



Wahiawa Konko Mission Children's Newsletter



Konko Mission of Wahiawa
207 Muliwai Avenue, Wahiawa, HI. 96786
☎ & 📠 : (808) 621-6667 Cell: (808) 223-3448
✉ ednakazuko@hotmail.com URL: www.konkowahiawa.org



March 2023, Volume 31

WAHIAWA KONKO MISSION MONTHLY SCHEDULE

**All services will be streamed on Facebook Live*

March 2023

- 1 Wed -Monthly Svc. for Tenchi Kane no Kami-Sama (7:30 pm)
天地金乃神様 月例祭
- 3 Fri -Happy Girl's Day!
-Volunteer Activity at St. Francis ALF (10:30 am)
- 4 Sat -Hawaii's Plantation Village Santa Fe Exhibition Blessing
By Yano Sensei (12:45 pm)
- 5 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am)
-KMH Rotary Hanashikai Mtg at Wahiawa (10:30 am)
In person and on ZOOM. Lunch will follow
ZOOM ID: 847 4142 7204 PASSCODE: 063254
- 7 Tue -SF Church Konko Daijin Bio Study on ZOOM (3:30 pm)
- 8 Wed -KMH MWSS at Waipahu Church (9:30 am to 3 pm)
-KMH Kyoten Study Group on ZOOM (5 pm)
- 10 Fri -Church clean-up (9 am)
- 11 Sat -Hawaii Gunpla Workshop at HNL Church (12n-6 pm)
- 12 Sun -Monthly Service for Ikigami Konko Daijin-Sama (9 am)
-Honolulu Church Spring Memorial Svc (10 am)
- 17 Fri -Church clean-up (9 am)
- 19 Sun -Annual Spring Memorial Service (10 am) 春季霊祭
Naorai lunch will follow. Please join us.
- 22 Wed -KMH Kyoten Study Group on ZOOM (5 pm)
- 24 Fri -KMH CEOC meeting on ZOOM (3 pm)
- 25 Sat -Ehimemaru Mem. clean up @Kaka'ako Park (9 am)
-Ehime Kenjinkai Shinnen-kai picnic will follow the clean-up
-KMH Minister's Meeting (2-4 pm)
- 26 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am) *Share okage till 11 am
- 31 Fri -Church clean-up (9 am)

April 2023

- 1 Sat -Monthly Svc. for Tenchi Kane no Kami-Sama (7:30 pm)
天地金乃神様 月例祭
- 2 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am)
-Honolulu Church Spring Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- 7 Fri -Volunteer Activity at St. Francis ALF (10:30 am)
- 8 Sat -Church clean-up for Grand Ceremony (8 am)

Konko Daijin says... There will be difficult times even while practicing faith. During such times, don't lose faith. Continue practicing faith
(Gorikai II Matsumoto Tashichi 4)

Editor's Thoughts: When times get tough, this is usually when people start to doubt Kami's existence. But always keep in mind that things happen for you for a reason. Do not think "Why is this happening to me?!" Instead, think "This is all happening for me."

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.

Spring Memorial Service 春季霊祭

When: Sunday, March 19, 2023 @ 10:00 a.m.
Place: Konko Mission of Wahiawa
Who: All is welcome to attend, since we all have ancestors that must be revered and remembered.

Memo: Naorai fellowship lunch will follow
"Immortality is important for humans. Immortality is when others keep praying for you after you die." (Gii Kondo Tsuru 1)

During the service, Sensei will be reciting the names of our revered deceased. Please let sensei know of any new people you would like to include in the main prayer by 3/17 (Fri).

Kyoten Study Group Session

Wed 3/8/23 @5pm-6pm

Wed 3/22/23 @5pm-6pm

ZOOM ID: 815 2952 9465 Passcode: 914385



MAHALO NUI!

An impromptu Garage Sale was held on 2/25/23. We were able to raise **\$1983.85** including monetary donations! We were able to send \$1000 each to 2 charities: **Syrian American Medical Society Foundation** and the **Turkish Philanthropy Funds** to help with the recent earthquake in Turkey and Syria. Thank you for your generosity!

Konko Mission of Wahiawa Annual Schedule for 2023

- 4/2 Sun -Honolulu Church Spring Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- 4/9 Sun -Waipahu Church Spring Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- 4/13 Thr **-Wahiawa Church Spring Grand Ceremony (6 pm)**
- 4/15 Sat -KMH Minister's Gathering (2-4 pm)
- 5/7 Sun -Wailuku Church Spring Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- 5/13 Sat -KMH Board Meeting (10:30 am) @HNL Church
- 5/20 Sat -KMH Minister's Gathering (2-4 pm)
- 5/29 Mon -Memorial Day visit to Punchbowl
- 6/17 Sat -10th Memorial Svc for Late Rev. Masahiko Yoshino (10 am)
- 6/18 Sun -Wailuku Church 60th Anniversary (10:30 am)
- 7/1 Sat -KMH Beach Clean-up and BBQ @Haleiwa (10 a to 2 pm)
- 7/2 Sun -Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama (9 am)
- 7/15 Sat -KMH Hawaii Gathering (2-4 p)
- 7/22 Sat -KCNA/KMH Joint MWSS on ZOOM (10 am to 12 n)
- 7/23 Sun -Back to School Service and Monthly Mem. Svc (9 am)
- 8/5 Sat -KMH Board of Trustees Meeting (10:30 am to 3 p)
- 8/6 Sun -KMH Rotary Hanashikai Wailuku host ZOOM (10:30 am)
- 8/27 Sun -50th Annual Mem Svc for Late Rev. Masayuki Kodama
- 9/2 Sat -KMH Hawaii Gathering on ZOOM (1:30 p to 3 p)
- 9/17 Sun -Honolulu Church Autumn Memorial Service (10 am)
- 9/24 Sun **-Wahiawa Church Autumn Memorial Service (10 am)**
- 10/1 Sun -Honolulu Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- Rev. Sugako Yoshino's 1-year Memorial Svc (in conjunction)
- 10/8 Sun -140th Memorial for Ikigami Konko Daijin at Headquarters
- 10/15 Sun -Waipahu Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- 10/13 Fri **-Wahiawa Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (6 pm)**
- 10/22 Sun -HCRP Peace Prayer TBD (4 pm)
- 11/5 Sun -Wailuku Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- 11/18 Sat -KMH 3rd Yatsunami Gathering on Zoom (3-4:30 pm)
- 11/26 Sun -26th Mem. Svc for Late Rev. Kikue Kodama @HNL (10 am)
- 12/2 Sat -KMH Board of Trustees Mtg @HNL (10:30 am to 3 pm)
- 12/9 Sat -KMH Head Minister's Mtg (10:30 am) @HNL Church
- 12/17 Sun -51st Memorial Svc for Late Rev. Haruko Takahashi (10 am)
- 12/24 Sun -End of the Year Service (9 am)
- 12/30 Sat -32nd Annual Mochi Pounding at Wahiawa Church (8 am)

**The annual schedule is subject to change depending on the course of the pandemic.*



HAWAII GUNPLA WORKSHOP

SAT. 3.11.23
12 NOON TO 6PM

HOSTED BY
CLAYTON MATSUOKA
& MICHI'S TOY BOX

KONKO MISSION OF HONOLULU
1728 LILIIHA STREET



MICHI'S TOY BOX

Monthly Volunteer Activity at Hale O Meleana

Residential & Memory Care Community St. Francis Healthcare System of Hawaii

- Friday, 3/3/23 @10:30 am
- Friday, 4/7/23 @10:30 am
- Friday, 5/5/23 @10:30 am
- Friday, 6/2/23 @10:30 am
- Friday, 7/7/23 @10:30 am
- Friday, 8/4/23 @10:30 am
- Friday, 9/8/23 @10:30 am
- Friday, 10/6/23 @10:30 am
- Friday, 11/3/23 @10:30 am
- Friday, 12/8/23 @10:30 am



**Come join us if you would like to volunteer, too! Japanese Program*



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. Michiyoshi Yasutake
(Head minister of Amagi Church)

Rev. Rodney Yano

Jayden Adkison

Keiko Toyoda

Maelani Rego

Rev. Edna Matsuoka

Konko Mission of Wahiawa Spring Grand Ceremony For Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama

Date: Thursday, April 13, 2023 @ 6:00 pm

Place: Konko Mission of Wahiawa

Memo: Join us in person! Covid precautions have eased dramatically. Naorai fellowship dinner will be served after the service. So we will begin the service a little earlier at **6 pm** instead of 6:30 pm. Let's honor and appreciate the Life Force, Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama. See you!



On February 9, 2023, the 22nd Memorial Service for the victims of the Ehime Maru was held. Rev. Edna Matsuoka attended the service with the Ehime Kenjinkai.

Editor's Note

Dear Reader,

Happy March! Thank you for your great help with our impromptu garage sale on 2/25/23. We had a great turn out of people that came to support the cause. We raised \$1983.85 including generous donations by individuals. All proceeds will go to the Syrian American Medical Society and the Turkish Philanthropy Fund for the recent earthquake that happened on February 6, 2023. To date, more than 50,000 people have died. Countless are injured and left homeless. It's heartbreaking to see the footage of the earthquake devastation on the news. I couldn't just sit back and say "Let's pray for them" and not do anything. I felt we needed to do something. Even if our impact may not be much, I believed that putting forth energy and actually doing something as a church was important. I believe that humanity has the duty to help each other out when there is a problem. So I really want to thank all of you for helping out.

I want to share the story of The Little Sparrow. This story is from the St Paul's C of E Primary School's website. This story was inspired by Rafe Martin's retelling of a traditional Buddhist Jataka tale, The Brave Little Parrot:

Some things can seem like too big a problem for us to help with. It's easy to feel that we can't do very much. This is a story about a little sparrow who is told she can't make a difference, but still tries to help. Her actions inspire others, making them want to join in and help too.

Thunder crashed. A dark storm grew in the skies. Lightning struck. A spark of fire began to spread through the forest. Seeing smoke, a little sparrow flapped her wings and flew up into the sky. "Fire, fire!" she shouted. "Get out, quick!" From high above the forest, the sparrow could see the fire was spreading quickly. Tree after tree was beginning to burn. A few birds flew away, but some animals were already trapped by the flames.

What could she do? The little sparrow flew to a nearby stream. A few animals were gathering there, on the other side from the fire. "Please, help! We must save the forest!" the sparrow called. "It is too late," replied the other animals. "The fire is already too big for us. There is nothing we can do." "We should do what we can," the sparrow answered, and turned towards the stream.

The sparrow dipped her tiny beak into the stream and collected a few drops of water. It was scary, but she flew back, keeping high above the fire. She opened her beak and the little water drops of fell onto the flames far below. It made just a tiny difference but she did it again and again. Flying to the stream then back to the fire, with her few drops of water. "I will do what I can," she said to herself.

One of the animals by the stream was a beaver. He'd watched the sparrow flying back and forth with her mouthful of water to put out the fire. At first he thought it was hopeless, but then his heart changed. He moved towards a tree and began to gnaw. If he could just clear a strip, that might stop the flames spreading so far. "I will do what I can," he said to himself.

A badger saw the sparrow flying overhead. He couldn't fly towards the fire. What could he do? Suddenly, an idea came to him and he began to dig into the earth. If he could create a deep burrow, it might create a safe space for animals to shelter. "I will do what I can," he said to himself.

A lark was sitting on her nest at the edge of the forest. She saw the sparrow and wanted to help, but she knew she could not leave her eggs. From the branches, she began to sing a hopeful song. "I will do what I can," she said to herself.

Gradually, more and more animals were amazed by the sparrow's effort and they all joined in, each in their own way. The night was long, some animals suffered, but eventually the fire was put out. Each animal had just made a tiny difference, but somehow the forest had been saved. *-The End*

Which part of the story do you like best? While reading this story, I really liked the part where the lark sitting in her nest couldn't do anything physically, but she helped by singing a song of encouragement. Everyone has their own special way they can help.

How do you think the sparrow felt when other animals said it was too late to help? I think the sparrow might have felt a bit discouraged, but nevertheless, she kept going with her gut feelings of helping out. She probably helped knowing her life was at risk.

How do you think the sparrow felt when the fire was put out? I bet the sparrow felt relieved that the fire was put out. She must have also felt happy that her actions inspired the other animals to help out, too.

What other animals might have been there and how could they have helped? I imagine there was a huge gorilla that was able to help rescue some of the animals in the forest who were too slow to respond, by grabbing them and running towards safety.

Have you ever helped in a small way with a really big problem? I try to help environmental issues, like trying not to waste food, water, electricity, trying not to contribute to environmental pollution by placing rubbish where they belong, and trying not to use too much plastic.

We have to realize that most things are beyond human control. We have to ask for help from Kami Sama, God, Buddha, Allah, whatever you call this great life force that is beyond our human powers. The powers of the divine are infinite.

If everybody works towards one goal, it will be possible to solve even problems that seemed too big. Ask Kami Sama for help anytime, anywhere and for anything. There are many big problems out there, like wars, natural disasters, famine, housing insecurities, corrupt governance, child exploitation, the opioid epidemic, pollution of the land, ocean, rivers and the air and countless other issues.

On the individual level, you may be going through a big problem too, like human relationship issues, an illness, an injury, financial issues, or psychological issues. We have the duty to treat others and ourselves with care and respect. We also have been given the heart of compassion, to help in ways we can. We have the duty to treat our environment with respect, appreciate and take care of the natural resources we are blessed with, and not contribute to the pollution and wasting of it.

In big ways and small, each individual is given the potential and the ability to help each other. As Konko Daijin stated, "One person cannot move a large stone, but several people can." With cooperation, even large problems can be solved. Helping each other is what makes Kami Sama the happiest. So let's continue to help in ways we are able to. Thank you for reading.

March is the month of the **Spring Memorial Service**. We will conduct our service on **Sunday, March 19th at 10 am**. Please join us to honor our ancestors, family and deceased friends. When you make the sincere effort to connect with the Mitama Spirits, they will respond to you. Naorai fellowship lunch will follow. We hope to see you. Please also mark your calendars for our **Spring Grand Ceremony** that is fast approaching. It will be held on **Thursday, April 13th at 6:00 pm** in honor and appreciation of the Life Force, Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama. Naroai fellowship dinner will follow.

Have a fantastic month in March! Wishing all girls, a Happy Girl's Day!!

 Sincerely
Edna

