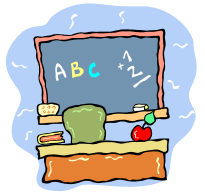




Wahiawa Konko Mission Children's Newsletter



Konko Mission of Wahiawa
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WAHIAWA KONKO MISSION MONTHLY SCHEDULE

August 2011

- 1 Mon -Tenchi Kane no Kami-Sama Monthly Svc. (7:30 pm)**
天地金乃神様 月例祭.
- 6 Sat -Project C.L.E.A.N. Wahiawa Town Clean up with HPD**
-Church clean up (2 pm)
- 7 Sun -Ikigami Konko Daijin-Sama Monthly Svc. (9:00 am)**
生神金光大神様 月例祭. **Share Okage Stories**
- 10 Wed -Study Group with Rev. Dr. Todd Takahashi @ KMH**
Hawaii Center (8 pm)
- 12 Fri -Monthly Volunteer Activity at WGH (10-10:45 am)**
- 13 Sat -Church clean up (9 am)**
- 14 Sun -Monthly Memorial Service (9 am) 月例靈祭**
-Share Okage Stories
- 15 Mon-HCRP Meeting @PL Church (1:30 pm)**
- 21 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am). Share Okage Stories**
-38th Memorial Svc. For the Late Rev. Masayuki Kodama
At Honolulu Church (9 am)
- 27 Sat -Chorus Practice @Honolulu Church (2-4 pm)**
- 28 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am)**
-Rehearsal for Volunteer Activity @WGH (9/4/11)
- 31 Wed -Church clean up (9 am)**

September 2011

- 1 Thur -Tenchi Kane no Kami-Sama Monthly Svc. (7:30 pm)**
天地金乃神様 月例祭
- 4 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am)**
-Volunteer Activity at Wahiawa General Hospital
(10-10:45 am). Curry lunch will follow.



Wahiawa Church 1st Summer Ohana Camp At Camp H.R. Erdman



July 9-10, 2011

Theme: "ABC's of Konkokyo"

Sunday School Oath

I will advance my faith through understanding the Founder's teachings and will strive to become a more useful person to society.



Sincerity is the essence of my faith, and its basic principles are courtesy, kindness, and devotion in everything I do.

Helpful cleaning tips for Permanent marker marks:

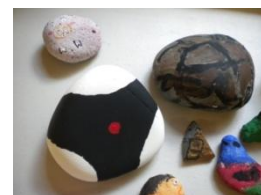
If you accidentally get permanent marker ink on the counter tops or glass surfaces, just squirt a little alcohol gel hand sanitizer on it and it will wipe right off. Another way to get those marks off the counter top is to erase it with a rubber eraser. Both methods work well.



Konko Daijin says...

There was a blacksmith who could not work because his anvil was damaged. Before he got a new anvil, he prayed to Kami every morning and put sacred sake (blessed rice wine) on the old anvil. Soon he was able to make good knives again, a fact which deeply impressed his co-workers. No matter what you may do, if you pray to Kami before doing the work, you can complete your work successfully. (*Gorikai III Omichi Annai 15*)

Editor's thoughts: If you think about it, we are constantly living in interdependence with everything and everybody. For the blacksmith—the anvil is his life. As he prayed to Kami-Sama, I believe he was able to acknowledge the blessings of his work and its connections with the anvil he used till it got damaged. Even for inanimate things, if you are good to it; it will be good to you.



Wahiawa Konko Mission Annual Schedule at a Glance

9/4	Sun	-Volunteer Activity at Wahiawa General Hospital (10 am)
9/18	Sun	-Honolulu Church Autumn Memorial Service (10 am)
9/25	Sun	-Wahiawa Church Autumn Memorial Service (10 am)
9/29	Thur	-197 th Birthday of the Founder, Ikigami Konko Daijin
10/9	Sun	-Honolulu Church Autumn Grand Service (11 am)
10/13	Thur	-Wahiawa Church Autumn Grand Service (6:30 pm)
10/16	Sun	-Waipahu Church Autumn Grand Service (11 am)
11/6	Sun	-Wailuku Church Autumn Grand Service (11 am)
11/13	Sun	-Hilo Church Autumn Grand Service (11 am)
11/27	Sun	-14 th Mem. Svc. for the Late Rev. Kikue Kodama (9 am)
12/18	Sun	-39 th Mem. Svc. for Late Rev. Haruko Takahashi (10 am)
12/25	Sun	-End of the Year Service (9 am)
12/30	Fri	-Wahiawa Church Mochi Pounding (8 am)

Wahiawa Church 1st Summer Ohana Camp At Camp H.R. Erdman



We learned about the Tamagushi and how to offer properly

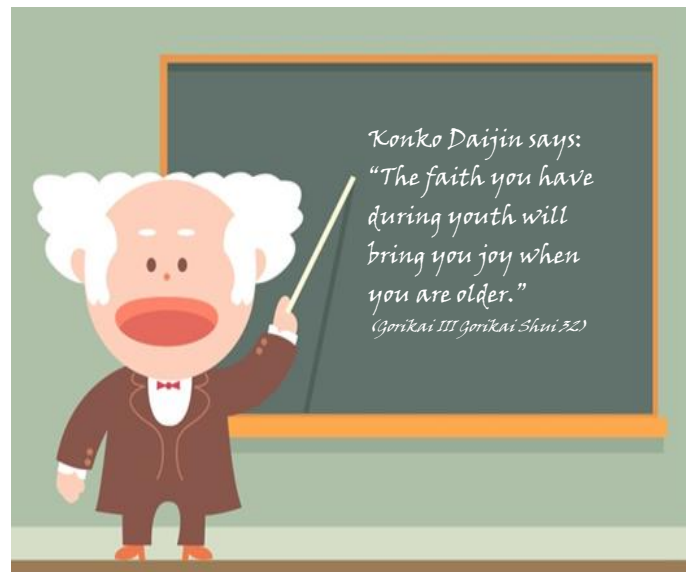


Happy Birthday

To all the people born in August
Please continue to receive
Infinite divine blessings from
Tenchi Kane no Kami-Sama and
Ikigami Konko Daijin-Sama

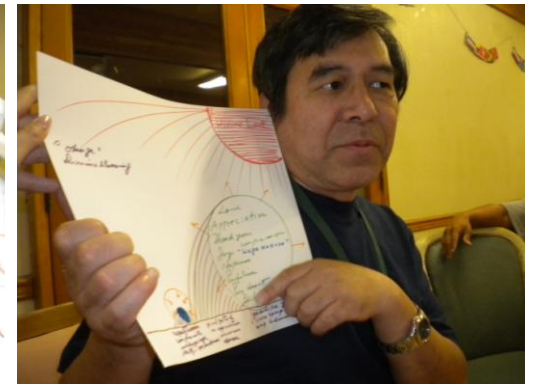


*Colette Abe
Masumi Furusho
Tamiko Yamamoto
Renee Yano*





Parachute-making, archery, and donut eating contest--like the good old days!



Shared "Okage (Blessings) through art! Camp fire and smores followed ^_^



Sunrise prayer and Taichi...what a wonderful combination. Study Group with Rev. Dr. Todd Takahashi!



Editor's Note

Dear Reader,

Our church was able to hold its first ever Summer Ohana Camp from July 9-10, 2011 at Camp H.R. Erdman in Mokuleia. Last year we had the Joint Conference with the Konko Missions in Hawaii and the Konko Churches of North America. The theme was, "Spiritual Investment." We believed that holding a camp would be part of our Spiritual Investment. If the participants were able to grasp one important element in Konkokyo for themselves, I call it a successful camp. We are looking at a longitudinal development of true Konkokyo believers. No one can become a Konkokyo expert with just one visit to the church activities. We decided that it was necessary to hold camps every year, to learn about Konkokyo in greater detail.

Having been able to hold this Ohana Camp is a great blessing from Kami-Sama. It was only in our dreams a while ago, but it became a reality. To be able to have dreams become a reality is truly an amazing feeling. It was possible through everyone's efforts. We did a few fundraisers and held meetings to get ideas on what an ideal Ohana Camp would look like. It's not enough just for us to have planned the camp. There needs to be participants, too. The weather also cooperated wonderfully for us. Two days of beautiful blue skies and a cool breeze. And most importantly, no one got injured or ill. With all these elements in place we were able to hold this camp.

Twenty five people of all ages were able to participate. With the theme being, "ABC's of Konkokyo," we had a lot of things that we wanted to cover. Although we could not go over all the basics of Konkokyo, we were able to cover at least the significance of the Tamagushi (Sacred stem offering). We even learned how to fold the zigzag paper hanging on the Tamagushi and its significance. With this new learned knowledge, each of us offered the Tamagushi with new meaning. Amazingly, what we learned was immediately applicable when we offered the Tamagushi during our Back to School Service which followed just two weeks after the camp.

I think the basics of faith starts with fun. If it isn't fun, it won't stick to our brains. We learned about Konkokyo, but we also had fun doing things like archery, donut eating contest, parachute making, make smores, do some crab hunting, stone painting and share our blessings in drawing.

When we shared our blessings in drawing, I was most impressed with a drawing done by Jayden Adkison, who is 9 years old. He wrote, "I am happy that every time I come here (church) I get lots of blessings." He even drew out a nice Tenchi Kakitsuke! At this young age, he is able to recognize Kami-Sama's blessings. See the drawing in the center of this page.

Although the camp was one night and two days, we tried to pack our schedule to the max. The participants conducted the prayers and grace before meals.

We helped each other carry equipment and prepare for the next activity. To me, it's those regular human actions that reveal our faith the most. So, in a way, even if we did not learn much

book knowledge about Konkokyo during this camp, we were able to practice faith by exchanging encouraging words and through caring actions.

Step by step, our goal is to cover the basics of Konkokyo. We have already reserved for our 2nd Summer Ohana Camp next year at Camp Erdman, from June 23-24, 2012 (Sat-Sun). It will be a continuation of the 1st Ohana Camp. We hope you can keep these dates in mind and join us for our next camp.

For those returning to school as students, teachers or faculty, it's going to be another wonderful school year for you. Learn whatever that is out there for you to grasp. The world is full of information. We can learn from everything and everybody. Teachers do not necessarily have to be older than you; children can be the greatest teachers sometimes. We can learn from our mistakes. We can learn from our failures.

I remember my nursing summer research class. That had to have been the hardest class I have ever taken; so much reading to do in such a short period of time. I was sitting at my desktop from morning to late at night reading and typing papers. Occasionally I had to switch to a YouTube and do some *Zumba* to get some blood circulating throughout my body. Even though I exerted so much energy and time into my research class, I got several "Fs" on my papers, just because it wasn't formatted exactly as specified or because I was missing some information. Midway in the course, I asked my professor if I could drop this course and repeat it again. She discouraged that. She told me to hang on and try harder! I didn't know how much harder I was supposed to try.

A few days before the course ended, the professor told the class that we can redo any assignment that we didn't do so well on and submit it on the last day of the class. For me, it was most of my assignments. On the last day of that summer course, my grade percentage was 57%, which was an "F." I did however; submit my huge pile of assignments that I redid. I was 100% sure that I failed that course and was searching for another opportunity to retake it. I was depressed and felt like the biggest failure on earth. I dumped my tears onto Kami-Sama, and wished for a miracle—that my redo assignments made some difference. A few weeks later, when the course grades were posted on our on-line report card, my "F" became a "B+"!! Whaaat?!!! "That's impossible!" I thought. I immediately thanked Kami-Sama, and my teacher. Kami-Sama has the power to switch situations around to the better.

Although it's not good to get "F"s all the time; an occasional one will give you a boost to try harder, and when that's cleared, you will feel a sense of true achievement. For me, a hard earned "C" is more important than an easy earned "A". Of course an "A" is what we all want, and you wonder why some people excel like a rocket scientist. Don't be discouraged. We all have different ways of learning. Not everyone is a book learner. Some are better at hands-on learning. We are all unique and that's how Kami-Sama created us. Appreciate who you are, and be thankful for your abilities. Kami-Sama blesses us with unique abilities not just for our own good, but for the good of others too. So, go out into this world and make Kami-Sama proud.

Aloha, Edna Yano

