



# Wahiawa Konko Mission Children's Newsletter



Konko Mission of Wahiawa  
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## WAHIAWA KONKO MISSION MONTHLY SCHEDULE

### September 2015

- 1 Tue -Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama  
(7:30 pm) 天地金乃神様 月例祭
- 5 Sat -Church clean up (9 am)
- 6 Sun -Monthly Svc. Founder, Ikigami Konko Daijin-Sama  
(9:00 am) 生神金光大神様月例祭  
-Bi-annual Volunteer Activity at Wahiawa General  
Hospital (10-10:45 am) \*Lunch will follow
- 7 Mon -Labor Day Holiday!
- 11 Fri -Monthly Volunteer Activity @Wahiawa Gen. Hospital  
Long Term Care Facility (10-10:45 am)
- 12 Sat -Church clean up for Autumn Memorial Svc (9 am)
- 13 Sun -Autumn Memorial Service (10:00 am) 秋季霊祭  
\*Naorai fellowship lunch will follow  
-Happy Grandparent's Day!
- 14 Mon-HCRP meeting at Gedatsu Church (1:30 pm)
- 19 Sat -Chorus practice @HNL Church (2-4 pm)
- 20 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am) \*Share Okage (till 10:15 am)  
-Honolulu Church Autumn Memorial Service (10 am)
- 26 Sat -Ehimemaru Monument Clean-up (9 am)
- 27 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am) \*Share Okage (till 11 am)
- 29 Tue -Happy 201<sup>st</sup> Birthday Konko Daijin!
- 30 Wed -Church clean-up (9 am)



### October 2015

- 1 Thur -Monthly Service for Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama  
(7:30 pm) 天地金乃神様 月例祭
- 3 Sat -Clean-up for Spring Grand Ceremony (8 am)  
\*Light lunch will follow
- 4 Sun -Sunday Service (9 am)  
-Honolulu Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (11 am)
- 13 Tue -Wahiawa Church Autumn Grand Ceremony (6:30 pm)  
\*Naorai fellowship dinner to follow

## 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 Memorial Service

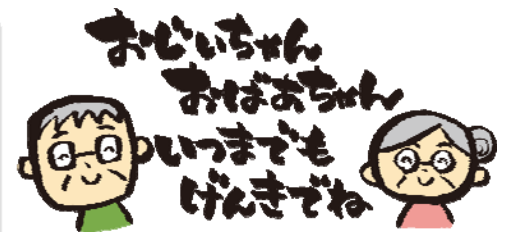
**Date:** Sunday, September 13, 2015

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. at the Wahiawa Church

**Memo:** Naorai fellowship lunch will follow



Let us remember the very people who laid the foundations of our existence. We are here because of our ancestors. We must give thanks for this truth and honor their Mitama Spirit. Your presence at the service is significant.



**Konko Daijin says...** "Being young and not having wisdom and virtue, I worried about how I could perform toritsugi at my hiromae. Konko-Sama told me, "Even if you think you lack the ability to perform toritsugi, pray wholeheartedly and Kami-Sama will give you blessings." (GII Sato, Teru 5)

**Editor's thoughts:** People these days are especially concerned about one's intellectual abilities—not realizing that Kami-Sama is the one who chooses the individual to teach others lessons in life. In the religious world, we seek speakers who have a higher education, but the very founders who initiated the faith were uneducated and humble. Kami-Sama doesn't care about one's socioeconomic state. Kami is only concerned of the sincerity of a person's heart. Look forward to being of service to Kami-Sama.



*This is the very first Dragon-fruit that has grown in the church yard.  
Kami-Sama's blessings come in all shapes and sizes.*

## Konko Mission of Wahiawa Annual Schedule for 2015

- 10/4 Sun -Honolulu Church Autumn Grand Service (11 am)
- 10/11 Sun -Waipahu Church Autumn Grand Service (11 am)
- 10/13 Tue -**Wahiawa Church Autumn Grand Service (6:30 pm)**
- 10/23 Fri -WGH Monthly Visit (10 am)
- 10/25 Sun -Wailuku Church Autumn Grand Service (11 am)  
-24<sup>th</sup> Annual HCRP Peace Prayer (4:00 pm)
- 11/8 Sun -Hilo Church Autumn Grand Service (11 am)
- 11/11 Wed -KMH Pilgrimage to Honbu & Faith Training (thru 11/15)
- 11/13 Fri -WGH Monthly Visit (10 am)
- 11/28 Sat -KMH Board of Trustees Meeting (10:30 am)
- 11/29 Sun -Rev. Kikue Kodama's 18<sup>th</sup> Memorial Svc. @HNL (9 am)
- 12/11 Fri -WGH Monthly Visit (10 am)
- 12/13 Sun -Rev. Haruko Takahashi's 43<sup>rd</sup> Memorial Svc. (10 am)
- 12/23 Wed -Rev. Fumio Yasutake's 20<sup>th</sup> Memorial Service at Amagi
- 12/27 Sun -End of the Year Service (9 am)
- 12/30 Wed -Wahiawa Church Mochi Pounding (8 am)



**Congratulations!**  
**Chad Hiromasa & Van Vo**  
 on the birth of their son:  
**Vinh Mitsuyuki Vo-Hiromasa**  
 Born on August 21, 2015  
 At 1:21 pm at Kapiolani Medical Center. He is a very healthy 6 pounds 12.4 oz. and 20 inches long. Yano-Sensei gave him the Japanese middle name **Mitsuyuki** 光幸 meaning "Shining Light" and "Happiness." We welcome Vinh into this world and pray for continuous blessings.

## Itsukushimi No Inori Prayer for Peace

**Date:** Sat., October 24, 2015 @ 10:30 am

**Place:** Konko Mission of Honolulu

**Guest Speaker:** Rev. Mitsuko Yasutake

*(From Chikushi Hongo Church, Fukuoka, Japan)*

From 1:30-3:30 pm, we will be having The "Joyous Gathering" where Mitsuko Sensei will be sharing her faith with the people who attend. Come join us! Be inspired!



## Happy Birthday

To all the people born in the month of September!

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

**Founder Konko Daijin (201<sup>st</sup>)**  
 Hope Morihara

**Rev. David Yano**  
 Stacey Toma

## Autumn Grand Ceremony

For our Founder, Ikigami Konko Daijin-Sama

**Date:** Tuesday, October 13, 2015 @ 6:30 pm

**Place:** Konko Mission of Wahiawa

**Memo:** Naorai fellowship dinner will follow

Let's honor and appreciate our Founder, Ikigami Konko Daijin for paving the Way of Happiness and Blessings for all of us by being here on time and in person for this Grand Ceremony. All is welcome!



Mr. Toshiaki Murakami (white shirt) and his family (R-L):Hayato, Kozue, Mao and Toshiaki) visit our church on 8/7/15. Mr. Murakami came as a Konkokyo Youth Goodwill Mission Scout three decades ago. He still remembers the Suwa family (Wahiawa Church member) who took care of him during the home-stay program.



The annual volunteer activity at Kuakini Medical Center was held on Sunday, August 9. Mrs. Dianne Kawamoto (Right), member of the Konko Mission of Honolulu, and her friends play the koto beautifully. And Miss Ke'ala Takahashi gracefully dances the odori: "Hana Wa Saku"

## Editor's Note



Dear Reader,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. Amazing that it's already September! We have hurricanes forming in the Pacific and they are standing in line in the direction of the islands. The effects of El Niño are more intense this year, so summer is brutally hot and humid. Thankfully we live in Hawaii, where we are at least not croaking from severe droughts and heat waves. Autumn will be here soon, and hopefully it will start to get cooler in the coming days.

Autumn is the season for our church Memorial Service, which will be held on Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. Please, by all means, mark your calendars and make every possible effort to attend this very important service.

We all have ancestors. Even if we forget their names or the exact date they passed away, they are the reason for our existence, and so we must never forget them. Forgetting our ancestors is much like trying to live like a rose in a vase of water. There are no roots attached. If we lose our connection with our ancestors, our roots, we will find ourselves in difficult situations. Just knowing that we have ancestors that are supporting, guiding and protecting us in their spiritual form is a comforting thought.

By revering our ancestors, it is much like living as a rose tree with its roots firmly attached to the ground. The ground is Tenchi Kane No Kami's body. Trees (and all plants and animals) are able to thrive through the given blessings of Tenchi Kane No Kami-Sama (Heaven and Earth).

Just remember—if something is amiss in our lives, assess the situation of our roots. It may be in need of some TLC (Tender Loving Care).

A couple weeks ago I attended Kaiser Permanente Hawaii's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Kakou Event at the Hawaii Convention Center. It was so well planned and carried out. About 2,800 staff of Kaiser Hawaii attended the celebration. Everyone came, from doctors, nurses, lab assistants, housekeeping, transporters, dietary, human resources, etc.

As a guest, they even had a patient who had a miraculous recovery at Kaiser Medical Center because of the care she received. It was a truly touching story. She was at the brink of death and on life support. But here she was on stage, completely recovered dancing hula gracefully for everyone. The hospital care team that took care of her stood on stage so she could give them each a warm hug and a heart-felt "Thank you."

An organization as large as Kaiser Permanente can only continue to thrive because of all the staff members and people who commit to the care that the organization delivers.

During the celebration, we had the honor and absolute privilege of listening to guest speaker, Mr. Rich Bluni RN of Studer Group who went through many experiences and shared with us a very inspirational story. Rich is the author of Inspired Nurse and Inspired Journal. His newest book: Oh No...Not More of That Fluffy Stuff! He worked for 21 years as a Pediatric Intensive Care, Trauma Intensive Care, Flight Nursing, Behavioral Health and Emergency Medicine.

Rich talked about work related burn-out. And the reason that people get burned out is that they are pouring everything into that job. Burnout is a bad thing, but it's a good thing because that means we care about our job and are working very hard at it.

During our years of service in any occupation, we will encounter episodes that will change our lives forever. These episodes become our "building blocks" that basically make up who we are. Stronger building blocks become the foundation of our character, and they become our priceless assets.

Rich shared an episode that happened about 18 years ago when he was a pediatric ICU nurse. One day he had a 4-year old girl named Ricky get wheeled to the PICU. She had terrible head and body trauma, broken bones and failing organs. She was on life support and doctors were determining brain-death. He was in shock to find out that she had been a victim of child abuse.

It was her birthday. Her mother and her boyfriend had bought food for her celebration. Not being able to wait any longer to eat the food, little Ricky snuck a nibble. Her mother and the boyfriend caught her in the act and they became infuriated. They beat her up so badly, she ended up in the hospital. In this state of her coma, the girl's mother and her boyfriend are present in the PICU. Soon after a few policemen enter the room and arrest the mother and the boyfriend. Rich, the nurse couldn't imagine something so terrible happening to a little child. This is the moment he questioned to himself, "Why am I doing this?" This little girl is dying and just lost her primary caregiver—her mother.

Just when he thought no one else in the world cared for little Ricky, her grandmother comes into the room. Rich felt a glimmer of hope. However, the grandmother didn't even go near her dying grand daughter. No hugs, no kisses, no nothing. Rich told her, "Your grand daughter is dying, don't you want to go comfort her?"

The grandmother explained to Rich that she wasn't there to give comfort to her. She said, "Dust to dust, ashes to ashes. What's done is done," and that what has happened is none of her business. She came to pick up her daughter's purse. Because Ricky's mother and grandmother work at the same restaurant, her paycheck is also in her purse. She only came to pick that up and left, without a care in the world.

Brain death was confirmed by the doctor and life support was discontinued. As Ricky took her final breaths, Rich grabbed a blanket, wrapped her and cradled her in his arms while he rocked back and forth, singing the lullaby he sings to his own children, "Somewhere over the Rainbow."

First it was just Rich singing. Then, more and more people heard his singing and joined him. Soon enough, there were about 30 people in the PICU surrounding the lifeless child, singing that classic song from *The Wizard of Oz*.

Although this child died without any family surrounding her, she was blessed to be in the caring embrace of nurse Rich. Her spirit returned back into the Universe where it originally came from and this tragic yet inspirational story gets told and retold to hundreds of thousands of people.

Throughout history, inhumane acts have been done, and still continue till this day—slavery, beheadings, war, abuse, shooting rampages, bombings and taking advantage of others. Disconnection from our spirituality makes us vulnerable to unthinkable acts towards each other.

We must be keenly aware of the daily messages we receive from nature, from Heaven and Earth and establish that connection of spirituality.

In changing the subject, we just had our church impromptu Garage Sale on Sunday, August 30 from 9 am-2 pm. We received tremendous blessing of great sunny weather—although it was storming a couple days ago. Many people came from near and far in search of something. Half of the proceeds will be offered to the Konko Mission of Honolulu, as they are now going through major church building renovations. The other half will go to Wahiawa Church operations. We thank the church members for your tireless help in this impromptu garage sale. It was a great success! Have a safe and happy September!

*Aloha, Edna Yano*

