



Wahiawa Konko Mission Children's Newsletter



Konko Mission of Wahiawa
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WAHIAWA KONKO MISSION MONTHLY SCHEDULE

March 2011

- 1 Tue -Tenchi Kane no Kami-Sama Monthly Svc. (7:30 pm)**
- 5 Sat -Church clean up (9 am)
- 6 Sun -Monthly Svc. for Ikigami Konko Daijin-Sama (9 am)**
-Lay Member Testimonial **by Ms. Jane Suwa**
-Overview of the March schedule (Till 11 am)
- 9 Wed -Rev. Todd Takahashi's Study Session @Center (8 pm)
- 11 Fri -Monthly volunteer activity @ Wahiawa Gen. Hospital
Long term care facility (10-10:45 am)
- 12 Sat -Church clean up (9 am)
-Chorus Practice @HNL Church (2-4 pm)
- 13 Sun -Annual Spring Memorial Service (10 am)**
-Naorai Lunch will follow
- 20 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am)**
-Honolulu Church Spring Memorial Service (10 am)
- 26 Sat -Chorus Practice @HNL Church (2-4 pm)
- 27 Sun -No Sunday Service
-Volunteer Activity at Kuakini Medical Center
Hale Pulama Mau Auditorium (9:30 -10:30 am)
- 31 Thr -Church clean up (9 am)

April 2011

- 1 Fri -Tenchi Kane no Kami-Sama Monthly Svc. (7:30 pm)**
- 13 Wed -Wahiawa Church Spring Grand Ceremony (6:30 pm)**

Konko Sama says...

“Kami can quickly cure an illness caused internally, but not one caused by the heart. Don't get an illness due to a worried and distressed heart.” (GI Kondo Fujimori 39)

What the editor thinks: Sometimes we pray and things do not come out the way we wanted it to. We get distressed. A perfectly sunny and cloudless day would seem like a rainy day. We invest in things that we believe will keep us happy, like a brand new car, or a new video game. Then we get the bad news, and all those things you bought suddenly doesn't matter anymore because now our main focus is the problem. We waste our precious time dwelling on negative thoughts wherever we are and whatever we are doing. Sooner or later, our distress turns into physical symptoms. When we are distressed, so is every cell in our bodies. Not only does distress affect the body; it affects everyone around us. Nothing is more distressing than watching distressed people. It's just as contagious. In Konkokyo, we believe that everything is dependent on our hearts. If we cannot save ourselves with our hearts, there is not much that can be done.

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.

Happy Girl's Day 3/3/11

Gentle and compassionate
Inspirational and intelligent
Respect them and they will respect you
Loving and friendly
Strong when they need to be



Spring Memorial Service

Date: Sunday, March 13, 2011
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: Konko Mission of Wahiawa
Memo: Naorai fellowship lunch will follow
Remembering our deceased loved ones keeps their Mitama Spirit alive. Let us honor the life that they lived and show them that we care by attending this very important service in person and on time.

Volunteer Activity at Kuakini Medical Center



Sunday, March 27, 2011



- 9:00 am -Meet at Honolulu Church to pray
-Head to Kuakini Medical Center
- 9:30 am -Program at Hale Pulama Mau
- 10:30 am -End of program.
- 10:45 am -Meet back at Honolulu Church for ending prayer and lunch.

Wahiawa Konko Mission Annual Schedule at a Glance

4/10	Sun	-Honolulu Church Spring Grand Service (11 am)
4/13	Wed	-Wahiawa Church Spring Grand Service (6:30 pm)
4/17	Sun	-Waipahu Church Spring Grand Service (11 am)
4/24	Sun	-Church Member Testimonial by Ms. Doreen Hirota
5/8	Sun	-Church Member Testimonial by Mr. Randy Furusho
		-Hilo Church Spring Grand Service (11 am)
5/15	Sun	-Wailuku Church Spring Grand Service (11 am)
5/30	Mon	-Punchbowl Cemetery Visitation
6/4	Sat	-Wahiawa Church Garage Sale (9 am-2 pm)
6/5	Sun	-80 th Anniversary of Konko Church of San Francisco (11 am)
6/9	Thur	-Faith Enrichment Study Tour in Konko thru Fri 6/17
7/9-10	Sat-Sun	-Wahiawa Church Retreat at Camp Erdman
7/13	Wed	-KMH Missionary Women's Society Seminar at Wailuku
7/17	Sun	-Kuakini Medical Center Volunteer Activity (9:30 am)
7/24	Sun	-Back to School Service (9 am)
8/21	Sun	-Late Rev. Masayuki Kodama's 38 th Memorial Svc. @HNL
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	Sun	-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 Memorial Svc. for the Late Rev. Kikue Kodama (9 am)
12/18	Sun	-39 th Memorial 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)

**Please be informed that the year schedule is subject to change.*



<http://bambocheur.com/pic-labo/hinadan.jpg>

Happy Birthday

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

Rev. Rodney Yano
Mitsuko Suwa
Yoshito Kanemitsu
Maelani Soma

Jayden Adkison
Raymond Perreira
Betsy Maesaka
Rev. Edna Yano



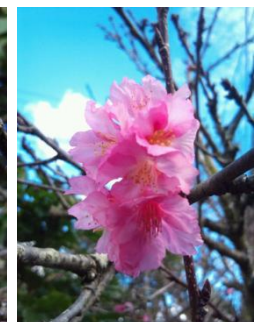
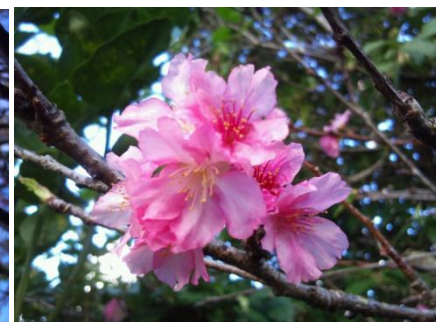
Drs. Leon & Linda Webber (1st and 2nd from right) made their 4th visit in a row to the Konko Mission of Wahiawa. They came all the way from Alaska bringing an abundance of joy and peace. They attended the scheduled services and joined in on our Origami session.



Ms. Mikako Hiramoto (2nd from left) came from the Konko Church of Kawanishi in Hyogo Prefecture, Japan. She loves Hawaii and enjoys dancing Hula. She usually comes with her father, Rev. Yukio Hiramoto for the annual Senior Softball tournament.



Mr. Bruce Yamamoto (5th from left-sitting down) came to visit from Vancouver, Washington. We took a group picture after the testimonial by Mrs. Mitsuko Suwa. We gathered over a cup of tea and some cookies. The Precious Moments of our church.



Editor's Note

Dear Reader,

As the month of February literally flew by, I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and happiness. Speaking of happiness, happiness is a gift, and not a given. How often are you able to reply "I'm doing good, and you?" to someone who asks you the common question, "Hey, how are you doing?" In the midst of Kami's blessings we are able to say that we are doing fine.

Are you familiar with the popular online social network, "Facebook"? It's a good way to reconnect with old friends since elementary and even friends who live thousands of miles away. One of my Facebook friends is a proud elementary school teacher now, and occasionally she'd post pictures of life as a teacher. Just recently, she posted a picture of a Ziploc bag full of pennies, nickels, dimes and a few quarters. And in the comment box it said that one of her students brought this to pay for the fieldtrip. It was short a few cents. Naturally, other Facebook friends left comments of ridicule like how embarrassed they would be to send their child with a bag of coins, or like how bad the child was at math that he cannot count coins correctly. It made others laugh, but it made me cry. Why? Because I have been in the same shoes.

Being brought up in a church was not very easy financially. In the beginning, our only source of income to run the church, pay for the bills and purchase groceries was from the offerings made by the congregation. We were literally counting pennies. My brothers and I went to public school, and I remember a few times when even paying \$0.75 for lunch was hard. I had about 25 cents in pennies and the rest were nickels and dimes. But I never thought anything of it back then, other than, "I was able to pay for lunch today, yaay!" We didn't have money to purchase new shoes or clothes. They were all given to us by the members, which we are so grateful. Sometimes my shoes would have a hole in them, and my mom would get a needle and thread to sew it up. I remember one pair of new shoes that a friend of mine gave me when I was in middle school. It was a size 4.5. It was so good; it lasted me a good 2 years. Amazingly, my foot stayed that size. I remember sometimes wearing some of my mom's clothes to school, not realizing that I stood out like a sore thumb.

Some of our friends had the latest in toys, but strangely, we didn't get envious as to beg our parents for one too. Our dad was quite a craftsman, so he made all our toys, from slingshots to bows and arrows. Our friends used to buy snacks like chips and cookies, but we could not afford them, so my mom used to make them for us. The home baked goods tasted so good. I used to always make donuts and cheese crackers with her when I was little. We never relied on welfare.

The other day, when I was cleaning out the old closet, stowed away in an old box were some clothes we used to wear when we were little. I found a pair of shorts that my brother used to wear, too. It all had a common element. It

was worn till it got worn!! Hehehe. We wore our clothes till the fabric got thin, till it had holes in them, and till a black t-shirt turned gray. And when we think back about it, we didn't care back then. We were just thankful that we had clothes to wear, and that people would give us clothes. I never recall my parents complaining about being so poor. In fact, we were always laughing, smiling and telling each other how thankful we are of Kami-Sama's blessings.

Once in a while, my parents would mention about the time when the only thing that could be offered for the monthly service was a pumpkin that grew wild in our back yard and a bottle of Sacred Sake. From those humble days to what we have been blessed with till this day...I am so very thankful for the life that I had while growing up. Although we were financially insecure, there was never a time we could not eat. There was never a time we could not go to school or do the things we wanted. Now, of course I never learned to play the violin, which I really wanted to when I was in the 2nd grade...I do not think I would be the me today, without having gone through the life I did. We relied 100% in Kami-Sama.

Going back to the bag of coins, I am proud of that child who was determined to go to the fieldtrip even if it meant counting pennies. I am pretty sure there are some students who are not able to pay, especially in these trying times. Thinking about the many types of people out there, we have to think deeply about them and their situations, instead of being concerned about their superficial qualities. And we must pray for them.

I remember one time when my mom paid for gasoline with a whole bunch of coins. The cashier was so mad at her and threw a tantrum saying, "Can't you see I have customers waiting! Why you be bringing so many coins!" My mom was very sad and never went back to that gasoline station again.

If I stuck out a penny and a quarter and asked people which coin is worth more, they'd choose the quarter since it can buy more. But if I asked which one is more important, I wonder what the reply would be? A penny is just as important as a million dollars. Any amount of money begins with a penny.

Here's another example: If I put in front of you a person who earned a PhD and a homeless drug addict who dropped out of high school, who would you say is more important? In the eyes of Kami-Sama, they are both Kami's prized possessions.

If we can value a penny like a million dollars, that mentality will carry on to any element in life. We would be able to value any person, and anything. And by doing so, we would be able to manifest the heart of Kami-Sama—the heart of unconditional love. Why is it so good to have a heart of Kami-Sama? So you can help yourself and others. There will finally be meaning to life. Let us be thankful for this day, for what we already have. And look forward to the future in a positive attitude. Wishing you an awesome month in March! Happy Girl's Day, too!!

Aloha, Edna Yano

