



Wahiawa Konko Mission Children's Newsletter



Konko Mission of Wahiawa
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July 2021, Volume 29

WAHIAWA KONKO MISSION MONTHLY SCHEDULE

**All services will also be streamed on Facebook Live*

July 2021

- 1 Thur -Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama (7:30 pm) 天地金乃神様 月例祭
*Shingyō Kikan (Intensive Faith Practice Period till 7/31)
- 3 Sat -KMH Ministers' ZOOM Gathering (2-4 pm)
*Guest speaker: Dr. Mitoko Ōshima, Headquarters, Japan
-Deadline for KMH ZOOM Conference applications
- 4 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am) *Happy 245th Birthday USA!
-Tanabata Star Festival Craft Activity (10 am-12 noon)
- 7 Wed -Tanabata Star Festival
- 9 Fri -KMH ZOOM Conference planning final mtg (5 pm)
- 10 Sat -Church clean-up (9 am)
- 11 Sun -Monthly Svc. for Founder, Ikigami Konko Daijin (9 am)
生神金光大神様 月例祭 *Share Okage
- 12 Mon -KMH ZOOM Kyoten Study Group Session (5 pm)
- 16 Fri -Volunteer Activity at Wahiawa General Hospital (10 am)
- 17 Sat -KMH ZOOM Conference 2021 (1:30 pm- 3:30 pm)
- 18 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am) Share Okage
- 23 Fri -Garage sale set up (1 pm-4 pm)
-KMH CEOC Meeting (5 pm) on Zoom
- 24 Sat -Summer Garage Sale (9 am-2 pm)
- 25 Sun -Monthly Mem. Svc & Back to School Svc. (9 am) *Okage
- 30 Fri -Church clean-up (9 am)
- 31 Sat -Ehimemaru Memorial Clean-up (9 am)



August 2021

- 1 Sun -Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama (9 am) 天地金乃神様 月例祭
-KMH Rotary Hanashikai Meeting (10:30 am) *Via ZOOM

Konko Daijin's teachings...

People concern themselves with minor things. When borrowing a paper lantern at night, and returning it, they show their sincerest appreciation by giving little gifts. But their appreciation for the light of the Sun can never be sincere enough. (*Gorikai II Kashimabara Toku 8*)

Editor's thoughts: How true. Indigenous people are spot on in giving thanks to the many blessings secular people take for granted. I remember learning in Hawaiian history class that the native Hawaiians used to pray before cutting down trees to make a *wa'a* (canoe). Then they pray before carving it out. And when they were done carving, they gave thanks. Before the *wa'a* sets sail for the very first time, they held a ceremony to give thanks and to pray for safe voyages. And when the *wa'a* is too worn to be used any further, it was carried back up to the mountains and returned back to the soil and they would give thanks to the deities. There was continuous expression of gratitude and prayer from beginning to end of the life cycle of the *wa'a*. And this spirituality was expressed throughout their daily lives. In the secular way of thinking, one may not think it's important to give thanks to invisible elements or mundane things that don't speak back. We may think, that regardless if we give thanks or not, we still have these blessings anyway. But that is a misconception. We must give thanks.

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.

BACK TO SCHOOL SERVICE

Date: Sunday, July 25, 2021

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Place: Konko Mission of Wahiawa

Who: For students and teachers

Memo: Please submit your back to school prayer forms to church before the service begins. Sensei will offer your forms and pray for your academic success for the whole year.



KMH ZOOM Conference 2021

"Kokoro Kubari: Living with Mindfulness"

Date: Saturday, July 17, 2021
Time: 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Guest Speaker:

Rev. Saijiro Matsuda
(Former Director of KMH Center & Head Minister of Konko Church of Minamimura)

Theme: Kokoro Kubari:
Living with Mindfulness

Purpose of the Conference:

- Defining Living with Mindfulness (Kokoro Kubari) in Konkoyo
- Practicing Mindfulness



- To participate you will need:
- PC/Tablet/Smartphone
 - Web camera/microphone
 - Internet connection
 - Email address
 - Zoom app
 - Kokoro Kubari shirt (Optional)

"Kokoro Kubari" apparel for this event on sale at Teespring:
<https://teespring.com/kokoro-kubari?pid=2&cid=576>
Let's wear Konko Shirts!
(Shirts will take about 2 weeks to reach you. So, order early!)

Register by Saturday, July 3, 2021

For more info, contact:
knhcenter@konkomissionshawaii.org
or text: Koichi Sensei (808) 536-9078
or Edna Sensei (808) 223-3448

Konko Missions in Hawaii

Garage Sale



Saturday, July 24, 2021

9:00 am-2:00 pm

At Konko Mission of Wahiawa

Plants, clothes, kitchen goods, sundries, household items, etc.

***Social distancing still needs to be followed. Face masks are still required in basement.**

**We have received many new donations after our last garage sale. Mahalo!*



Konko Mission of Wahiawa Annual Schedule for 2021

- 8/1 Sun -KMH Rotary Hanashikai Mtg on ZOOM (10:30 a)
- 8/7 Sat -KMH Board Meeting (10:30 am) @HNL Church ZOOM
- 8/22 Sun -48th Memorial Svc for Late Rev. Masayuki Kodama (9 am)
- 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 -24th 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 -49th Memorial Svc for Late Rev. Haruko Takahashi (10 am)
- 12/26 Sun -End of the Year Service (9 am)
- 12/30 Thr -30th Annual Mochi Pounding at Wahiawa Church (8 am)

Happy Birthday

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



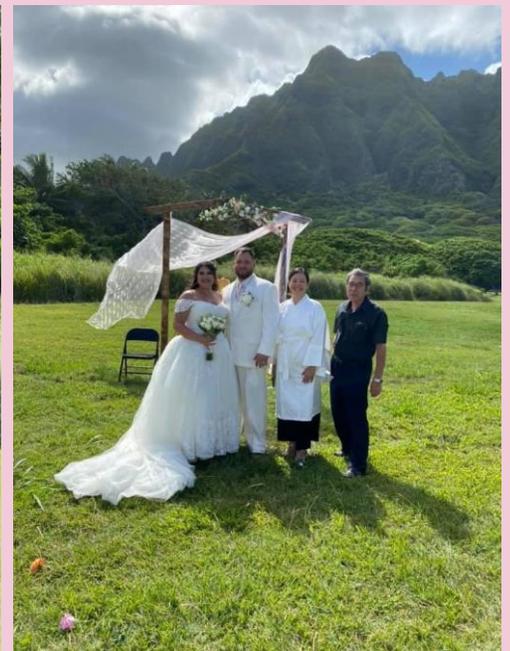
Tenchi Kane no Kami-Sama &
Ikigami Konko Daijin-Sama

Rev. Yasuhiro Yano
Rev. Dr. Leon Webber
Brent Abe
Jordan Yamamoto

Rev. Megumi Yano
Alan Katsura
Neal Abe
Clayton Matsuoka

Tanabata Star Festival Craft Activity

Date: Sunday, July 4th at 10 am
Place: Konko Mission of Wahiawa in driveway
Memo: Come join us for our fun origami craft activity. We will prepare the bamboo stems, origami, scissors, pens and glue. Write out your wishes and let's pray for clear skies on July 7th Tanabata Star Festival Day!



Congratulations to **Myles and Caitlin Takahashi**. They got married on June 5, 2021 at the Kualoa Regional Park. Wishing the Takahashi Ohana many blessings and years of happiness. Officiating the wedding ceremony was the Rev. Edna Matsuoka, with great help by the Rev. Yasuhiro Yano.

The Summer Garage Sale was a great success!!! We raised \$1065.25 for our Kyokai Educational Fund!
Thank you very much! We will hold another garage sale on Saturday, July 24th!



We were able to hold our Summer Garage Sale safely on June 12. There were clear skies and a great turn out of people who came by. Mahalo to all the people who helped and donated many goods.

Editor's Note

Dear Reader,

Happy July! We are officially past the halfway point of the year. We made it till this day safely, through divine blessings of Heaven and Earth amidst life's unpredictability and the lingering pandemic.

I had a jar of homemade passion orange guava jelly that I made about a year ago. I wanted to put some of that jelly on my toast and I took out the jar a few times to try to open it, but the lid was stuck. No one could open the jar lid. I tapped the lid with a spoon. Even my husband tried opening it, but it was impossible. It stayed in the fridge because I was hopeful that one day, someone can open that jar. Then I got an idea. My dad! I had absolute conviction that my dad who will turn 70 this year will be able to open the jar. He may be getting older, but to me he is still the strongest and wisest man I know. I took home the jar of jelly to Wahiawa and presented it to my dad to open. It was very hard on first attempt, but then, he got his nifty jar opener and was able to pop it open instantly. I knew it! I should have brought it over for my dad to open a while ago.

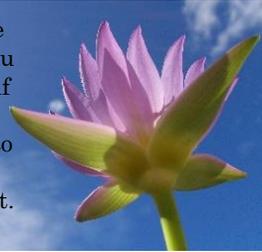
There are people in our lives we can count on for certain things, and we have absolute conviction that they will go out of their way to help out. I feel that the spirit of Konko Daijin and Kami-Sama are the same.

I can count on Konko-Daijin and Kami-Sama to help me with any kind of prayer that I have. Some people may feel that even if they prayed to Kami-Sama, their prayers were not answered, or they did not receive what they prayed for. I used to feel that way sometimes in the past, but these days, Kami-Sama's daily blessings seem far greater than anything I can ask for. So, I began to mainly just thank Kami-Sama daily and pray for a good day for all my family, friends, church followers, workplace crew and patients. And it has pretty much been a very good day every day. It's not like "things" don't happen; but more so, I can see why things happen the way they did and it all turns into a divine blessing, even if I may encounter inconveniences at times.

I can count on Kami-Sama every day to bless me with a very good day. What more could I ask for, really? People only focus on what they didn't get, or what prayers never got answered; not realizing the astronomical divine favors at work on a second by second basis.

I had a patient one day who was on a mechanical ventilator and they were gradually weaning him off the machine because he was able to breathe more on his own. The normal oxygen saturation reading range on a pulse oximeter is between 95%-100%. The patient's oxygen saturation was 93%. A family member asked the doctor who came to visit "Why is his oxygen only 93%?" And the doctor replied "His breathing is just beginning to recover. 93% is actually a great improvement, considering he needed a machine to breathe for him. People don't realize how much work and function is involved for a person to take a single breath." Hearing that, I was extremely happy inside, and thought "This doctor really knows what he's talking about and he knows what real blessings are." So at first the 93% oxygen reading did not seem like a good number. But with what the doctor explained, that 93% began to look very promising. Nothing changed. The oxygen level remained the same, but our energy level and our thoughts changed to positive. And it's with the positive energy that people radiate in the hospital

The universe gives what you can handle. If the universe brought you to it, it'll bring you through it.



rooms, the patients will feel the energy to get well.

I'll ask you a couple questions here. Who do you give thanks to? And when do you give thanks? The obvious answer would be to give thanks when someone gives you a gift, or does a favor for you. Have you ever noticed that we tend not to give enough thanks to the fundamental necessities and functions of life? The list is endless, but I'll name several below:

- 1) Waking up alive in the morning.
- 2) Being able to eliminate our bodily wastes.
- 3) Being able to eat and drink.
- 4) Being able to work.
- 5) Having the money to pay for food any various things.
- 6) Having a roof over our heads.
- 7) Having family, friends and a support system.
- 8) Being able to breathe, walk, talk, think, move about.
- 9) Being able to smell, taste, see, hear, feel, and touch.
- 10) The functions of the sun, moon and earth.
- 11) Our spiritual, mental and emotional health.

Even if we wake up, if we can't eliminate our wastes, we need to go straight to the hospital. Even if we have money to go to a restaurant, we can't eat a single bite if our gastrointestinal functions are not working properly. Even if we have money to eat a fancy feast, and our gastrointestinal functions are intact, we are still not able to eat, if we feel depressed, angry, scared, sad, stressed or anxious about something. Everything is interconnected. Yet, the days go by without any kind of acknowledgement and appreciation to Kami-Sama for these daily blessings we take for granted. We are stuck in the mindset that believes everything is a given, and only when the ordinary things stop functioning, we begin to panic and plead to Kami-Sama to cure us or fix the problem. And when the problems don't get resolved, we then blame Kami-Sama. This is the grand ignorance and arrogance of humans that plague our minds. This is the mindset that makes it nearly impossible for people to receive divine favor. So, our Founder, Konko Daijin realized this and has been teaching people, one person at a time, what true blessings are. With the realization of what true blessings are, people can receive innumerable divine favor.

So, whenever you get the chance, start feeling thankful often to Kami-Sama, your health, your family, friends, to food, the sun, moon, earth, water, to your job, your car, your money, the roof over your head, your bed, blanket, pillow, the bathroom, the shower, etc. And when you spend time with your loved ones, cherish the moment and really try to develop that feeling of gratitude that they are alive and well today, that you can still give them hugs and kisses, and that you are thankful for their presence. When you reach your workplace, be in the mindset that you are performing a task for Kami-Sama and tell yourself "Today will be a good day." Ask Kami-Sama to help, guide and inspire you. From the moment you wake up to the time you go to bed, be on the same channel as Kami-Sama. Rely on Kami-Sama for everything. Tune in to the blessings meant for you every day. Then, I promise you your mundane days will feel more enriching and blessed. Thank you for reading.

Our Back to School Service will be held on Sunday, July 25 at 9:00 am. It's almost time to go back to school! Let's pray for a safe and blessed new school year for all teachers and students. Have a wonderful 4th of July!

Sincerely, Edna