

Puna Hongwanji Mission



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*unless called away by other duties
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November 2022 Hi-Lites

Stay connected with
Puna Hongwanji Mission by:

Twitter: [PunaHM1](https://twitter.com/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/

2022 Honpa Hongwanji Theme & Slogan
Building Healthy Sanghas
(Connecting with Others)

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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Memorial Service (Nenki)

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 2022

1 yr.	None	2021
3 yrs.	Fujiko Ito Ayame Takahara Roside Tatsuta	November 7, 2020 November 26, 2020 November 30, 2020
7 yrs.	Gladys Nakamura	November 22, 2016
13 yrs.	Tomio Nariyoshi	November 26, 2010
17 yrs.	Kumao Nakahara Doreen Tao Noboru Miyawaki	November 12, 2006 November 13, 2006 November 21, 2006
25 yrs.	Edward Shimoda Noboru Morimoto Ellen Kuba	November 2, 1998 November 2, 1998 November 23, 1998
33 yrs.	Yuka Miyamoto Masako Kiyojima	November 3, 1990 November 5, 1990
50 yrs	Tsumano Yamasato Riyo Morita	November 10, 1973 November 14, 1973

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

Masanobu Sumi



Minister's Message

Bittersweetness

I and my beautiful spouse Haruka would like to take this opportunity to express our deepest appreciation to all of you for your kindness, generosity, support, time, cooperation and patience you have shared with us for our wedding ceremony (renewal of vows) and reception. Without your support, we would not have been able to welcome this day. Thank you very much for your seen and unseen dedications. Unfortunately, the groom got COVID-19 a few days before and had to attend the ceremony and reception via TV screen to isolate himself. When I found myself positive, I thought “why!”, “why now?”, “not fair!”, “I must have gotten the virus from that person or that meeting”! It is their fault!” it was like an end of life to me. However, as I saw Haruka tireless working and preparing for the wedding and observing members’ support, I couldn’t simply remain shocked and sorrow. They guided to understand and accept the reality and led me to do what I can do. I still have a feeling of regret, guilty, mind of should have done/shouldn’t have done. But, as it is said you can’t change the past but you can only reflect and learn from the past, I get to accept it as it is, which is hard though. Buddhism taught me that life doesn’t always go as I wish and it is me who receive its consequences of trying to make things go as I plan. The gap between the reality and my wish is the cause of struggles and the only thing that I can change is my wish. In other words, I get to understand the reality and accept it acknowledging my wish and desires. The Larger Sutra says, “...they themselves receive their due consequences and no one can take their place.” The sentence of “No one can take their place” was harsh to me but was true words. I blamed others for getting positive, I tried to ignore the reality, I lamented, I wanted to sweep it under the rug, but it didn’t work. Rather, the more I tried to behave in that way, something gave me alert and drew me from there to a different realm. That was the true & real of Namu Amida Butsu.

It literally means I take refuge in the Buddha of immeasurable life and light. Another way of saying is I take refuge in the Buddha of infinite compassion and wisdom. The Amida Buddha’s Great Wisdom is insight to see everything as it is and reveal the truth to me. Touched by wisdom, I am enabled to see my way of reacting to things and it leads me to observe things not through my wish or desires but guided by the Wisdom. Touched by the Amida Buddha’s Vigorous Compassion, I made aware of the joy of being embraced by its warmth and the comfort of not being left alone.

Although I say Namu Amida Butsu, it is actually a calling and commanding voice of Amida Buddha: “Come to my embrace. Whatever happens in your life, I’m here for you, I shall guide you. Come as you are!” When I was facing a harsh reality of catching covid, I was lost, I was sad, I was shocked, and I was driven by my selfish ideas and self-interest. However, therefore, for such as me and because of me, Amida Buddha can’t stop but calling to me and reaching out to me. When I receive and hear the Name of Namu Amida Butsu, I am in the embrace of Great Compassion and Great Wisdom which resonates in my life. Still, I’m sure that I will go through so many ups and downs. Like a metronome returns to its center after swinging to either side, no matter and whatever I may face, I can return to my home of life where Buddha accepts, understands and embrace me. Life is bittersweet but life is beautiful with Amida Buddha.

Puna Hongwanji Kyodan Highlights



Synopsis of Kyodan Board of Directors' Online Meeting held on Thursday, September 15, 2022.
Minutes were recorded by Marilyn Sato, Secretary.

Repair & Maintenance

- 1st phase is completed. Thank you to Alvin Oyadomari and Clifford Furukado.
- 2nd phase will start after the wedding.
- Gutter project at the columbarium is completed.
- Gary Sunada installed the Peace Pole in the front yard.
- Automated External Defibrillator (AED) were received and installed.
- Waiting for a quote for the altar decorations of the main temple
- New TV was installed in the dining room

Approved Activities/Announcements

- Board approved for Rev. Tomioka to purchase a portable Butsudan Buddha Altar. New online equipment, microphones, laptop computer, etc. were purchased also.
- The Peace Committee organized the folding, sewing, and creating of the four mobiles (1,000 cranes each) which were given to Mayor Mitch Roth's Office on September 12. 4,000 cranes were delivered from PHM Kyodan, BWA, Sr. YBA, and Peace Committee for the County of Hawaii Peace Week. Puna Hongwanji had its own Peace Day event – photo & poster contests were held and the Peace Pole dedication will be held on Sept. 25.
- BWA participated in the folding and stringing of 4,000+ cranes and in the presentation to the Mayor's Office. They hosted a Bridal Shower for Haruka, a tea party theme social, attended by 37 ladies who looked stunning in their head adornments. Rev. thanked the men for his party.
- Miles Nakatsu thanked the Board for continuing to support the Scouts. They meet every other week at PHM.
- Project Dana volunteers continue to provide services to homebound seniors. Let Eileen or Stella know of someone in need.
- Board discussed masks – masks are **required** at temple services and some classes/programs do not require/use masks. Masks will continue to be required at temple services and President Furukado will notify others using our facilities that masks are optional.
- Nov. 19: Winter Craft Fair is happening at PHM – 40 vendors, 5 food trucks, Taiko andagi, PHM Kyodan & affiliates. Thank you to Chairperson Veronica Kitayama. 9:00-2:00 p.m.
- Dec. 10: Keaau Christmas Parade at 5:30 p.m. Temple marchers can meet at the temple and then be shuttled to Keaau High School.

In Appreciation – Thank You Very Much

- Thank you, Linnette, Chandra, and Joe for hosting a sale on Sept. 20. Your time, effort, and “can do” attitude is amazing! With little fanfare, they help raise funds for the temple. Please be sure to thank them for taking on a job that most of us do not want to do. More sales are being planned.
- Thank you to Robin and Jenn for the crane project and all who helped. Domo arigato gozaimasu!
- Thank you to our menehunes who continue to do R&M projects, thus saving the temple money.

- Thank you to all who made donations of their membership dues.
- Thank you to Florence and Jeffrey Nishimura for the donation of a new rice cooker.
- Mahalo nui loa for those who participated in the Foodland Give Aloha Program.

MEMBERSHIP

Thank you for your due's payment. Reminder for dues is being sent. Dues can be paid weekly, monthly, semi-annual or in full. Your dues and other special service donations are appreciated to help maintain our Sangha & operations.

If you are head of household and in a care home situation, your dues are exempt. And if you have a new mailing address, please inform the office.



In Gassho,

Roy Toma
 Membership Chairman
 808-935-7712

BWA NEWS

The Puna and Naalehu Units are preparing for the Oct. 29th HIUHBWA General Membership Meeting, which will be held at the Puna Hongwanji Social Hall. At this meeting new BWA members will be recognized and welcomed into the organization.



Puna BWA has three new members, who joined in 2022. They are Linda Iwata, June Kiyabu, and Naomi Hirayasu.

Linda Iwata became a Dana volunteer first as a driver for the Puna on Wheels Program. She is a caregiver for her mother, who lives with her. In the community, Linda volunteers as a board member for the Hawaii Contractors' Association and The Pahoa School Support Foundation. Linda enjoys sewing and doing machine embroidery pieces for her granddaughter.

June Kiyabu is a 1959 Pahoia High School and 1964 University of Hawaii graduate. She worked as a dietitian in Detroit, Michigan, Buffalo, NY, and Los Angeles, CA. She also worked as a registered nurse in L.A. until she retired in 2001. She returned to Hilo with her late husband, Herbert Kiyabu. June has two sons and is blessed with six wonderful grandchildren. June joined the Hilo toban and helps with the columbarium flowers.



Naomi Hirayasu is the newest member, who has already written an article for the Puna HiLites. As a member of the Hilo toban, she helps to clean the columbarium. Naomi volunteered to fill the recording secretary's position for the 2023-24 term. Naomi retired from her Bishop Street law practice a year and a half ago and moved to Puna. Her mother's family, the Fujii's, are from Hamakua. Naomi spent many summers in Honokaa.

Although Ilene Hara is a long time temple member, she became a BWA member only last year. When Kay Aoki resigned as the recording secretary, Ilene graciously filled the position. Next year, she will serve as the corresponding secretary. She is a former elementary school teacher, whose hobby is crafting jewelry. Ilene volunteers to deliver the Hilo area bentos for the Puna on Wheels Program.



BWA welcomes all temple members regardless of age and gender. Enrollment is open throughout the year with a \$20.00 annual dues. If interested, please contact Stella Miyashiro at (808)959-7919.

PROJECT DANA



On Sept. 21, 2022, Kyodan President Clifford Furukado and Dana Site Coordinators Eileen Usagawa and Stella Miyashiro made a very special home visitation. They went to wish Tomiye Kukino a very “Happy 100th Birthday!” Mrs. Kukino and her son Norman greeted the visitors at the door. She was excited to see familiar faces from temple.

Clifford presented her with a lei, an orchid plant, a plaque, and manju. Eileen and Stella gave the centenarian a birthday cupcake and a treat. Mrs. Kukino enjoyed the friendly conversation and expressed her appreciation for the recognition. Since she no longer attends Sunday Service, she welcomes visits from temple members.

Project Dana extends birthday wishes to Nancy Yamada and Claire Arakawa.



Happy Birthday Tomiye!

The Puna on Wheels Program will have a vendor change on the first Wednesday in Nov. Affordable Catering is unable to continue with our bento delivery service. Asami’s Kitchen will prepare the bentos on the first Wednesday of each month. Starting from Nov., the pick up time at Cafe 100 will be at 11:00am instead of 10:30am. All the other vendors will remain at 10:30am pick up time.



Happy Brithday Claire!

Mahalo to the generous donors, who support the Dana Program.

In Gassho,
Stella Miyashiro
Eileen Usagawa



2022-2023 SOCIAL CONCERNS FUND DRIVE

The month of November is a special time for reflecting on gratitude. Observing Eitaikyo and celebrating Thanksgiving are opportunities to appreciate the innumerable causes and conditions which sustain our lives and how we are deeply connected to the world around us. It is in this spirit of profound gratitude that we begin our Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive. The fund drive will begin November 1, 2022 running till August 31, 2023 and we request that temples submit their collected donations by the end of September 2023.

Through your generosity, the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii is able to support worthy organizations and programs making a positive impact in our community. Your support also enables us to provide compassionate aid during times of disaster and the ability to skillfully respond to issues affecting our local and world communities.

Because of your commitment to promoting the Buddhist values of compassion and loving kindness, we have been able to support humanitarian relief efforts for those affected by the war in Ukraine and the volcanic eruption in Tonga. We also sponsored a series of suicide prevention events organized by the Samaritan Counseling Center of Hawaii, supported ongoing disaster relief planning by Hawaii Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (Hawaii VOAD), renewed our support of The Interfaith Alliance Hawaii, and assisted food banks on every island in their mission to alleviate food insecurity.

We continue to award Golden Chain Grants to help nurture Dharma in action as well as COVID-19 Resilience Grants to help temples acquire PPE and cleaning supplies to operate safely during the ongoing pandemic.

Fund Drive envelopes have been provided to temples wishing to use them. Extra envelopes are available in limited supply. Please make all checks payable to YOUR TEMPLE. Your temple will then remit one combined check to the Honpa Hongwanji Mission of Hawaii.

Your support of our Annual Social Concerns Fund Drive is greatly appreciated. Mahalo!

In Gassho,

Eric T. Matsumoto Rev. Blayne Higa, Chair

Bishop Committee on Social Concerns

PUNA HONGWANJI WINTER CRAFT FAIR 2022

The Winter Craft Fair will be held on the Puna Hongwanji Temple grounds. There are over 40+ craft vendors and small business that will be participating in our event. When we started advertising for the craft fair we had 42 vendors, that number keeps increasing as more and more vendors are asking to participate in our event. The Winter Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, November 19, 2022 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The craft vendors will be located in the social hall and outside.

There will be entertainment provided during the event as well:

9:15 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Keonepoko Elementary Choir under the direction of Jenifer Tsuji

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Pililani

1:15 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. Puna Taiko

There will be five food trucks: Duck Fat Food; Hui Come Eat; Bali’z Food Truck; Crusty Buns Hawaii; and Da Phat Boxx. Also Puna Hongwanji will be providing a variety of food items and baked goods; Puna Taiko will prepare andagi; Sammy’s Ice Cakes will have a variety of ice cakes for sale; and the Puna Hongwanji Scout Troop Pack 67 will be selling their fundraiser popcorns.

Please visit our social media pages to get updated information regarding the craft fair.

<https://punahongwanji.org/2022/09/winter-craft-fair-2022-saturday-november-19-2022-from-900-a-m-200-p-m/>



Scan this to get the information for our upcoming Winter Craft Fair.

NEW COMMUNICATION

Previously those that we have emails for we were sending notices from mpunahongwanji@twc.com and rob.f.sato@gmail.com. We have since moved to using a program MailChimp to help us send out our weekly Sunday Service Zoom link and our Winter Craft Fair. If you were previously getting emails and notice that you are not getting emails now, please check your spam mail. If you would like to be added to the listing, please email mpunahongwanji@twc.com.

PEACE POLE

The Peace Pole has been added to our Puna Hongwanji Temple grounds. During the week of Peace Day we had a dedication ceremony on Sunday, September 25, 2022 for our Peace Pole. Many other Peace Pole’s were also erected up around the island.

**Puna Hongwanji
General Membership Meeting
December 18, 2022
10:00 am**

The General Membership meeting will be an online Zoom meeting and in person at the temple right after Sunday Service. If you want to join in via Zoom please inform Clifford Furukado or Reverend Tomioka. We will need your email address to send you the link.

You can email us at:

cfurukado@yahoo.com

stomioka@honpahi.org

Items on the Agenda:

1. Year End Reports
2. Approval of the 2023 Budget
3. Election of 2023-2024 Officers and Directors

Thank you,
Clifford Furukado

**TAKE-OUT THANKSGIVING LUNCH
Thursday, November 24, 2022
PICK UP FROM 11:00am to 12noon**

Rather than having a luncheon at the temple, Puna Hongwanji will again be providing a take-out lunch for our sangha on Thanksgiving Day.

We have some donated turkey's and will also be using money from our social concerns fund. 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

Keaau Lighted Christmas Parade

After a few years of no live parade, the Keaau Lighted Christmas Parade will resume again this year on Saturday, December 10 at 6 pm. Last year it was a drive-thru event but this year the parade will start from Keaau High School and go through the Keaau village, right at the stop light and end at the Shipman Gym.

Puna Taiko will lead our church group with their float and members and friends following behind them. There will be many floats, four bands and many walking groups joining the festivities. If you want to walk with our church group, meet at the church between 4:30 and 5:30pm, and be shuttled to the staging area. You could also be dropped off by someone else or walk to the area. Thank you for participating.

State Social Concerns Fund

Included with last month's mailing was an appeal and offering envelope from the Honpa Hongwanji to include an offering to this fund. The amounts collected go directly to the State Social Concerns Fund and benefit all temples in the state. We have already received aid from this fund for the disruption caused by the Kapoho and Leilani Lava Eruptions and the effects from the Covid pandemic. The project runs the entire month of November. Thank you for your generosity.

EITAIKYO SERVICE SUNDAY NOVEMBER 20, 2022 9AM

On November 20th, at our Sunday Etaikyo family service, we will be presenting our Puna Hongwanji Buddhist Temple's Distinguished Sangha Service Award to Kay Kawazoe, Mitsuye Toma, and Florence Nishimura. These ladies have given so much to the temple and we would like to recognize their dedication, commitment and support. We invite all to come share in the presentation of this award and, we will also be Zooming this service on-line.

Queen Liliuokalani Gardens News

Illumination of Lili'uokalani Gardens will take place again Friday and Saturday, December 23 and 24, from sundown (approximately 6 p.m.) to 9 p.m.

If you know of an organization that would like to participate lighting a section of the park or singing, or helping the Grinch on Friday or Santa on Saturday, please contact K.T. Cannon-Eger (808) 895-8130 or Matt and Dawn Kanealii Kleinfelder (808) 315-8484.



Big Island Active

GROUP FITNESS

Puna Hongwanji
16-492 Old Volcano Rd
Kea'au

\$6 single class
\$5/class with punch card

Online sign-up encouraged at
bigislandactive.com

PACTIVE FITNESS



STRENGTH + CARDIO + FLEXIBILITY

FRIDAYS October 14, 21
4:15-5PM November 4, 11
December 9, 16, 23, 30

During the pandemic the exercise class in the social hall was halted. Sara Krosch will be resuming her classes in-person and online. Online sign-up is encouraged at <https://bigislandactive.com/>. All questions about the class should be directed to Sara.



Big Island Active

FREE NO IMPACT CLASSES

All Abilities Welcome!
Dress comfortably, bring water

Puna Hongwanji
16-492 Old Volcano Rd
Kea'au

Online sign-up encouraged at
bigislandactive.com

CHAIR FITNESS



3:15-4PM FRIDAY
NOV 11 & DEC 16

taught by Sara Krosch
ACE Certified Group Fitness Instructor
& Board Certified Health Coach