kinuko Kawamoto
Masae Kawamoto
Michiko Kunimoto
Dennis Matsui
Mitsuru Matsui
Norman Toshio Matsui
Toki Matsui
Eiko Matsumoto
Kiku Matsunaka

Takeshi Blackie Matsunaka
Oito Miki
Hideo Momohara
Satoshi Mori
Seki Nakai
Masato Nakao
Toyomi Nonaka
Sumie Ueda Onaga
Jon Shigeo Shibata
Herbert Suganuma
Nasafumi Sumie
Katsuki Sunada
Masae Sunada
Hitoshi Takemoto
Mitsuyo Vega Takemoto
Jean Tsumae Taketa
Sueko Tanaka

Masaru Taniguchi
Mumeyo Tatsuno
Doris Michiko Watanabe
Nancy Sachiko Watanabe
Mamoru Yamamoto
Ayano Yoshino
Nobuyoshi Yoshioka

May (1975-2026)

Mitsuko Haraguchi
Seiryō Hirokane
Ume Hironaka
Satomi Hiura
Asayo Inouye
Fujino Matsui
Shizuo Matsui
Misae Matsuzaki
Noboru "Curly" Mento

Yoshitaka "Starch" Mikami
Sumiyo Nakano
Masao Ogata
Satoru Okimoto
Mitsue Okino
Kamato Oshiro
Ellen Leiko Ozaki
George Santos Jr.
George Joji Shigenaga
Edna Akiko Shirota
Asami Shirota
Mitsue Takemoto
Yoshihiro Takemoto
Mitsuyo Watanabe
Hayano Yamaoka
Morito Larry Yamasato
Jyunichi Yoshida
Yoshio Yoshimura

The Significance of Having Memorial Service is:

1. Not to forget the gratitude of Amida Buddha and the life of Nembutsu.
2. Members of the family, relatives and friends to get together under the name of the departed person to express thankfulness to him/her and to share his/her memory.
3. To realize the impermanence of this world and the importance of the faith in Amida Buddha in everyday life, since human beings are apt to forget that they are mortal and how important it is to have strong faith.

In Gassho