

Konko Mission of Honolulu

2024 CHURCH SCHEDULE REMINDER



September 長月

Dear Konko Ohana,

As we transition into the vibrant days of September, we are reminded of the constant renewal and growth that our faith inspires. This month, we invite you to join us in celebrating the richness of our traditions and the deep connections within our community as we continue to explore and embody our spiritual journey together.

September

1	9:00a.m.	Sunday Service – Shintokai Meeting
8	9:00a.m.	Monthly Service – Church Goyo
15	10:00a.m.	Monthly Service & Autumn Memorial Service
22	9:00a.m.	Sunday Service – Sunday Gathering
29	7:30a.m.	Church Clean-up for Autumn Grand Service

Autumn Memorial Service

Konko Mission of Honolulu will hold our Autumn Memorial Service on **Sunday, September 15 at 10 AM** to honor, appreciate, and respect our ancestors, parents, and friends who have preceded us. They are both our roots and our future generations. Just as the health of a tree's roots affects its ability to flourish and bear fruit, so too does our reverence for those who came before us influence our collective future.

Please provide the names you would like to include in my saishi prayer for the memorial service by September 12, 2024. You can send these via mail, email, or phone call.

We are also pleased to announce that Rev. Edna Matsuoka from Konko Mission of Wahiawa will be our guest speaker. Please mark your calendar and join us in this meaningful celebration of life and legacy.

Konko Missions in Hawaii Faith Enrichment Gathering

We are excited to invite you to our upcoming Faith Enrichment Gathering, focused on the theme: **"Aiming Towards the KMH Centennial: How Have We Been Incorporating the Faith in Our Daily Life?"**

- **Date:** [Saturday](#), September 7, 2024
- **Time:** 1:30 PM to 3:00 PM
- **Location:** Konko Mission of Honolulu Social Hall

Format: In-person and via Zoom

Zoom Details:

Meeting ID: [889 0866 7569] Passcode: [655926]

This session offers a chance to reflect on our integration of faith into daily living as we near the centennial of Konko Missions in Hawaii in 2026. Whether attending physically or virtually, your involvement will deepen our collective insight and celebration. We eagerly anticipate your participation and input at this important discussion. Please contact us with any questions you might have.

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August Sermon Summary

August 4, 2024

In our August sermon, we embarked on a reflective journey exploring the profound and often unnoticed blessings in our daily lives. We opened with joyful greetings and acknowledged the forthcoming official funeral and 50th-day service of the 5th Konko Sama, marking a significant moment of remembrance and spiritual reflection within our community.

Daily Practice of Faith The sermon drew upon insights from the "Voice of the Universe," emphasizing the simplicity of practicing faith. It suggested that daily acts of gratitude and prayer, akin to conversing with a parent, can significantly deepen our spiritual connection. This routine of acknowledging Kami's presence in everyday departures and returns fosters a continuous and comforting dialogue with the divine.

Root of Faith through Personal Stories We were introduced to the poignant story of Rev. Michiko Tanaka, a minister of the Takachiho Church, who shared her journey of faith influenced heavily by her mother's resilience and divine trust despite personal health struggles. Rev. Michiko's narrative highlighted how her mother's spiritual fortitude and unexpected endorsement of her daughter's happiness profoundly shaped her own path in faith, leading her to embrace her role within the church rather than pursuing an early desire for marriage.



Rev. Michiko Tanaka

Transformative Power of Serving Others The sermon also covered the transformative experiences of individuals who have turned personal challenges into spiritual growth through service. For instance, the journey of Rev. Michiko becoming a foster parent under challenging circumstances illustrated how faith could guide and sustain individuals through life's unpredictabilities. Her initial reluctance turned into a divine calling, where she found her true purpose in nurturing children who had faced severe adversities.

The Role of Faith in Adversity We delved into the remarkable story of Rev. Michiko's fostering journey, which began when she took in siblings Mariko, 14, and Naoki, 10, after their grandmother, who had been caring for them following their mother's death, became bedridden. This act of faith was not initially seen as a divine calling but became a profound source of personal and spiritual growth. Rev. Michiko's commitment to these children, amidst their grief and her challenges, underscored the sermon's theme of faith being a guiding force in overcoming life's hurdles.

Faith's Response to Crisis The narrative continued with a harrowing incident where a house fire threatened their lives but also brought unexpected blessings. Rev. Michiko's deepening faith helped her navigate the aftermath of the fire, which destroyed their home. Through this crisis, Rev. Michiko experienced a renewal of purpose and a deeper connection with the children, particularly highlighted when one of the children, Ai, who rarely spoke due to autism, began to verbally express affection towards her.

Conclusion: A Life of Gratitude and Service The sermon concluded on a powerful note, stressing that every interaction and every challenge is imbued with Kami's grace, urging us to live lives of gratitude and service. It reminded us that faith is not merely about enduring life's trials but transforming them into sources of joy and strength.

By embracing our daily practices, supporting each other in our communal and individual journeys, and recognizing the divine in all aspects of life, we cultivate a world enriched by faith and compassion. This message of continuous engagement with Kami and the transformation of life's challenges into blessings offers a profound perspective as we navigate our paths in faith.

[Sunday Service and Sermon on August 4, 2024](#)