



Wahiawa Konko Mission Children's Newsletter



Konko Mission of Wahiawa
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August 2012, Volume 20, No. 224

WAHIAWA KONKO MISSION MONTHLY SCHEDULE

August 2012

- 1 Wed -**Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama**
(7:30 pm) 天地金乃神様 月例祭
- 5 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am), Share Okage stories and overview of August schedule (till 11am)
- 6 Mon -HCRP Mtg at PL Church (1:30 pm)
- 8 Wed -Todd sensei's study session @HNL Church (8 pm)
- 11 Sat -Church clean up (9 am)
- 12 Sun -**Monthly Service for Founder, Ikigami**
Konko Daijin-Sama (9:00 am) 生神金光大神様 月例祭
- 17 Fri -Monthly Volunteer Activity @Wahiawa Gen. Hospital Long Term Care Facility (10-10:45 am)
- 18 Sat -Chorus practice @HNL Church (2-4 pm)
- 19 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am) Share Okage Stories (till 11 am)
-Late Rev. Masayuki Kodama 39th Mem Svc @HNL(9 am)
- 24 Fri -Church clean up (9 am)
- 25 Sat -Honolulu Church Garage Sale (9 am-2 pm)
- 26 Sun -**Monthly Memorial Service (9 am)** 月例霊祭
-Adkison Family Farewell Party (Brunch)
- 31 Fri -Church clean up (9 am)

September 2012

- 1 Sat -**Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama**
(7:30 pm) 天地金乃神様 月例祭
- 2 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am)
-Volunteer activity at Wahiawa General Hospital LTCF (10-10:45 am) *Curry lunch will follow!

Konko Daijin says...

You needn't pay any taxes to receive Kami's divine blessings. Practice faith, and that will be your taxes. Practice faith while believing that there are blessings by practicing faith. (GI, Tsugawa Haruo 4, pg 148).

Edna's thoughts: Similarly, you cannot get a Karate black belt by just bribing the sensei with money. You can buy a superficial black belt and purchase it at the store, but a true black belt from your Karate School Sensei needs to be earned through determination, practice and patience. Kami's blessings will continue to come to you regardless if you offer things to Kami. But it is our responsibility to practice seeing things as blessings. Through practicing faith, our awareness of our blessings will be heightened. People who really want to receive divine blessings will get them, only because they are that much determined to receive it. People who want an A+ on their tests get it because they want it, and try hard to understand the material to earn it.

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.



Autumn Memorial Service

Date: Sunday, 9/23/12

Time: 10:00 am

Place: Wahiawa Church

Memo: If there is anyone you would like to remember at this service, please give their name to Yano sensei and he will be calling out their name during the service. Looking at things from a biological perspective, all the cells in our bodies are made up of DNA, which has been perpetuated from our ancestors. Let's give thanks for being who we are today—it's because of our ancestors. They are our roots. By acknowledging our roots, we will continue to thrive. Come as a family. Naorai fellowship lunch will follow.



GARAGE SALE!!!

Place: Konko Mission of Honolulu
(1728 Liliha St. Honolulu, HI 96817)

Date: Sat. August 25, 2012

Time: 9 am-2 pm



Konko Mission of Wahiawa Annual Schedule for 2012

| | | |
|-------|-----|---|
| 9/2 | Sun | -Volunteer activity at Wahiawa Gen. Hospital LTCF 10 am |
| 9/16 | Sun | -Honolulu Church Autumn Memorial Service 10 am |
| 9/23 | Sun | -Wahiawa Church Autumn Memorial Service 10 am |
| 9/29 | Sat | -198 th Birthday of the Founder, Konko Daijin |
| 10/7 | Sun | -Honolulu Church Autumn Grand Service 11 am |
| 10/13 | Sat | -Wahiawa Church Autumn Grand Service 6:30 pm |
| 10/14 | Sun | -Waipahu Church Autumn Grand Service 11 am |
| 10/28 | Sun | -20 th Anniversary HCRP Peace Prayer at Honolulu Church 4 pm |
| 11/3 | Sat | -Church Mini Bazaar (10 am- 1 pm) |
| 11/11 | Sun | -Hilo Church Autumn Grand Service 11 am |
| 11/18 | Sun | -Wailuku Church Autumn Grand Service 11 am |
| 11/25 | Sun | -Late Rev. Kikue Kodama's 15 th Memorial Svc. @HNL 9 am |
| 12/14 | Fri | -KMH MWSS one day mtg. to prepare for 2013 Joint MWSS (9:30 am) |
| 12/16 | Sun | -Late Rev. Haruko Takahashi's 40 th Memorial Svc. 10 am |
| 12/23 | Sun | -End of the Year Service 9 am |
| 12/30 | Sun | -Wahiawa Church Mochi Pounding 8 am |



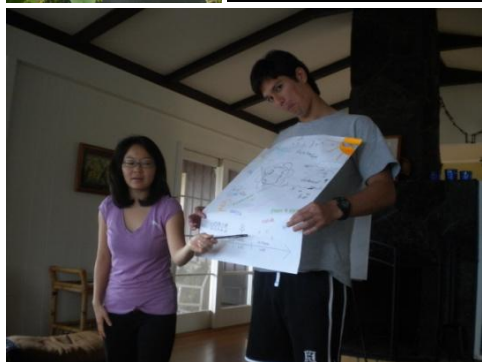
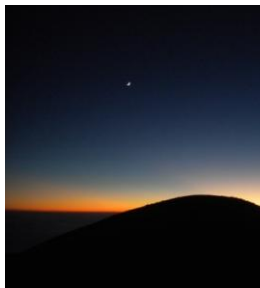
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Happy Birthday

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*

KMH Young Adult Seminar 2012 in Kona



KMH Volunteer Activity at Kuakini
Medical Center
Hale Pulama Mau Auditorium



"Little Star Dance" from Tokyo, Japan
shared their graceful dancing on Sun., 7/15.
Volunteers from Oahu churches joined.

My Trip to Japan

By Alexander Furusho (Age 9)

This summer I went to Japan with my family. We first stayed at a Disney partner hotel and rode fun rides when we went to Tokyo Disneyland and Disney Sea. We went to Asakusa and visited the zoo to see the pandas. We also went to Tokyo Tower and saw the Sky Tree.

After Tokyo, I went to Nagoya to visit my Aunt, Uncle and cousin for a few days. We went fishing, bowling, and hit balls at the driving range. I also rode a big slide at a children's park, played at the Science Museum and ate good pasta.



Next I went to Osaka and went to Universal City for a couple of days. The first day, I rode a big Ferris wheel, visited the aquarium, and watched a fireworks show. The next day we went to Universal Studios and had a lot of fun. The hotel we stayed at had an *onsen* on the top floor which was really cool too.

We stopped by Okayama and prayed in Konko Town on our way to



Kumamoto. I wanted to meet Konko Sama, but he wasn't there when we stopped by. It was kind of neat that the taxis even had a *gojinmon* on them though.

Last we went to Kumamoto and stayed at my Grandpa and Grandma house. I got to eat cooked and raw horse, which became one of my favorite foods. I got to celebrate my birthday while in Kumamoto too. We went to Bear Land and I got to pet a baby bear and feed the big bears. We went to lots of other theme parks and I was especially lucky to see my Great Grandma.

Even though my vacation was over a month long, time went by so fast. I got to ride the bullet train, see so many places, and do lots of things. I had a safe trip and thank Kami Sama for looking over me and my family.



My Camp Experience

Ke'ala Takahashi (Age 10)

July 26, 2012

At Camp Erdman, I did a number of things such as a donut eating race, crab hunting, archery, and so much more.

Before the donut eating race, I helped string donuts. During the contest, we stood far away and then we all ran at the same time to the donuts and started to eat.



The donuts were good.

When we went crab hunting, we caught some pretty big crabs. We also caught some fish. I got to see fish I never knew existed. It was a great experience.



When we went to do archery, I wasn't very good at first, but as I went along I got better. It was fun! Also a couple of people got an arrow in the middle. It was cool!

To sum up, I went to an amazing camp filled with amazing food, activities, and amazing people. There were people that helped me through things I didn't know, like Edna Sensei and Reiko Sensei. And I learned a lot about Konkōkyō.

Thank you so much for a wonderful experience! I want to go again next year!



Summer 'Ohana Camp

Myles Takahashi (Age 12)

July 26, 2012



My time at Camp Erdman was awesome because we had activities. We hunted and it was awesome. The things I liked the most were when we went crab hunting and when we had water balloon fights.

'Ohana Camp was the most fun thing I did all summer and I hope I can come back next year to learn and have more fun.

Thank you Sensei for an awesome time!



Editor's Note

Dear Reader,

Happy August! I trust that things are going great for you and you are continuing to receive many blessings from Kami-Sama. Blessings are what the individual thinks are blessings. It's how we have been spiritually and mentally conditioned. If we were not taught what blessings are, it is difficult to see the many things that surround us as blessings. "A heart of gratitude is the beginning of divine blessings" (Gorikai III Shinkun 2-3).

I was given the opportunity to be the guest speaker for the Konko Missions in Hawaii Young Adult Seminar, which was held at the beautiful Hue Hue Ranch, Kona, from July 20-22. A total of 12 people attended, including staff. The theme of the seminar was, "Blessings Surround Us: How do we recognize and appreciate the blessings that are around us throughout our daily lives?" This topic brought about a broad spectrum of what blessings are to each of us.

We had several discussion sessions. For my part, I just shared my blessed episodes since I was in elementary school till present. I can recall many blessed episodes all throughout my life. From as far back as I could remember—maybe around 4 years old, my parents constantly reminded me of what blessings are. I had no idea, until I experienced my own little blessing when I was 7 years old. It was an episode when the toilet water was going to overflow after using it. But it amazingly receded before the water rose up to the rim of the toilet basin as I shouted, "Konko-Sama" and just ran outside in fear. At that time, I developed a conviction in Konkokyo. From episodes of getting bullied, to coping with financial difficulties, to having aches, pains and illnesses resolved through the practice of faith, there was really no period in time where I felt there was no god. I have always been receiving blessings. And the blessings have just been increasing year after year.

We talked about what blessings are, where to get them, and who receives them. Blessings are not just limited to having our wishes granted. Someone shared with us a time in his life, when he made a grave mistake in his adolescent days. He felt it was a misfortune at that time, but it ended up being a tremendous blessing later on in his life, and could not be more thankful that it all

came into place.

Reverse culture shock was also shared by two attendees, Roger Kiyomura and Cheryl Tsuyuki, who each had their share of experiences as they visited third-world countries, where the government is corrupt, the legal system is full of loopholes, the sanitary conditions are poor, and there are many people living in true poverty. Returning to affluent U.S.A. was a shock. Here we are so blessed with clean running water, a good legal system, and support for people who are having difficulties making ends meet. We take for granted so many blessings as we live in the United States alone.

Roger Kiyomura shared how he is ALWAYS able to find great parking. There was never a time when he could not find good parking. And he said that his friend gets upset at him because he is never able to find any parking. Perhaps what we feel in our thoughts can ultimately change the outcome of things. He further stated that when he goes somewhere with his wife, he finds even greater parking. Roger mentioned that he doesn't consider finding parking to be an issue when going places because he never worries about it. His friend on the other hand worries about parking and seems to always be verbalizing that "there will be none when he gets there." And true to his worries, he finds no parking, or bad parking.

Then again, it's all dependent on our hearts what we feel is good parking and what is bad parking. On rare occasions myself, I have to park very far away. But I feel grateful that I was even able to find some parking. Then I would feel great just walking the further distance and take it as exercise for the day. A far walk could be taken as a blessing or misfortune.

The blessings that Tenchi Kane no Kami-Sama (Divine Parent) grants us is unconditional. It doesn't matter who you are, all living things are granted the basic, yet truly necessary blessings, such as the light and warmth of the sun, water, food, and life. But of all life forms on Earth, human beings are very blessed in the way that their potentials can be maximized with just a change in thought. Determination, patience, practice and diligence can yield



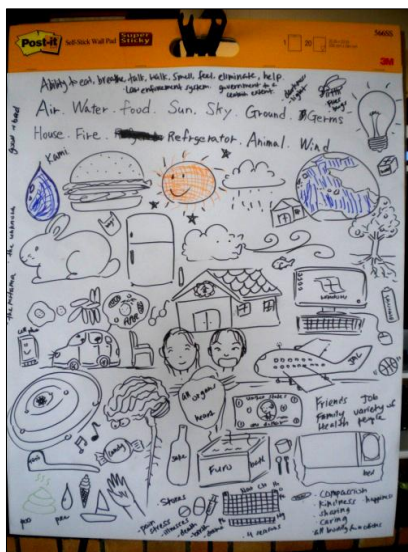
unimaginable potentials if you think of all the wonderful inventions and discoveries that humans made—look at the great skyscrapers in cities, the science and technology up to this point in the history of humankind. They were all possible with the power of the mind that Kami-Sama instilled in each of us.

There are some people that receive amazing blessings every time, and you stop to think “I wonder why?” And when you get to know them a little more, you begin to think, “Oh, it makes sense why he/she always has amazing blessings!” In the end, it’s our attitude and thinking. Positive thinkers who are full of gratitude get more blessings. Just like the law of attraction.

Okage means “Blessings” in Japanese, but it can also mean “Shadow” (Kage). There is a teaching that goes, “People talk about great blessings, but blessings are merely the shadows cast by the sincerity of each person. Therefore, if you show great sincerity towards Kami, you can receive great blessings. You cannot receive great divine blessings with a little sincerity. The shadow cast by sincerity will naturally follow the shape of sincerity” (Gorikai III Jinkyu Kyogoroku 21).

The three days in Kona was amazingly relaxing and I feel that my soul was fed to its content. Not only were the discussions great, but the whole seminar was full of positive energy. We made a stopover at Rainbow Falls before heading to the Konko Mission of Hilo, where Revs. Makio and Yoshie Nagai and Mr. and Mrs. Greenhouse were there to greet us in smiles. Thank you for your warm hospitality and prayers.

From Hilo, we went straight to Mauna Kea, which is 13,796 feet (4,205m) high, passing through my favorite Saddle Road. We climbed up one of the hills near the visitor center and ate our Café 100 local style bentos, while watching the beautiful sunset. The air was thin and crispy cold, but it was a great feeling to be above the clouds. Before it got too dark, we descended the hill and saw the beautiful clear skies full of stars. The astronomer explained the many



constellations and galaxy clusters with a powerful green laser pointer that looked like a light saber!! I really did feel small in this vast infinite Universe we were looking up to. Every problem I could think of vanished into the twilight. Our Universe is enormous. The ground that I stood on and the Heavens comprise the great body of Tenchi Kane no Kami-Sama. And there I was sandwiched between these two almighty elements.

On the last day, we paired up and drew pictures of blessings in drawing. Everyone got so creative. I loved Elima Pangorang’s and Aimee Yasutake’s picture of the tree of blessings (Picture on left). Afterwards, we played volleyball and ended in a tie! 😊 How truly fair. Then the seminar ended on a safe note.

Thank you Kami-Sama for allowing the plane to fly us safely through the skies, and enabling all of us to have a wonderful time. Thank you YAS staff: Rev. Yomisu Oya (KMH Center Director), Roger Kiyomura, Aimee Yasutake and Kei Kunito for your tireless efforts in planning this event and bringing it to fruition. Big Mahalo to Ardele, who is one of the caretakers of the ranch. She extended to us her upmost

hospitality and shared wonderful stories of the old Paniolo (Cowboy) Days as we made smores at the campfire. Our stay was very comfortable. The seminar would not have been possible without the wonderful group of people that attended. The seminar really made us think deeply and kept us in a state of gratitude even after it was over. We are already looking forward to meeting again next year at the same location.

School is back in session, and I bet you are all excited. New school supplies, harder textbooks, new teachers and friends, and a whole new learning experience. For those who were able to

attend the back to school service, we still have your prayers written on the prayer sheets, and will continue to pray for your scholastic endeavors. Cheers to a new school year!

Aleha, Elna Yano