

Puna Hongwanji Mission



Location: 16-492 Old Volcano Road, Keaau, HI

Mailing address: P.O. Box 100

Keaau, HI 96749-0100

Tel: (808) 966-9981 Fax: (808) 966-7732

Website: punahongwanji.org

Resident Minister: Reverend Satoshi Tomioka

Cell: (808) 285-0275

Email: stomioka@honpahi.org

Office Hours: Mon, Tue, Wed, Fri– 9am to 12pm*

*unless called away by other duties

Thurs. – day off

Kyodan Pres.: Clifford Furukado (Cell: 938-3177)

Email: cfurukado@yahoo.com

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Temple Toban, Nenki	Page 2
Minister's Message	3-4
Kyodan / Thanksgiving lunch	4-6
Project Dana	7-8
Membership / Eitaikyo / Farm to car	9
Help with photo / Classes	10
Winter Craft Fair	11-13

November 2021 Hi-Lites



Stay connected with
Puna Hongwanji Mission by:

Twitter: PunaHM1

YouTube:

www.youtube.com/channel/UCtQ19ePwF_lwTH0A_hwkIwg

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/PunaHongwanji

Instagram:

www.instagram.com/punahongwanji1902/

Webpage: www.punahongwanji.org

Online donation:

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.

Email: "hilites@punahongwanji.org"

Editorial: Sam Horiuchi
Tammy Molina
Warren Noguchi

Production: Lei Kakugawa
Ann Toma
Dora Hashimoto
Susan Sunada
Clifford Furukado

Advisor: Rev. Satoshi Tomioka

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

Ronald Iga

Mitsuo Sato

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.**

November 2021

1 yr.	Fujiko Ito Ayame Takahara Rosie Tatsuta	November 7, 2020 November 26, 2020 November 30, 2020
3 yrs.	Norie Ogasawara Sueko Arakawa	November 5, 2019 November 27, 2019
7 yrs.	None	2015
13 yrs.	Seichi Higa Akiyo Tomonaga Stanley Nakaya	November 9, 2009 November 24, 2009 November 24, 2009
17 yrs.	Ichie Kawamoto Reiko Okamoto	November 3, 2005 November 4, 2005
25 yrs.	Shiro Shiroma	November 1, 1997
33 yrs.	None	
50 yrs.	Eisho Oshiro Yoshiko Santo	November 15, 1972 November 15, 1972





Minister's Message

A gift of life

One of my favorite poets is Mr. Mitsuo Aida and he wrote a poem titled "The baton of life." My father and mother, altogether two.

Parents of my father and mother, altogether four.

Parents of my parents altogether eight.

If I count in this way

Back to ten generations, altogether 1,024.

What about back to twenty generations?

To my surprise, over one million people.

From beginningless timeless past,

To present and timeless future,

Each pair of parents passes the baton of life

To their child!

Here now, I live with my baton of life,

You, with your baton of life,

My life, your life, and all other lives.

Through this poem, what will we find when examining our human lives with this perspective? Our vertical lineage is from our parents and ancestors. Thanks to our parents, grandparents, ancestors and so many people, we were born in this world and are living our lives as we are. In this vertical thread of lives, in the life of each person, thousands and millions of causes and conditions harmoniously come together and a life has been passed onto us. Therefore, our life is precious, beautiful, irreplaceable and it shines like a diamond. We are living a life which has been woven together from a beginningless past.

And our life is also a part of other people's lives. We have so many and various relationships with each other horizontally. It ranges from home, work, school and there will be countless other relationships, too. Buddhism sees everything as co-existing, so our relationships are all connected and cannot exist alone. When a child is born, it is a time parents become parents. Because I was born in this world, my father became a father. Our human relationships are all interdependent without exception. Buddha says,

"As a net is made by a series of knots, so everything in this world is connected by a series of knots. If anyone thinks that the mesh of a net is an independent, isolated thing, he is mistaken. It is called a net because it is made up of a series of connected meshes, and each mesh has its place and responsibilities in relation to other meshes." (Messages from the Buddha, p.14)

Each knot is there because of other knots and altogether each knot makes a net. This is the truth of interdependence. Each knot is important and essential for the net. In the same way, each human being is part of our lives. Their lives are precious, unique, beautiful and irreplaceable. Therefore we need to take care of each other, treat others with respect, extend our helping hands, share everything and live together.

However, because of our ignorance to this truth of life, we don't see a life as connected but independent. Because of our egos, our anger and greed, we bring fear, tears, disharmony, violence, conflict to other human beings. Buddhism teaches that the cause of suffering is our self-centered ego. This ego is our desire which says we are happy if everything goes as we wish and if not, we get angry, sad or uncomfortable. Our ego tries to make things go as we wish, which can never be accomplished. Here we find the cause of suffering and the urgency of liberating ourselves from this vicious cycle of ego centeredness. Amida Buddha's Wisdom is the insight to see things as they are without judgmental mind. Guided by this Wisdom, we are enabled to see our self-centered thoughts, words, and deeds. And it inspires us to be kind and helpful. In Buddha's Wisdom, we are made to realize the truth of interdependence including our lives. I am what I am because of you. Thanks to your patience, endurance, tolerance and understanding, today, I'm here. This is the law of the truth. When we know what has been done for me by others, we feel grateful for others and will reflect upon our lives. When we are exposed to this truth of life, that is a moment we perceive our lives as beautiful and precious living together with others. We are living a life which has been passed onto us from the past and which has been woven together with others. We all are part of other people's lives and wishes. With this realization to the beauty of life, we are enabled to live life to the fullest with a heart of gratefulness every day. When we have a heart of gratefulness, we will realize that nothing should be taken for granted and how blessed we are to have our lives. Buddha teaches me this truth of life and guides my life forever.

Eitaikyo, the Sangha memorial service will be observed on Sunday, November 14, 9 a.m. online only. This is the occasion to think about our lives and all of the causes & conditions that made us here today as we are. Also, Eitaikyo is the occasion to extend our deepest appreciation to our past members and ministers who maintained Puna Hongwanji and who passed the teaching of Namo Amida Butsu to us. On this occasion, we get to re-dedicate ourselves to listen to what has been passed onto us and commit ourselves to share the teaching with others for the future. The teaching is Amida Buddha's Primal Vow which promises to save all from suffering and brings the utmost bliss to all. Namo Amida Butsu.

Puna Hongwanji Kyodan Highlights



Synopsis of Kyodan Board of Directors' Online Meeting held on Thursday, September 16, 2021.
Minutes were recorded by Marilyn Sato, Secretary.

Repair & Maintenance

- Mike Fukutomi installed security sensor light by the parsonage.
- He is willing to help install additional cameras.

Approved Activities/Announcements

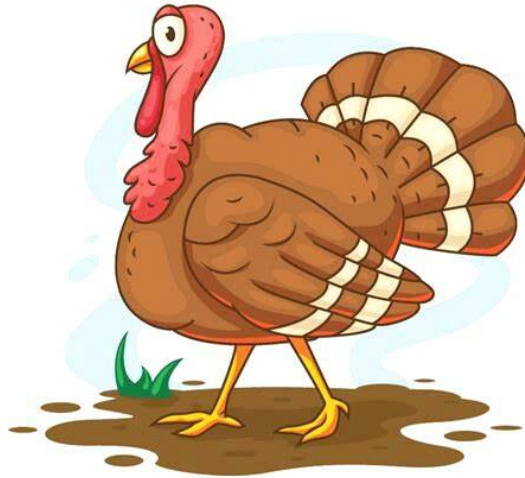
- Rev. Tomioka said due to Covid, the temple is still closed. Please watch and listen to the services online.
- We all have different perspectives re: Afghanistan, vaccine vs. no vaccine, etc. Let us think about Buddha's Wisdom – listen to each other. Remember we have a nature of pointing finger. Harmony begins with me – with Amida Buddha's Wisdom and Compassion. Be an example.

- Papaaloha Hongwanji will be closing and merging with Honohina Hongwanji.
- 3rd quarter assessment has been paid.
- The Memorial Day Committee met with Mike Sasaki about the plaque for the monument. A diagram was sent to the mainland.
- Robin Sato, Warren Tanigawa, and Clifford Furukado attended the Lay Convention virtually. It was hosted by Maui & Lanai Hongwanji's. Comments were: Good convention, informative, good speakers, etc. One of the speakers, Rick Stambul, quoted Martin Luther King's words, "The worst thing you can do is nothing."
- The temple has been receiving comments and calls in regards to the Monkeypod tree. Rev. Tomioka and President Furukado have been answering the people's concerns. Basic question is "Why?" At the top of the list is safety – not only for temple members, but pedestrians, students and others who seek shelter under the tree, volunteers who maintain the grounds, etc.
- Sr. YBA meetings have moved back to the 1st Wednesdays of the even months.
- Puna Project Dana has received donations from various organizations on Oahu – City and County of Honolulu, Oahu Lions Club & Leo Club, Kahala Nui Pandemic Fund, and Iolani School.
- Puna Hongwanji delivered 250 masks to Hawaii Care Choice and 150 masks to Hale Anuenue.
- A Craft Fair is in the planning stage for early November. The committee is awaiting more information on policy, guidelines, and approval from the proper authorities.

In Appreciation – Thank You Very Much

- Thank you, Mike Fukutomi for sharing your talents, expertise, and time. The Puna Hongwanji Sangha is grateful for your Dana.
- Thank you to the incredible mask sewer by the name of Mrs. Mieko Nagao. She is in her 90's but that is just a number. Of the 400 masks Carol Tsunezumi delivered, Mrs. Nagao sewed 300 of them! Isn't she AMAZING?! Domo arigato gozaimasu!!!
- Thank you to members who continue to sew masks. COVID-19 and the Delta variant are here on the Big Island and in the state. Mask wearing is necessary. If you would like to donate fabric, elastic, etc. contact Rev. Tomioka or Carol Tsunezumi.
- Thank you to all who made donations of their membership dues.
- MLK said, "The worst thing you can do is nothing." Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple is fortunate to have:
 - Rev. Tomioka who continues to have Sunday Services, keeps the naijin looking good, holds dharma classes, book club, etc.
 - Tobans who sweep, mop, and vacuum the columbarium, arrange new flowers, clean the monuments in the yard, clean the restrooms, etc.
 - The Yard Maintenance Crew who **ALWAYS** keep our temple looking terrific!
 - Puna Project Dana who deliver meals, make phone calls, send out cards, offer transportation, etc.
 - Volunteers who come forward when needed.
 - Members who made dues donations AND send in donations throughout the year.
 - Members who say, "Yes, we can do that." Not, "What for? The temple is closed." They keep the Sangha connected and involved with various activities. It's more work for them but it's you, me, the Sangha they are thinking about. Please support their activities.
 - Your Board of Directors who continue to meet every month to make decisions.
 - President Furukado who lives and breathes Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple. Even though the temple doors are closed, he is busy.

- The Hi-Lites newsletter team who makes sure we are informed. They not only put the articles together, they must fold, stuff the envelopes, label each envelope, and mail them out.
 - The small Sunday Support Team who gives technical assistance (MC, camera person, computer person, etc.) to Rev. Tomioka.
 - Yes, Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple is fortunate that we have a Sangha of DOERS, who are also VOLUNTEERS! Mahalo, mahalo, mahalo!
-



TAKE-OUT THANKSGIVING LUNCH
Thursday, November 25, 2021
PICK UP FROM 11:00am to 12noon

Puna Hongwanji will be providing a take-out lunch for our sangha on Thanksgiving Day. On the menu will be turkey, salmon, mash potato, mac salad, green bean salad, pumpkin pie.

This meal will be funded by our social concerns fund and also from donations of turkeys, receipts from KTA save-a-tape and a very generous donation of salmon from an anonymous donor.

With much appreciation and gratitude for all the donations and to the volunteers for their help to prepare this meal for all to enjoy, Thank you! Arigato!

If you would like to place an order please call
Clifford Furukado at (808)959-4289 by Monday, November 15, 2021.

In Gassho,
Clifford Furukado



PROJECT DANA

The Miyo's Meals on Wheels Program is now called Puna on Wheels. Miyo has retired and no longer prepares bentos for the homebound seniors. Kum Yo's Okazuya is now making the bentos on the fourth Wednesday of each month. Their first meal, which included rice, fish, a konbu salad, and a long rice dish was well received by the seniors.

There is another change for the Puna on Wheels Program. Starting from November, Affordable Catering and Okazuya will be preparing the plate lunches on the first Wednesday. Roxanne Uchima, the proprietor, has agreed to participate in the Puna on Wheels Program. The lunch count went up to fourteen from October.

Dana volunteers are still continuing to keep in contact with seniors by making phone calls, delivering bentos, mailing cards and transporting seniors for marketing and appointments.

When the restrictions are lifted, volunteers can start making visitations. Volunteers are reminded to keep a log of their services rendered. Site coordinators need to submit monthly reports to headquarters. Thank you, volunteers for all that you are doing during this trying time.



Picture taken at KTA to honor Ethel and Eileen for their birthdays



Happy Birthday Nancy



Ilene Hara and Ethel Miyashiro are showing the bento made by Kum Yo's Okazuya. The owners are Richard and Lan He.



In Gassho,
Eileen Usagawa and Stella Miyashiro

Membership Committee News

Thank you for your dues payment. Recommended dues is \$240.00. If you are head of household and in a care home situation, your dues is exempt. Also if you have a new address, please let the office know.



In Gassho,

Roy Toma
Membership Chairman
808-935-7712

Eitaikyo Service

On Sunday, November 14, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. will be our online Eitaikyo Service and Distinguished Sangha Service Award. This will be the 5th year that we are recognizing members at this service to share our appreciation for their commitment to the temple. This years honorees are Donald Shintaku, Satsuyo Taira, Jean Tanaka, and Nancy Yamada.

Hawaii Farm to car

Each week at Puna Hongwanji the Hawaii Farm-to-Car utilizes our parking area to distribute orders. Order online by Monday's at 6 pm. Then on Wednesday's from 3-6 pm pick up your order without getting out of your car. Checkout their website as they have a variety of things available plus you will be helping our local farmers and businesses in community.

<https://www.hawaiifarmtocar.org/products>

HELP US IDENTIFY THIS PHOTO

This sculpture is in the Puna Hongwanji Columbarium and we were recently asked what this wood sculpture signified. If anyone of you know the story behind this, please share it with us by calling the temple at (808) 966-9981 or email mpunahongwanji@twc.com. We would love to hear the story and will be able to share the story with the rest of you. This will also be a good chance to document for future generations. If there are other things at the temple that you remember and want to share with us, please share those stories as well.



CLASSES

Ongoing Book Club via Zoom on Friday from 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Currently, reading “Immeasurable Life The Essence of Shin Buddhism” by Rev. John Paraskevopoulos.

Hawaii District Ministers Association (HDMA) Monthly Online Buddhist Education Seminars. If you have attended the previous classes you are already registered for each class and will receive a Zoom link. If you have not registered for the seminar you may register at <https://forms.gle/bQTOK62Pi6j2UoD78>

- November 13, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. “Learning from the Shoshinge” with Rimban Kazunori Takahashi, Honpa Hongwanji Hilo Betsuin.

•

If you have any questions on the above classes, please contact the temple office at (808)966-9981 or email mpunahongwanji@twc.com.

Puna Hongwanji Outdoor Winter Craft Fair

On Saturday, November 6, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. on the Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple grounds (16-492 Old Volcano Road, Keaau across of 7-11 and next to Keaau Urgent Care) we will be hosting an Outdoor Winter Craft Fair. Tents will be set up in the lawn fronting our Columbarium. Tents will be spaced apart so that there will be social distance between each vendor. Face mask, social distance, and hand sanitizing will be enforced. If you do not feel well or feeling sick, please stay at home for the safety of our vendors and customers.

We will have 32 craft vendors and four food trucks onsite. Some of the many vendors that will be onsite includes: HRP Crafts; Just Coco Body Care & The Gnome's Grove Trees, Peter Brun Photography; Anna & Teresa's Tupperware; Shakti Designs; Essentially Yours/Oh So Heavenly; J's Creations, Tracy Soares; Tahitian Pearls by Vero; Nu-Creations/Maikui's Creations, and many more. Some of the products you will be able to purchase and take home are: wooden crafts; signs & planters; travel utensils handcraft; sewn and crocheted items; pan covers; notebooks; key fobs; greeting cards; gift baskets; children's novelties; jewelry; women's self-defense accessory bracelets; Christmas ornaments; face mask lanyards; Tahitian pearls; handbags; purses; fanny packs; body care products & scrubs; potted Norfolk Island pine/Christmas trees; taro chips; pie crust manju; suman; cookies; jellies; chex mix; pumpkin rolls; pizzelle; prune mui, and much much more.

We will have a four food trucks onsite in the parking lot. There will be no eating on Puna Hongwanji temple grounds. We ask that you purchase your food and take it home to enjoy. The vendors include AnyKine Wontons, Wifey's Waffles, Hopper's Street Food (tamale and ribs), and AfroFusion.

From our Puna Hongwanji kitchen we will have available anpan. The Puna Taiko will be making andagi. With the situation of Covid-19 we ask for your understanding as the event plans could change at the last minute. Our main concern is the safety of everyone involved with this event including our customers. We share this event to help our vendors and to bring this fun event to the community in a safe environment. The event will abide by County, State, and Federal guidelines and may need to be altered as mandated.

Please stay tuned to our Puna Hongwanji webpage at <https://punahongwanji.org/>; our Puna Hongwanji Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/pg/PunaHongwanji>; and/or Puna Hongwanji Instagram [punahongwanji1902](https://www.instagram.com/punahongwanji1902) for updated information on our Outdoor Winter Craft Fair.

Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

16-492 Old Volcano Road, Keaau (808) 966-9981

Puna Hongwanji Outdoor Winter Craft Fair 2021

Saturday, November 6, 2021

9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

**On the front lawn of Puna Hongwanji
(across of 7-11 and next door to the
Urgent Care in Keaau)**

**Crafts, potted plants, gift baskets,
jewelry, handbags, body care, treats,
children novelties, anpan (Puna
Hongwanji, andagi (Puna Taiko), four
food trucks, and many more items.**

*****Free entrance** Open to the public** Mask
must be worn while on temple grounds
Maintain social distance Sanitize** Crowd
control will be maintained** No eating on
temple grounds** Have fun and be safe*****

We will enforce County, State & Federal guidelines.

Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

16-492 Old Volcano Road, Keaau (808) 966-9981

Outdoor Winter Craft Fair

Saturday, November 6, 2021

9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Some products that will be available include: wooden crafts; signs & planters; travel utensils handcraft; sewn & crocheted items; pan covers; notebooks; key fobs ; greeting cards; gift baskets; children's novelties; potted Norfolk Island pine/Christmas trees; jewelry; face mask lanyards; Tahitian pearls; handbags; body care products; goodies to eat; and much more.



Food Trucks will also be available to pick-up and take your food home. (Sorry no eating on the temple grounds).

*****Free entrance**Open to the public**Mask must be worn while on temple grounds**Maintain social distance**Sanitize**No hanging around**Have fun and be safe*****

We will enforce County, State & Federal guidelines. Pending county approval.