

Mantokuji Newsletter

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January 2026

Dates to Remember

January 4

New Year's Blessing Service &
O-fuda Yaki Service

January 25

New Year's Party

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Aloha everyone.

Shinnen Akemashite Omedetou Gozaimasu! Happy New Year! We hope you were all able to spend time with family and friends over the holidays and enjoy an abundance of good food and fun. At Mantokuji we are sincerely grateful for the blessings of the many monetary and material donations, and volunteer help and support from our faithful sangha. We are especially mindful of these blessings as we continue to work through our major Fuel Tank and Shoreline Erosion projects. The current repair and prevention work, along with ongoing planning for future long-term solutions reminds us to thank Mantokuji's consultants Linda Morgan (Linda Morgan & Associates), Ken Cheung (Oceanit), and Carroll Takahashi (Oceanit Research Foundation) for their vital support and essential expertise in our efforts to maintain the legacy of Mantokuji.

As you may or may not know, Reverend Hirasawa and his family had to fly home to Japan in early November after receiving news of his father's illness. Sadly, his father, Reverend Sogaku Hirasawa of Jyusho-ji temple in Kanagawa, Japan, died shortly after. Our Rev. Hirasawa has been conducting funeral and memorial services for his father and tending to family affairs these past months and hopes to be back sometime in January or February. In the meantime, Mantokuji, with assistance provided by Bishop Komagata and his staff at Betsuin, will try to conduct our regular schedule of services and activities.

Mantokuji's first services of the year are the New Year's Blessing Service and the O-fuda Yaki Service on Sunday, January 4 beginning at 10:00 am. Please come for a blessing from the Daihannya prayer book or for the burning of any old or damaged religious items. And then we'll celebrate Oshogatsu with our New Year's Party on Sunday, January 25 at 11:00 am. Take care.

Mahalo,

Eric Moto

President, Mantokuji Kyodan

IN THIS ISSUE...

Paia Mantokuji Soto Mission

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Mangan Team

Bobbie, Cathy & Isabelle

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FUJINKAI NEWS

The Fujinkai will be having their monthly meetings and clean up as follow:

January 11, 2026 at 8:30am

February 8, 2026 at 8:30am

Thank you to the dedicated Mantokuji sangha who came to help on Sunday, December 14, 2025 to clean the nokotsudo, temple, kitchen, hall and grounds. We cleaned what we don't have time to do on our monthly clean up Sundays.

Bobbie Arita, Kay Hanano, Judith Matoi, Eric Moto, Cathy Murayama, Diane Orikasa, Lois Sato, Isabelle Scholl, Nora Takeuchi, Kathleen Tatem, Neil Watanabe.

End of Year Cleaning

Jodo-e Service



Mantokuji Fujinkai was a silver sponsor for the Alzheimer's Walk, November 22, 2025.



Shoreline current repair and prevention work.



KYODAN MEETING REPORT

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2025

Below are some of the topics that were discussed at the meeting.

- CMAC has begun preparing for the sandbag structure repair and expansion work.
- Oceanit Research Foundation (Carrol Takahashi) is working on obtaining additional CIP funds for the long-term projects.
- Kaimana is scheduled for an initial inspection work of the fuel tank site.
- Oceanit's Catherine Hanna and Jason Lee had a site visit and meeting with Logan of CMAC on 11.13.25 to discuss the repair and expansion project.
- Electrical panel upgrade was completed by Electrical Connections at a cost of \$8,985. Eight outlets in the temple were changed (\$270.72).
- Brennan Tanaka, Eagle Scout candidate is working on creating a directory for the cemetery.

- R-1 VISA for Reverend Hirasawa and Yuki Hirasawa were submitted on September 16, 2025. No updates.
- Foodland's Give Aloha Program raised with customer donations and matching gift a total of \$4,303.06
- Maui Buddhist Council meeting on November 3rd was attended by Rev. Hirasawa and Eric Moto. Hale Makua and Roselani monthly service schedules were distributed as well as the Obon schedule for 2026. Mantokuji's Obon will be held on July 10 (Service only) and July 11 (Festival with dancing, no service)
- Mantokuji's 47th Bazaar dates: Sunday, March 1 – Rummage Sale only and Sunday, March 8th – Food and Rummage
- Reverend Hirasawa was called back to Japan on November 11 due to his father's health condition. Father passed on November 16 and Reverend Hirasawa will be away to take care of funeral and 49-day service.

Next Kyodan meeting will be held on **Sunday, January 11, 2026**.

Please join us for future meetings and be involved in these important decisions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

REVISED JOYA NO KANE SCHEDULE ON DECEMBER 31ST

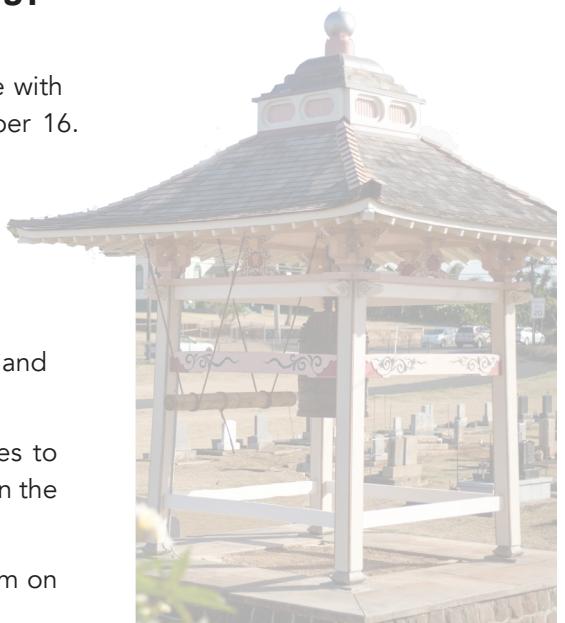
DECEMBER 31, 2025 AT 10:45PM

Sadly, Reverend Hirasawa was called back to Japan in November to be with his ailing father, Reverend Sogaku Hirasawa, who passed on November 16. Therefore, we will not have the midnight New Year's Blessing Service as announced in December's manga.

Join us for a bowl of soba at 10:45pm on December 31, 2025. This traditional dish symbolizes our hopes for a long and healthy life, as well as our desire to break free from the past. Just as the tough buckwheat crop endures and thrives, we too will gather strength and resilience for the year ahead.

At 11:00pm we will all take turns ringing the temple bell, which serves to cleanse us of the troubles and worries of the past year and to welcome in the new year.

Let's all meet on the temple landing to share a bowl of soba at 10:45pm on New Year's Eve!



2026 Calendar of Events

January	4	Sunday	10:00 am	New Year's Blessing Service & O-fuda Yaki Service
	11	Sunday	8:30 am	Kyodan, Fujinkai & Bazaar Committee Meeting Meetings, Clean up
	25	Sunday	11:00 am	New Year's Party
February	1	Sunday	10:30 am	Nehan-e & Ojuzu Mawashi Service, Bazaar Set-up
	8	Sunday	8:30 am	Clean up & Bazaar Preparation
	22	Sunday	8:30 am	Hawaii Soto Mission Association Spring Meeting (Honolulu)
March	1	Sunday	8am - 12:00 pm	47th Annual Bazaar / Rummage Sale Only
	8	Sunday	8am - 12:00 pm	47th Annual Bazaar / Food Sale and Rummage
	14	Saturday	8:30 am	Fujinkai Meeting, Clean up, Bazaar evaluation
	15	Sunday	10:30 am	Spring O-Higan & Kaisan Rekijyuki Service
April	5	Sunday	10:00 am	Hanamatsuri Service at Mantokuji
	12	Sunday	8:30 am	Kyodan & Fujinkai Meeting, Clean up
May	17	Sunday	8:30 am	Fujinkai Meeting, Clean up
				O-Bon Newsletter Making & Committee Meeting
	24	Sunday	10:30 am	Memorial Day and Eitaikuyo Service
June	7	Sunday	8:30 am	Kyodan & Fujinkai Meeting, Clean up
	28	Sunday	8:30 am	Yagura Construction and Clean up Day
				O-Bon Committee Meeting
July	1 ~			House Visitation O-Bon Tanagyo Services begin
	5	Sunday	8:30 am	O-Bon Set-up, O-Bon Committee Meeting
	10	Friday	6:00 pm	O-Bon Services
	11	Saturday	3:00 pm	O-Bon Service at Mantokuji Cemetery
			6:00-7:00 pm	Taiko Performances
	11	Saturday	7:15 pm	O-Bon Dance Festival
	12	Sunday	8:30 am	Dismantling of Yagura and Clean up
August	1			House Visitation O-Bon Tanagyo Services
	9	Sunday	8:30 am	Fujinkai Meeting, Clean up
September	13	Sunday	8:30 am	Kyodan & Fujinkai Meeting, Clean up
	20	Sunday	10:30 am	Autumn O-Higan and Ryosoki Service
October	4	Sunday	10:00 am	Daruma-ki Service / Daruma-sama Picnic
	11	Sunday	8:30 am	Fujinkai Meeting, Clean up
November	8	Sunday	8:30 am	Kyodan & Fujinkai Meeting, Clean up
	15	Sunday	9:00 am	Family Service – Shichi Go San Ceremony (7-5-3 Ceremony)
December	1 ~ 8	Tuesday-Tuesday	8:00 am	Rohatsu Sesshin (8 days of morning zazen meditation)
	6	Sunday	10:30 am	Jodo-e Service, Shakyo Session
	13	Sunday	8:30 am	End of the Year Clean-up Day
	31	Thursday	11:00 pm	Joya no Kane

Note – Notice of family services and workshops scheduled will be posted in future Mangans.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW YEAR'S BLESSING & O-FUDA YAKI SERVICES

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026 AT 10:00AM

A New Year's Blessing Service will be held on January 4, 2026 at 10:00am. A Reverend from Oahu, in Reverend Hirasawa's absence will perform "Daihannya Tendoku" and he will be assisted by Reverend Kodai Haga of Rinzai Zen Mission.

Instead of reading the sutras page by page, they will flip through the Daihannya Book and pray for each attendee's happiness and rid their hearts of suffering. O-Fuda will be passed out to each family.

The O-Fuda Yaki service, the burning of sacred objects will be conducted following the Blessing Service. Please bring your old omamori, o-fuda, and other burnable altar objects to the temple before January 4 or on the morning of the service.

Please remove all metal and plastic before putting the items to be burned in the container labels "For O-Fuda Yaki Service" on the office lanai.

Omamori will be sold after the New Year's Blessing Service in the social hall. The cost is \$5 each. See the omamori available on the right and below.



NEW YEAR'S PARTY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 2026 AT 11:00AM

Paia Mantokuji will be celebrating New Year 2026 (year of the horse) on Sunday, January 25, 2026 at 11:00am. Please join us for good food and fun games!

To help us with the preparation, please call or text Cathy Murayama at (808) 283-6125 or email info@paiamantokuji.org by January 18 to let us know you are coming and the number who will be joining us.

We will be delighted to have all of you join us to celebrate the New Year!



2026 Memorial Services Schedule

One Year Memorial Service - 2025 一周忌

Naomi Nemoto	Wesley Kumasaka	Yuriko Nancy Fukagawa	Jonathan Fumio Aika Shibata	June Uyeno	Tetsuo Charles Tomita
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3rd Year Memorial Service - 2024 三回忌

Itaru Saito	Gary Matoi	Robert Takahashi
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7th Year Memorial Service - 2020 七回忌

Ross Tamayose	Lin Watanabe	Stanley Sato	Noboru Ono
Matsue Inokuma	Violet Moto	Kenneth Kumasaka	

13th Year Memorial Service - 2014 十三回忌

Yasujiro Miyasato	Robert Watanabe	Takashi Sato	Gary Sato	Henry Nihei	Masako Nishijo
	Henrietta Harrison	Kiyoko Shimabuku	Jean Arakawa		

17th Year Memorial Service - 2010 十七回忌

Dorothy Suehiro	Asayo Kakiuchi	Tomiya Nikaido	Masami Nikaido	Mitsuo Hashimoto	Michie Saito
Yoshiko Tempo	Frances Ono	Owen Harrison	Matsuko Suehisa	Marian Kakiuchi	Shizue Okazaki
		Paul Oshiro	Mark Nishijo		

23rd Year Memorial Service - 2004 二十三回忌

Katsumi Nakamoto	Hisaharu Inokuma	Eichi Endo	Yukie Nikaido	Tadashi Owara	Misao Oya
Eisaku Kainuma	Hatsue Tomita	Shinobu Shimanuki	Toshio Endo	Mitsue Watanabe	Sadako Morimoto

27th Year Memorial Service - 2000 二十七回忌

Aiko Miyahira	Wayne Ito	Saichi Ito	Haruo Kasahara	Yoshino Abe	Kentaro Ohata
Hatsukichi Kusunoki	Shizue Tateyama	Kiku Yoshino	Harriet S. Miyagawa	Kameno Fujioka	Saburo Nakasone
Masamitsu Abe	Tsuneyo Arakaki	Mitsuru Imaye	Isamu Kasahara	Buster R. Moto	

33rd Year Memorial Service - 1994 三十三回忌

Yoshiko Oshiro	Mildred H. Hasegawa	Hajime Kajita	Yutaka Watanabe	Fujiko Nakamori	Takashi Sakuma
Susumu Fukuyoshi	Tomio Matsuoka	Masaaki Nakagawa	Robert T. Horiuchi	Masaji Demura	Yoshiu Yamane
		Donald Nishijo	Masanao Hasegawa	Edward Y. Nishijo	

50th Year Memorial Service - 1977 五十回忌

Aiko Ogata	Mira Tamashiro	Chozo Kumasaka	Nun Ming Ching	Sawano Okujima	Satoru Umetsu
Naojiro Ogata	Seiji Nihei	Masatoshi Shishido	Haruo Kosei	Yoshiharu Watanabe	Chikako Sato

The names on this list were found in the Mantokuji Kakochō Files. Because they are handwritten in kanji, some names were very difficult to read/decipher. Also, some names may have been inadvertently left off this list.

Please inform Cathy Murayama of any mistakes that you may find. Thank you very much.

Memorial Services (Nenkai Kuyo Hoyo) for the individuals listed above may be scheduled during the year.

Contact Mantokuji at (808) 579-8051 to make an appointment for a service or for any questions regarding services.

The service may be held at the temple, gravesite, or at your home.

We may have services done together for deceased family members who share the same memorial year.

DONATIONS MADE IN NOVEMBER

We would like to sincerely thank you for your very generous donations.

General Donations

Mark & Dianne Figge, Hideo & Joyce Kawahara, Shigeko Okuyama, Rev. Kenji & Naoko Oyama, Rev. Yodo & Setsuko Oyama, Marilyn Nishiki, Faith Sodetani, Lloyd & Sharon Sodetani, Patti Sugai, Lynne Toma, Travis Ueoka.

Natalie & Chad Hashimoto	Blessing of new Butsudan
Judith Matoi & Family	In Memory of Gary Matoi – 1 st Year Memorial Anniversary
Susan Oyama	In Memory of Norman & Bernice Ueoka
Erwin & Aimee Shibata	7-Day Service for Jonathan Shibata
Erwin & Aimee Shibata	Obon – In Memory of Douglas & Clara Sodetani & Jonathan Shibata
Eric Toyota & Lorna Toyota	In Memory of Sachie Toyota – 3 rd Year Memorial Anniversary
Judith van Raalten	Use of Hall on 11.8.25

2026 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES & NOKOTSUDO/CEMETERY FEES

We invite all of you to become Paia Mantokuji members or if you are already a member to renew your membership. Membership at Mantokuji offers the teachings of the Buddha, the practice of Zen meditation and arts, and the fellowship of the temple sangha. See the membership brochure at www.paiamantokuji.org to learn about all the benefits and privileges of being a member of Mantokuji. Enclosed is the 2026 Annual Membership Dues Form.

Membership Dues	\$50 per household
Nokotsudo Fees	\$40/year or in perpetuity (\$2000) per niche
Cemetery Fees	\$40/year or in perpetuity (\$2000) per plot

Dues and Fees help pay for the many expenses to keep the temple operating. Please submit your dues and applicable fees with the Membership Form enclosed in this Mangan by April 1, 2026, if possible or at your earliest convenience. When submitting your nokotsudo and/or cemetery fees, please be sure to indicate the names of those the fees are being paid for. If you know the number of the niche in the nokotsudo, please include as that is very helpful.

If you have not paid your 2025 Membership Dues and, if applicable, Nokotsudo/Cemetery Maintenance Fees, we encourage you to do so before the Year's end.

Thank you for your support!

HELP NEEDED

47TH ANNUAL BAZAAR – DONATIONS AND HELP NEEDED

Sunday, March 1, 2026, 8:00am to 12:00noon – **Rummage Sale Only**

Sunday, March 8, 2026, 8:00am to 12:00noon – **Food Sale and Rummage**

The Bazaar is one of Mantokuji's biggest fundraisers and, as in the past, depends on your generous donations and helping hands for its success!



We are currently accepting donations. Mark your calendars with the Bazaar dates to remember the big days! The work schedule will be published in the February mangan. Please help us by cleaning the items before bringing them to the temple. We will not be accepting electronics. Call the temple at (808) 579-8051 to arrange a drop off time.

Any and all help is appreciated. We work hard, eat well and have fun!

PAIA MANTOKUJI SOTO MISSION
P.O. Box 790207
Paia, HI 96779

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January 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4 10:00am New Year's Service & O-fuda Yaki Service	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 8:30am Clean up, Kyodan, Fujinkai & Bazaar Committee Meetings	12	13	14	15	16	17 9:30am-11:00am Ikebana
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 11:00am New Year's Party	26	27	29	29	30	31

Coming up in February (Tentative Schedule)

Sunday 1: Nehan-e & Ojuzu Mawashi Service, Bazaar Set-up

Sunday 8: Clean up & Bazaar Preparation

Sunday 22: Hawaii Soto Mission Association Spring Meeting (Honolulu)

Hospital and Hale Makua Visitations are
scheduled during the month.