



# Wahiawa Konko Mission Children's Newsletter



Konko Mission of Wahaiwa  
207 Muliwai Avenue, Wahaiwa, HI. 96786  
☎ & 📠 : (808) 621-6667 Cell: (808) 223-3448  
✉ ednakazuko@hotmail.com URL: <http://konkomissionshawaii.org/WahiawaMain.htm>



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## WAHIAWA KONKO MISSION MONTHLY SCHEDULE

### July 2015

- 1 Wed -Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama  
(7:30 pm) 天地金乃神様 月例祭
- 4 Sat -Happy Independence Day!
- 5 Sun -Sunday Service (9:00 am) Special guest speaker:  
**Mrs. Wanda Tamashiro** of Waipahu Church.  
Lunch at (12:00 noon) \*Tanabata (Star fest) bamboo tree  
decorations after lunch (till 2:30 pm)
- 7 Tue -Happy Tanabata Star Festival!
- 10 Fri -Monthly Volunteer Activity @Wahiawa Gen. Hospital  
Long Term Care Facility (10-10:45 am)
- 11 Sat -Church clean up (9:00 am)
- 12 Sun -Monthly Svc. **Founder, Ikigami Konko Daijin-Sama**  
(9:00 am) 生神金光大神様 月例祭 \*Share Okage (till 11 am)
- 16 Thr -KCNA/KMH Joint Conference in California (till 19<sup>th</sup>)
- 19 Sun -Sunday Service (9:00 am) \*Share Okage till (11 am)
- 24 Fri -Church clean up (9:00 am)
- 25 Sat -Ehimemaru Monument clean-up in Kaka'ako (9 am)
- 26 Sun -Monthly Memorial Svc 月例霊祭 AND Back-to-School  
**Service (9:00 am)** \*Share Okage till 11 am
- 27 Mon -HCRP Meeting at Gedatsu Church (1:30 pm)
- 28 Tue -Chorus practice @HNL Church (2-4 pm)
- 30 Thr -Church clean up (9:00 am)
- 31 Fri -KMH Minister's Gathering. Guest speaker: Rev. Junichi  
Watanabe of the Konko Church of Habikino (10:30 am)

### August 2015

- 1 Sat -Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama  
(7:30 pm) 天地金乃神様 月例祭  
-KMH Faith Enrichment Meeting @Honolulu Church  
With Rev. Jun'ichi Watanabe .
- 2 Sun -Sunday Service (9:00 am) \*Share Okage stories till 11 am  
-Rev. Edna Yano will speak at Waipahu Church (9 am)

### Earth related Konko teachings used during the camp by Todd Sensei:

"Although God/Kami cannot be seen, you are constantly walking within and through the midst of Kami. Working in the fields or walking along a path, the whole world is Tenchi Kane No Kami's Hiromae (worship hall)."

*(III Konko Kyoso Gorikai 6)*

"There are people between Heaven and Earth. Heaven is Father and Earth is Mother. Humans, plants and other living things live on Earth through the blessings they receive from Heaven." *(I Ishihara, Gingo 1)*

"Kami is the parent of us all. Faith is the same as showing respect to your parents. *(III Shinkun 1-5)*

"Do not defile God's/Kami's ground." *(III Shinkun 10)*

## 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.

## BACK TO SCHOOL SERVICE

**Date:** Sunday, July 26, 2015

**Time:** 9:00 a.m.

**Place:** Konko Mission of Wahaiwa

**Who:** For students and teachers

**Memo:** Please submit your back to school prayer forms to church before the service begins. Sensei will offer your forms and pray for you the whole year.



## 5th Summer Ohana Camp



*A total of 16 people were able to attend the 5<sup>th</sup> Summer Ohana Camp at Camp HR Erdman 6/20-21. Thank you all for coming!!*



*Rev. Dr. Todd Takahashi passes out Taketombo for his lesson during the camp. The theme was Blessed Earth.*

## Konko Mission of Wahiawa Annual Schedule for 2015

- 8/1 Sat -KMH Hawaii Gathering
- 8/9 Sun -KM Oahu Volunteer activity at Kuakini Hospital (9:30 am)
- 8/15 Sat -KMH Board of Trustees Meeting at Honolulu (10:30 am)
- 8/21 Fri -WGH Monthly Visit (10 am)
- 9/6 Sun -WGH Bi-annual Church Visit (10 am)
- 9/11 Fri -WGH Monthly Visit (10 am)
- 9/13 Sun -Wahiawa Church Autumn Memorial Service (10 am)
- 9/20 Sun -Honolulu Church Autumn Memorial Service (10 am)
- 9/29 Mon -201<sup>st</sup> Birthday of Founder, Ikigami Konko Daijin
- 10/4 Sun -Honolulu Church Autumn Grand Service (11 am)
- 10/11 Sun -Waipahu Church Autumn Grand Service (11 am)
- 10/13 Tue -Wahiawa Church Autumn Grand Service (6:30 pm)**
- 10/23 Fri -WGH Monthly Visit (10 am)
- 10/25 Sun -Wailuku Church Autumn Grand Service (11 am)
- 24<sup>th</sup> Annual HCRP Peace Prayer (4:00 pm)
- 11/8 Sun -Hilo Church Autumn Grand Service (11 am)
- 11/11 Wed -KMH Pilgrimage to Honbu & Faith Training (thru 11/15)
- 11/13 Fri -WGH Monthly Visit (10 am)
- 11/28 Sat -KMH Board of Trustees Meeting (10:30 am)
- 11/29 Sun -Rev. Kikue Kodama's 18<sup>th</sup> Memorial Svc. @HNL (9 am)
- 12/11 Fri -WGH Monthly Visit (10 am)
- 12/13 Sun -Rev. Haruko Takahashi's 43<sup>rd</sup> Memorial Svc. (10 am)
- 12/23 Wed -Rev. Fumio Yasutake's 20<sup>th</sup> Memorial Service at Amagi
- 12/27 Sun -End of the Year Service (9 am)
- 12/30 Wed -Wahiawa Church Mochi Pounding (8 am)



**Happy Birthday**

**To all the people born in July!  
Please continue to receive  
Infinite divine blessings from  
Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama and  
Ikigami Konko Daijin-Sama**

**Rev. Yasuhiro Yano    Rev. Megumi Yano  
Rev. Dr. Leon Webber    Jordan Yamamoto  
Brent Abe    Neal Abe    Clayton Matsuoka**



We have been very lucky again to have Dr. Raymond Fong (from SI) come visit us at the Wahiawa Church in June. He always brings a sun's worth of warmth and smiles.

**We celebrate Kanreki (60<sup>th</sup> Birthday) for an individual in Manoa by performing a blessing and mochi pounding On Saturday, June 6, 2015**



Much Mahalo to Revs. Yasuhiro and Reiko Yano, Randy, Nicholas and Alex Furusho, Chad Hiromasa and Clayton Matsuoka for being able to help tremendously in this event.



Congratulations to our very own Rev. Yasuhiro Yano on being selected for the United Japanese Society of Hawaii's Outstanding Achievement Award for significant contributions to the Ehime Kenjin-kai. This year coincides with his 40<sup>th</sup> year of ministerial ordainment and service to Konkokyo. We are very proud of you!



## Special Guest Speaker and Tanabata Tree Decoration!

**Date:** Sunday, July 5, 2015

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. Sunday Service

**Guest:** Mrs. Wanda Tamashiro  
(Konko Mission of Waipahu)

**Topic:** Choices we can make to make our lives better or not.

**Memo:** Please join us for the discussion and lunch with speaker  
*\*Tanabata bamboo tree decorating for Star Festival AKA: Origami (after lunch; till 2:30 pm). Please join us!!*



## Blessed Earth Trivia Challenge from Camp *(Answers are below)*

- How many miles is the Earth's Circumference?  
A) 24,901 miles  
B) 300,400 miles  
C) 1,690 miles  
D) 7,988,000 miles
- About how many gallons of water does the earth have?  
Of which only 3% is fresh water.  
A) 500 trillion gallons of water  
B) 900 million trillion gallons of water  
C) 326 million trillion gallons of water  
D) 867 gazillion gallons of water?
- A teaspoon of soil contains roughly how many germs?  
A) 6,560 germs  
B) 100 million to 1 billion germs  
C) 600 germs  
D) 10,500 germs
- How many different kinds of trees are there on Earth?  
(not amount of trees)  
A) 23,000  
B) 1,000,000  
C) 590,700  
D) 750
- About how old is the Earth?  
A) 4.54 billion years old  
B) 500 trillion years old  
C) 256 billions years old  
D) 960 years old
- How long does it take for the earth to make one rotation?  
A) 36 hours  
B) 29 hours  
C) 24 hours  
D) 56 hours



1A 2C 3B 4A 5A 6C



**Lee Kamae:** This weekend was a great experience. I learned a lot about Japanese culture, religion and making new friends, and reuniting with childhood friends.

Although I am not Japanese, I have always found respect for their simple, clean and kind spirit. It makes me want to learn/explore their lifestyle more after this experience (and to also brush up on my Japanese language skills!)

For future "adventures" it would be nice to extend overnight sleepovers 2-3 nights, but every minute was not wasted as we were always kept busy. I look forward to next years!

By the way, it was also great that "sensei" gave us one to one lessons/teachings. They made me feel very welcomed on a personal level. —Mahalo Nui Loa

**Ann Kamae:** Had a great time with all activities, loved the fact that it was already planned. We never had to think about what to do next.

Sensei Yano's are funny and entertaining. Even though there was a language barrier, we had a great time getting to know them!

Loved seeing old and new faces. Everybody's ages ranged from 4 and up, but we were all family in the end.

Next year I would like to see more old and new faces ☺. I want to see less work and more play from Sensei Reiko and Sensei Yano.



**Charlyn Lum:** Thank you for another great year at camp. I loved all of the hands on crafts, and also being able to use them right after. Todd Sensei's lesson was very fun yet informative. It was nice being outdoors, instead of the classroom. The food was amazing as always. I'll be sure to try making the somen at home. It was the first time the girls tasted it and they loved it! Can't wait for next year. The girls will probably make a count down till next year's camp.



**Elle Lum (Age 10):** What I thought was great, was that camp was good. I liked when we went in the pool and went to the beach. I also liked it when we were at the bon-fire and did crab hunting. What I want next year is more pool time, more fun activities, art, and to have an art contest.



**Kayla Kamae (Age 10):** One thing I liked about camp was the archery game because it was really fun and challenging. One thing I learned about the camp was the Heaven is Father and Earth is Mother. One this that I suggest you guys do next year is more arts and crafts.



**Joyce Esteban:** Blessed Earth was this year's theme at camp, and I really learned a lot from the teachings. Reverend Todd Takahashi did a good job associating the Earth with someone we can relate and look up to dearly, your mother! The golden rule applies, treat the Earth as you would your mother. It was an awesome message that I found myself searching through my heart instead of my mind for an answer. The message will stick in my thoughts for years to come. Overall, camp was awesome and so much fun. I can't wait to do it again next year. Thank you!!



**Emma Lum (Age 7):** Yesterday I had fun. I would want to come back next year. I want to do more trivia tests. My favorite activity was when we went in the pool and the beach. The thing I want next year is more of the bon-fire.



**Alexander Furusho (Age 12):** We left church at 8:00am and unpacked into the cabin. Todd sensei made a speech about how earth is the mother and heaven is the father. We played with taketombo and learned a lesson about it. Then we ate lunch and went to archery. I did pretty well at it and I was happy. We went to the pool and did the donut race afterwards which was tasty. Then we ate coconuts that sensei brought from church and drank the water and then ate the meat. We had a water balloon toss with huge balloons and then ate dinner. We made a huge campfire and ate hot dogs and s'mores before we went crab hunting and caught dozens. Then I ate one big, tasty, grey crab and let the rest of them go. We went back to the cabin and Edna, Clayton, and I went star gazing. We saw many shooting stars after a prayer and then we went back and took showers and slept.

The next morning 6/21 we stretched as a group with Clayton leading and ate breakfast. I played tag with Mica until Edna made a speech and then we carved the cups and chopsticks. We packed up and ate lunch. Next we prayed and left to Matsumoto's Shaved Ice which was delightful after the hot day. The whole time we were there it was bright and sunny which made it even better. This was one of my favorite camp memories.



**Rylee Layugan (Age 7):** I loved everything about Camp Erdman! See you next year!



**Chad Hiromasa and son, Micah (Age 4):** Micah loved the marshmallows, hibachi and the bon-fire. Taketombo was a great surprise and reminded me of my younger days playing with my friends.



**Clayton Matsuoka:** Archery was the best event this camp. Making Smores was also very fun. Next year I want to do more archery, with better arrows.

**Editor's Note:** Dear Readers, I know you have been patiently waiting for this July Children's Newsletter. Our 5<sup>th</sup> Summer Ohana Camp was held successfully from June 20-21. I hope you read everyone else's thoughts before you got to mine. We had 15 participants and our awesome guest speaker was Rev. Dr. Todd Takahashi (associate minister of the Konko Mission of Honolulu). The theme was "Blessed Earth." When our very own founding minister of our church, the Rev. Haruko Takahashi established the Konko Mission of Wahiawa, it was primarily because she was spiritually awakened by realizing the great blessings of the Earth. The Earth is the provider of everything we need to be able to live. Even the invisible factors of the Earth keep us alive, like the air, gravity, electricity we use, magnetic fields and atmosphere. We are just allowed to live on the Earth. Even if we believe we own our own property because we bought it, the ground and everything on it ultimately belongs to Kami-Sama. The Earth is very much like an ideal mother. It is unconditionally accepting of our wastes. It also gives so generously. Like a mother feeding a baby her breast milk, we are able to eat the food that is produced on Earth, and drink the water from within. When we need someone to listen to our fears, frustration, anger and excitement, children naturally tend to go to their mothers for guidance. In times of combat or knowing that a shooting rampage is going on, we have a naturally tendency to duck low to the ground. Our Earth is like an ideal mother on so many levels.

During Todd Sensei's lesson on Blessed Earth, we were each handed a bamboo stick-copter (aka: Taketombo). We flew it in the gusty winds of Mokuleia. Todd Sensei told us to keep it in the air without touching it. Of course it ends up falling to the ground. No matter how strong we propelled the taketombo, it falls down. Next, he told us to dig a hole in the sand. I dug a hole like a dog. The next thing he told us to do was to shout into the hole. We could shout whatever we wanted to. My friends were really enjoying this activity. Then Todd Sensei questioned us if the hole did anything back to us? No, it just listened. Whatever we said was just absorbed deep into the Earth. As for us, we felt good to release our inner junk by shouting it all out. Great lessons can be learned just from looking into nature for answers. Earth is exactly like mother. Earth treats us very well. How can we be good mothers? All we have to do is take the Earth as an example. Of course, mothers do get upset from time to time, just like how we encounter earthquakes once in a while. But if mothers are angry every day, it would be just like having an earthquake every day. The family would collapse. Children wouldn't know who to turn to for comfort. We must be like the Earth. You don't have to be a female to be like the Earth. Todd Sensei mentioned that it is important for us to have a good balance of motherly and fatherly characteristics. Single parents have an even greater role and a tough challenge because they must try to compensate for the other parental characteristic. In another activity, Todd Sensei selected a parent and child to stand up. What he told the child was a great shock, and a reassurance at the same time. He told the 10 year old child to spit on her mother. To that, she immediately said, "No!" Todd Sensei asked her why. She said, "Because I respect her." Then he asked everyone if we have ever spat on the ground because we couldn't hold or swallow our spit. And there were some nodding heads. We must hold the earth in the same regard as our respectable mother or mother figures. It was a lesson that struck us so deeply.

All in all, the church camp was a great success. I am so glad that many of my friends were able to attend. The weather was perfect, the food was delicious, the sleep in the cabin was peaceful, the stars in the skies were gorgeous, the activities were fun, and the lessons learned were priceless. I thank Kami-Sama for making this all possible, as well as the help of church members, family and friends. I really hope you can join us next year. July is also full of events and we hope you can join us for them. Please come to our back to school service on the 26<sup>th</sup>! -Edna Y.