



# Wahiawa Konko Mission Children's Newsletter



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



November 2024, Volume 32

## WAHIAWA KONKO MISSION MONTHLY SCHEDULE

### November 2024

- 1 Fri -Monthly Svc. for Tenchi Kane no Kami-Sama (7:30 pm) 天地金乃神様 月例祭
- 3 Sun -Hilo Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (10 am)  
Yano Sensei and Reiko Sensei will go. \*No Sunday Service
- 6 Wed -KMH Kyoten Study on ZOOM (5 pm)
- 8 Fri -Japanese Program at St. Francis (10:30 am)  
-Church clean-up (9 am)
- 10 Sun -Monthly Svc for Ikigami Konko Daijin-Sama (9 am)  
生神金光大神様 月例靈祭  
-Wailuku Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- 11 Mon-Veteran's Day HOLIDAY
- 16 Sat -4<sup>th</sup> Konkoko International Yatsunami Gathering on ZOOM (3 pm)
- 17 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am)  
-Start bringing KMH Rummage Sale items to Waipahu Church (11 am)
- 18 Mon-Pricing items at Waipahu Church for Rummage Sale
- 20 Wed-KMH Kyoten Study on ZOOM (5 pm)
- 22 Thr -Church clean-up (9 am)
- 23 Fri -KMH Board of Trustees Mtg at HNL/Zoom (10:30 am)
- 24 Sun -Monthly Memorial Service (9 am) 月例靈祭  
-27<sup>th</sup> Memorial Svc for the Late Rev. Kikue Kodama at HNL Church (10 am)
- 28 Thr -Happy Thanksgiving HOLIDAY
- 29 Fri -Church clean-up (9 am)
- 30 Sat -KMH Rummage Sale (9 am-1 pm) at Waipahu Church

### December 2024

- 1 Sun -Monthly Svc. for Tenchi Kane no Kami-Sama (9 am) 天地金乃神様 月例祭
- 6 Fri -Japanese Program at St. Francis (10:30 am)
- 7 Sat -Ocean Safety Prayer at Waimea Bay (7 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 Missions in Hawaii

# Rummage Sale!

SATURDAY  
11.30.24

9am-1pm



At the Konko Mission of Waipahu  
94-106 Mokuaua St. in Waipahu

## Konko Sama Says...Go along with the times.

(GII Kataoka Jiroshiro 7)

**Editor's thoughts:** I really love this teaching. It highlights the importance of adaptability and embracing change. It encourages us to stay flexible in response to life's shifts, while holding onto our core values. This teaching reminds us not to cling to outdated ways but to align with the present moment, allowing us to grow and evolve with the times, both personally and spiritually. It's about balancing tradition with openness to new ways of thinking and living.



The Autumn Grand Ceremony held in blessedness on 10.13.24

## Konko Mission of Wahiawa Annual Schedule for 2024

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 (8 am till pau)  
 1/1/25 Wed -New Year's Day Service Ganjitsusai (9 am)  
 1/18/25 Fri -Mochitsuki Sheraton Waikiki 10a & Moana Surf rider 2p



# HAWAII GUNPLA WORKSHOP

## SAT. 12.7.24

### 12 PM-6 PM

Konko Mission of Honolulu  
 1728 Liliha Street

Hosted by Clayton Matsuoka & Michi's Toy Box

#hawaiigunplaworkshop





*Happy Thanksgiving*

Thankfulness fills our hearts each day,  
 Heaven & Earth guide us in every way  
 All Kami's blessings, seen and unseen,  
 Nurture our spirits and keep us serene.  
 Knowing we're one with Kami always,  
 Sharing in gratitude, faith, and love.  
 Giving thanks for divine mediation,  
 Inspired by Konko Daijin's dedication.  
 Values of compassion we always share,  
 Inviting peace through sincere prayer.  
 Now we gather in humble grace,  
 Giving thanks in Kami's embrace.



## Happy Birthday

To all the people born in November  
 Please continue to receive  
 Infinite divine blessings from

Tenchi Kane no Kami-Sama and  
 Ikigami Konko Daijin-Sama

Doreen Hirota          Philip Oliveros  
 Sharon Toma            Jensen Toma  
 Merle Abe                Lyann Makishima

## 4<sup>th</sup> International Yatsunami Gathering

Date: Saturday, November 16, 2024

Time: 3 pm to 4 pm (Hawaii Time) the ZOOM room  
 will be open from 2:30 pm to log in early

Login ZOOM ID: 896 2523 6129    Passcode: 414565

There will be singing performances by our willing  
 volunteers in the Konkokyo community. We hope  
 you can join us for this 165<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration of  
 Konkokyo.



### Church Electric Wiring

We will be installing 6 outlets in  
 the church and residence for  
 approximately \$8,000 as a  
 temporary fix to a full rewiring  
 which will cost \$50K-100K. We  
 deeply appreciate any financial  
 help you can offer. Scan QR  
 Code on the right to donate via  
 PayPal. Or send a check to our  
 church: Konko Mission of  
 Wahiawa. Thank you very much  
 for your generous help.

**Memo:** Outlet Installation

## Editor's Note

Dear Reader,

With all the Grand Services on O'ahu safely concluding for the autumn season, a good number of you have attended all three Autumn Grand Services on this island, beginning with Honolulu, then Wahiawa, and at Waipahu Church. It was possible because we all received the okage (blessings) to do so, and Kami-Sama allowed us to attend the services. I was given the privilege to speak at the Waipahu Church Grand Service on October 20<sup>th</sup>, so I will be sharing my sermon here on this newsletter as well.

I still remember parts of Roy Sensei's (Wailuku Church Sensei) sermon from Honolulu and Koichi Sensei's (Honolulu Church Sensei) from Wahiawa's Godaisai. What I remember from Roy Sensei's sermon is that if we put in the effort to be even a little more like Konko Daijin in our daily lives, we won't fall into the rabbit hole of negativity and Murphy's Law, where things just don't work out, and our day turns more sour than your grandma's umeboshi!

In Wahiawa, Koichi Sensei spoke about the 4th Konko Sama's poem, "*Jitsui o komete, subete o taisetsuni*," which means, "With great sincerity, treat all things with respect." He also mentioned the Konko Gakuen Motto: "*Hiito o taisetsu ni, Jibun o taisetsu ni, Mono o taisetsu ni*," meaning, "Value people, value yourself, and value things." He talked about even valuing hardships and challenges we may face. That's a tough thing to do—people usually blame others for their problems, and blaming oneself is often the last thing anyone wants to do.

As Roy Sensei pointed out, it's easy to slip into negativity when something small goes wrong, like an alarm clock not going off, making you late for work. We can either stay on that negative path, or we can shift our mindset to appreciate the positive aspects of the morning—like being alive to experience a brand-new day or having slept comfortably through the night. Our hearts, lungs, and organs work tirelessly and smoothly to keep us alive, and we can never be thankful enough for these blessings.

Then there are blessings that have existed for millions or even billions of years, like the earth, the sun, and the moon. Who saw the recent supermoon? It was huge, bright, and beautiful! Have you ever thought to give thanks to the moon? The pull of the moon's gravity keeps our planet in place and allows us to experience the four seasons. Without the moon, we wouldn't survive. Pilots also appreciate it when the moon lights the night sky, yet we often take this life-sustaining celestial body for granted. From the macro-universe out there to the micro-universe within our bodies, Kami-Sama's workings are truly amazing.

With so many blessings, there's no way we can ever fully repay Kami-Sama for the daily favors we receive. The least we can do is be aware of them, spread that awareness, and treat people, ourselves, and even things with respect and gratitude.

I'd like to talk about Shohei Ohtani, the famous baseball player, because, in many ways, he's so Konko—whether he knows it or not. If you research him, you'll find he does things that bring him luck. He's often seen picking up trash, but he doesn't see it as trash. He says, "I'm not picking up trash; I'm picking up luck." He treats everyone with respect, including the water boy, and he never spits on the ground. He treats his surroundings, belongings, and himself with respect. At almost every major league game, he picks up trash, practicing the Konko Gakuen Motto without even knowing it.

Picking up trash is a common practice in Japan—children are taught to do it from a young age. In contrast, many Americans think, "That's not my job," and leave the trash for janitors. Some even miss the trash can and don't bother picking it up, with a "whatever"

mentality. For Japanese people, seeing Ohtani pick up trash is nothing special, but I was inspired by his positive outlook. He's not just picking up trash; he's picking up blessings, or as I say, okage. Now, when I see trash, I think, "I'm picking up okage!" It makes the act of picking up trash rewarding.

At work, if I see trash in the hallways, patient rooms, or bathrooms, I happily pick it up, thinking, "I found so much okage today." My husband recently went for a walk with a trash bag and charcoal tongs, getting his exercise while doing Kami-Sama a favor by beautifying the walking path. He said he picked up quite a lot. So next time you go for a walk, bring tongs and a trash bag, and pick up some okage along the way!

Now, is Shohei Ohtani lucky? The answer is yes, because he actively pursues luck. He's considered one of the most talented baseball players in modern history and is seen as "lucky" in so many ways. In Konko, we don't say lucky; we say okage—blessings. "Kage" means shadow, and when you add "O" in front of it, it becomes a divine shadow. The Founder, Konko Daijin, taught that blessings are the shadow cast by the sincerity of each person. If you show great sincerity toward Kami, you receive great blessings. The shadow of sincerity follows its shape. (*Gorikai III Jinkyu Kyogoroku #21*).

Ohtani puts so much sincere effort into finding luck that he even finds it in the trash he picks up. So, of course, he's showered with okage. If you want to be rich, are you putting in the effort? Do you treat even a penny with respect, or do you think, "It's just a penny"? There's a Konko Church in Japan—Momoyama Church,

also known as Negai No Miya—that blesses new wallets for financial stability. But we must also do our part by working hard, respecting money, and giving thanks to Kami-Sama for the money we earn.

Hard work alone won't earn you money. We need to be in good health, work hard, and continue receiving blessings from the universe. Don't ever think you can do everything on your own strength. We will be tested! The more successful we become, the more we tend to grow arrogant or stingy. But if we stay kind, humble, generous, grateful, and diligent like Shohei Ohtani, the blessings will



continue.

Our feelings and thoughts are transmitted to the universe without filters. There's no spam filter for our thoughts—they are all read by Kami-Sama. Whatever we transmit into the universe gets processed and materializes.

To conclude, the message I want to leave you with is this: With good intentions and great sincerity, try to do things that would make Kami-Sama happy. Put forth positive effort, practice thinking good thoughts, and be grateful for all things—big, small, and even challenging. When it gets tough to stay positive, dump your spiritual garbage at your nearest Konko Church mediation desk or Zoom with your sensei. Joyful blessings can only come to us when we are in a mindset of happiness and gratitude. We suffer when we lack understanding of Kami-Sama's nature. So have your sensei explain it to you, so you can be on the path to the true happiness Kami-Sama intended. Thank you for your attention!

November will be just as busy as October, with the 4<sup>th</sup> International Yatsunami Gathering on ZOOM on November 16<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm and the KMH Joint Rummage Sale event at the Konko Mission of Waipahu on Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 1 pm. The Wahiawa church will be pounding 3 batches of mochi for this event to raise funds for the Konko Missions in Hawaii. Lots of treasures will also be on sale. Come support us! Wishing you a wonderful month in November. Happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely, Edna

# Amagi Church 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pilgrimage pictures



The Konko Church of Amagi



The worship hall was at max capacity



Our childhood friend Channon Pangorang and his ohana also attended!



At a restaurant in Amagi. Celebrating good times.



A photo op with Rev. Kiyoji Konko (main speaker) and his daughters



We saw Rev. Michiyoshi Yasutake when we went to the Headquarters!



I got to visit my 95-year-old grandma