






Wahiawa Konko Mission Children's Newsletter



Konko Mission of Wahiawa
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August 2022, Volume 30

WAHIAWA KONKO MISSION MONTHLY SCHEDULE

**All services will also be streamed on Facebook Live*

August 2022

- 1 Mon -Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama (7:30 pm) 天地金乃神様 月例祭
- 5 Fri -Church clean-up (9 am)
-KMH CEOC Meeting on ZOOM (3 pm)
- 6 Sat -KMH Board of Trustee's meeting on ZOOM (10:30 am to 3 pm)
- 7 Sun -Monthly Service for Ikigami Konko Daijin (9 am) 生神金光大神様 月例祭 *Share Okage
- 14 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am) *Share Okage
- 19 Fri -Statehood Day (August 21, 1959) State Holiday
-Church clean-up (9 am)
- 20 Sat -Ehimemaru Summer Mem. Svc. Performed by Rev. Yano (10 am)
*At Kakaako Waterfront Park (By Ehimekenjinkai) *Picnic
- 21 Sun -Monthly Mem Svc. (9 am) 月例靈祭 Share Okage
-Late Rev. Masayuki Kodama 49th Mem. Svc. @HNL Chr. (9 am)
- 24 Wed -KMH Kyoten Study Group on ZOOM (5 pm)
- 27 Sat -Ehimemaru Mikan tree maintenance (9 am)
- 28 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am) *Share Okage
- 29 Mon -HCRP Meeting at Honolulu Church (1:30 pm)
- 31 Wed -Church clean-up (9 am)



September 2022

- 1 Thur -Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama (7:30 pm) 天地金乃神様 月例祭
- 4 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am) *Share Okage
- 5 Mon -KMH Visit to Kauai (Past Hanapepe Church site) Labor Day!

Konko Daijin says: There are people who say, "Konko Daijin said, 'Kami sees everything in the Universe at a glance. Kami will give you blessings even if you pray in your bed or pray to a post in your house as long as you have sincerity in your heart.' Therefore, we need not go to the Hiromae to worship. If we just pray, we can receive divine blessings." However, those who say this and do not come to worship cannot receive divine blessings like those people who do come. This is because those who come here to worship have more respect. (*Gorikai III Jinkeyu Kyogoroku 154*)

Editor's thoughts: This message is so profound. Some people who read the Konko teachings misunderstand some of them and use it to their advantage—without having a true connection to Kami-Sama first. People have to know that the Konko teachings in the Kyoten Sacred Scriptures are individualized teachings given to the person who came to worship. No two people received the same exact teachings. In Konkokyo, we do not have any commandments. What is emphasized is the sincerity of one's heart. That's what it comes down to. In the Founder's days, people walked for miles, even days just to worship at the Hiromae. They had no cars. For those people, Kami had compassion towards them, and through Konko Daijin would tell the worshippers that with that kind of sincerity, praying even in your bed would result in divine blessings. The sincerity of one's heart is crystal clear to Kami-Sama. We must not deceive Kami-Sama by saying excuses.

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.

Rotary Hanashikai Gathering

Date: Sunday, September 11, 2022

Time: 10:30 am to 12 noon

Where: Online on ZOOM **Host:** Honolulu

ID: 847 4142 7204 Passcode: 063254



KMH Kauai Gathering 2022

Date: Monday, September 5, 2022

We will fly out to the island of Kauai for a one-day event. We will visit the location where the Konko Mission of Hanapepe used to be. We will also be visiting Waimea Canyon and a few other places. If interested in going, please contact Konko Missions in Hawaii (808) 533-7173

Tanabata Star Festival Decorating held 7/5/22



Konko Mission of Wahiawa Annual Schedule for 2022

- 9/5 Mon -KMH Kauai Gathering (Visit Hanapepe Church)
- 9/11 Sun -KMH Rotary Hanashikai Mtg @HNL Church (10:30 am)
- 9/18 Sun -Honolulu Church Autumn Memorial Service (10 am)
- 9/25 Sun -Wahiawa Church Autumn Memorial Service (10 am)
- 10/2 Sun -Honolulu Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- 10/9 Sun -Waipahu Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- 10/13 Thr -Wahiawa Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (6:00 pm)
- 10/23 Sun -HCRP Peace Prayer TBD
- 11/6 Sun -Wailuku Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (11 am)
-Late Rev. Kiyotaka Yasutake 30th Memorial Service
- 11/13 Sun -Hilo Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- 11/14 Mon-International Gathering at Gohonbu thru (TBD)
- 11/15 Tue -KMH 2nd Yatsunami Gathering on Zoom (5-6:30 pm)
- 11/19 Sat -KMH Board Meeting (10:30 am) @HNL Church
- 11/20 Sun -90th Anniversary Celebration of SF Church (10:30 am)
- 11/27 Sun -25th Mem. Svc for Late Rev. Kikue Kodama @HNL (10am)
- 12/10 Sat -KMH Head Minister's Mtg (10:30 am) @HNL Church
-Mochitsuki Demo at JCCH (10 am to 12 noon)
- 12/18 Sun -50th Memorial Svc for Late Rev. Haruko Takahashi (10 am)
- 12/25 Sun -End of the Year Service (9 am)
- 12/30 Fri -31st Annual Mochi Pounding at Wahiawa Church (8 am)



Happy Birthday

To all the people born in the month of August!

Please continue to receive Infinite divine blessings from Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama Ikigami Konko Daijin-Sama

Colette Abe Pelia Akemi Pangorang Renee Yano
Masumi Furusho Tamiko Yamamoto
Vinh Mitsuyuki Vo-Hiromasa



Picture by JCCH

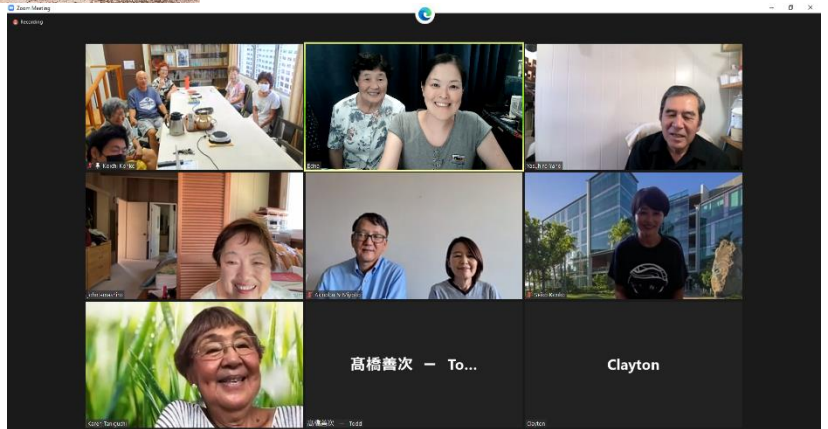
Honouliuli National Monument Blessing Ceremony held on July 19th performed by Rev. Edna Matsuoka. As the year progresses, a new access way will be constructed for the monument. We pray that the construction goes smoothly and that everybody is safe.



Happy Birthday Yano Sensei and Mr. Alan Katsura



The Garage sale held on July 3 was a great success!! We raised \$2002.19 (including monetary donations) which will go towards covering church fumigation costs. Mahalo nui for your support.



KMH ZOOM Conference held 7/9/22 was a great success. 16 people attended. The topic was The Blessed nature of Water by Yano Sensei

Editor's Note



Dear Reader,

I hope this newsletter finds you doing well. In Konkokyo we say that Kami-Sama is everywhere. You can even pray to a post in your house and receive divine blessings. Konko Daijin also has said to some followers that they need not come to worship from afar. As people read this in this modern era, they take the message literally and stop coming to the church. Some people have even questioned why a structural church is necessary to begin with if Kami is indeed everywhere around us.

But if you think about it, coming to this house of worship is very much like coming home to your parent's house to say hello and to keep our hearts close to our parents. And in this case, going to church or the temple is the same as saying hello to Kami-Sama, Konko-Sama, Buddha, God, etc. and your ancestors.

Just recently I realized how important and meaningful it was to keep your relationship close with Kami-Sama. One day recently, I was in deep sleep and was awoken by my husband that my phone was ringing (I couldn't hear it since I sleep with ear plugs on). I woke up in quite a panic. Usually when I get calls at that hour it's not good news. When I picked up the phone, it stopped ringing. And I realized it was my friend. I texted her to ask if everything was ok. She called me again and told me that her car broke down on the freeway and she needed a ride home. Her parents were also with her. The road assistance operator told them that the tow truck will take up to 2 people only, so the 3rd person had to get a ride from someone. She called me because the car was stuck nearest to our place.

I was a little disoriented because I was just woken up. I thought I was still dreaming. So I splashed water on my face and did *gokinen* prayer in front of the altar and asked for Kami's protection and guidance before I headed out. I drove out and found a van parked on the right side. I thought it was my friend. But she didn't come out. She didn't answer her phone when I called her so I was puzzled. And cautiously drove off. About 100 yards down, I saw another stalled vehicle. I never seen my friend drive that car, so I wasn't sure if it was hers. But I parked in front of it anyways. And thankfully it was her car.

She hopped right in and I drove her to her house and was driving back to our place. Then I get another call from her saying that the tow truck called them and said that they will only take one person; not two. I was like "Awww man..." But there was no other option, so I drove back to the location of her stalled vehicle and picked up her dad and drove him to their house.

I was wondering what the meaning to this meant. As I drove both of them separately, I was able to talk story with my friend and her father. So that was great. My friend's father has another daughter on the mainland who is in college. I asked him how she was doing, and he said, "I don't know, I only get calls when she needs money." Then it hit me. This is the exact same thing we do to Kami-Sama!

Majority of the people do not even try to establish a connection with Kami on a daily basis. Kami-Sama is not even a thought that crosses their minds the whole day. Yet, we receive endless divine favor from Kami-Sama. We are given everything we need to survive from Kami-Sama and we are given many special blessings too. Yet we do not acknowledge this enough. And we call up the church or stop by only when we are in desperation of a blessing. It takes me back to the time that my brother David went to Japan after high school for spiritual training. He was there for

3 years. He hardly wrote letters or called my parents. When he did, it was always because he wanted us to send him something. Letters from him never said "Hi how are you all doing?" It only mentioned what he wanted. We never got updates unless we asked. Being the first born son, I think he was spoiled. We were financially struggling, so sending a box to Japan was very expensive. Let alone the things he wanted us to send to him. But still we fulfilled his requests. When my brother Rodney went to Japan for spiritual training, he was different. He sent a properly greeted letter, updates on how he was doing and an *Obatsubo* offering to Kami-Sama on a monthly basis. I remember how happy my parents were. It was fun reading his letters and we genuinely appreciated how he was sincerely trying to communicate with us. We felt a closer connection because of these regular updates.

My parents prayed for each of us equally. They love us equally and unconditionally as well. They never compared us. I'm the one comparing them hahaha! I don't mean to talk bad about my brother David Sensei. I mean, we are very proud that he was the first to pioneer out to the spiritual training route. He was the experimental brother. And because he came back such a changed man, the rest of us couldn't wait to go to Japan for spiritual training after high school. We appreciate you, David.

Anyways, I remember how happy my parents were when they read Rodney's letters. Seeing them so happy it made me happy as well. So when I went to Japan for my spiritual training, I made sure to write to my parents once a month and send an *Obatsubo* offering as well. I looked at my two brothers and noticed that Rodney made my parents happier, so I wanted to do the same. I am fortunate that I was the last born, so I got a preview of what I should and shouldn't do, hahaha!

Well, anyways, the message I want to get to you from this story is that the Life Force, Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama prays for our wellbeing, wishes the best for us, provides for us since the beginning of time and showers us with endless blessings. Just like for you children. Ideal parents only care about your happiness, safety and health. They love you more than anything in the world. They would do anything for their kids. Some children may not have been fortunate in that sense, but, Kami-Sama's heart parallels that of a parents' heart. Understand this very well.

I am sure parents are happy when their children can keep in touch and acknowledge all that they have done for them. Instead of calling them up when they want money or something. Kami-Sama is the same. Keep in touch every day. Think about Kami-Sama. We gotta do our part by making Kami-Sama feel valued, appreciated and acknowledged. Your presence at church is a sure indicator that you appreciate Kami-Sama, and for that, I am sure Kami-Sama is delighted to see you when you do come.

Picking up my friend and her father past midnight gave me a great understanding of the heart of Kami-Sama. What a parent feels are what Kami feels too. Don't use Kami-Sama like a genie in a bottle and just ask for blessings. Respect Kami-Sama like a loving parent and keep that connection. As for your own parents too, keep that connection even when you get older. Talk with them. Ask how they are doing. They want to know because they care and love you so much, no matter your age.

"Believe you are being cared for by immortal parents. Depend on Tenchi Kane No Kami for all things and think that nothing is impossible" (*Gorikai I Kondo Fujimori 11*). *Aloha, Edua*