



# Wahiawa Konko Mission Children's Newsletter



Konko Mission of Wahiawa  
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August 2021, Volume 29

## WAHIAWA KONKO MISSION MONTHLY SCHEDULE

### August 2021 (All services will be captured on Facebook Live)

- 1 Sun** -Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama (9 am) 天地金乃神様 月例祭 \*Share Okage  
-KMH Rotary Hanashikai ZOOM Gathering (10:30 am-12 noon)
- 2 Mon** -Rev. Rodney Yano and Fong will visit Hawaii (till 8/9)
- 4 Wed** -8:30 am to 2:30 pm Muliwai Avenue Black-out due to street infrastructure repairs.
- 7 Sat** -KMH Board of Trustee's meeting (10:30 am to 3 pm)
- 8 Sun** -Sunday Service (9 am) Sermon by Rev. Rodney \*Share Okage
- 11 Wed** -KMH Kyoten Study Group on ZOOM (5 pm)
- 13 Fri** -Ehimemaru Summer Mem. Svc. Performed by Rev. Yano (10 am)  
\*At Kakaako Waterfront Park (By Ehimekenjinkai)
- 14 Sat** -Church clean-up (9 am)
- 15 Sun** -Monthly Service for Ikigami Konko Daijin (9 am)  
生神金光大神様 月例祭 \*Share Okage
- 20 Fri** -Statehood Day (August 21, 1959) State Holiday  
-Wahiawa General Hospital Monthly Volunteer Activity (10 am)  
-KMH CEOC Meeting on ZOOM (5 pm)
- 21 Sat** -Church clean-up (9 am)
- 22 Sun** -Monthly Mem Svc. (9 am) 月例霊祭 Share Okage  
-Late Rev. Masayuki Kodama 48<sup>th</sup> Mem.Svc. @HNL Chr. (9 am)
- 23 Mon** -KMH Kyoten Study Group on ZOOM (5 pm)
- 28 Sat** -Ehimemaru Mikan tree maintenance (9 am)
- 29 Sun** -Sunday Service (9 am) \*Share Okage
- 31 Tue** -Church clean-up (9 am)

### September 2021 (All services will be captured on Facebook Live)

- 1 Wed** -Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama (7:30 pm) 天地金乃神様 月例祭
- 5 Sun** -Sunday Service (9 am) \*Share Okage

**Konko Daijin says:** Since we are human, we think about our future and have many worries. Worries, however, can become divine blessings through your practice of faith, and you can be free from worries. If you practice faith, your worries will become divine blessings. Worries are poisons to your body and are irreverences towards Kami. From now on, you should entrust Kami with your worries and practice faith. Then your worries will turn into divine blessings. (*Gorikai III Jinkyu Kyogoroku 42*)

**Editor's thoughts:** Worrying is part of human nature. We worry because we care deeply about the person or the situation. It's true. We see great accidents and tragedies on the news. But since we have no connection to the person or persons involved, our hearts don't ache as much. But when accidents, injuries, illness or hardship involve you or a loved one, the whole world will flip upside down and we worry about our situation or the person we are worrying about all day long. But worrying doesn't really make situations better if you think about it. Worrying is a form of prayer that calls for bad situations to happen. If we can change worrying into prayer instead, our energy for the situation will shift to hoping that the situation will somehow get better through the divine grace of Kami-Sama. Let's practice faith by switching worries into prayers instead.

## 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.

## Rotary Hanashikai Gathering

**Date:** Sunday, August 1, 2021   
**Time:** 10:30 am to 12 noon   
**Theme:** Food through Konkokyo Perspectives  
**Where:** Online on ZOOM **Host:** Wahiawa  
ID: 843 8284 7835 Passcode: 332884

### Program

- 10:30 am -Opening remarks and prayer
- 10:40 am -Introduction of participants
- 10:50 am -Passages pertaining to food
- 11:00 am -Discussion
- 12 noon -Closing prayer

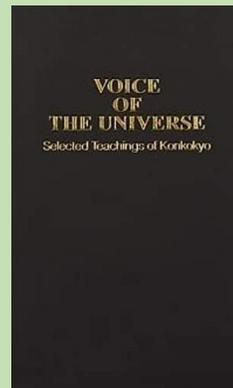


Join us for an enriching discussion on food in the perspectives of the Konko faith. As simple as this topic may seem, there are a lot of teachings regarding food. What kind of attitude should we hold towards food? Bring your insights. Come with questions. Let's talk food!

## Kyoten Study Group

Come join us for our study group via ZOOM. We meet every 2 weeks and are currently studying the **Voice of the Universe**. We always learn something new

 ID: 815 2952 9465  
 PASSCODE: 914385



**Our next study group dates:**  
Wednesday, August 11 @ 5 pm  
Monday, August 23 @ 5 pm

## Konko Mission of Wahiawa Annual Schedule for 2021

- 9/6 Mon -KMH MWSS at Wahiawa Church (10:30 am-3 pm)
- 9/19 Sun -Honolulu Church Autumn Memorial Service (10 am)
- 9/26 Sun -Wahiawa Church Autumn Memorial Service (10 am)
- 10/3 Sun -Honolulu Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- 10/10 Sun -Waipahu Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- 10/13 Wed-Wahiawa Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (6:30 pm)
- 10/24 Sun -Hilo Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (11 am)  
-And 1-year Mem. Svc for the Late Rev. Makio Nagai (Hilo)
- 11/4 Thr -Pilgrimage to attend Iwatani Church Centennial
- 11/7 Sun -Wailuku Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- 11/14 Sun -International Gathering at Gohonbu thru 11/15
- 11/20 Sat -KMH Board Meeting (10:30 am) @HNL Church
- 11/28 Sun -24<sup>th</sup> Mem. Svc for Late Rev. Kikue Kodama @HNL (9 am)
- 12/11 Sat -KMH Head Minister's Mtg (10:30 am) @HNL Church
- 12/19 Sun -49<sup>th</sup> Memorial Svc for Late Rev. Haruko Takahashi (10 am)
- 12/26 Sun -End of the Year Service (9 am)
- 12/30 Thr -30<sup>th</sup> Annual Mochi Pounding at Wahiawa Church (8 am)



## Happy Birthday

To all the people born in the month of August!

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

Colette Abe Pelia Akemi Pangorang Renee Yano  
Masumi Furusho Tamiko Yamamoto  
Vinh Mitsuyuki Vo-Hiromasa

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## Tanabata Star Festival Decorating held 7/4/21



The Garage sale held on July 24 was a great success!! We raised \$1505.62, which will go to the church general fund. Thank you very much for your help and your donations!

## KMH ZOOM Conference held 7/17/21 from 1:30p-3:30p was a great success!



44 people attended

## Editor's Note

Dear Reader,

I hope this newsletter finds you in great health and overall wellbeing. The Konko Missions in Hawaii (KMH) just held the KMH ZOOM Conference 2021 on July 17<sup>th</sup>. The theme was “Kokoro Kubari” and the guest speaker was the Rev. Saijiro Matsuda of the Konko Church of Minamimuro in Mie Prefecture, Japan. He was also the past KMH Director. I was fortunate to be in the planning committee. There were only 5 committee members, and we have been planning this conference from a year ago over ZOOM. I am very grateful that we had a large turn-out of 44 people from Hawaii, North America and even Japan.

Matsuda Sensei's purpose as a guest speaker was to get all of us to think and come up with our own definition of “Kokoro Kubari.” *Kokoro* means Heart and *Kubari* or *Kubaru* means to share or distribute. Therefore, “*Kokoro Kubari*” can be best translated as “Sharing of our Hearts.” Matsuda Sensei shared a couple episodes that he encountered in his life. One of them was while he was studying English at the adult community education classes. A conflict broke out between two classmates. And while this was going on, the teacher put Matsuda Sensei on the spot and was asked, “Saijiro, you seem to be the only one that can talk to this individual. Why is that?” To that, he replied, “I do not believe she is a bad person. She is in fact funny.” Other people started to gather around Matsuda Sensei. There were people of all cultural backgrounds who have come to learn English.

Matsuda sensei felt like he was being surrounded by a mini world right in the classroom. His classmates began to comment to him, “Yeah, Saijiro, you are always positive and cheerful. Why is that?” Matsuda sensei shared that he believes the core value of his faith is to be able to get along with everyone. With that mindset, he attended the English language class. So he was able to get along with everyone, even with the classmate who was despised by the others. Through this incident, a bit of peace was born in the classroom. And everyone was able to get along thereafter.

In the second story, Matsuda Sensei shared about a couple that became possessed by some kind of evil spirit. They were not members of the church, but visited his church to be saved somehow. The possession was so severe, that they were not able to go to work for over a month!

So the couple came into the church and wanted spiritual help. They talked to Matsuda Sensei about their issue, but nothing seemed to have changed immediately. So as to not take up more time, they decided it was time to leave. The wife went outside first, but the man stayed back a little and requested Matsuda Sensei for one request. That request was for him to place his hands on his shoulders. The possessed man warned Matsuda Sensei before doing so. He said, “Please be careful, because the spirit that is haunting me may transfer into you when you touch me.” What would you do in that situation? Wouldn't you be scared? Matsuda Sensei offered some sacred rice grains (Goshinmai) to the man, and Matsuda Sensei also had some for himself. They prayed at the altar and Matsuda Sensei proceeded to place his hands on the man's shoulders. Matsuda Sensei also had learned some Shiatsu Massage therapy when he was in Hawaii, so he massaged the man's shoulders for 5 minutes while giving a prayer.

The man said he felt much better and returned home with his wife. Matsuda Sensei continued to pray for the couple even after they left. And the very next day, the man called and was astounded

at the fact that he felt so much better and he also felt the clingy mischievous spirit had left his body.

What is the Kokoro Kubari in this story? Matsuda Sensei willingly offered help to the distressed couple—even putting himself at risk that the spirit might transfer to him. He practiced Kokoro Kubari to Kami-Sama, the Great Life Force. This was a problem that required divine intervention. If Matsuda Sensei felt he could solve the problem with his own powers, he could possibly get hurt or possessed himself. I also feel that Matsuda Sensei was compassionate to the spirit that was possessing him. Because in Konkokyo, we do not believe in evil spirits. But we do believe that there are spirits that are not at peace. Therefore, they may cause trouble because they want to be acknowledged. So, not only do the spirits leave, they leave healed and at peace.

Kokoro Kubari is a concept that can be applied to all aspects of our living. It can be applied when interacting with family members, other people, with nature, with the environment, with Kami-Sama, with the spirits of the deceased and even with inanimate daily objects.

Not being wasteful is a form of Kokoro Kubari too. Turn off the lights when you're not using it. Using resources wisely; not just because it's wasteful, but because everything is a blessing that came from the Earth. Lining your shoes or slippers nicely is also a form of Kokoro Kubari, because your shoes and slippers were there to protect your feet. We have to acknowledge its work and importance.

One thing we tend to forget is to apply Kokoro Kubari to ourselves. Sometimes we are too hard on ourselves. We need to take good care of it. Sometimes we may put ourselves down. Sometimes we may be put down by others, and we feel hurt. Our mind, body and spirit needs daily uplifting, acknowledgement and appreciation.

Through attending this KMH ZOOM Conference, it really sparked great conversation amongst the attendees. I am really happy for all the people that got the opportunity to join. And for Matsuda Sensei... If you have ever get a chance to meet him, he is probably the most cheerful and optimistic guy you will ever meet. He is a walking billboard of the faith and we were so fortunate to have him as our guest speaker. Thank you Matsuda Sensei!

I have been watching the Olympics. It's really exciting to see the games on TV. There are so many different sports categories! There's even skateboarding this time, which is a first in the Olympics. And Yuto Horigome (male division) and Momiji Nishiya (women's division) of Japan were the first ever Olympic gold medalists for this sport! Congratulations!!!

The Olympic athletes represent their country as the cream of the crop in a particular sport. And to get to that level, it took years and years of practice, blood, sweat, tears and many fails and frustrations—but they kept going on. They were striving to be #1. From the moment these athletes wake up, to the time they go to bed, their minds are fixated on the sport they practice. With that much of their minds focused on one thing, they will no doubt become a professional at what they do. This is *Isshin* (Single Heart or full concentration).

With the new school year just around the corner, I challenge you to study hard with *Isshin*, so that you will become a professional student. Do your very best and succeed at making this world a better place for everyone!

*Aloha, Edna*

