



The Messenger

Nurturing Nembutsu: Cultivating Awareness

Calendar of Events

November 2025

02 Sun 9:00am Eitaikyo Service with Rev. David Nakamoto
09 Sun 9:00 am No service (Temple leaders attending Waianae Hongwanji Closing service)
11 Tues 9:00am Veteran's Day Parade
16 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service
16 Sun 10:00am - 3:00 pm Blood Drive
23 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service
30 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service

December 2025

07 Sun 9:00 am Bodhi Day Service
14 Sun 9:00am Temple Clean Up and General membership meeting (no service)
20 Sat 2:00pm-3:00pm mochi order pick up
21 Sun 9:00 am Sunday Service
28 Sun NO Sunday Service
31 Wed 5:00pm-7:00pm Joya-e Service

🧹 Temple Clean-Up Day – Volunteers Needed! 🧽 Sunday, December 14, 2025 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

We invite you to join us for our upcoming Temple Clean-Up Day on Sunday, December 14, 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
- Possibly assisting with moving some heavier furniture

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 amy.kanemaru@wahiawahongwani.org.

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



Minister's Message - The Spirit of "Jiri-Rita": Finding Joy in My Daughter's Journey.



In Buddhism, there is a beautiful teaching called Jiri-Rita (自利利他), which means “to benefit oneself and others at the same time.” It reminds us that true happiness does not come from thinking only of ourselves, but from realizing that when we act with kindness and sincerity, our actions naturally bring joy and comfort to others as well.

Recently, I had the honor of attending the graduation ceremony of my daughter, Kano, who completed her flight attendant training. It was a deeply moving experience. She not only achieved her lifelong dream of becoming a flight attendant, but she also endured a long process of interviews, followed by eight intense weeks of training and examinations. I learned that some trainees, unfortunately, could not complete the course, so I felt both proud and relieved that she was able to finish successfully.

When we board an airplane, we are literally not standing on solid ground. There can be moments of turbulence and unease. Yet, the calm and gentle smiles of the flight attendants have the power to ease passengers’ anxiety. Their presence brings peace during uncertainty — just like the compassion (jihi, 慈悲) of the Buddha, who embraces all beings without judgment.

After the ceremony, a few of her classmates came to me and said, “Thanks to Kano, I was able to get through the training.” Hearing that filled my heart with joy. I realized that, from her childhood, she has listened to Buddhist values, she had naturally learned the spirit of Jiri-Rita — caring for others while also growing herself.

This reminds me of a story from the Buddhist sutras. Once, a bodhisattva saw a bird struggling in a storm. He sheltered it with his robe, though he became drenched and cold. When the storm passed, the bird flew away singing — and the bodhisattva felt a deep warmth in his heart. In that simple act of compassion, he discovered that helping others is never a loss; it is the true path to one’s own peace. (by Jātaka Tales)

In the same way, when we support others — whether as a parent, a friend, or a fellow traveler in life — our hearts are also nurtured. This is the living practice of Jiri-Rita.

Let us all remember to live with gratitude and a sense of “Okagesama” — the awareness that we are supported by countless unseen causes and conditions. Each day, may we act with appreciation and kindness toward others, knowing that such actions enrich our own lives as well.



Namu Amida Butsu

In Gassho,
Rev. Kojun Hashimoto



And if you happen to fly with United Airlines on the mainland someday, please keep an eye out — you might find my daughter on your flight, offering a warm smile that carries the heart of Jiri-Rita across the sky.

Presidents' Corner



At the last Wahiawa Hongwanji Board of Trustees meeting on September 21st, there was a discussion about the Bylaws, especially about the officers of Wahiawa Hongwanji. Currently, we are not in compliance with the Bylaws because we have two presidents, instead of one. The Board sought to remedy the situation by amending with the insertion of [President or Presidents] in Articles VII, VIII, XI. The following changes will be in red to signify the changes requested by the amendment.

ARTICLE VII – OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

Section 1. The elected officers of WAHIAWA HONGWANJI MISSION shall be a President [President or Presidents], three Vice Presidents, one Secretary, one Assistant Secretary, one Treasurer, one or more Assistant Treasurers.

Section 4. Any vacancy occurring in any of the aforesaid offices shall be filled by the President [President or Presidents] subject to approval by the Board of Trustees. The person so chosen shall serve the unexpired term.

ARTICLE VIII – Duties

Section 3. The President [President or Presidents] shall preside at all meetings of the WAHIAWA HONGWANJI MISSION Board of Trustees. The President [President or Presidents] shall appoint chairmen for all standing and special committees. The President [President or Presidents] shall have general charge of all business and affairs of the WAHIAWA HONGWANJI MISSION, subject to the direction of the Executive Board of Trustees.

Section 4. One or up to 3 Vice Presidents shall be designated with duties as follows:

The Vice Presidents shall assist the President [President or Presidents] and act in his/her [their] place in the event of his/her [their] absence. He/She shall also be assigned other duties by the President [President or Presidents], subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees. Duties to be assigned shall include advisory and ex-officio positions in any of the Standing, Finance, Administration, Fundraising, Publication and Property Management (including Maintenance) Committees. Chairpersons for each of the above committees shall be appointed by the President [President or Presidents] subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees.

The Vice President appointed by the President [Presidents or Presidents] will chair the nominating committee.

Section 7. All contracts, deeds, bills of sale, mortgages, promissory notes, and other important instruments of WAHIAWA HONGWANJI MISSION shall be signed by any two of the following: President [President or Presidents], any Vice President, the Treasurer, any Assistant Treasurer. The Board of Trustees shall establish all special committees.

ARTICLE XI – Meeting

Section 5. Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held at least 6 times a year. Executive Board meetings shall be held upon the call of the President [President or Presidents].

The approval of the amendments to the Bylaws will be on December 14 at the General Membership meeting after the temple cleanup. We need a 2/3 vote to pass this amendment for our leadership to continue. We'll see you at the clean up and meeting beginning at 9am.

In Gassho,
Venus and Carolyn
Co-Presidents

The Latest News

TOKUDO

The Tokudo Shurai (training) took place from September 30 to October 10, 2025, at the Tokudo Training Center next to the Nishiyama Betsuin in Kyoto, Japan. It is an intensive program covering Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha's doctrine, history, bylaws, and rituals, preparing participants to receive *Docho*, a certificate confirming their priesthood. Participants from overseas included Dexter Mar (Hawaii Betsuin), Raymond Takiue Jr. (Moiliili Hongwanji), and Rodney Moriyama (Wahiawa Hongwanji) from Hawaii, along with five members from the Buddhist Churches of America, one from the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples of Canada, and four from Europe. They completed the rigorous training and participated in the solemn Tokudo Ordination Ceremony led by Monshu Kojun Ohtani at Hongwanji on October 9, 2025.



COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL CONCERNS

November is a special time to reflect on gratitude. Eitaikyo observance and the Thanksgiving holiday offer opportunities to acknowledge the many causes and conditions supporting our lives and how deeply connected we are to the world around us. In this spirit of thankfulness, we launch our 2025–2026 Social Concerns Fund Drive.

Your generosity allows the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii to support deserving organizations and programs that foster positive change in our community. In response to federal funding cuts, we increased our support for local food banks that fight food insecurity, donated to Hawaii Public Radio and PBS Hawaii to ensure access to quality public media, and supported Spill the Tea Café and The Trevor Project, which provide vital services for LGBTQIA+ youth. We also contributed to relief efforts following the devastating wildfires in Southern California and the earthquakes in Myanmar and Thailand.

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii continues to award Golden Chain Grants to support Sangha-based compassionate actions and Dana Matching Grants to boost the impact of charitable giving by organizations in the Hawaii Kyodan Ohana. We hope you will take advantage of these innovative programs that help share our values with the wider community.

The fundraising campaign will run from November 1, 2025, through August 31, 2026. Please make all checks payable to WAHIAWA HONGWANJI MISSION. WHM will then send a single combined check to the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii.

Your continued support for our Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive is deeply appreciated. Mahalo!

Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission Office Hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday 9:00am - noon
(Appointments are highly recommended)

Phone: 808-622-4320

Email: office@wahiawahongwanji.org (allow 48 hours for email response)

www.wahiawashinbuddhists.org

Columbarium Hours: Daily 10:00am - 3:00pm

The Latest News Continued



DOCOMOMO Hawaii

On October 11, 2025, a walking tour was conducted by the DOCOMOMO Hawaii organization. The acronym stands for Documentation and Conservation of the Modern Movement, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to the documentation and conservation of buildings, sites, and neighborhoods.

Tonia Moy, architect with FAI Architects, an award-winning design and preservation firm, was the docent for the group of about 25 people. The group was interested in the modern look of the temples and churches in Wahiawa. According to the brochure distributed, the design of the churches changed from the previous designs that always displayed a cross. In the newer designs, the roof design was the most significant design change. Glancing through their brochure, the churches in Wahiawa displayed similarities.

The group was invited into the temple and Rev. Hashimoto explained about the naijin and the significance of the items. Carolyn Uchiyama gave a short history of the temple's origins. After ringing the bonscho bell, the group continued their walk to the next church.



A TASTE OF WAHIAWA

Bring the whole 'ohana to A Taste of Wahiawā on Saturday, November 15, 2025, from 1:00–6:00 p.m. at the Wahiawā Value-Added Product Development Center (1001 California Ave.)!

This year's expanded Market Day features double the local vendors and artisans, showcasing Wahiawā's best food, crafts, and creativity. Enjoy live music by the Royal Hawaiian Band, dynamic performances by Ryugen Taiko, and a special cooking demonstration with hometown chef Alan Wong.

The Wahiawā Hongwanji Mission will also be there, serving up some of its beloved local specialties: takuan, inari sushi, Spam Bowl, and Nishime Bowl. Be sure to stop by our booth and enjoy these delicious favorites!

Hop on free trolley rides to explore Wahiawā's history and flavors. Free parking is available at Wahiawā Town Center and Wahiawā Hongwanji Mission, with additional street parking nearby. Come for the food, stay for the culture, and celebrate the heart of Wahiawā at this fun community event!



TASTE THE TOWN:
Wahiawā
MARKET DAY & FOOD CRAWL

November 15, 2025
1:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

FREE EVENT | Wahiawā Value-Added Product Development Center
1001 California Ave., Wahiawā, HI 96786

This family-friendly celebration builds upon the WAPDC's popular Wahiawā Market Day, featuring Wahiawā businesses, value-added entrepreneurs, live entertainment, FREE trolley rides, and a special session with Chef Alan Wong.

PRESENTED BY:
WVAPDC x WAHIAWĀ FRESH x C&C OFFICE OF ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION

Support Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission at Kahala Mall's 12th Annual Very Merry Event!



The holiday season is near, and we invite you to support Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission through a fun and festive fundraiser, the **12th Annual Very Merry Event (VME)** at Kahala Mall!

We are excited to participate once again in this special event, where **non-profit groups like ours keep 100% of the profits** from ticket sales!

Here's how it works:

 **Purchase a \$5 VME Ticket** - Each ticket gives the holder access to a weekend of **exclusive holiday savings, exciting perks, and special offers** from nearly **50 stores and restaurants at Kahala Mall on DECEMBER 12-14, 2025 (Friday - Sunday)**.

 **Very Merry Event Weekend** - Enjoy all the perks during the event weekend! Shop, dine, and save while supporting a great cause!

 **Every Ticket Sale Supports Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission** - All proceeds from our ticket sales come directly to us

Ticket Pickup or Delivery Options

- **Pick up your tickets** after **Sunday Service on November 16th 9:30 AM - 10:00 AM**
- **Or have them mailed to you** by enclosing a **self-addressed stamped envelope** with your order form!

This is a fantastic way to kick off the holidays, support local businesses, and contribute to our temple, all at once. Tell your friends and family! The more, the merrier!

Mahalo for your continued support!

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Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission's Fundraiser – The Very Merry Event Ticket Order Form

Deadline to order is 9:30 AM on November 16, 2025

Name: _____
(First) (Last)

Telephone #: _____

of tickets: _____ x \$5.00 = \$_____ total amount for tickets

Donation to WHM (optional): \$_____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$_____

Office Use Only

Date received _____ Cash/Check # _____ Date of Check _____ Received by _____

Jr. YBA Happenings

Thank you to all of you who made orders for our Manju Fundraiser for Hawaii Buddhist Youth (HBY) Month! Our Juniors handmade and baked over 1600 pieces of manju to fulfill over 300 orders and we know many of you really enjoy this treat. A portion of the proceeds will be going to the charity that was chosen at our summer convention, Coral Reef Alliance, which works locally, regionally, and globally to save coral reefs and keep them healthy. We wanted to support their work especially since we are surrounded by coral reefs.

We had a really great time at our Fall Federation meeting on October 18th. We were able to discuss some important upcoming dates for 2026 and spend some time with our Jr. YBA friends from neighbor islands and Honolulu. We had an afternoon ride on the Historic Train from Ewa Beach to Kahe Point with a stop in Ko Olina where we were able to disembark. Some people got treats from Starbucks and others got ice cream from Black Sheep Creamery. We ended the day with a little shopping at Ka Makana Ali'i before our friends went back to the Big Island and Maui.

United Jr. YBA of O'ahu

TOYS FOR TOTS

THE JUNIOR YOUNG BUDDHIST ASSOCIATION OF OAHU IS COLLECTING DONATIONS FOR THE UPCOMING HOLIDAY SEASON!

- Toys must be new and unwrapped
- Refrain from large items (bicycles, musical instruments, etc. Age range
- from Pre-school to High School

Drop-off locations:

Oahu District Buddhist Temples:
Aiea, Ewa, Pearl City, Mililani, Wahiawa, Waipahu

Questions? email jrybafoahu@gmail.com

Accepting Donations through November 30

After last year's successful Toys for Tots drive, we have decided to do it again this year! Please see the flyer in the newsletter. We will be collecting new, unwrapped toys throughout the month of November. We will not be accepting any large donations such as bicycles or instruments.

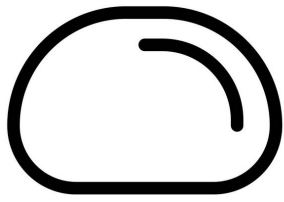
Upcoming Events:
Wahiawa Veterans Day Parade:
Tuesday, November 11 – more information will be given at the next meeting.

Upcoming Important Dates:
Next Meeting: Sunday,
November 2, at Mililani
Hongwanji at 1:00pm
SAVE THE DATE!

Winter Federation Meeting:
Saturday, January 24, 2026 –
Sunday, January 25, 2026.

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

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 jrybafoahu@gmail.com if you have questions or for more information.



WHM 2025 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! In support of Honpa Hongwanji of Hawaii's "Going Green" initiative and to keep costs down, you must bring your own container to put your mochi in when you come to pick it up on Saturday, Dec. 20th 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Mochi will be waiting for pick up on parchment paper and will be placed in your container when you come to pick up your order. In the past people have brought reusable containers, soda boxes lined with waxed paper or gallon ziploc bags to take their mochi home in. WHM will not be providing "take out" containers or bags.

Please send your payment to Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission, 1067 California Ave, Wahiawa, HI 96786 by **Nov. 22, 2025.**

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Wahiawa Hongwanji Mission Fundraiser – Mochi Order Form

Deadline to order is **November 22, 2025**

Name: _____
(First) (Last)

Telephone #: _____

Pounds of Ko mochi: _____ x \$10.00 = \$_____ 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 20th from 2:00pm-3:00pm**

_____ (Name of person picking up) _____ will pick up my order on **Dec. 20th**. His/Her phone number is _____

Office Use Only

Date received _____ Cash/Check # _____ Date of Check _____ Received by _____