



Wahiawa Konko Mission Children's Newsletter



Konko Mission of Wahiawa
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October 2022, Volume 30

WAHIAWA KONKO MISSION MONTHLY SCHEDULE

**All services will be conducted in-person and via Facebook Live*

October 2022

- 1 Sat -No Service due to repainting of Goshinzen; instead, watch "Okage wa Wagakokoro ni Ari" KIKU TV (7 pm)
- 2 Sun -**Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama (9 am)** 天地金乃神様 月例祭
-Honolulu Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- 5 Wed -KMH Kyoten Study Group via ZOOM (5-6 pm)
- 8 Sat -Church clean-up for Autumn Grand Ceremony (8 am)
- 9 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am)
-Waipahu Church Autumn Grand Ceremony and Special Memorial Svc for Rev. Mitsuko Yasutake (10:30 am)
- 13 Thr -**Autumn Grand Ceremony for the Founder, Ikigami Konko Daijin-Sama (6 pm)**
生神金光大神様御大祭 *Naorai dinner will follow
- 15 Sat -Gundam Build Meet @HNL Church (1-6 pm)
- 16 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am) *Share Okage
- 17 Mon-HCRP Meeting @HNL Church (1:30 pm)
- 19 Thr -KMH Kyoten Study Group via ZOOM (5-6 pm)
- 21 Fri -KMH CEOC ZOOM meeting (3-4 pm)
-Church clean-up (9 am)
- 23 Sun -**Monthly Mem. Svc. (9 am)** 月例霊祭 *Okage sharing
-HCRP Peace Prayer at Gedatsu Church (4-6 pm)
- 28 Fri -Halloween Pumpkin Carving (4 pm)
- 29 Sat -Ehimemaru Mikan tree maintenance (9 am)
- 30 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am) *Share Okage.
- 31 Mon-Happy Halloween!!
-Church clean-up (9 am)



November 2022

- 1 Tue -**Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama (7:30 pm)** 天地金乃神様 月例祭
- 15 Tue -KMH Yatsunami Gathering on ZOOM (1:30p-3p)

Konko Daijin says...People practice faith, and some say there were divine blessings, while others say there weren't. But after practicing faith for ten years, anyone can receive divine blessings. (Gorikai I Ogihara Sugi 19)

Editor's Memo: The key in this message is "after practicing faith for ten years." Anyone can just say that they are a believer of so and so religion. But it takes a little more effort to "practice the faith." The goal in the Konko faith is to become a faith practitioner. We can read and memorize every passage from the sacred scriptures or the bible, but if we do not practice it in our daily life, there is no meaning. Believing in the faith for 10 years is different from practicing it for 10 years. Go that extra mile to put faith into practice.

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.

Autumn Grand Ceremony

For our Founder, Ikigami Konko Daijin-Sama

Date: Thursday, October 13, 2022 @ 6:00 pm

Place: Konko Mission of Wahiawa

Sermon: Rev. Edna Matsuoka (Wahiawa)

Memo: Let's honor our Founder Ikigami Konko Daijin for teaching us the true way of faith, by attending in person. Naorai fellowship dinner will follow.

Halloween Pumpkin Carving

Friday, 10/28 from 4 pm

BYOP (Bring Your Own Pumpkin)
If you have your own tools, bring them too! Light refreshments afterwards.



Gunpla Build Meet

**SAT. 10/15/22
1PM TO 6PM**

**KONKO MISSION OF HONOLULU
1728 LILIHA ST. HONOLULU
AMPLE PARKING**

Hosted by Clayton Matsuoka

Konko Mission of Wahiawa Annual Schedule for 2022

- 11/6 Sun -Wailuku Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (11 am)
-Late Rev. Kiyotaka Yasutake 30th Memorial Service
- 11/15 Tue -KMH 2nd Yatsunami Gathering on Zoom (1-2:30 pm)
- 11/19 Sat -KMH Board Meeting (10:30 am) @HNL Church
- 11/20 Sun -90th Anniversary Celebration of SF Church (10:30 am)
- 11/27 Sun -25th Mem. Svc for Late Rev. Kikue Kodama @HNL (10am)
- 12/10 Sat -KMH Head Minister's Mtg (10:30 am) @HNL Church
-Mochitsuki Demo at JCCH (10 am to 12 noon)
- 12/18 Sun -50th Memorial Svc for Late Rev. Haruko Takahashi (10 am)
- 12/25 Sun -End of the Year Service (9 am)
- 12/27 Tue -Mochitsuki Demo at Prince Hawaii Hotel (10-11 am)
- 12/30 Fri -31st Annual Mochi Pounding at Wahiawa Church (8 am)



Autumn Memorial Service 9.25.22



Garage Sale Success 9/17. We raised \$776.95 to donate to the Headquarters!



Congratulations to Command Sergeant Major Jason C. Adkison

Jason has served on the 3rd Battalion 25th Aviation Regiment from June 16, 2020 thru September 6, 2022. We pray for Jason and his family to receive continuous divine blessings.



The Hawai'i Conference of Religions for Peace (HCRP), a non-profit, non-governmental organization offers an inter-religious setting in Hawai'i for religious leaders and religiously committed people to meet together to share their primary concern for peace and justice. Through its network, the Conference attempts to promote interreligious dialogue and cooperation.

Peace Prayer

The Hawai'i Conference of Religions for Peace

- Date:** Sunday, October 23, 2022 at 4:00-6:00 p.m.
- Place:** Gedatsu Church of Hawaii
6095 Summer Street, Honolulu, HI 96821
Phone: (808) 396-0363 (Ample parking available on the premises)
- Keynote:** Sr./Dr. Malia Dominica Wong
(Dominican Sisters of the Most Holy Rosary/Chaminade University of Honolulu)
- Theme:** "Pieces of Peace"
- Program:** Prayers by Various Faiths, Dance, Music and Video

Dinner and refreshments after the program
Please bring non-perishable food items,
which will be donated to the Institute for Human Services (IHS)

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Contact Person: Masago Asai at
masago2015@hotmail.com or (808) 395-9239

Sponsored by the Hawai'i Conference of Religions for Peace (HCRP)
E-mail: hcrpinfo@gmail.com <http://www.hcrphawaii.org>



Happy Birthday



To all the people born in the month of October!



Please continue to receive Infinite divine blessings from Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama Ikigami Konko Daijin-Sama

Rev. Heiki Konko
(5th Spiritual Head of Konkokyo)

Rev. Sachiko Yasutake
(Konko Church of Amagi)

Rev. Dr. Todd Takahashi
Deborah Amado
Erik Miyasaka
Michelle Noguchi



Jane Suwa
Hugh Noguchi
Chason Pangorang
Jill Michie Yano

2nd KMH Yatsunami Gathering

Date: Tuesday, November 15, 2022

Time: 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm (HST)

Let's celebrate the Birthday of Konkokyo!

ZOOM room will open from 1:00 pm.

ZOOM ID: 862 3043 3190

Passcode: 829276



In preparation of our Autumn Grand Ceremony, we did an impromptu Onusa purification staff-making tutorial session lead by Yano Sensei 9.30.22

The Story of Konkokyo will be on TV!

Life of Konko Daijin



With English Subtitles

"Divine Favor Depends Upon Your Own Heart"

Date: October 1, 2022(Sat.)

Time: 7:00-9:00 PM

Channel: KIKU TV

Watch the awe inspiring movie about the life of Our Founder, Konko Daijin, and animation *Tales of Toritsugi Mediation* following it on **KIKU TV**. Please share this wonderful opportunity with your friends as well as your family! Don't miss it!

Konko Missions in Hawaii

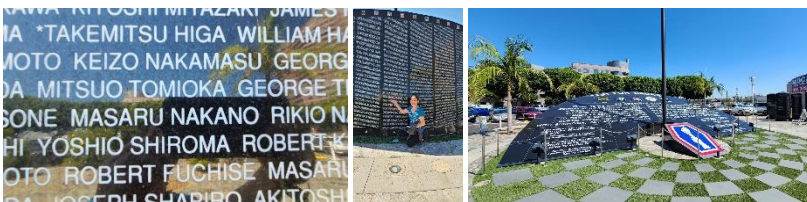
1728 Liliha St. Honolulu, HI. 96817 Phone: 808-536-9078
Email: kmhcenter@konkomissionshawaii.org
Website: <http://konkomissionshawaii.org/>



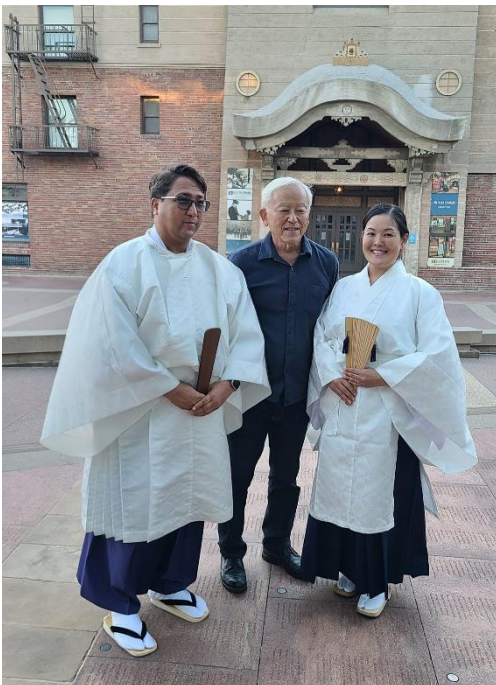
The HCRP held an annual clean-up at Kaka'ako Waterfront Park on Saturday, September 24th. Much Mahalo to the many people who were able to come out and help with the event, including the Ebime Kenjinkai Members.



A total of 119 paper cranes were given away for this year's Peace Day Hawaii project. Businesses that allowed us to place our cranes were: CPB Wabiawa, Manoa Honey Company and Mini Q Pearlridge (Anime store). We pray that these cranes brought a smile to the faces of the people who took them home. Mahalo to Ms. Carolyn Uchiyama of Wabiawa Hongwanji Mission for extending participation for this project to us!



Edna Sensei visited the Go for Broke WW2 Monument near JANM in LA and found Mr. Masaru Nakano's name. He was in the 100th Infantry Battalion.



The Irei Project Installation Ceremony was held at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles on September 24, 2022.

The Ireichō is a memorial book bearing the names of 125,284 people who have been unjustly placed into internment camps throughout the US during WW2. Rev. Dr. Todd Takabashi represented Honolulu Internment Camp, Dr. George Tanabe (Center) and Rev. Edna Matsuoka represented Honolulu INS Administration Building and Sand Island Internment Camp.



Soil was collected from 75 internment camp sites throughout the US and mixed in with clay to create ceramic tiles that are placed in the Ireichō book of names.

Editor's Note

Dear Reader,

I hope this newsletter finds you in great health and overall wellbeing. September was a pretty eventful month. Each church conducted their Autumn Memorial Services. There also was an impromptu garage sale and a clean-up event at Kaka'ako Waterfront Park. I had the honor of attending the Irei Project Installation Ceremony at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles on September 24, 2022.

I had the privilege of going there with **Dr. George Tanabe** (*Professor Emeritus at UH Manoa and current president of Bukkyo Dendo Kyokai BDK America*). He just so happened to be at Honouliuli during the blessing ceremony I conducted on July 19 this year. He was scooping the soil at the site to mail for the Irei Project. He contacted the project director **Rev. Dr. Duncan Williams** (*Director of USC Shinsō Ito Center for Japanese Religions and Culture*), and mentioned about me to him. So I received an invitation to attend the ceremony in LA. I represented Sand Island Internment Camp as well as Honolulu INS Administration Building. I suggested to invite **Rev. Dr. Todd Takahashi** because he is the nephew of **Rev. Haruko Takahashi**. He received an invitation to represent Honouliuli. I am so grateful we could attend together! **Rev. Joanne Tolosa** and **Mr. Saburo Fukuda** of San Francisco Church attended to represent Sharp Park Internment Camp and **Mrs. Cheryl Tsuyuki** of Los Angeles Church attended to represent Griffith Park Detention Camp. Approximately 150 clergy and people who had ties with the internees marched in procession to represent 75 internment camp sites throughout the US.

The Founding minister of our church, **Rev. Haruko Takahashi** was detained at Sand Island and Honouliuli Internment Camp. While she was detained, she applied for parole 3 times. For the first two attempts, she was told that if she gives up her faith, she will be set free. **Haruko Sensei** refused to give up her faith. And on the 3rd attempt, she was granted parole and did not have to give up her faith. She had an unwavering faith in Ikigami Konko Daijin Sama and Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama. Her sincerity is the reason why this church exists. Had her faith been so weak that she gave in to what she was told to do by the government, the Konko Mission of Wahiawa would not be standing today. I would not even be born. So to be asked to perform the blessing ceremonies at Honouliuli and to be invited to JANM for the Irei Project Installation Ceremony leads all the way back to the sincerity held by the **Rev. Haruko Takahashi** and of course the blessings of Konko Daijin Sama and Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama.

The Honouliuli Internment Camp first opened on March 2, 1943. Through the course of its use, it held approximately 400 civilian internees which comprised of Japanese-Americans, German-Americans, and aliens of Italian, Irish, Russian, and Scandinavian decent who were interned on suspicion of disloyalty to the United States. It also held 4,000 prisoners of war from Japan, Korea, Okinawa, Taiwan and Italy. Hidden from the public, tucked in the valleys, this place was especially hot during the summer. Thus it was nicknamed *Jigokudani* (Hell Valley) by the internees.

Not one person was proven guilty for any crime. They were pulled from their families, stripped of their rights and put into deep uncertainty. Some even wondering if they would ever make

it out alive. The war ended in 1945 but Honouliuli was closed in 1946, and vanished from history. People who knew, kept silent. The subject was taboo for some. It remained a stigma for the people who were there. It wasn't until 1998 when Honouliuli was investigated. And in 2002, the site was rediscovered by the hard working volunteers of the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii, along with archaeologists.

Through the many years of hard work, excavating the land and gathering petitions, this location has been designated a National Monument by our past **President, Barrack Obama** on February 19, 2015. He has stated, "Honouliuli was an internment camp for Japanese Americans during World War II. Going forward, it will be a monument to a painful part of our history so we don't repeat the mistakes of the past."

Honouliuli was a place of dark history that had been swept under the rug. I don't ever recall learning about Honouliuli or other internment camp sites in high school. We did not even learn this in college. The cries of the Mitama Spirits who have not been at rest with this sad past must have made their presence known. The truth is out. Injustice of this degree can never remain hidden.

Can you imagine government agents knocking at your door and telling you to gather bare necessities and taking you to some secret location on the island? They blindfolded them so they do not know where they were being taken to. They also interrogated them to see if they were being even a hint disloyal to the United States. They were fed unsavory slop for meals and really stripped of their dignity. Can you imagine not being able to live with the rest of your family for years? That's what happened to some of these people.

At the Manzanar Internment Camp site in California, about 200 people died during internment, so there is a memorial stone to honor the deceased. I cannot fathom the uncertainty and feelings of confusion that the internees felt during the time of their incarceration. They were blamed just for one thing...for being Japanese. Even after the war ended, the stigma remained for decades.

I took a picture collage of people who have been placed in internment camp sites during the war. I took them with me to LA so the spirits of these important people would also be there for this momentous occasion. I truly felt that the Mitama Spirits did come along with me. Everything went so smoothly, and my heart was filled with gratitude on this trip. I received a great blessing of being able to attend.

Discrimination and injustice has happened in the past, and it continues today. Who can honestly say that they have not discriminated against anyone? Even a slight thought that crosses our minds is something that Kami-Sama cannot tolerate. We must all remain vigilant that we are not committing the same crime against humanity all over again. In our individual ways, we need to practice having an open mind towards every human being and be mindful of our own prejudices. Let's appreciate the diversity of people and treat each other with dignity and respect.

In celebration of Godaisai Autumn Grand Ceremony, please make every possible effort to attend this service to honor and appreciate our Founder, Ikigami Konko Daijin-Sama and the many blessings until today. Our service will be **Thursday, October 13th at 6 pm**. Wishing you a fantastic month in October!

Aloha, Edna

