

## Puna Hongwanji Mission



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\*unless called away by other duties

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## June 2021 Hi-Lites

Stay connected with Puna Hongwanji  
Mission by:

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[www.youtube.com/channel/UCtQ19ePwF\\_lwTH0A\\_hwkIwg](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCtQ19ePwF_lwTH0A_hwkIwg)

Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/PunaHongwanji](https://www.facebook.com/PunaHongwanji)

Instagram:

[www.instagram.com/punahongwanji1902/](https://www.instagram.com/punahongwanji1902/)

Webpage: [www.punahongwanji.org](http://www.punahongwanji.org)

Online donation:

[www.punahongwanji.org/donate/](http://www.punahongwanji.org/donate/)

### **2021 Honpa Hongwanji Theme & Slogan**

**Building Healthy Sanghas**

*(Nurturing Empathy and Respect)*

### **Puna Hongwanji Vision Statement**

Puna Hongwanji Mission will be a dynamic and unique temple for Hawaii serving the spiritual needs of the community through Jodo-Shinshu teachings.

### **Puna Hongwanji Mission Statement**

Puna Hongwanji Mission is a community of people joined in the joy of a common faith in Amida Buddha to share the Dharma in our daily living.



## *The Hi-Lites Monthly Newsletter*

The Hi-Lites is published monthly by the Puna Hongwanji Mission. The articles and opinions expressed by the editors and individual contributors are their own and do not necessarily reflect those of Puna Hongwanji Mission.

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## *With Deepest Sympathy*



Puna Hongwanji Mission extends its sincerest sympathy and condolences to the family and relatives of the following member(s) who recently passed away

*Earl Mukai*

*Elaine Sako*

*Marcia Lapham*

## *Memorial Service (Nenji)*

Families, relatives, and friends of deceased members listed, please contact the temple if there are any corrections or omissions. Researched and compiled by Reverend Satoshi Tomioka.



**\*\*\*Memorial services in-person is permitted following health guidelines.**

**\*\*\*Online memorial service is also available.**

**\*\*\*Please contact Rev. Tomioka for more information.**

## **June 2021**

1 yr.	Chiyoko Nariyoshi	June 27, 2020
3 yrs.	Rex Shimizu	June 4, 2019
	Jinsei Nako	June 24, 2019
7 yrs.	Hajime Uyeki	June 17, 2015
13 yrs.	Takashi Shinci	June 4, 2009
	Charles Tonda	June 9, 2009
17 yrs.	Hideo Shirasaki	June 2, 2005
	Yasuki Arakaki	June 2, 2005
	Masato Yamane	June 16, 2005
25 yrs.	Masaki Nakauchi	June 21, 1997
33 yrs.	Shigeo Kimoto	June 12, 1989
	Yukio Aito	June 27, 1989
50 yrs.	Kamado Isa	June 1, 1972
	Tomiki Baba	June 6, 1972
	Toshiaki Go	June 12, 1972





## **Minister's Message**

Imua-Let's start again.

Aloha,

“Have you ever found yourself stuck in the middle of the sea?” This sentence describes someone who is going through struggles about family issues, human relationships, health issues, financial issues, etc. They feel they are adrift and don't know what to do. In that situation, what kind of help do you think we can offer or do you want to receive? Some may say we sail a boat to find and save you and the other may say we will provide a lighthouse so that people can know where they should

swim to. Or “if you ever find yourself lost in the dark and you can't see”, what kind of help do you seek? Do you want to have a bright light like a lighthouse which shows the way to go? Or do you want to have somebody who is with you holding a candle light and walking with you?

This teaches us two different directions. The first is the guidance from the destination which shows the way how to get there. It is far from you, it is not with you, but it offers where to go and which path we should take. The other is the guidance which is with you and walk together to the destination like a caravan who knows where to go in the desert. Which guidance do you prefer to have in your life?

The chanting of Vandana & Ti-Sarana says; I go to the Buddha for guidance. I go to the Dharma for guidance. I go to the Sangha for guidance. When we chant this sutra, this signifies the guidance from the Buddha for me & you. Buddha is calling and asking us to take refuge in the three treasures from the other shore of the Pure Land. And when we receive the teachings in our life, it becomes our guidance which leads us to live life to the enlightenment to come. So, true guidance always shows the destination and the warmth of being together with us. It is like a child who got lost. When the child is at a loss and doesn't know where to go and what to do, they have only worries and concerns. But if there is a person who notices the child and offers a helping hand, how does the child feel? The warm hands, gentle smile, kind words and the presence of someone who understands the feeling and loneliness of the child will guide her/him to find comfort in spite of the fact of getting lost. The reality and the fact of getting lost doesn't change, but the child is no longer alone. There is somebody who thinks of the child and guides them to find the place where they should belong to. They don't tell the child to go and find a place but they walk together and share the sorrows of life together.

Amida Buddha is enshrined in the altar as an object of reverence. We bow our heads, offer flowers & incense, chant sutras, and show our respects. However, Amida Buddha's dynamic working is not limited to the altar but it reaches out to us and always with us calling “I will share a life of joy and sorrow with others.” Amida Buddha's unconditional compassion is embracing every single person whatever happens in their lives – I am not alone. And Amida Buddha's Transcendent Wisdom reveals the way of life I'm living and guides us to live life to the fullest not driven by our human judgmental & distinctive mind but by true and real wisdom – I know where to go. Amida Buddha exists for me like a lighthouse who shines upon the path I shall walk. And Amida Buddha is with me, understanding my joy and sorrow and walking with me and starting again with me.

We revere the Master Shinran Shonin as our founder and our teacher. But, Shinran Shonin calls me and you as “*Ondobo & Ondogyo*, you are my dharma friends who are going through the struggles of life and who are embraced by Amida Buddha”. We are indeed lonely. No one can exactly know your feelings and struggle and

no one can take your place. However, indeed we are never alone when we realize the unconditional Compassion of Amida Buddha which embraces every single person no matter what. Together, we are embraced. Let us walk together and let us start again. We are not perfect, we are angry, we are sad, we are upsetting, we are complaining, we are laughing, we are smiling, we are helping, we are sharing, and we are living. We are perfectly imperfect, therefore we need each other as dharma friends who follow and practice the teachings of Buddhism. Imua, Let us start again and move forward as we are knowing that Amida Buddha's Compassion is always with us and Amida Buddha's Wisdom shows the path we shall take. Namo Amida Butsu.

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## **Puna Hongwanji Kyodan Highlights**

Synopsis of Kyodan Board of Directors' Online Meeting held on Thursday, April 15, 2021. Minutes were recorded by Marilyn Sato, Secretary.

### **Repair and Maintenance**

- R & M Committee met and has plans to meet again; one area of concern is the columbarium gutters
- Columbarium Improvement Committee will have a meeting soon

### **Approved Activities/Announcements**

- Rev. Tomioka thanked affiliates and members for support and financial donations to improve his online services and activities. However, existing equipment is still being used and there are and will continue to be problems. He said there is need to continue to upgrade and update equipment. Expenditures exceeded donations.
- The founder of Shin Buddhism, Master Shinran Shonin, was born on May 21, 1173 in Japan. Without Master Shinran, we would not be able to listen to the teachings of Nembutsu which promises to embrace us all and emancipate us from struggles in this world of human beings. Let us observe Gotan-e Service (Founder's Birthday) online on May 16.
- As people are vaccinated, various restrictions are gradually lifted and adjusted, however, there are still risks. We need to follow and practice all of the CDC guidelines. If you come to temple, please be mindful of your actions – wear a mask, social distance, good hygiene, etc. Your actions have more impact than you think.
- April Activities included Easter drive-by: 300 bags were made and nine of them had a golden egg. People were able to walk into the temple, offer incense, and pour sweet tea on baby Buddha for Hanamatsuri.
- 14<sup>th</sup> BWA State Membership Conference will be held on Maui on Apr. 23-24, 2022
- Carol Tsunezumi reported Mrs. Mieko Nagao, Mrs. Lei Kakugawa, and Mrs. Ilene Hara continue to sew face masks. Blankets are also being made.
- Investment Committee reports assets are allocated as follows: 30% in medium risk and 70% in higher risk assets.
- Project Dana reports bento deliveries will start on April 21: 4 meals to Keaau and 8 meals to Hilo. Project Dana Headquarters received a generous donation from Kahala Nui, a senior residential facility on Oahu. The money was designated to support the volunteers and clients during the pandemic. Both volunteers and clients received gift cards.
- Social Concern Funds will be used for the hot meal on Mother's Day.
- Six members who are or will be 80 in 2021 (Keirosha) will be honored at a later date.

- The Interfaith Memorial Day Service on May 29, Saturday, will be strictly an online event. Guest speaker will be Ms. Deb Lewis. Ministers have been contacted.
- Bon dance will be on July 10; service will be held at a different date. Four tents will be set up with 5 dancers in each tent; need to sign up; ½ hour intervals from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Pre-ordered bento will be available.
- Congratulations to Mr. Blayne Nakasone! Ministerial Training Education Committee recommended he receive the award. The Committee offers financial support to any member. See Rev. Tomioka for the application.

### **In Appreciation – Thank You Very Much**

- Thank you to Rev. Tomioka, Robin Sato, Jenn Kurohara, Warren Tanigawa, and Paul Sakamoto for the Easter Drive-By. Big mahalo to Taiko for their participation. Weather was not cooperative but their enthusiasm was not dampened.
- Thank you to Linnette Quade and Company for working very hard on the Boutique. They brought in \$3,500+ in March. Fantastic!
- Mahalo to the mask makers! COVID-19 is still not a thing of the past and the request for more masks continue. Can you help? Talk to Rev. Tomioka and/or Carol Tsunezumi.
- Thank you to members and friends who made paper flowers that lined the pathway in the temple and were around the baby Buddha for Hanamatsuri. It truly was a beautiful sight!
- On behalf of Puna Hongwanji Project Dana, a big mahalo goes out to Kahala Nui for their generous donation to our volunteers and clients. What a wonderful surprise!

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### **Membership Committee News**

Happy Father's Day. Thank you for your dues payment. Recommended dues is \$240.00.

Monies are used for daily operations & expenses.

If you are head of household and in a care home situation, your dues are exempt.

Please notify our office or myself of your situation and also if you have a new address.



In Gassho,

Roy Toma  
Membership Chairman  
808-935-7712

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## **BWA News**

The 2021 Hawaii Island United Hongwanji BWA Scholarship recipients are Maya Atwal of Hilo Betsuin and Jaslyn Miura of Kamuela Hongwanji. Jaslyn was awarded the \$1000 check and certificate at the temple's Mother's Day Service. Maya will be honored on May 30th, when Hilo Betsuin holds their Honor the Graduate Service.

Recently, several BWA members helped with the preparation of fresh coconuts for future baking projects. Surprisingly, no one needed first aid attention for cuts and scrapes like in previous sessions. Since the availability of fresh coconut is limited, this might be the last time to prep coconuts.

At present, seven Puna members have signed up for the April 2022 Maui BWA Convention. Members need to reserve their hotel rooms on line. Please respond by October 2021 to take advantage of the special hotel rates for the convention. The unit's headcount and registration fees are due on Jan. 2022.

We can wear our new purple BWA scarves on Maui.

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## **Hot meal on Father's Day**

Because of the many positive responses to our Mother's Day meal, we will be providing one on Father's Day, Sunday, June 20th. Pick up time will be from **3:00 to 4:00 pm**. If you signed up for the Mother's Day Hot Meal you will automatically be on the list. If you haven't signed up and would like receive a meal or would like to make any changes to your order, please call me at 959-4289 or e-mail me at [cfurukado@yahoo.com](mailto:cfurukado@yahoo.com) by **Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>**.

We will be using the social concerns fund for this project.

In Gassho,  
Clifford Furukado





## PROJECT DANA

### Project Dana News

The Puna on Wheels Service will complete the first full month of bento deliveries in May with Miyo's being the provider for the fourth Wednesday delivery. The cost of each bento is \$7.50. (Sorry for the error in the last issue.). Payment for the coming month is to be made in cash and given to a designated delivery volunteer. The site coordinators collect the payments and pay for the bentos on Wednesdays.

In addition to Miyo's, Hilo Lunch Shop, Cafe 100 and KTA have been preparing bentos for our seniors. The writing project will continue as volunteers have had the positive feedback from clients. Volunteer Marilyn Sato will mail birthday cards to clients. Eileen and Stella will extend birthday wishes to volunteer. Keeping connected through the mail made a difference in our seniors' lives. Let us stay in touch until everyone can meet again.



June Shigemura of Hilo Lunch Shop is presenting a bento to Kay Aoki for delivery.

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## **DRIVE-BY BON DANCE SATURDAY JULY 10, 2021 FROM 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

We submitted our drive-by bon dance plan to the County Civil Defence for review and approval and have not heard back from them yet. As things are opening-up we are going to move forward with our planning. Please be understanding and flexible if we need to change our plans again.

**FOOD:** For the drive-by Bon Dance we will have **pre-order** plate lunches available. Clifford and his crew will be making spare rib plates and chicken hekka plates available for pick up during the drive-by. The cost will be \$10 per plate. We are taking orders from our members first and then we will open the orders to the general public. We will open the order to the public on Saturday, June 19, 2021 so get your order in before that date so that we will ensure we have your plate orders available.

**DANCERS:** We have submitted a plan to the County to get approval to do our drive-by event, but have not gotten a response yet. Hearing the news that restrictions may change in July we are going to continue to plan the event. We will set-up 4 dance tents that can accommodate five dancers per tent. To give people a chance to dance we will have ½ hour sign up slots starting from 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Puna Hongwanji members will be given first priority. We will then open up the slots to the odori groups and other temples. If we don't fill all those slots then we will go to the general public. If you are interested in reserving your dance slot fill in the attached form. <https://forms.gle/QjJm43hJ9Ht95bMN9> . If you want an email version of this link contact Robin Sato at 936-7179 or email [rob.f.sato@gmail.com](mailto:rob.f.sato@gmail.com). There will be not allow people to park or get out of their cars so that we have control of the number of people on the temple grounds. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Tell your family and friends when you will be dancing so they can tune in and watch the event live. In the July hi-lites we will have more detailed information.



Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple  
PO Box 100, Keaau, HI 96749  
(808) 966-9981  
[mpunahongwanji@twc.com](mailto:mpunahongwanji@twc.com)

## Bon Dance Drive-Thru Fundraiser Pre-Orders ONLY Spare Ribs and Chicken Hekka Plates

Saturday, July 10, 2021  
Pick up 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

A limited amount of plate lunches will be made. At this time we are opening the ordering of plate lunches to anyone receiving this hi-lites. If you would like to place an order, please submit the form along with your payment or send your payment online. **Please be sure to send your order in ASAP. We will open up the ordering to the public on Saturday, June 19, 2021. Last day to order is June 30, 2021.** After we hit our maximum plates we will close the order. If you know you want to order do it soon, before we open it to the public.

Options for placing pre-orders:

- By cash or check (complete pre-order form below and submit with payment)
- Paypal/Debit/Credit Card: [https://www.paypal.com/donate/?cmd=\\_s-xclick&hosted\\_button\\_id=FPAF95958SWZ2&source=url](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=FPAF95958SWZ2&source=url). (in the memo area be sure to include your name, contact information, which plate(s) you want and total order amount.)

-----cut here and submit below with payment-----

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### **PLATE OPTIONS:**

Number of spare ribs plates \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10 per plate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of chicken hekka plate: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10 per plate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL DUE:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to **Puna Hongwanji Mission**. Mail payment and form to Puna Hongwanji at the address listed above.

Any questions, please contact Robin Sato, 936-7179 or Clifford Furukado 938-3177.

## MASK DONATIONS

Some of members are continuing to sew masks and lap blankets that are being donated to Hawai'i Care Choices.



Illene Hara, Stella Miyashiro, Lei Kakugawa, Clifford Furukado, Carol Tsuneczumi





## Mothers day

Hope you all had a Happy Mother's Day. We would like to thank our members who prepared meals for our members who signed up. Also thank you to the ladies that made beautiful floral arrangements to give each mother. The meals were delicious and the floral arrangements were so beautiful. Thank you for your dedication and commitment to helping make others happy and a couple meals of not wondering what to cook. Thank you, thank you, thank you!





## THROWBACK TO 2018 & 2019 MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

