



Wahiawa Konko Mission Children's Newsletter



Konko Mission of Wahiawa
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WAHIAWA KONKO MISSION MONTHLY SCHEDULE

April 2019

- 1 Mon -Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama (7:30 pm) 天地金乃神様 月例祭**
- 6 Sat -Church clean up for Grand Ceremony (8 am)
- 7 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am) *after service go to HNL Church
-Honolulu Church Spring Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- 13 Sat -Wahiawa Church Spring Grand Ceremony (6:30 pm) 天地金乃神様御大祭 *Naorai dinner follows**
- 14 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am) *after service go to Waipahu
-Waipahu Church Spring Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- 19 Fri -Volunteer Act. @Wahiawa Gen Hosp. LTCF (10:45 am)
-2020 KMH/KCNA Joint Conference Mtg. @HNL (5 pm)
- 20 Sat -Church clean-up (9 am)
- 21 Sun -Monthly Memorial Service (9 am) 月例霊祭**
*Share Okage till 11 am
-Happy Easter! HOLIDAY
- 22 Mon-HCRP meeting at Palolo Hongwanji Mission (1:30 pm)
- 25 Thr -KMH CEOC meeting @ HNL (6 pm)
- 27 Sat -Ehimemaru citrus tree maintenance (9 am)
-Chorus Practice at HNL Church (2-4 pm)
- 28 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am) *Share Okage till 11 am
- 30 Tue -Church clean-up (9 am)

May 2019

- 1 Wed -Monthly Svc. for Tenchi Kane no Kami-Sama (7:30 pm) 天地金乃神様 月例祭**

Konko Daijin's teachings... Patience is important at all times. It is all the more important for practicing faith. Having little patience won't result in divine blessings. Some people are driven to despair so they quit practicing faith. This is unfortunate. If the hub of a wheel breaks, the carriage cannot move. There are few who gain happiness without patience. Even fishermen, farmers, and merchants will not succeed without patience. Strong winds and rain are misfortunes for fishermen and farmers, while financial losses are misfortunes for merchants. But if they don't endure such adversity, they won't become successful. Thus, patience is most important when practicing faith. To prove this, open the doors of Kami's altar. There is nothing except a sacred staff and mirror. Divine blessings are bestowed through the patience of practicing faith. Think that divine blessings come from practicing faith, rather than from Kami. Strengthen the patience of your faith. (Gorikai II Tsugawa Haruo 17-1,2,3,4).

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.



天地金乃神様 御大祭 Spring Grand Ceremony

For Tenchi Kane No Kami Sama

- When:** Saturday, April 13, 2019 @ **6:30 p.m.**
- Place:** Konko Mission of Wahiawa
- Who:** All is welcome to attend.
- Sermon:** Rev. Edna Matsuoka
- Memo:** Naorai fellowship dinner will follow
**Naorai dinner prep starts at 9 am. Please come to help ☺*

The Spring Grand Ceremony is one of the two large services held on a bi-annual basis. We seek to acknowledge and revere the Divine Parent, Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama—which is the ultimate energy source that sustains all life forms between Heaven and Earth. This includes the blessings of air, water, food, minerals and metals, bodily functions and life itself. Let's reserve this day for Kami-Sama. It's a very important day.

Konko Mission of Wahiawa 9th Summer Ohana Camp



(Sat-Sun) July 6-7, 2019 @ Camp HR Erdman

Our theme will be **ABC's of Konkokyo Part 9: Treating All with Respect.** \$20.00 for ages 19+, \$10 for 5-18, Free for 4 and under. Fee includes, all meals, snacks, activity fees, lodging. No refunds after 6/16.

Deadline: Sunday 6/16/19.

We hope you can join us ☺. Contact Edna for details: ednakazuko@hotmail.com or call (808) 223-3448. Forms are available. First 16 participants staying over will be accepted. Zippy's fundraiser tickets will be sold!

Konko Mission of Wahiawa Annual Schedule for 2019

- 5/5 Sun -Wailuku Church Spring Grand Service, 11 a.m.
- 5/10 Fri -WGH monthly volunteer activity at 10 a.m.
- 5/12 Sun -Hilo Church Spring Grand Service, 11 a.m.
-KMH Missionary Women's Society Meeting, at Hilo Church, attend the grand service
- 5/18 Sat -KMH Board of Trustees Meeting, 10:30 a.m.
- 5/27 Mon -Memorial Day Punchbowl/Mililani Memorial Park Visit
- 6/14 Fri -WGH monthly volunteer activity at 10 a.m.
- 7/6 Sat -9th Ohana Camp at Camp HR Erdman (till 7/7)
- 7/12 Fri -WGH monthly volunteer activity at 10 a.m.
- 7/14 Sun -KMH Volunteer Activity at Kuakini Hospital, 9:30 a.m.
- 7/21 Sun -Monthly Memorial Service/Back-to-School Service 9 a.m.
- 8/9 Fri -WGH monthly volunteer activity at 10 a.m.
- 8/10 Sat -KMH Board Meeting at Honolulu Church, 10:30 a.m.
- 8/24 Sat -Hōtokusai Service for 90th Anniversary at Honolulu 2 p.m.
- 8/25 Sun -90th Anniversary of Honolulu Church, 10:30 a.m.
- 9/15 Sun -Honolulu Church Autumn Memorial Service, 10 a.m.
- 9/20 Fri -WGH monthly volunteer activity at 10 a.m.
- 9/22 Sun -Wahiawa Church Autumn Memorial Service, 10 a.m.**
- 10/6 Sun -Honolulu Church Autumn Grand Service, 11 a.m.
- 10/12 Sat -Wahiawa Church Autumn Grand Service, 6:30 p.m.**
- 10/13 Sun -Waipahu Church Autumn Grand Service, 11 a.m.
- 10/20 Sun -26th HCRP Peace Prayer at Palolo Hongwanji 4 p.m.
- 10/25 Fri -WGH monthly volunteer activity at 10 a.m.
- 10/26 Sat -115th Anniversary of Konko Church of Amagi, day 1
- 10/27 Sun -115th Anniversary of Konko Church of Amagi, day 2
- 11/3 Sun -90th Anniversary Celebration of Hilo Church, 11a.m.
- 11/8 Fri -WGH monthly volunteer activity, 10 a.m.
- 11/9 Sat -Wailuku Church Autumn Grand Service, 11 a.m.
- 11/15 Fri -160th Anniversary of Konkokyo at Honbu Headquarters
- 11/23 Sat -KMH Board of Trustees Meeting, 10:30 a.m.
- 11/24 Sun -22nd Memorial Svc for the Late Rev. Kikue Kodama, 9 a.m.
- 12/13 Fri -WGH monthly volunteer activity at 10 a.m.
- 12/22 Sun -47th Memorial Svc. Late Rev. Haruko Takahashi, 10 a.m.
- 12/26 Thr -Mochi pounding at Hilton Waikiki
- 12/27 Fri -Mochi pounding at Prince Waikiki
- 12/29 Sun -End of the Year Service 9 a.m.
- 12/30 Mon-28th Annual Mochi Pounding 8 a.m.

Happy Birthday

To all the people born in
The month of April
Please continue to receive
Infinite divine blessings from



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

Alyce Yamamoto
Kumiko Kaminaka

Andrea Toyofuku
Donna Toyofuku

Visitors to Wahiawa Konko Mission in March



Thank you for coming to Wahiawa Church, Revs. Shobei and Shino Suenaga
(Konko Church of Gounoura) March 10, 2019.

Our annual Summer Ohana Camp Fundraiser Garage Sale was held on Saturday, March 16, 2019. The weather was fantastic and many customers came by. Thank you to all the church members who came to help set up shop. Also thank you to all the people who donated many goods for this garage sale. It was a great success!



Thank you for coming to Wahiawa Church, Rev. Shinji Yamada and son, Kazuki
(Konko Church of Yokobama-Nishi) March 15, 2019.

90th Anniversary Celebration of Konko Mission of Honolulu

Date: Sat & Sun, August 24-25, 2019
Time: 8/24@2 pm 8/25@10:30 am
Place: Konko Mission of Honolulu
1728 Liliha Street, Honolulu, Hawaii
Please save the date! (^_^)



Editor's Note

Dear Reader,

Happy April!! I hope this newsletter finds you in great health and happiness.

Japan's New Imperial Era was just revealed on April 1, 2019. From *Heisei*, it is now the *Reiwa* Era (令和). "Rei" means "order" but it can also mean "auspicious." "Wa" means peace or harmony. My mom's name is Reiko and my Japanese name is Kazuko 和子. The kanji character for "Kazu" (和) is also pronounced as "Wa." So, taking the pronunciation of the first letter for my mom's name "Rei", plus the first kanji letter for my name "Wa," equals "Reiwa!" I can remember it easily! It's the Reiko and Kazuko Era. Hehehe. The start of the Reiwa era will be on May 1, 2019.

I recently went to the Hawaii Auto Show at the Convention Center with my husband, Clayton. It was a Friday evening and we went a little after my husband came back from work. As always, the auto show mesmerizes me. I feel so happy when I see the many beautiful cars lined up. So shiny and new. We can go into some of the vehicles to

get a feel of it. I sat in a Maserati, with a beautiful ivory white leather interior and their signature analog face clock on the dashboard. Sitting in a car so expensive and fancy gave me a couple minutes of feeling the luxury.

My personal favorite car out of all the cars there were that day, was the stunningly beautiful Acura NSX (Picture below). Interestingly, Clayton also felt the same way.

I asked Clayton, "Why does going to the auto show make me feel extra happy?" He said, "That's because all these cars are so shiny and new." Well, since everything in this world is made up of energy from Kami-Sama, seeing new and beautiful things radiates a pure, beautiful kind of energy. And that convention center was full of all these new and beautiful cars. They also had a line-up of vintage vehicles and they also sparked joy. Clayton really liked the old style Mustangs. And I liked the cute bright blue Volkswagen Beetle.

On our way home from the auto show, we were nearing the Pearl City area. We saw a careless motorcycle group weaving through lanes and speeding between other cars. They were easily going 75+ MPH and it was making me very anxious. The loud buzzing noise of motorcycles speeding past us was really irritating and scary. I was saying to Clayton, "Man, the way that they are riding their motorcycles, I wouldn't be surprised if they crashed."

We have seen different kinds of motorcycle groups. The considerate groups stay in their formation and follow the speed limit and do not scatter and cut through the lanes. This group was dangerous.

Within a couple minutes, a motorcycle one car in front of us cut through a couple of lanes and crashed into the guardrail on the right side at the Pearl City off-ramp. I saw the large orange sparks shooting out as the motorcycle grinded against the pavement, and saw some parts fly off as well. I kept looking all over the road, but I didn't see the body. I was like, "Oh my God! Where is the body?!" Clayton told me to call 911 immediately. I noticed that the shock of this scenery was causing me to fumble with my phone and my mind was blank for a few seconds, as if I did not know how to dial 911! And that's probably why that emergency number is only 3 numbers long because in the state of panic, we tend to lose our intelligence.

The motorcyclist must have hit the guardrail and somersaulted over it and landed on the grassy area. My husband kept driving so we do not know exactly where he ended up. All I can tell was that the motorcyclist needed help immediately. A couple cars were already stopped and assisting with the accident.

We both couldn't believe what we saw at that time. Clayton continued to drive away from the scene, as it was very dangerous to stop on the freeway. In the shock of it all, us locals have a tendency to drop the F-bomb as a way of alleviating the stressful moment. But I reminded both of us that we must not say those words, and in exchange, we have to say "Konko-Sama!" So I clasped my hands and desperately prayed for the motorcyclist to be ok—that he wasn't dead or seriously injured. Just saying "Konko-Sama" gave me a sense of calm and peace. I felt that Konko-Sama was going to take that situation under the care of the divine spirit.

After I reported the accident, I called my dad and told him what happened. Later, my mom told me that he changed into his kimono robes and they both prayed intently about the situation. This was at 9:10 pm.

As soon as we got home, we were still in shock of what

happened, so I immediately asked Clayton to come pray with me in front of our household altar. It has been a while that I prayed so hard for someone I didn't even know. We prayed that he would be ok. Sitting down in prayer all of a sudden gave me a peaceful warm sensation. As if Kami-Sama was giving me a hug and telling me that

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everything was going to be ok. My anxiety level went down to zero. This is the power of prayer. I believe that prayers have the powers to save people, but more so it is to save me.

I looked to see if there were any postings on the news that night and also the next morning. Thankfully, there was no mention of the accident, which most likely means that the man is not in critical condition or dead. I am pretty sure he had some broken bones with that kind of crash—but maybe not even that. I'm not sure how he is doing. But to be honest, he crashed at the best place to crash, where he landed on the grass, instead of fly directly into traffic and be run over. Even in the state of this unfortunate accident, he was fortunate. I think something or someone was watching out for him—even if he was being a reckless driver.

More to it than all of this, praying really helped bring a panicky moment under control.

Any motorcycle accident reminds our family of the time my oldest brother, David got into an accident. He was driving to Leeward Community College and was about to make a left turn into the parking lot. Then, all of a sudden, a motorcycle came speeding his way from a curve in the road. He slammed into the right wheel of David's car. And his face smashed against the windshield, causing a huge spider web crack on his car. David said he will never forget the gruesome bloody face of that man smashed against the glass.

David immediately got out of the car to check on the man and got help. He also called the church. The man was in critical condition. David's car was totaled. It was so bad, it made news that evening. My brother was worried that he might be charged with negligent homicide if the man dies. Our family never prayed so hard to Kami-Sama that day for both the man in the hospital, and for David.

We talked with David in the worship hall and said that if the man dies, he would have to go to jail for negligent homicide, since David was the one making a left turn. He then replied, "If I have to go to jail for this, I'm going to kill myself." My mom yelled at him and said, "What are you talking about?! We are not going to let you go to jail. I will fight for you no matter what!" Then we all faced the altar to pray ever so intently.

We found out that the man survived, but was left with permanent physical and mental disabilities. David had to go to court a few times. Then something unexpected happened. The State hired my brother as a witness and came to a verdict that the motorcyclist was at fault. I believe he was also driving without a license. The case was closed. My brother did not have to go to jail. Nor did he get sued by their family. It was a blessing to never be forgotten. I still wonder how that motorcyclist that hit my brother's car is doing.

As time passes, we tend to forget even the greatest of

blessings we received in the past, like being cured of a terrible illness, injury, etc. Kami-Sama sends little reminders so we can continue to appreciate the blessings of the past and pray for continuous blessings in the future.

The Founder, Konko Daijin said to pray anytime, anywhere, for anything. We must not make personal judgments of what is considered an important prayer and an unimportant prayer. You can even pray in the bathroom and you will receive divine blessings.

Kami-Sama's blessings surround us. There is no prayer too big or too small in the eyes of Kami-Sama.

Again, as everything in this world is made up of atoms, we exist amongst energy. By praying, you will attract the energy. Blessings begin with our own thoughts. With effort, your thoughts will become actualized. Just look all around you. Even for the clothes that you are wearing, the car that you drive, etc. These were all just invisible thoughts and ideas that people had in their heads. With great sincerity and determination, the thoughts and the ideas became tangible objects. If you can pray for it, you can achieve it. The sky is the limit.

From as far back as I could remember, my mom always shouted "Konko-Sama!" for anything that startles her or if anything drops, or if she feels threatened. Her saying "Konko-Sama" is the local person's equivalent of saying, "Wholly F&*%!" or "Wholly S*%^!"...If you know what I mean. But instead of using dirty words, my mom instead calls the holy name, "Konko-Sama!" then the situation turns into good. You should try it too. If you are a Konko believer, just say Konko-Sama! If you are Buddhist, just say "Namu Amidabutsu!" If you are Christian, just say, "Holy Jesus!" I promise you will receive divine blessings. It's far better than dropping the F-bomb.

On **Saturday 4/13 @6:30 pm**, our church will conduct the **Spring Grand Ceremony**. By all means, please come to this very important ceremony, in honor and appreciation of our Divine Parent, Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama. I will be delivering the sermon that day. Naorai dinner will follow. If you are able to, we ask for your help in the morning as we will be setting up for the fellowship dinner reception after the Godaisai. Preparations will start at 9:00 am on 4/13.

We will also begin selling Zippy's Chili tickets starting mid April to raise funds for our 9th Summer Ohana Camp. Our camp this year will be from **July 6-7th** (Sat-Sun) at the YMCA Camp Erdman. The theme will be: **ABC's of Konkokyo Part 9: Treating All with Respect**. We hope you can join us! Forms will be distributed by mid-April. Save the dates!

I hope you have a wonderful month in April. Thank you again for reading till the end!

Aloha, Edna

