



Hamakua Four-Temple



Honohina-Papaaloa, Honomu and Papaikou Hongwanji Missions

Nurturing Nembutsu: Sharing Gratitude

August 2026

HMMH Represented at the White House Vesak

The International Buddhist Association of America (IBAA) hosted the Fifth Annual Vesak Lamp Lighting Ceremony at the White House in Washington, D.C., on June 11, 2026. This year's ceremony brought together Buddhist leaders, monastics, and representatives from diverse traditions, along with ambassadors and dignitaries from South and Southeast Asia, in a spirit of friendship, cultural understanding, and peace.



Representing the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani attended the event together with Bishop Marvin Harada of the Buddhist Churches of America and Rev. Kiyonobu Kuwahara of the Jodo Shinshu International Office.

Vesak commemorates the birth, enlightenment, and parinirvana of Shakyamuni Buddha. Celebrated by Buddhists throughout the world for more than 2,500 years, Vesak

was formally recognized by the United Nations in 1999 as an international day of significance.

This year's White House Vesak Ceremony was organized by Mrs. Wangmo Dixey, President of the IBAA, in cooperation with the White House Faith Office, particularly Pastor Paula White-Cain.

In her welcome message, Mrs. Dixey stated:

"This year is especially meaningful as our nation celebrates the 250th anniversary of the United States of America. It is fitting that we gather in this historic place, representing many cultures, traditions, and faiths, united by our shared aspirations for peace, understanding, and a better future for all. We are supported by the enduring American ideals of religious freedom and mutual respect—values that have allowed diverse spiritual traditions to flourish and contribute to the richness of our nation."

Mrs. Dixey also noted that Buddhism is practiced today by hundreds of millions of people around the world. Across the United States, nearly 4,000 temples, monasteries, meditation centers, and practice communities serve people from all walks of life. One of America's unique strengths, she explained, is that the Theravada, Mahayana, and Vajrayana traditions have all flourished side by side. While many countries may be home to only one Buddhist tradition, the United States offers opportunities for Buddhists of different traditions to learn from, appreciate, and support one another while remaining united in their shared values.

(cont'd next page)

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

(Return service requested)



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The ceremony included messages from representatives of the White House Faith Office, the lighting of lamps, and chants and aspirations offered by representatives of the Theravada, Mahayana, and Vajrayana traditions. Bishop Marvin Harada lit the ceremonial lamp on behalf of the Mahayana tradition.

Bishop Harada, Bishop Umitani, and Rev. Kuwahara then joined other Mahayana representatives in chanting sutras and offering aspirations for peace and harmony.

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Reflecting on the experience, Bishop Umitani shared:

“It was truly a privilege and honor to participate in the Vesak Ceremony at the White House. As I joined the service, I felt the beauty of diversity and the richness of the Buddhist traditions that have flourished throughout the United States. As one of these traditions, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii has both a place and a responsibility to continue sharing the Buddha’s Wisdom and Compassion—values that transcend differences and unite humanity.”

A Note in the Tribune Herald

“ Mahalo for those involved in highway clean-up effort”. “ I would just like to thank the army of folks picking up litter along Highway 19 near Pepe’ekeo on a recent Sunday. Yes, you’re seen (even though you don’t do it for accolades) and, yes, you’re appreciated!” Bob Waliszewski - Pepeekeo.



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 7. The anti-slavery clause that wasn’t

It is no secret that many Founding Fathers were slaveholders, but **there was no unified opinion on the subject**. Some, such as George Washington, freed their slaves in their wills, while others, such as Franklin, Paine, Hamilton, and Adams, were passionate abolitionists. Thomas Jefferson was a curious case: while he owned numerous slaves all his life, he was against the international slave trade and believed that America had to abolish slavery gradually to avoid civil unrest.

In his first draft of the Declaration of Independence, **Jefferson included his conflicted views on slavery** in a paragraph condemning King George III for his role in the Transatlantic Slave Trade and the affronts to liberty caused by this. Ultimately, this clause had to be removed due to the objections of many delegates who supported slavery.

Next month: “Fact 8. The Vice President”

Why Tai Chi?

Hi there,
My name is Joann Sato Hale, and I teach Chair/Sitting Tai Chi.
For the past 12 years, I’ve had the great privilege of studying under Sifu Tania Horiki Paltin. She trained in China under traditional Yang-style masters who had never before accepted women as students. Through perseverance and respect, she earned their trust and was allowed to learn the family knowledge that had been passed down for generations.
Today, I and many others benefit from her lifetime of dedication. In our Chair/Sitting Tai Chi class, you will experience Tai Chi as a gentle moving meditation. You will also discover why my parents always remarked that the Chinese live such long and healthy lives.
If you’ve ever been curious, please come join us for a friendly introduction. No experience is necessary.
The first season starts on August 7, 9:00-10:15 AM, every Friday, at Papaikou Hongwanji, YBA Hall.
Haola! Joann Hale

Lap Blankets Available for Our Community

We have lap blankets ready for distribution. These are ideal for covering knees and legs during the warmer months when wearing shorts, whether at home, during services, or while traveling.
If you or someone you know could benefit from one, please contact us at 808-895-2214 or email jmichiko1962@gmail.com. The blankets are durable, easy to wash, and thoughtfully made.
Thank you for helping us share these blessings with our temple family!



Karaoke PARTY

PAPAIKOU HONGWANJI IN THE YBA HALL

TUESDAYS 4-5 PM
STARTING JULY 21

Enjoy good music and great people

Rummage Sale

Dear Members and Friends,
We are now accepting new and gently used donations for our upcoming Rummage Sale to be held on **Saturday, Sept. 26, 2026.**
Deadline for acceptance of donations is Saturday, August 29, 2026.
Call or text May Navarro at (808) 936-6283 for drop off information.

Adopt-A-Highway Initiative

Dear Adopt-A-Highway Group Members,
Thank you for your hard work on June 28th! With 16 participants, you collected 30 bags of trash along the two-mile stretch of highway through Pepeekeo. Your efforts help keep our roads cleaner, safer, and more beautiful for everyone. Special thanks to Alvin and Judy Yoshimoto for providing snacks. We truly appreciate your dedication and continued support.
Tilden Jio, Lin Kemasato, Bob Mento, Joanne Mento, Quince Mento, May Navarro, Lorraine Okabayashi, Warren Okabayashi, Walter Otta, Leo Pesin-Melzer, Helen Shirota-Benevides, Lucille Takemoto, Roy Uyeda, Harold Uyeno, Alvin Yoshimoto, Judy Yoshimoto.

August 2026						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 11:00 AM Monthly Memorial Service Papaikou HM	3	4 4:00-5:00 PM Karaoke Papaikou YBA Hall with Cary Suefuji	5	6	7 9-10:15 4-T Chair Tai Chi Papaikou HM YBA Hall	8
9	10	11 4:00-5:00 PM Karaoke Papaikou YBA Hall	12	13	14 9-10:15 4-T Chair Tai Chi Papaikou HM YBA Hall	15
16 10:00-12:00 PM 4-H Club at Papaikou HM	17	18 4:00-5:00 PM Karaoke Papaikou YBA Hall with Cary Suefuji	19	20	21 9-10:15 4-T Chair Tai Chi Papaikou HM YBA Hall	22 1:00 PM Hatsubon Srvc 2:00-4:00 PM Bon Dance Honohina
1:30 PM Papaikou HM Kyodan Board Mtg		Newsletter publishing date				
23 2:00-4:00 PM Ping Pong in YBA Hall	24	25 4:00-5:00 PM Karaoke Papaikou YBA Hall with Cary Suefuji	26	27	28 9-10:15 4-T Chair Tai Chi Papaikou HM YBA Hall	29
4:00 PM Guitar Class Papaikou HM						
30	31					

Donation to Hamakua Four-Temple Newsletter
Gerald & May Otomo donated \$100.00 in Support of Four-Temple Newsletter
 Thank you for your kind and continued generous donations.
 In Gassho, the 4 Temple Council

All services

2026 – Four-Temple Hongwanji Council Officers

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

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

Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin	(808) 961-6677 (office)
Honohina-Papaaloea Hongwanji	Harold Uyeno , President (808) 959-9974 or (808) 936-9052 (cell)
Honomu Hongwanji	Wayne Nakanishi , President (808) 959-8950 or (808) 657-9657 (cell/text)
Papaikou Hongwanji	Alvin Yoshimoto , President (808) 9381842 (cell/text)

From Newsletter Publisher
Do you have a story, a comment, photos with captions, or a suggestion, please submit it to
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



August 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:

- August 9, 2026: Kahuku Group
- August 23, 2026: Hilo Group
- September 12, 2026: Umauma Group
- September 26, 2026: Papaaloa 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 August and September 2026

50 Years Memorial Service for 1977

Ichiji Ihara	9/14/1977	age 74
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25 Years Memorial Service for 2002

Kanao Koga	8/17/2002	age: 85
Hatsuno Alice Higuchi	8/17/2002	age: 79
Ekio Nishimoto	9/15/2002	age: 86

13 Years Memorial Service in 2014

Colin Hiroshi Naito	9/4/2014	age: 51
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Honohina-Papaalooa Hatsubon Service 2026

Hatsubon Service: August 22, 2026 1pm at the Temple.
Officiating: Rimban Takahashi.
Bon Dance: to follow the Service at 2-4 pm

Hatsubon is a Buddhist ceremony commemorating the first anniversary of a loved one's passing. This service occurs during Obon, which is the yearly tradition of remembering one's ancestors. "Hatsu-Bon" literally means first Obon. Hatsubon then is the opportunity for the family and friends to come together and reflect on their loved ones who have passed between last year's Hatsubon and this years. It is a reflection on the people in our past who have made our lives possible today.

This year, Honohina-Papaalooa Hongwanji Hatsubon will honor and remember James Nobuo Nakata. Mr. Nakata, a long-time member of Papaalooa Hongwanji, passed away on December 21, 2025 at age of 84.

Honohina-Papaalooa June 2026 Donations

IMO Kimito Matsumura
Calvin Matsumura

June Monthly Donations
Delbert Nishimoto
Harold Uyeno
M/M Ken Kumasaki
Gail Tsuha Maesato
Bob Mento
Glenn Takemoto
Robert Nishimoto
Jerry Yoshida
Gary Yoshida
Mitsuko Takasaki
M/M Hideaki Doi
Carrie Luke-Knotts
M/M George Araki
Roy Todoroki

Save the Date

August 8, 2026 Saturday: Graveyard Service 9:00 Followed by Pre- Obon prep at Honohina Hongwanji.
August 21, 2026 Friday: Pre- Obon prep Honohina-Papaalooa Hongwanji 2 pm
August 22, 2026 Saturday: Honohina-Papaalooa Hongwanji Hatsubon Service at 1 pm.
Bon Dance to follow 2-4 pm
August 23, 2026 Sunday: Guitar class at Papaikou Hongwanji at 4 pm

Honohina-Papaaloa Hongwanji Meeting

27 June 2026

Members Present:

Rev. Blayne Nakasone-Sakata, Harold Uyeno, George/Doris Araki, Lynn Arisumi, Jerry/Rose Broughton, Roy Todoroki, May Fukui, Bob Mento, Glenn Takemoto, Gary Yoshida, Jerry Yoshida, Delbert Nishimoto, Bob Nishimoto, Carrie Luke-Knotts, Lin Kumasaki, Gail Tsuha-Maesato, Debbie Kuntz, Mitsuko Takasaki, Caroline Doi

Aspiration: Rev. Blayne

Secretary's minutes: May 16, 2026 minutes approved

Treasurer's report: Glenn Takemoto: May Donations Read.

1 membership dues received

May 2026 Income, expenses and balance reported.

Minister's Report: Rev. Blayne

1. Rimban Takahashi received increase in Academic Ranking.
2. Shinran Shonin Pilgrimage is scheduled for March 2027.
Deadline for deposit 20 June 2026. Contact Rev. Blayne or HHHB office for more info. Apx cost for ground expenses \$2000
3. Rev. Blayne on leave 6/30-7/9 for official business: YBICSE chaperone

Business Items:

1. **Graveyard Maintenance:** *George-* Next Clean-up of graveyard scheduled for Friday, July 24, 2026 at 8:30. Please attend if you are able.
2. **4TC June 2026 meeting update:** *Bob Mento/Rose*
 - a. 4 Temple assessment increased to \$28 per member to cover increase minister payroll wage step and Medical Premiums as well as increase to HHHB for the 20% increase for our split of minister's expenses.
 - b. Rose will be stepping down as 4T treasures starting Jan 2026.
3. **Storage shed:** *Jerry-Storage Shed building completed by:* George, Gary, Jerry Y, Jerry B, Glenn, Don Mori.
Building just need painting and addition of front step. Motion approved unanimous for KTA gift card in appreciation for Don's assistance in building shed. Bob Mento volunteered to deliver card.
4. **Rusty chairs/Seat Cushions:** *Jerry-* Replacement of rusty chairs. Option found on Amazon 4 chairs with cushion for \$60.00 Jerry showed example of chairs with padding. Need to go thru rusty chairs and determine how many to order. Will keep green Papaaloa and buy new padded chairs for indoor use. The better brown chairs will go onto the chair rack. Honomu Hongwanji may be interested in remaining older chairs.
5. **AED Purchase:** Jerry- AED (Automated External Defibrillator) has been ordered for \$1670.08. Need to source training for usage, CPR course included. Need volunteers to attend class. Leatrice's son, Lance can do training. Gail will contact to see if he can assist with training.
6. **Highway Clean Up:** Bob Mento- Next scheduled for 28 June 8:30 at Pepekeo Post office. Highway cleanup in Dec 2025 and March 2026 had been canceled. Harold suggested changing Dec 2026 to Nov 2026 since December is already a busy month.
7. **Church Insurance renewal:** Harold, Glenn- Renewal for year completed under Island Insurance. Cost \$ 1646. Inquiry from Del if Cemetery is covered.
8. **Sizable donation from Janet Gusukuma:** Harold, Glenn- appreciation for continued generosity and support of Honohina-Papaaloa Hongwanji.

9. **Bishops Request:** Harold- Provide financial support to Resident Ministers as they provide assistance to BWA Worlds Convention to be held on September 11-12, 2027 in Honolulu. Members encouraged to attend.
10. **Papaaloo Bell:** Robert N. asked to look into hanging the Papaaloo bell up next to the Honohina bell. Need a carpenter to make it secure. And will check with the Rimban for any conflicts.
11. **Bon Dance 8/22/2026:** Harold-
 - a. Drummers confirmed
 - b. Tent canopy reserved thru Mango. 30x 30
 - c. Next door neighbor said OK to park in front of house
 - d. Food- Caroline organizing list with members.
 - e. Dancers confirmed with Jane
 - f. Jerry- PA
 - g. Choba Carrie and May volunteered
12. **Secretary Position:** Harold- Asking for volunteer for secretary. Rose filling in temporarily. Please consider.

Announcements:

1. Hono-Papa dues 2026: \$150.00
2. Highway Cleanup tomorrow
3. Honomu Hongwanji O Bon 7/18/2026, Saturday at 1 pm Hatsubon Service with Bon dance to follow.
4. Service for 7/11/26 cancelled due to minister scheduling conflict.

Closing Nembutsu: Reverend Blayne

Respectfully submitted:

Rose Broughton

**Memories of Honohina (top) Papaaloo (bottom) Obon 2020 pandemic.
Out door Hatsubon service at graveyard/Bon dance on the road!**



2016 Honohina Obon

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cnt789rk8PM&t=17s>



THE HO-U

(Dharma Shower)

Honomu Hongwanji Mission



August 2026

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

Phone: (808) 657-9657

Dana Message: Teachings of Our Buddha

One morning, a man awoke, looked into his mirror, and was startled to find that his head and face had vanished. In reality, his face had not disappeared—he had simply looked into the reversed side of the mirror and naturally saw nothing.

It is equally foolish and unnecessary for a person to suffer because they cannot find Enlightenment where they expect it to be. Like the mirror, Enlightenment itself is not at fault. The fault lies with those who remain trapped in external attachments and have built a false world of delusion within their own minds.

Once those delusions are cleared away, Enlightenment naturally reappears. It then becomes clear that the two are not opposites. Strangely enough, those who attain Enlightenment realize that without delusion, there can be no Enlightenment.

Namu Amida Butsu

*) **Zen mirror metaphors** are among the richest and most enduring images in Buddhist teachings, especially in Chan/Zen traditions. They illustrate the nature of mind, awareness, enlightenment, delusions, and practice. The core idea draws from the mirror's ability to reflect things exactly as they are—clearly, impartially, and without distortion or attachment—while remaining unchanged by what it reflects.

Mahalo For Your Generous Donations

Obon /Hatsubon , Gotan-E, Social Concerns / Other Donations

Karen Hamada
George Hanashiro
Shizue Ichinotsubo

Wayne Nakanishi
Violet & Joe Nishihira
Edward Shirota

Tsutomu Tanaka
Raymond & Hisae Yamada

Dues

Gail Nakatani for Sadako Nakatani

Name Correction To Last Month's Ho'u

Our apologies to **Kenneth Katekawa** who generously remitted his dues but was incorrectly identified. We are so sorry for this error and thank you for your generosity and understanding.

The Tail and the Head Story of Life

At one time, the tail and the head of a snake quarreled as to which should be the front. The tail said to the head" You are always taking the lead it is not fair, youought to let me lead sometimes." The head answered: "It is the law of our nature that I should be the head. I cannot change places with you."

But the quarrel went on and one day the tail fastened itself to a tree and thus prevented the head from proceeding. When the head became tired with the struggle the tail had its own way, with the result that the snake fell into a pit of fire and perished.

In the world of nature, there always exists an appropriate order and everything has its own function. If this order is disturbed, the functioning is interrupted and the whole order will go to ruin.

Showing Gratitude

My sister and I have never been really close, not like many other sibling relationships. She was the older bossy sister, I was the younger annoying brother. We fought a lot as kids, then grew apart as young adults. Our elderly mother remains our common bond that brings us together on a semi-regular basis.

So when I was talking to Mum on the phone the other night, she was holding back her tears explaining how appreciative she is for all the things my sister does for her.

This is true. She does all of the caring for my Mum. They live in the same town, I live in another country. My sister is all Mum has when she needs more than a voice.

So in the spirit of thanksgiving, I was inspired to send my sister this message.

FYI – I spoke to Mum the other night and she was holding back her tears talking about how much she appreciates your help, especially as she is getting older and less mobile, no car etc. Not sure if she has ever said it directly to you, but she certainly appreciates it. Thanks Sis.

I was wanting to show my gratitude to my sister, and to let her know how grateful Mum was for all she has done for her.

My desire was to give my sister a boost, to make her feel special and to put a smile on her face. Even if it was just for a small moment.

The amazing thing I noticed. After I hit the send button, the boost, the special feeling, the smile on the face ... was mine.

My realization at that moment.....

That showing gratitude can be infinitely more rewarding than receiving it.

Inspirational:

- Many problems in the world would disappear if we talked to each other instead of about each other.
- Never be a prisoner of your past, it was just a lesson, not a life sentence.
- Never judge people by their past. People learn. People change. People move on.

Honomu Hongwanji Points of Contact:

Wayne Nakanishi
President, Honomu Hongwanji Mission
(808) 959-8950 home / (808) 657-9657 cell/text

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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

August 2026

Acknowledgements with Gratitude - Gojikai Dues & Donations Received

From June 18, 2025 till July 17, 2026

- ✿ **Gojikai Dues:**
Hiroko Nagamine

✿ **Funeral Service:**
 - ***In Memory of Dale Kunimitsu***
Joyce Nakagawa

✿ **Hatsubon Service:**
Colleen Marushige
 - ***In Memory of Gail Kawamoto***
Leo & Tilden Jio, Jan Kawamoto, Greg & May Navarro
 - ***In Memory of Tomoko Matsuda***
Family of Tomoko Matsuda
 - ***In Memory of Toyomi Nonaka***
Anne Gordon, Nicole Gordon, Leo & Tilden Jio, Eric & Lorene Nonaka, Roy & Gail Wakamatsu
 - ***In Memory of Jeff Saturnio***
Martin & Shirley Gomes, Leo & Tilden Jio, David & Donna Verne Kohara, Kelly Saturnio, Norma Saturnio, Valentino Saturnio, Helen Shiota-Benevides
 - ***In Memory of Yukimi Yoshimoto***
Lester & Karen Inouye, Leo & Tilden Jio, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Kodani, Greg & May Navarro, Arnold & Merla Sakamoto, Lyssa & Skye Sakamoto, Roy & Arlene Shigehara, Cindy Yoshimoto & Rod Chin, Floyd Yoshimoto & Susan Mochizuki

✿ **Memorial Service:**
 - ***5 Year Memorial Service: In Memory of Ricky T Shibata***
Florence Shibata
 - ***25 Year Memorial Service: In Memory of Masao Ogata***
Wesley & Sharon Ogata

✿ **July 2026 Joint Memorial Services:**
 - ***In Memory of Torao Hirayama***
Diane Kunimoto
 - ***In Memory of Tsukimi Murashige***
Diane Kunimoto, Helen Shiota-Benevides
 - ***In Memory of Mitsuo Ojiri***
Kelly Saturnio
- ***In Memory of Katsumi Shigehara***
Diane Kunimoto
 - ***In Memory of Toyoko Shigehara***
Diane Kunimoto
 - ***In Memory of Tetsuichi Shinbo***
Eunice Hamamoto
 - ***In Memory of Yukiko Shiota***
Kay Shiota

✿ **Obon Donation:**
Nick & Carol Ah Yo, Ivane Aoki, Harlan & Jan Asano, Claire Camero, Leonard Chow, Clifford & Keri Furukado, Katsuyo Hirayama, Diann Horita, Candice Imamura, Ronald Iyo, Lembe James, Leo & Tilden Jio, Dorothy Kansako, Raymond & Dianne Kawamoto, Jerry & Betty Kosora, Diane Kunimoto, Thelma Kurokawa, Akiko Masuda, Robert Mento, Warren & Jane Miyasaki, Laverne Miyazono, Pat Morimoto, Wayne & Janet Nakanishi, Greg & May Navarro, Delbert Nishimoto, Luana Ogi, Warren & Lorraine Okabayashi, Lila Shimokawa, Eva Takaki, Ailene Urasaki, Harold Uyeno, James Waddington, Reverend Clark Watanabe, Paul Yaley, Raymond & Hisae Yamada, Charlyn Yamamoto, Joyce Yokote

✿ **Special Temple, Kyodan & Other Donations:**
 - ***In Memory of Etsuko Hanamoto***
Alvin & Judy Yoshimoto
 - ***In Memory of Melvin Kunimoto***
Ivane Aoki, Eunice Hamamoto, Lembi James, Leo & Tilden Jio, Mitsuo Murashige, Greg & May Navarro, Kay Shiota, Helen Shiota-Benevides, Harold Uyeno
 - ***In Memory of Mildred Takaki***
Mitsuo Murashige
 - ***In Memory of Masaru “Cabby” Watanabe***
Harold Uyeno
 - ***Bon Dance Concession Donations***
Lauren Kamei, Diane Kunimoto, Tania Takashiba
 - ***Bon Dance Mini Rummage Sale Donations***
Lembi James, Greg & May Navarro

✿ **Columbarium Donation:**
 - ***In Memory of Gail Kawamoto***
Jan Kawamoto

Papaikou Hongwanji Mission Kyodan Board Meeting

Sunday, June 21, 2026, 1:30 pm, YBA Hall & Virtual Zoom

Meeting was called to order by President Alvin Yoshimoto at 1:39 pm.

Aspiration led by Alvin - Three Treasures

Attendance: Alvin Yoshimoto, Tilden Jio, Lucille Takemoto, Diane Kunimoto, Helen Shiota-Benevides,

Ken Okimoto, May Navarro

Excused: Rimban Kazunori Takahashi, Rev. Nakasone Sakata, Judy Yoshimoto, Lauren Kamei

Minister's Report: (Rimban Takahashi submitted a written report since he was unable to attend)

- Rimban officiated 1 family funeral, 1 pre-cremation service, 1 inurnment service, 1 memorial service
- Rimban participated in the Academic Rank Study Program and Examination at Hongwanji in Kyoto from June 8-11. It included 3 days of intensive study sessions followed by the exam which he passed for the academic rank of Hokyo. Congratulations, Rimban!
- Rev Blayne is away on official business as YBICSE Chaperone, 6/30-7/9/26
- Rimban Takahashi will be away on official business from 7/18-7/28. He will be guest speaker for Los Angeles Betsuin Bon Service, attend a seminar, and be on vacation.
- Bishop Umitani's first term will conclude in early 2027; he is eligible for a second term, A Bishop Selection Committee has been formed.
- Photo submissions for the 2027 Hongwanji Calendar are being accepted through 9/14/26.
- Hawaii Island Nembutsu Seminar is scheduled for 10/2-10/4/26 in Waimea and Hilo.

Secretary's Minutes: Minutes of May 17, 2026 will be reported at July Board meeting.

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

- May resulted in a net loss of \$1,315.33 mainly due to commercial liability insurance payment and quarterly HHMH assessment.
- Funds available as of May 31,2026 is \$59,879.17.
- MPH had a net income of \$306.89. Rental Unit had net income of \$2,500.00.
- MPH Rentals: 1 in July & 1 in August.

- Mechanics Bank bought HomeStreet Bank. Account will be opened at Mechanics Bank.

Correspondence: Received Jodo Shinshu International Quarterly, Vol. 6, Issue 2

Project Dana, Social Concerns, Try It, Buddhist Education, MPH Manager, 4H Club: No Reports

Four Temple Council (4TC): Per member assessment will be increased \$24/month.

Maintenance (Alvin):

- Finished painting yagura, repaired downspout (Columbarium)
- MPH: Cut trees, bamboo, & grass; pressure washed sidewalks of MPH & classrooms; cleared downspout; repaired women's restroom sink; repaired refrigerator
- Pending – Storage doors replacement; railings along stairs & walkways; MPH leak above stage
- Next Workday is scheduled for Sunday, July 12, 9:00 am

Old Business:

- Goeden grant – Alvin will finish final report. Gave USB drives to Rev. Blayne.
- Security Gates Update – Alvin talked to Dylan Shropshire & will follow up
- Bon Dance – Tilden's preliminary report shows we earned more this year than last year; seemed like more dancers this year, weather was good, Concession & Rummage did well
- Pending – MPH contract, Community Bulletin Board, Web Page

New Business:

- Papaikou Bazaar, 9/26/26, 8:00-11:00 am; Papaikou Rummage, Community Rent-a-Table, 10/31/26

Closing Aspiration led by Alvin – Nembutsu

Announcements: Next Board Meeting – Sunday, July 19, 2026, 1:30 pm (in-person or by Zoom)

Sunday, 7/5/26, 11:00 am – Monthly Memorial Service, Rimban Takahashi, MC-Leo

Meeting adjourned at 2:26 pm. Submitted by May Navarro

Dear Members and Friends,

We are now accepting new and gently used donations for our upcoming Rummage Sale to be held on **Saturday, Sept. 26, 2026**. Deadline for acceptance of donations is Saturday, August 29, 2026.

For drop off information please call or text:
May Navarro at (808) 936-6283 or Judy Yoshimoto at (808) 895-2214.

Dear Papaikou Hongwanji Members, Friends, and Family,

I want to extend my deepest gratitude to each of you for your incredible support and dedication in making our Bon Dance on June 20th such a joyful and memorable event.

We are very grateful to the following volunteers for their hard work and dedication:

Judy Ah Chin	Sal Hagiwara	Karen Kanetani	Eadie Omonaka	Doris Taketa
Ivane Aoki	Kenji Hatayama	Jan Kawamoto	Lynn Orita	Joslyn Tamura
Kris Aoki	Elsie Hayashi	Tracy Kim	Walter Ota	Linda Thompson
Laurie Aoki	Jane Heit	Diane Kunimoto	Alvin Oyadomari	Sadako Tobara
Daryn Arai	Conrad Hokama	Dylan Lee	John Pascual	Dean Yokota
Jan Asano	Cindy Inoue	Angel Macanas	Leo Pesin-Melzer	Joanne Yokote
Hazel Bello	Newton Inouye	Edna Macanas	Kelly Saturnio	Alvin Yoshimoto
Leonard Chow	Brooke Isa	Colleen Marushige	Lila Shimokawa	Andrew Yoshimoto
Faith Elarionoff	Ronald Iyo	Ruth Mauricio	Cary Suefuji	Cindy Yoshimoto
Sue Escalona	Lembi James	Kira Mento	Grace Suefuji	Floyd Yoshimoto
Kristy Fujii	Tilden Jio	Susan Mochizuki	Taiko-Group	Judy Yoshimoto
Lexi Fujii	Howard Kamei	Greg Navarro	Brody Takashiba	
Clifford Furukado	Gayle Kamei	May Navarro	Mia Takashiba	
Keri Furukado	Kim Kamei	Odorikai-Dancers	Tania Takashiba	
Gerald Gushiken	Lauren Kamei	Ken Okimoto	Lucille Takemoto	

Special thanks to Ivan, Laurie, and Kris Aoki for your generous donations of shoyu pork, pretzels, mochi, cookies, popcorn, and blueberry cheesecake.

Aloha also to Daniel Loeffler for donating the corn and to Stacy Kagimoto for your donation of koko.

This event is more than just a celebration — it is a beautiful reflection of the strong community we share. Thank you for lifting each other up and for making this annual tradition even more meaningful. We truly could not do it without you!

I look forward to seeing everyone again next year and to continuing to build on the wonderful work we’ve done together.

With heartfelt thanks,
In Gassho,

Alvin Yoshimoto
President, Papaikou Hongwanji Mission

Onomea Kou 4-H Club

New Grant Supports Our Keiki Programs!

Hands-On Learning • Growing • Community

Three sewing machines, pickleball sets, a chicken coop and feed, an iPad, potting soil, fertilizer, and seeds — these are some of the items purchased with a contingency fund grant provided by Councilwoman Heather Kimball.

The Onomea Kou 4-H Club wishes to thank Papaikou Hongwanji Mission and Councilwoman Kimball’s staff for their assistance in securing this grant, which will help us develop an exciting new program for our keiki.

As we move forward, we are seeking adult volunteers to help with basic sewing, ceramics, chicken coop maintenance, cooking, vegetable gardening, and overseeing sports activities.

We meet at the temple every third Sunday of every month (except this July) from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. If you are interested in helping grow a 4-H program in our community, please text **Lauren Kamei at 808-936-8955** or **Judy Yoshimoto at 808-895-2214** and let us know how you can contribute.

Mahalo!

Upcoming Memorial Services (Nenki)

<u>25 years Service – 2002</u>		<u>7 years Service – 2020</u>	
Teruo Kitayama	8/22/2002 age 87	Kiyoko Horimoto	9/6/2020 age 100
<u>13 years Service – 2014</u>		Lillian Masako Todoroki	9/20/2020 age 94
Susumu Murashige	8/27/2014 age 78	<u>1 year Service – 2025</u>	
		Gail Keiko Kawamoto	8/5/2025 age 83
		Vivian Haraguchi	8/18/2025 age 87
		Yukimi Yoshimoto	8/31/2025 age 96

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).

August (1976 -)	Ichiro Nakatsu Yaeko Oda Mitsuo Ojiri Jitsuichi Ota Ricky Tetsuo Shibata Katsumi Shigehara Toyoko Shigehara Tetsuichi Shinbo Yukiko Shirota Leslie Kazuhiko Sumiye Ronald Makoto Takazawa Gladys Shie Taketa Gloria (Aya) Yanaga Misue Shimizu Yoshizawa Fumio Yoshioka	September (1976 -)	Jiro Nakano Maude "Fumi" Nakao Akira Nishizaki Masako Ojiri Shizuko Ozaki Kazutsugu Seikaku Sunao Shirota Lillian Masako Todoroki Kiyoshi Benjamin Urabe Nobuo Yamaoka Tetsuo Yamaoka Tadashi Yamashita Taeko Florence Yanagida
Masaichi Hayashi Hiroshi Hiramoto Noboru Hirayama Torao Hirayama Mamoru Inoue Mildred Kaneshiro Aiko Oda Kubo Hatsu Maruichi Komutsu Mihara Kumezo Mihara Lawrence Setsuo Miki Yoshimi Minamoto Hisayo Mori Kimiyo Mori Herbert Isamu Morimoto Tsukimi Murashige		Alvin Tadashi Aoki Elaine Burkhart Awaji Hiramoto Matsukichi Hiramoto Sakae Hirano Milton Hiura Kiyoko Horimoto Toyohiko Kawashima Gordon Tamio Kurokawa Shizue (Takemoto) Masaki Megumi Matsui Amy Miyamoto Ume Nagamine	

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