



Wahiawa Konko Mission Children's Newsletter



Konko Mission of Wahiawa
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WAHIAWA KONKO MISSION MONTHLY SCHEDULE

June 2016

- 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 till 11 am
- 8 Wed -Day 1 KMH MWSS at Wahiawa Church (10:30 am-4:30 pm)
- 9 Thr -Day 2 KMH MWSS at Wahiawa Church (9 am-12 noon)
- 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
- 18 Sat -Summer Ohana Camp Day 1 at Camp Erdman Registration at 9:00 am. Begin at 10:00 am
- 19 Sun -Summer Ohana Camp Day 2 (Ends at 2:00 pm)
-Happy Father's Day! No Sunday Service at Church
- 20 Mon-HCRP Meeting at Gedatsu Church (1:30 pm)
- 24 Fri -KMH Minister's Gathering with Rev. Hideko Konko @HNL Church (10:30 am)
- 25 Sat -Church clean up (9 am)
-KMH Faith Enrichment Mtg. @HNL Church for all (1:30 pm-3:30 pm) *Rev. Hideko Konko (speaker)
- 26 Sun -Monthly Memorial Svc (9 am) 月例霊祭 *Share Okage till 11
- 30 Thr -Church clean up (9 am) *Chorus Practice at HNL (2-4 p)

July 2016

- 1 Fri -Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama (7:30 pm) 天地金乃神様 月例祭 *Share Okage Stories till 11
- 2 Sat -Kaka'ako Ehimemaru Citrus tree maintenance (9:00 am)
- 3 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am) *Share Okage till 10 am
-Sunday School Tanabata bamboo tree decoration (10 am)
- 4 Mon -Happy Independence Day! HOLIDAY
*Share Okage till 11 am

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.



Konko Mission of Wahiawa 6th Summer Ohana Camp



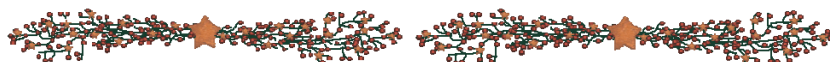
- Date:** (Sat-Sun) June 18-19, 2016
- Registration:** 9 a.m. @ Eagle's Lodge
- Place:** Camp HR Erdman (Mokuleia)
- Ends:** Sunday, June 19 @2 p.m.
- Theme:** Our theme will be ABC's of Konkokyo Part 6: The Power of Prayer.
- Workshop:** By Rev. Dr. Todd Takahashi on day 2 (9-11 am)



"A good father is one of the most unsung, unpraised, unnoticed, and yet one of the most valuable assets in our society."



-Billy Graham



Konko Daijin's teachings... Those who practice faith should feel gratitude even after sitting and resting on a tree stump in the mountains. *(GII Unknown 23)*

Editor's thoughts: In other words, our Founder, Konko Daijin was trying to teach us to be mindfully appreciative of everything that sustains our living, provides comfort, and serves as a lesson. When we go hiking in the mountains and come across a tree stump to rest our bottoms, we should have the heart to give thanks to it for providing us with a comfortable place to sit. The 2nd Generation Mentor sensei at Amagi Church used to always clap his hands 4 times in a gesture of prayer, before and after he used the restroom and before he turned on the faucet to wash his face in the morning. There is always an opportunity to feel gratitude in our lives.

Konko Mission of Wahiawa Annual Schedule for 2016

- 7/8 Fri -WGH monthly volunteer activity at 10:00 a.m.
- 7/16 Sat -Edna and Clayton's Wedding
- 7/24 Sun -Monthly Memorial Service/Back-to-School Service 9 a.m.
- 7/31 Sun -KMH Volunteer Activity at Kuakini Hospital, 9:30 am
- 8/7 Sun -WGH annual volunteer activity at 10:00 am
- 8/13 Sat -KMH Board of Trustees Meeting, 10:30 a.m.
- 8/19 Fri -WGH monthly volunteer activity at 10:00 a.m.
- 8/21 Sun -Late Rev. Masayuki Kodama 43rd Memorial Svc. @HNL 9 am
- 9/4 Sun -KMH 90th Anniversary Celebration at Honolulu Church
- 9/16 Fri -WGH monthly volunteer activity at 10:00 a.m.
- 9/18 Sun -Honolulu Church Autumn Memorial Service, 10:00 a.m.
- 9/25 Sun -Wahiawa Church Autumn Memorial Service, 10:00 a.m.
- 10/9 Sun -Honolulu Church Autumn Grand Service, 11:00 a.m.
- 10/13 Thr -Wahiawa Church Autumn Grand Service, 6:30 p.m.
- 10/16 Sun -Waipahu Church Autumn Grand Service, 11:00 a.m.
- 10/21 Fri -WGH monthly volunteer activity at 10:00 a.m.
- 10/23 Sun -23rd Annual HCRP Peace Prayer at Gedatsu Church, 4 p.m.
- 10/30 Sun -Hilo Church Autumn Grand Service, 11:00 a.m.
- 11/5 Sat -Mini Bazaar, 10 am to 2 pm
- 11/6 Sun -Wailuku Church Autumn Grand Service, 11:00 a.m.
- 11/18 Fri -WGH monthly volunteer activity at 10:00 a.m.
- 11/26 Sat -KMH Board of Trustees Meeting, 10:30 a.m.
- 11/27 Sun -Late Rev. Kikue Kodama 19th Memorial Svc @HNL 9:00 am
- 12/16 Fri -WGH monthly volunteer activity at 10:00 a.m.
- 12/18 Sun -44th Year Memorial Service for the late Rev. Haruko Takahashi, 10:00 a.m.
- 12/25 Sun -End of the Year Service, 9:00 a.m.
- 12/30 Fri -25th Annual Mochi Pounding

Happy Birthday

To all the people born in
The month of June
Please continue to receive
Infinite divine blessings from



Alexander Furusho
Jason Adkison
Jean Noguchi



The Rev. Kazuya Obu (Front Center) and his family from the Konko Church Kunisaki, Oita, Japan. He was the head officiant for the Late Rev. Masabiko Yoshino's 3rd year memorial service at Honolulu Church. Rev. Obu is Rev. Yoshino's younger brother, who has a striking resemblance of him.



On Sunday, May 15 the 3rd year memorial service for the Late Rev. Masabiko Yoshino (Head minister of Honolulu Church) was conducted at Honolulu Church. The Rev. Kazuya Obu of Kunisaki Church was the head officiant and main speaker. He looks like Yoshino Sensei



On Monday, May 30th our KMH annual Memorial Day grave visitation took place at Punchbowl National Cemetery of the Pacific. At Punchbowl, we visited 28 graves and offered flowers and a prayer. In addition, we visited the Honolulu Memorial Park and Mililani Cemetery.



On Saturday, May 28, the Ebime Kenjinkai held the 2nd annual Ebimemaru Memorial Service and Prayer for Ocean Safety at the Kakaako Waterfront Park Memorial.



Editor's Note

Dear Reader,

I hope all is going well for you, and this newsletter finds you in good health. My uncle, **Takahiko Yano**, who is my father's youngest brother passed away suddenly at the age of 57. He had ongoing chronic health conditions and even survived liver cancer at one point. Uncle Takahiko passed away on Saturday, May 28, 2016 in Yokohama, Japan. Life is very unpredictable.

My earliest memory of uncle Takahiko was when I was about 5 years old. He came to Hawaii to visit our family. He was about 26 years old at the time, and at the healthiest point of his life. At that young age that I was, uncle Takahiko was my most favorite uncle. He was very cheerful, funny, and also very generous. I still remember clearly, the toys he gifted to me from Japan. It was a red toy telephone with a white receiver that used batteries. The other toy was a cute Rika-chan jeweled mirror medallion. It made twinkly noises when I tapped its golden center. I loved those two toys to pieces.

He was an architect and even had established 2 companies at one point in his life. One of them was called "Arrow Housing", as "Yano" means Field of Arrows.

The second time I saw uncle Takahiko was when I was a 7th grader. This time, it was different. We went to Japan as a family, and stopped by another uncle's house. That's when uncle Takahiko also came to visit. He was trying to be cool, he was trying to be friendly and generous...But it was different this time. He brought bags of toys and stuffed animals for all the kids and cousins, but I had absolutely no interest in taking any of them...Except for these super cute pair of fuzzy green dinosaur house slippers that were calling my name. Hahaha! For some reason that I couldn't explain at that time, uncle Takahiko's face scared me. I was fearful. I did not even want to make eye contact with him. From being my most favorite uncle, he suddenly became my uncle that I did not want to get near.

It's not like he did anything to me, but the energy that was flowing from him kept me far away from him.

I only found out later, that uncle Takahiko was going through a very difficult time in his life at that time.

A supposedly "good friend" of his at that time asked uncle to take out a loan with him and be his co-signer. Unfortunately, that friend deceived him, and left uncle to pay the ever piling debt. He went into despair, and ran into more difficulties. This was also the period in his life that he had been disconnected with the Konko faith. His parents were always desperately trying to guide him to reconnect with faith again, but he was far from being convinced.

One day, while he was working, he suddenly collapsed and was sent to the hospital. He was diagnosed with liver cancer and cirrhosis. He went through various cancer treatments and had reached the ultimate point of despair in his life. When he got discharged from the hospital, he walked around the city and came across familiar sign. It was a Konko Church. He was drawn to the large Yatsunami Konko Crest sign of the Konko Church of Maruko.

It was there, my uncle received spiritual guidance from the **Reverend Mitsuo Yokoyama**. From that point on, he was gradually pulled up from the abyss. Uncle began to worship Maruko Church very frequently and made new friends with the

members of the church. He helped out the church and members in various ways.

At the beginning of this year, he was able to meet all his family members when his father's 10th year memorial service was conducted at Kawanoishi Church, Ehime, Japan. My father, my brother, **Rodney**, and his wife, **Fong** also went to attend the service. At that time, he was very genki, lively and had become a changed man again. His face had also changed. He did not look scary anymore. In the five years he reconnected with his spirituality, he even became an assistant minister (Hokyō) to Rev. Yokoyama.

Some time this year, uncle fell from a stairwell, and fractured his arm. Then, his health suddenly began to deteriorate. The bones in his shoulder became inflamed and started to melt. Hospitalized for a month, everyone thought he was going to be ok. But his condition suddenly turned for the worst and he passed away. According to a church member who was visiting him, he was having a lively conversation with uncle, just a few hours before he passed away.

Amidst the challenges uncle went through, he was very grateful to everyone, especially for Rev. Yokoyama for praying for him, guiding him and believing in him. There was a night and day difference between his life when he lost his faith, and when he found his faith again.

Knowing of uncle's passing was a shock to all of us. My father went to Japan from May 29-June 1, to attend the funeral service for Uncle Takahiko.

His funeral was conducted at the Konko Church of Maruko on May 31, 2016, with **Rev. Yokoyama** as the head officiant.

According to my father, the church was filled with people who came to remember him.

It is my prayer that uncle Takahiko's Mitama spirit is at peace.

This Memorial Day we went to Punchbowl National Cemetery of the Pacific and visited 28 graves of past Konko believers. At first we were all concerned that we may have difficulty locating all 28 graves because my father is usually the navigator/leader of the grave visit. But this time, my father was in Japan, attending his brother's funeral, so he was not here. However, thankfully, we had my fiancé, **Clayton** also come with us this year. He was our ultimate navigator in grave finding. One after the other, he was able to locate the graves with ease. We were all very thankful. Otherwise, it would have taken at least an hour longer than usual to locate all the graves. Kami-Sama always has a way of helping us out. This time, it was through Clayton ☺. This grave visitation tradition of the Konko Missions in Hawaii has been going on since post WW2. It's a tradition that I am very happy to be a part of and look forward to every year.

The 6th Summer Ohana Camp is right around the corner! It will be held from Sunday, June 18-Sunday, June 19, 2016 at Camp HR Erdman in Mokeleia. Registration will start at the Eagle's Lodge from 9:00 a.m. And the program will begin at 10:00 a.m. This year's theme is the Power of Prayer. We can't wait to see what the **Rev. Dr. Todd Takahashi** has in store for us for his camp workshop. That will be on Sunday 6/19 from 9 am to 11 am. Plenty to look forward to for this camp. Wishing you all a fantastic month in June!

Aloha, Edna

