



Wahiawa Konko Mission Children's Newsletter



May 2024, Volume 32

Konko Mission of Wahiawa
207 Muliwai Avenue, Wahiawa, HI. 96786
☎ & 📠 : (808) 621-6667 Cell: (808) 223-3448
✉ konkowahiawa207@gmail.com URL: www.konkowahiawa.org




WAHIAWA KONKO MISSION MONTHLY SCHEDULE

May 2024

- 1 Wed -Monthly Svc. for Tenchi Kane no Kami-Sama (7:30 pm) 天地金乃神様 月例祭 
- 3 Fri -Japanese Program at St. Francis (10:30 am)
- 5 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am) *Okage sharing. Boy's Day!
-Wailuku Church Spring Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- 8 Wed -KMH Kyoten Study Group on ZOOM (5 pm)
- 10 Fri -Church clean-up (9 am)
- 11 Sat -KMH Board Mtg 10:30 am @HNL Church ZOOM
-Hawaii Gunpla Workshop @HNL Church (12n-6p)
- 12 Sun -Monthly Svc for Ikigami Konko Daijin Sama (9 am)
-Rev. Mitsumasa Yasutake's 15th Mem. Svc @ WPH, 9:30 am
-Hilo Church Spring Grand Ceremony (10 am)
-Happy Mother's Day!
- 17 Fri -Church clean-up (9 am)
- 18 Sat -KMH Ministers Gathering (2 pm to 4 pm)
- 19 Sun -Monthly Mem. Svc. (9 am) 月例霊祭 *Share okage
- 20 Mon-KMH CEOC Meeting on ZOOM (3 pm)
- 22 Wed-KMH Kyoten Study Group on ZOOM (5 pm) 
- 24 Fri -Preparation for garage sale (1 pm)
- 25 Sat -Garage Sale (9 am to 2 pm)
-Ehimemaru Memorial Clean-up (9 am)
- 26 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am) *Okage sharing
- 27 Mon-Memorial Day visit Punchbowl (7 am meet@ flagpole)
- 31 Fri -Church clean-up (9 am)

June 2024

- 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) *Share Okage
-50th Memorial Service for Rev. Shinko Fukuda (SF Church) *Yano Sensei will attend.

Konko Sama Says... Don't think that the future will be miserable and difficult. Instead, give thanks for this day. And give thanks to Kami-Sama for providing a roof over your head and not letting you go hungry or cold. (*Gorikai II Kashiyabara Toku 7*).

Editor's thoughts: This Konko teaching emphasizes gratitude and a positive outlook on life. Instead of dwelling on possible hardships in the future, it encourages us to focus on the present moment and being thankful for what one has. Expressing gratitude for the basic necessities of life, such as shelter, food, and warmth, is central to this teaching. By developing a mindset of gratitude and appreciation, individuals can find happiness and peace in their daily lives, regardless of external circumstances.

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 Boy's Day! (5/5/24)

- B -Brave samurai tales,
- O -Over time they prevail.
- Y -Youthful dreams take flight,
- S -Strength and honor, pure and bright.



Happy Mother's Day! (5/12/24)

- M -Marvelous love that's true,
- O -Overflowing care, always anew.
- T -Tender hugs, words so sweet,
- H -Home where love and comfort meet.
- E -Endless wisdom, guiding light,
- R -Radiant smiles, shining bright.



HAWAII GUNPLA WORKSHOP SAT. 5.11.24 12 NOON TO 6 PM



Konko Mission of Honolulu
1728 Liliha Street

Hosted by Clayton Matsuoka
& Michi's Toy Box

*BUILD BY RENE

  #hawaiiGUNPLAworkshop



Konko Mission of Wahiawa Annual Schedule for 2024

- 7/6 Sat -KMH Ohana Program, Haleiwa Beach picnic 10 am 2 pm
- 7/17 Wed -50th KMH Missionary Women's Meeting, Honolulu Church
- 7/20 Sat -KMH Ministers Gathering 2 pm to 4 pm
- 7/21 Sun -Back-to-School Service 9:00 am
- 8/3 Sat -KMH Board Meeting 10:30 am @Honolulu Church ZOOM
- 8/4 Sun -KMH Rotary Hanashikai @HNL 10:30 pm on ZOOM
- 8/25 Sun -51st Memorial Svc for the late Rev. Masayuki Kodama 9 am
- 9/7 Sat -KMH Faith Enrichment Gathering on ZOOM (1:30 p-3 p)
- 9/15 Sun -Honolulu Church Autumn Memorial Svc 10 am
- 9/22 Sun -Wahiawa Church Autumn Memorial Svc at 10 am
- 9/29 Sun -Hilo Church Autumn Memorial Svc (10 am)
- 10/6 Sun -Autumn Grand Svc at Honolulu at 11 am
- 10/13 Sun -Autumn Grand Svc at Wahiawa at 5 pm**
- 10/20 Sun -Autumn Grand Svc at Waipahu at 11 am
- HCRP Peace Prayer, 4 pm?
- 10/27 Sun -120th Anniversary of Amagi Church (11 am)
- 11/3 Sun -Autumn Grand Svc at Hilo Church 11 am (Yano attends)
- 11/10 Sun -Autumn Grand Svc at Wailuku 11 am
- 11/16 Sat -KMH 4th International Yatsunami (Zoom 3 pm HST)
- 11/23 Sat -KMH Board Meeting 10:30 am @Honolulu Church
- 11/24 Sun -27th Memorial Svc for the Late Rev. Kikue Kodama 10 am
- 11/30 Sat -KMH Rummage Sale @Waipahu Church (9 am to 1 pm)
- 12/15 Sun -52nd Mem Svc for the late Rev. Haruko Takahashi 10 am
- 12/22 Sun -End of Year Service 9 am
- 12/30 Mon-33rd Mochi Pounding at Wahiawa Church



Happy Birthday

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

**Rev. Reiko Yano
Linda Noguchi
Nathan Noguchi
Channon Pangorang**

**Sean Miyasaka
Tevin Makishima
Randy Furusho
Elmay Pangorang**

The Wahiawa Kyokai Spring Grand Ceremony was held safely on April 13, 2024. The guest speaker was Rev. Akinobu Yasutake (Waipahu Church Head Minister)



Beautiful flower arrangement on the altar during the Grand Service, and entertainment by Mr. Gilbert Phillips, who sang and played "Sukiyaki" (By Kyo Sakamoto)



Reiko sensei and Edna sensei went to St. Francis for the Japanese Program on April 5th



Get your Gojinmon (Konko Crest) Decal today!

\$1.00 per decal. Stick them on your car, smartphone, water bottle, etc. May this Konko decal remind you of your daily blessings. 2X2 inches in gold weatherproof vinyl. Ask Edna Sensei if you would like to purchase a decal. Email: konkowahiawa207@gmail.com



Editor's Note

Dear Reader,

I hope you are doing well. Boy's Day and Mother's Day are just around the corner. My parents put up the *Koinobori* Children's Day carp windsocks on a long pole so they could swim in the wind. They have done this every year for the past 46 years since the birth of my eldest brother, David sensei. My mother's friend in Japan mailed her 2 large 10-ft red *koinobori* to celebrate my brother's birth, and so ever since then, the carp windsocks go up for Boy's Day (Aka: Children's Day in Japan).

You may wonder why we continue to put up the windsocks even after we have all grown up. There was just one year that my parents did not put up the carp streamers because it started to get too cumbersome. That was the year my second older brother Rodney sensei was 18 years old. Ironically, he got deathly ill that year and he could have died. He had a terrible case of food poisoning, and he had several hours of non-stop vomiting and diarrhea; he was going into hypovolemic shock (losing too much fluids). His electrolytes were dangerously low, and he was starting to cramp up.

That was the first time my parents had to take him in to see a doctor to be treated. It was very scary for all of us. I still remember this vividly. It was also just one day before his trip to the mainland to attend the Konko Churches of North America Faith Training Seminar with my dad. I have never seen my brother so sick in my life. But my parents asked him, are you still going to the mainland tomorrow to attend the seminar? And he said "Yes!" He barely had energy, his face and body were pale, and he lost a considerable amount of weight. But my dad and my brother still went to the airport the next morning and flew off for the seminar. We prayed very hard for him. And thankfully he made a full recovery there and was able to attend the seminar with the rest of the participants and come back safely when the seminar was over.

This is the reason why we continue to put up the *koinobori* carp windsocks every single year thereafter—even when we are all grown up already. Now I have a really cute nephew, so it's another reason to keep putting them up for Boy's Day. Coincidentally, just a few days ago, I was reading the *Gorikai* (Konkokyo Book of Teachings) and came across a teaching that mentions the importance of celebrating the seasonal festivals in Japan called 5-sekku. The teaching goes: "We have been celebrating the seasons through the Five Seasonal festivals. But now, these festivals, through which people revered Kami, have been banned. People are losing their reverence toward Kami. As a result, they will lose their propriety towards others. In turn, there will be no future generations." Konko Sama imparted to me. Henceforth, think of the beginning of a season as a Seasonal festival, practice faith at home and express thanks to family go-betweens. Have sincere faith in kami, and your descendants will receive divine virtue." (Gorikai I Ichimura Mitsugoro 2, #6). For our family, celebrating various festivals like Boy's Day/Children's Day is a way to remind ourselves to be thankful for these blessings in the family. When it gets cumbersome, it becomes equal to telling Kami-Sama that it's cumbersome to give thanks for our blessings. And in doing so, we lose out in divine favor because we will become blind to the blessings placed in front of us.

Kami Sama never stops giving blessings, so we as the recipients should never stop giving thanks for them. And even if it may seem cumbersome, some extra work in putting up the *koinobori* windsocks is a way to visibly show your sincerity. Carps symbolize resilience. They can swim upstream in strong currents. In this way, the people of the past did symbolic things like put up *koinobori* as a prayer for their children to grow strong and resilient. Think about that the next time you put up your *koinobori* for Boy's Day. Happy Boy's Day!

Speaking of boys, just recently, I was in the front yard redoing the bulletin board, when 3 teenage boys came into our driveway. They called out "Aunty, hello, aunty!" I went to see what was up. They said they wanted to go and grab their pet rooster that had gone into our back yard. While one boy was asking for permission, another boy spat on the driveway.

In my head I was like, "You didn't just do that!" Then I said, "Um, do you spit on your mom's face?" Then the boy shook his head. And I could almost hear his mind at that time saying, "I would never do that! If I do that, Ima get myself killed by my momma!" I told them not to spit on the ground. Because after all, this is mother earth, and it only provides for us and accepts everything we give to it, good, bad and dirty, just like mothers

who are unconditionally loving and caring. So if we spit on the ground, it is equivalent to spitting on our mom's face. I asked if they understood. They all nodded. I told them that it's very disrespectful.

Kids these days don't like being told what to do or what not to do, so I don't expect them to listen, but I do pray that they understand and think twice before spitting on the ground. Earth=Mother.

This church was founded by the late Rev. Haruko Takahashi, because her spiritual eyes were awoken when she learned of her indebtedness towards the Earth. She was so shocked that she felt she needed to give deep apology to the Earth. This spiritual awakening is what made her receive the blessing of being able to see well again. Being awoken to our indebtedness towards the Earth holds that much power. In fact, it was the founding minister of our church's grandparent church, the Konko Church of Amagi in Kyushu, the Late Rev. Matsutaro Yasutake. He is the one who was taught of the giving nature of the Earth, and was so astonished, that he literally crawled home from that Hiromae, because he felt it so disrespectful towards earth to even walk on the ground with his feet. So, when I saw that boy spitting on the ground, that disrespect made me feel sad. And so, I made it a teachable moment. You will not see a single Konko Believer or practitioner spit or litter on the ground intentionally. Have a piece of tissue paper in your pocket so you can spit in there, or spit in a trashcan or bathroom sink instead.

This was a brief sermon I delivered before the guest speaker spoke for our church grand service this past April. There was a worshipper that was listening very carefully that evening, because the next time I saw him, he said he was walking in the park the other day, and he had some spit in his mouth, but because he remembered my sermon, he said he swallowed his spit instead. It was pretty funny. But if it prevented one wad of spit from desecrating our mother's face, it was indeed a sermon worth sharing.

Sincerely, Edna

