



ONENESS

KAPAA HONGWANJI BUDDHIST TEMPLE

October 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP



The Maui wildfire has brought significant loss of life and property. The town of Lahaina has been devastated, and among the tragic loss of property was the Lahaina Hongwanji Mission. As of today, we have not yet been allowed to enter the property and, therefore, cannot officially provide the temple's status. Many people on Maui, including Rev. Ai Hironaka and his family and Lahaina Hongwanji members, continue living with grief over what they have lost and anxiety about their uncertain future. We have lost so much. What we have lost will never come back. However, despite these challenging times, there is always a lay of hope. Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii is committed to extending a comprehensive and compassionate response to this unprecedented disaster. Here are some updates on the actions we have taken thus far.

Since HHMH established the Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund on August 10, we have raised over \$400,000. We thank many individuals and organizations, including ministers, temples, BWAs, Lay Associations, Jr. YBA, PBA, BCA, Canada, Japan, and worldwide.

The Committee on Social Concerns has donated to various organizations and affected individuals. We have processed \$2,000 Omimai for each member of Lahaina Hongwanji and other members of our Hawaii Kyodan Ohana who have been impacted by the wildfires, totaling \$222,000.

The Maui Wildfire Emergency Response Ad-Hoc Committee, which includes representatives of the Office of the Bishop, Social Concerns Committee, and ministers and lay leaders of the Maui District Hongwanji Temples, has been meeting frequently. The Ad-Hoc Committee serves as a central coordinating forum for addressing the needs of Lahaina Hongwanji and other Maui Hongwanji temple members affected by the disaster.

The Office of the Bishop has been closely communicating with Honzan, our mother temple headquarters in Kyoto. They have also launched a fundraising campaign and are actively soliciting donations from those who reside in Japan. The Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha and its affiliated organizations have also generously contributed financially to our relief effort.

The State Ministers Association and the Maui Ministers Association will host the Maui Wildfires Memorial Service on Sunday, September 24, 2023, at 10 a.m., at the Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Hondo.

I apologize that I cannot list all of the compassionate actions you extend to HHMH and to those on Maui. If you would like to know more about our relief efforts, please go to <https://hongwanjihawaii.com/blog/tag/maui-fires-2023/>.

Recently, there was news that the Lahaina Banyan Tree's greenery blooms in a sea of dead leaves. After just over a month since the blazing fires, new clusters of green leaves have begun sprouting on its massive branches. It once again reminds us of the teaching of impermanence. Life goes on. The power of life is so strong that amidst the unimaginable tragedy, we will stand strong. We stand in solidarity with those experiencing suffering and sorrow, and together, we will move forward in rebuilding our community. A new life, a new community, will sprout and thrive once again.

Namo Amida Butsu
Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani

MINISTERIAL ASSIGNMENT

Rev. Ai Hironaka, currently serving at Lahaina Hongwanji Mission as its Resident Minister, will be assigned Kahului Hongwanji Mission as its Resident Minister, effective November 1, 2023. He will also continue his duties as the minister of Lahaina Hongwanji Mission.

SUPPORT FROM JAPAN FOR MAUI WILDFIRE RELIEF EFFORT

The Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha, the Headquarters in Kyoto, Japan, has sent their initial financial aid to the HHMH for our relief effort.

10,000,000 Yen for HHMH

1,000,000 Yen for the State of Hawaii

They've also launched a fundraising campaign and are actively soliciting donations from those who reside in Japan. <https://www.hongwanji.or.jp/news/cat5/002152.html>

Monshu Kojun Ohtani, Urakata Lady Ruzumi Ohtani, Monshu Emeritus Koshin Ohtani, and Urakata Emeritus Lady Noriko Ohtani sent their messages of condolences and sympathies to Rev. Ai Hironaka and Lahaina Hongwanji members.

Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha Buddhist Women's Federation of Japan also provided financial aid to HHMH that would be used for Reverend Hironaka to purchase the necessary robes and supplies for his ministerial duties.

HMMH TRIPLE CELEBRATION

We are pleased to inform you that the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii will commemorate the Triple Celebration on September 7 & 8, 2024. The year 2023 will mark the 850th anniversary of the birth of Shinran Shonin, the founder of the Jodo Shinshu Buddhist tradition, and 2024 will be the 800th anniversary of the establishment of the Jodo Shinshu teaching and the 135th anniversary of the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii. Accordingly, in 2024, we will observe commemorative services and workshops on those auspicious occasions.

Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii Triple Celebration

Theme: Sharing the Joy of Nembutsu Together: Our Living Heart of Gratitude

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Rev. Takashi Miyaji (Southern Alameda County Buddhist Church)

Date: September 7 & 8, 2024

Place: Ala Moana Hotel

The details will be shared later.

2023 MINISTER LAY ASSISTANT RETREAT

The purpose of the retreat is to review and enrich the knowledge of the participants in the rituals and traditions of the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji -ha, General Buddhism and Shin Buddhism. The knowledge and skills that are associated with functioning as a Minister's Lay Assistant will be covered during the retreat, with the goal of preparing MLAs to offer worship services in the absence of their Resident Minister. The retreat is an opportunity to learn and/or refresh one's skills and knowledge that is associated with the role of a Minister's Lay Assistant, but completion does not result in certification. The conditions of certification are presented in the document Shin Buddhist Ministry in Hawaii. This retreat can be taken many times so long as it remains meaningful and helpful to the participant.

Dates: Saturday, October 7 - Sunday, October 8, 2023

Place: Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin (1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813)

Registration: Please see the attached Registration form

(Resident temple minister recommendation and signature required)

Registration fee : \$50

FUTABA LECTURE SERIES

The Futaba Lecture Series is endowed by Dr. Alfred Bloom to honor the memory of his friend and mentor, Professor Kenko Futaba. Dr. Futaba, a noted Shin Buddhist scholar, served as President of Kyoto's Ryukoku University from 1983 to 1995 and then became Chancellor of

Kyoto Women's University. Dr. Bloom fervently hopes that this lecture series will be a continuing inspiration for the nurturing of American Buddhism and for the social participation of Buddhists in the quest of social justice and peace.

Date & Time: Friday, October 6, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (HST).

Place: Honpa Hongwanji Hawaii Betsuin Annex Temple & Zoom

Guest Lecturer: Prof. Vanessa Sasson, Marianopolis College, Westmount, Quebec, Canada

Topic: The "Lost" Women of Buddhism featuring her two new books: "Yasodhara and The Buddha" and "The Gathering"

Free Registration: <https://forms.gle/kjSAZ3bCugc29ih97>

MAUI WILDFIRE DISASTER RELIEF FUND

In the spirit of compassionate action, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii have established the **MAUI WILDFIRE DISASTER RELIEF FUND**. You can donate in the following ways:

Online at www.hongwanjihawaii.com by clicking on the "Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief" button under the "Donate" tab.



QR code for PayPal:

Through GoFundMe at the following link: <https://gofund.me/ff77a520>

Check and cash donations can be sent directly to Hawaii Kyodan Headquarters. Please make check payable to HHMH and in the memo line designate "Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief" to ensure proper credit.

**Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii
1727 Pali Highway
Honolulu, HI 96813**

All donations collected will go to support Lahaina Hongwanji and relief efforts on Maui. The Office of the Bishop and Committee on Social Concerns will prioritize addressing the immediate and short-term needs of temple families displaced by the fires and supporting the greater community as it rebuilds. The Committee will select reputable relief agencies and organizations to support in order to ensure our donations will directly aid those impacted by this disaster.

Updates will be shared on our website at <http://honpahi.link/fire>

Mahalo for Your Contributions & Support
August 21 - September 19, 2023

Bon Cemetery Service

Nakamura Family - Marie Hashimura

Inurnment Service

In memory of the late
Alice Yamada-
Virginia Yamada

Hall Rental

Center for Spiritual Living

Miscellaneous Donations

Sharon Contrades
In memory of
Harris and Nancy Masada
Pamela Masada

Volunteer Support

Madison Doo
Marie Hashimura
David & Ruby Ishida
Stanford Iwamoto
Winston Kawamoto
Ralph Kitashima
Haven Kuboyama
Rev. Mieko Majima
Milton Nakamura
Ray Paler
Kaleigh Ramil
Tami Ramil
Taryn Ramil
Carol Saiki
Calvin & Rona Sakai
Gloria Shimizu
Pearl Shimizu

Volunteer Support (Cont.)

Joan Slingerland
Dennis & Sadie Sunada
Clyde & Kay Takekuma
Erin Takekuma
Keith & Thelma Tsukamoto
Brian & Wendy Yamamoto
Colten Yamase

SAVE THE DATE

5th Virtual State Dharma School Gathering "Just As You Are"

Date : Sunday, October 15, 2023

Guest Speaker: Bishop Toshiyuki Umitani

Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm (HST)

A service will be held from 10:00 - 10:30 am with Bishop Umitani sharing a Dharma Message. Adult and Student Breakout Rooms will be held from 10:40 - 11:30 am. This is an intergenerational activity....ALL are welcome.

A Dharma School Teachers/Educators Session will be held before the gathering - from 8:45 - 9:45 am. Looking forward to seeing you all then!

Registration: <https://forms.gle/2pEt3azy5qkwSmPb7>

Women's Association

The Kauai United Hongwanji Women's Association's Fall Conference is scheduled on Sunday, October 22 at 9:00 a.m. Ladies, you are welcome to attend. We will also be offering flowers and incense for the BWA ladies who have passed away in the past year.

Date: Sunday, October 22, 2023

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Place: Lihue Hongwanji Mission temple and social hall.

Guest Speaker: Rev. Tomo Hojo

Registration Fee: \$12.00 to be paid upon checking in. Deadline: September 30, 2023

from the president's corner...

Aloha Everyone! We hope this newsletter finds you well, overcoming difficulties and engaging in activities which will bring joy and contentment to your life. The flu and hurricane season is here so please take care and be safe.

“Ring your bells for Peace Day” - Thank you to the participants who came out to ring the temple's kansho for Peace Day. We enjoyed the interfaith program which helped to bring awareness of peace in a meaningful way. It was nice to see interfaith participants working together in harmony. This is the first step in promoting peace. Peace begins with each of us. It is not just the recitation of words but our true actions which count.

Hall Lease - The Center for Spiritual Living will be leasing the hall for the next four years. The Board of Directors decided to lease the hall to defray cost of the minister's salary and benefits which is part of the operational cost of the temple. A Sangha without a minister will not be able to hear the Nembutsu Teaching and be guided in its spiritual journey.

Parsonage Repairs - The parsonage repairs have been scheduled and started. We are making every effort to have the work completed by mid- November. Currently Rev. Majima is on a leave of absence and working remotely from Japan. We look forward to her return as soon as the residence is completed. While the temple is undergoing repairs, the parsonage living room will be used temporarily for services. The preliminary cost of this project is estimated at \$50,000.

Temple Repairs - The temple repairs to the interior ceiling at the back of the altar and the exterior ceiling at the front hallway of the temple will follow the completion of the parsonage. The estimated cost is \$18,000 to remove the peeling popcorn ceiling. The ceiling will then need to be restored by the contractor with a new finish. We have not received an estimate for the restoration. Prior to the ceiling repairs we received an estimate to repair and restore the ocean side of the temple which has deteriorated due to the salt and inclement weather over the years. There is some leakage which caused the ceiling at the back of the altar to begin peeling. We would like to proceed with this before the altar gets damaged. The estimated cost to repair and restore the original architecture of the temple is \$210,000. We will make every effort to complete the repairs.

We are very sorry for the inconvenience. It is important to stay connected spiritually so please do not hesitate to contact us for services or concerns at 808 822-4667.



September 15, 2023

Committee on Social Concerns Maui Wildfire Relief Update

In the few short weeks since we launched the Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund, we have raised over **\$400,000** as of 9/12/2023! Mahalo for your generous contributions as we support our Dharma friends and Maui residents affected by the devastating wildfires. The outpouring of aloha has been inspiring and healing for our community. We are grateful for your continued support as we help the members of Lahaina Hongwanji and others along the long road to recovery.

The Committee on Social Concerns has made the following donations from the funds collected to support relief efforts and individuals impacted by the wildfires. Omimai is an expression of caring and concern for those affected by this disaster.

Organizational Support

\$10,000	Hawaii People's Fund Maui Aloha
\$5,000	Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement Kāko'o Maui Fund
\$5,000	Maui Mutal Aid via Grants Central Station

Omimai

\$1,400	Rev. Ai Hironaka of Lahaina Hongwanji Mission
\$1,000	Rev. Gensho Hara of Lahaina Jodo Mission
\$1,000	Rev. Takayuki Meguro of Lahaina Shingon Mission

We have also processed \$2,000 Omimai for each member of Lahaina Hongwanji and other members of our Hawaii Kyodan Ohana who have been impacted by the wildfires totalling **\$210,000**. The Maui Wildfire Emergency Response Ad-Hoc Committee provided the list of recipients.

Immediate Emergency Relief

Through our Social Welfare Fund, we were able to immediately support relief efforts on Maui in the aftermath of the devastating wildfires, giving **\$28,000** to various organizations and affected individuals. Your generous support of our Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive ensures we have the ability to respond quickly when disasters strike.

\$10,000	Hawaii Community Foundation Maui Strong Fund
\$10,000	Maui Food Bank
\$5,000	Hawaii Red Cross
\$1,000	Makawao Hongwanji to support evacuees and first responders at local evacuation center with food and water.
\$1,000	Rev. Ai Hironaka of Lahaina Hongwanji Mission (Omicimai)



\$500
\$500

Rev. Gensho Hara of Lahaina Jodo Mission (Omimai)
Rev. Takayuki Meguro of Lahaina Shingon Mission (Omimai)

Support from Japan

The Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha, our headquarters in Kyoto, Japan, also generously made an initial contribution towards our relief efforts.

- 10,000,000 Yen for Hawaii Kyodan
- 1,000,000 Yen for the State of Hawaii

Honzan has also launched a fundraising campaign and are actively soliciting donations from those who reside in Japan. <https://www.hongwanji.or.jp/news/cat5/002152.html>

Monshu Kojun Ohtani, Urakata Lady Ruzumi Ohtani, Monshu Emeritus Koshin Ohtani, and Urakata Emeritus Lady Noriko Ohtani also sent messages of condolences and sympathies to Rev. Ai Hironaka and Lahaina Hongwanji members.

The Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha Buddhist Women's Federation of Japan provided financial aid to Hawaii Kyodan to be used by Rev. Ai Hironaka to purchase the necessary robes and supplies for his ministerial duties.

You can find additional updates on the Maui fire disaster from Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, including ways to donate, by using the shortcut link <http://honpahi.link/fire>.

Mahalo for your continued support! Your Dana is truly making a difference during this extraordinary time of need.

In Gassho,

Rev. Blayne Higa, Chair
Committee on Social Concerns

About HHMH Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund

- *If you'd like to help Lahaina Hongwanji families displaced by the wildfires and support relief efforts on Maui, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii has established the Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief Fund with three convenient and secure ways to donate:*
 - *via PayPal* <https://hongwanjihawaii.com/donate/>
 - *via GoFundMe* <https://gofund.me/ff77a520>
 - *via Check payable to Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii with memo: Maui Wildfire Disaster Relief*
 - *Mail to: Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii, 1727 Pali Highway, Honolulu, HI 96813*

Headquarters



HONPA HONGWANJI MISSION OF HAWAII

1727 PALI HIGHWAY / HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 / PH: 522-9200 / FAX: 522-9209

About the Maui Strong Fund

- *If you'd like to donate to support relief efforts on Maui today, Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii recommends the Hawaii Community Foundation Maui Strong Fund—100% of your donation goes directly to grants awarded to on-the-ground relief efforts by local and national relief agencies on Maui. <https://www.hawaiicommunityfoundation.org/maui-strong>*

Memorial Service

September				October			
Takeo	Inoshita	50th	9/2/1974	Ralph Nobuo	Shintani	1st	10/1/2022
Kazumasa	Morita	17th	9/11/2007	Gordon	Koigawachi	3rd	10/4/2021
Herbert	Nakamura	33rd	9/11/1991	Edith Matsuyo	Nishimura	27th	10/6/1997
Fusae	Furumoto	33rd	9/23/1991	Hatsuyo	Hironaka	27th	10/14/1997
				Mamoru	Mukai	50th	10/28/1974
				Mark Iwao	Morita	7th	10/30/2017

From Minister's Desk

As Buddha said, "Nothing is permanent," today, our temple, much like ourselves, seeks healing and renewal. Although we can't gather as usual, remember that Amida is always beside us, and our hearts remain intertwined.

Embrace this transformative time as a journey toward a brighter future. Just as the temple undergoes renewal, let us too embrace growth and rejuvenation.

In unity and compassion, let's move forward, connected by our intentions with the Nembutsu, "Namo Amida Butsu"

For inquiries about funerals or memorial services, please contact us at 808.822.4667.

In Memoriam...

Kapaa Hongwanji Mission extends its deepest sympathy to the families who have suffered from the wildfire, especial those who have lost their loved ones.

Namo Amida Butsu

Notice of Repairs

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause, but for safety reasons, the temple is temporarily closed for repairs.

The columbarium is accessible every day, so please come to offer incense.

We look forward to seeing all of you soon.

Temple Cleaning & Flower Arrangement

Date	Group	Cleaning	Flower Arrangement
9/2/2023	Group 1	No cleaning due to the temple repairs.	Ruby Ishida
9/9/2023	Group 2		Joan Slingerland
9/16/2023	Group 3		Kay Takekuma
9/23/2023	Group 4		Rona Sakai
9/30/2023	Group 5		Roberta Yanagawa
10/7/2023	Group 6		Ruby Ishida

KAPAA HONGWANJI MISSION

4-1170 Kuhio Highway

Kapaa, Hawaii 96746

ONENESS

The Newsletter of
Kapaa Hongwanji Mission
Minister: Rev. Mieko Majima
www.kapaahongwanji.org
Phone (808) 822-4667



October 2023

Monthly Memorial Service
(Minister only)

October 1, 2023

Online Service

October 8, 15, 22 2023

No Service

October 29, 2023

If you'd like to participate in our online service,
please email your request to

mmajima@honpahi.org

Thank you!

