Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission November 2026

The Messenger

Nurturing Nembutsu: Sharing Gratitude

Calendar of Events

November 2026	December 2026
01 Sun 9:00am Waialua Hongwanji Clean Up - No service at Wahiawa Hongwanji 08 Sun 9:00am NO Sunday Service at Wahiawa Hongwanji (Temple leadership attending closing service at Waialua Hongwanji) 11 Wed. 9:00 Wahiawa Veterans Day Parade (meet at Fred Wright Park) 15 Sun 9:00am Sunday Service with Tokudo Minister Assistant Rod Moriyama 22 Sun 9:00 Eitaikyo Service with Rev. Kevin Kuniyuki 29 Sun 9:00am Sunday Service	06 9:00am - Bodhi Day Service 13 9:00am WHM General Membership Meeting and Clean Up 19 2:00 - 3:00pm Mochi order pick up 20 9:00am Sunday Service 31 5:00 - 7:00pm Joya-e Service

🧹 Temple Clean-Up Day – Volunteers Needed! 🧽

Sunday, December 13, 2026

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

We invite you to join us for our upcoming Temple Clean-Up Day on Sunday, December 13, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. This is a great opportunity to come together as a sangha and help refresh and care for our temple.

Volunteers are needed to assist with a variety of tasks, including:

- Cleaning windows, floors, and light fixtures
- Wiping down surfaces throughout the temple

In addition to cleaning, we would also appreciate help preparing lunch for our hardworking volunteers. If you're more comfortable in the kitchen or prefer to support behind the scenes by donating a dessert, this is a great way to contribute!

Whether you can stay the whole time or just lend a hand for part of the morning, your help is truly valued. Many hands make light work, and your participation helps keep our temple clean and welcoming for all.

If you’re able to volunteer or would like to help with lunch preparation, please contact us at office@wahiwahongwani.org .

Thank you for your support—we hope to see you there!

Minister's Message - Why the Dharma Keeps Rolling for Us



When Shakyamuni first attained Enlightenment, he thought long and hard about sharing his awareness with others. His first act was to contact 5 ascetics with whom he had been studying.

For six years, Shakyamuni practiced side by side with these five ascetics. But one day, he realized that extreme self-mortification wasn't the way to true freedom. He stepped down from the mountain, and when he accepted a bowl of milk from a young maid, Sujata, the five men felt betrayed and left him behind, thinking he had given up.

Yet, the moment he attained enlightenment, who do you think he wanted to reach out to first? It was those exact same five people who had walked away from him.

Imagine someone who always says, "I don't need the Buddha. If trouble comes, that's just life, I'll deal with it. I'm living my life my way." But then, the moment a real crisis hits and everything falls apart, panic sets in, and instinctively, a quiet prayer or the Nembutsu slips out. In that exact moment of vulnerability, he realizes something amazing: even when the person thought he turned his back on the Buddha, the Buddha never once turned His back on the person. He was right there all along.

Shakyamuni wanted those five ascetics to know this exact feeling—that no matter who we are or what we have done, we are never abandoned. He knew that once they truly felt this, they would never want to stop listening to the Dharma. That's why he chose them first.

When he shared this, the Wheel of the Dharma started to turn. It's like a heavy wheel rolling down a hill—once it's set in motion, absolutely no one can stop it.

And look at us today. Over 2,600 years after Shakyamuni Buddha passed away, that very same wheel is still turning, reaching people all over the world. This tells us something so reassuring: the truth never fades away. The Buddha's teaching continues to move through time, offering us a timeless home whenever we need it.

Namo Amidabutsu

In Gassho,
Rev. Kojun Hashimoto



Honoring the memory and lasting legacy of our Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission BWA members at our annual Tsuito-E Memorial Service. We were honored to welcome guest speaker Mrs. Kamuro (Mililani Hongwanji BWA), pictured here with Rev. Hashimoto, Mrs. Hashimoto, and Tokudo Minister Assistant Rod Moriyama

Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission Office Hours: Tuesday, Friday & Saturday 9:00am - noon
(Appointments are highly recommended)
Phone: 808-622-4320 **Email: office@wahiawahongwanji.org**
To ensure clarity and accuracy, email is the preferred contact method. This avoids the potential for spelling mistakes or misunderstandings that can arise from unclear answering machine messages
www.wahiawashinbuddhists.org
Follow us on Instagram - @whm96786
Columbarium Hours: Daily 10:00am - 3:00pm

Presidents' Corner



November is the month of gratitude and giving at the Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission. As we reflect on those who made it possible for us to receive the Buddha-Dharma, we also have an opportunity to extend compassion through the Eitaikyo service and the Social Concerns Fund Drive. Together these observances honor the past and put compassion into practice.

Eitaikyo

Eitaikyo celebrates and honors ancestors, past generations, and others whose dedication helped preserve and transmit the Buddha-Dharma. Because of their efforts, we're able to hear the teachings of Amida Buddha and live a life of Nembutsu today.

Eitaikyo:

- **Continues the Dharma:** It supports the chanting of sutras and the preservation of Buddhist teachings.
- **Honors those who have passed:** We remember ancestors, temple members, and all deceased individuals, including those without surviving family.
- **Expresses gratitude:** We recognize the kindness and dedication of our predecessors and spiritual teachers.

An Eitaikyo offering envelope is enclosed. To participate, please place your offering in the envelope and return it to the temple. Your contribution supports the continued transmission of the Dharma and honors those who came before us.

Social Concerns Fund

The Social Concerns Fund provides an opportunity to put compassion into action. Established in 1982 by the Legislative Assembly of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, the Committee on Social Concerns supports organizations and programs that promote peace, alleviate suffering, assist disadvantaged, or marginalized people, and respond to major disasters.

During the year 2024-2025, contributions of **$32,955.00** supported worthy organizations and programs. Community giving from the Social Welfare Fund totaled **$62,261**, with a fund balance of **$198,567.69 as of December 31, 2025.**

The 2025-2026 collection ended in September 2026. Donations assisted communities affected by:

- **Kumamoto earthquake** in Japan
- **Wildfire** in Spokane, Washington
- **Kona Lows storm**
- **Hurricane Lala**
- **Hurricane Nolo**

Contributions also supported community organizations, including food banks throughout Hawaii.

A Social Concerns Fund envelope for the new campaign is enclosed. The campaign runs from **November 1, 2026, through August 31, 2027.** To contribute, please, place your donation in the envelope and return to the temple **by August 31, 2027.**

For either fund, please make checks payable to **Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission**. You may return your completed envelope by mail, place it in the temple's offering box, or give it to a temple representative. If you would like to support both funds, please use the appropriate envelope for each donation. The temple will combine all Social Concerns Fund contributions and forward one check to Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii by the end of September 2027.

Whether we give through Eitaikyo or the Social Concerns Fund, our offerings express gratitude and compassion in daily life. Every contribution, regardless of size, is meaningful. Thank you for joining us in honoring those who came before us and supporting people and communities in need.

In Gassho,
Venus and Carolyn

WHM Annual Eitaikyo Service Sunday, November 22nd

Honoring Our Past, Preserving Our Future: The Eitaikyo Service & Sustaining Our Spiritual Home

Eitaikyo, often translated as the Sangha Memorial Service, holds a deeply personal meaning for our temple family. Literally meaning "continuous sutra chanting," Eitaikyo is one of our most sacred major services. It is our time to pay tribute to the loved ones, mentors, and pioneers who walked this path before us, honoring their Buddhist names (*Homyo*) and expressing our heartfelt gratitude for their enduring legacy.

Our temple is so much more than a building; it is the living heart of our Sangha. Generations before us poured their hearts, time, and care into making Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission a sanctuary for reflection, community, and the shared study of the Dharma. Through their dedication, warmth, and shared joy of the Nembutsu, they built a home away from home—a welcoming, safe space filled with fond memories, laughter, and warm reunions, where we support one another through every season of life.

Above all, the Eitaikyo Service offers each of us an opportunity to pause, reflect, and immerse ourselves in the compassionate working of the Buddha. We warmly invite you and your family to join us for this special service as we join our voices in chanting the sutras and come together in gratitude, remembrance, and community.

Supporting the Eitaikyo Fund

To ensure our sacred space remains vibrant for future generations, especially as we navigate shifting membership numbers, we invite you to support the **Eitaikyo Fund**.

What is the Eitaikyo Fund?

Unlike general operating funds that handle daily expenses, the Eitaikyo Fund is an endowment dedicated to the temple's long-term sustainability. Our goal is to reach **$1,000,000**, creating a steady, lasting revenue stream to focus on:

- **Campus Maintenance & Upkeep:** Addressing essential repairs, preserving historic buildings, and keeping our facilities safe and accessible.
- **Long-Term Resilience:** Establishing a strong financial foundation so our mission and Nembutsu teachings thrive for decades to come.
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A Tax-Smart Way to Give: Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD)

If you are 70½ or older, you can support the temple while benefiting from a tax-smart giving strategy:

- **Satisfy Your RMD:** If you are 73 or older, gifts sent directly from your traditional IRA count toward your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD).
- **Reduce Taxable Income:** QCDs are excluded from your taxable gross income, whether you itemize deductions or not.
- **2026 Limit:** Eligible individuals can gift up to $111,000 directly from an IRA annually.
- **Key Requirement:** Funds must transfer **directly** from your IRA custodian to the temple to qualify (checks made payable to you first become taxable income).
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How to Contribute

- **Direct IRA Transfer (QCD):** Instruct your IRA custodian to issue payment directly to the temple.
- **Check:** Make payable to **Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission** with *"Eitaikyo Fund"* written in the memo line.
- **Estate Planning:** Name the Eitaikyo Fund in your long-term estate plans or bequests.

Questions or Need More Information?

If you have questions or would like details on how to contribute or set up a gift, please contact **Rod Moriyama** at **rmoriyama@gmail.com**.

Together, we can fortify the foundation of our temple home. Thank you for your continued dedication to our community and the Nembutsu teachings!

2026 Wahiawa Hongwanji Eitaikyo Service Response Form
Sunday, November 22, 2026

How Recognition & the Eitaikyo Service Work
We want to shift our focus away from rigid "qualification" numbers and toward building a habit of regular giving to support the temple's future. However, to help explain how service recognition works:

- **Service Recognition:** The threshold for individual recognition is $500 per person. Recognized individuals are featured in our slideshow.
- **Service Day Name Announcements:** Only honorees who have an attending representative (family member or friend) present in the temple will have their names called out during the service. Please complete the form below and check in when you arrive.

1. Name of person completing this form: _____

2. Mailing Address: _____

_____

3. Best contact phone number (if we have any questions): _____

4. Who is/are your honoree(s)?
Please list your honoree(s) below. Providing all names ensures that each honoree will be recognized during the Eitaikyo Service. (You do not need to be the point of contact)

	Honoree Name - Last Name, First Name	Point of contact?
1		☐ Yes ☐ No
2		☐ Yes ☐ No
3		☐ Yes ☐ No
4		☐ Yes ☐ No
5		☐ Yes ☐ No

Kindly let us know if you will attend	Number of People
5. Including yourself, how many people will be attending the Eitaikyo **service?**	
6. Including yourself, how many people will be attending the Eitaikyo **reception (following the service)?**	

Please return this form to Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission - Eitaikyo, 1067 California Avenue, Wahiawa, HI 96786 by Wednesday 12 noon, November 11th.
For questions, contact us at office@wahiawahongwanji.org
To ensure clarity and accuracy, email is the preferred contact method. This avoids the potential for spelling mistakes or misunderstandings that can arise from unclear answering machine messages.



Sashiko and Sangha is back!

Due to popular demand, the group will continue to meet regularly on the first Sunday of every month.

Participation cost: Please consider a $5 donation to the temple. Special projects may have additional fees.

Interested in joining? Please email Jenni.okuma@gmail.com.

About Sashiko and Sangha

Explore the peaceful art of Japanese Sashiko! Practice traditional hand-stitching techniques to transform simple thread and fabric into intricate geometric patterns. Beyond learning a classic craft, the workshop offers a wonderful space for quiet focus, creativity, and warm fellowship.

Thank you to Jen Okuma for sharing her expertise, and to everyone who joined us to learn and create together. We look forward to seeing you at our next monthly gathering on **Sunday, November 1 at 9:00 am**

Pictured left: Highlights from our previous Sashiko & Sangha project sessions.

Jr. YBA Happenings

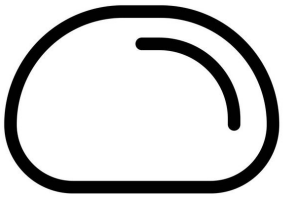
We'd like to extend another HUGE Mahalo for all of you who placed orders for manju and your generous donations. We hope that you enjoy them! We made over 1,600 pieces of manju and had over 300 orders. Also, we want to send a big THANK YOU to Waipahu Hongwanji for allowing us to use your kitchen and hall. And Thank You to the Aiea and Waipahu BWA ladies and the Waipahu Karate Club for volunteering your time to help us make manju and pack all the orders.

We have a fun activity being planned on **NOVEMBER 8** at the Great Big Game Show at Ala Moana. This will be open to anyone who is of Jr. YBA eligibility. You do not need to be a Jr. YBA member to attend, cost is $20 per person with the United subsidizing $25. Please RSVP by **NOVEMBER 1**.

On November 11, please join us to walk in the Veteran's day parade in Wahiawa. You can park at Wahiawa Hongwanji and meet at Wahiawa District park. The parade ends at Ka'ala Elementary School.

As we move into the holiday season, we will be collecting toys for Toys for Tots again this year and will be posting the collection dates at the various temples once we receive our boxes from our coordinator.





WHM 2026 Mochi Sale

The end of the year will be here before we know it! Plan ahead by ordering your mochi now! This year our merry mochi makers will be making ko mochi, so place your order now! **Pick up will be on Saturday, Dec. 19th 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

Please send your order and payment by Nov. 21, 2026 to:

Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission
Attn: Henry Kitagawa
1067 California Ave
Wahiawa, HI 96786

----------(cut along the dotted line)----------

Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission Fundraiser – Mochi Order Form
Deadline to order is November 21, 2026

Name:_____
(First) (Last)

Telephone #: _____

Pounds of Ko mochi: _____ x $12.00 = $_____ total amount for mochi

Donation to WHM (optional): $_____

Total Amount Enclosed: $_____

Make checks payable to: Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission

Who will pick up my mochi order

_____ I will pick up my mochi at Wahiawa Hongwanji on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19th from 2:00pm-3:00pm

____ (Name of person picking up)_____

will pick up my order on Dec. 19th. His/Her phone number is _____

Office Use Only

Date received _____ Cash/Check #_____ Date of Check _____Received by_____