



Konko Spirit Newsletter

May 2014

Mother,

No words can express all that you give, Nurturing and loving so we all can live,

A happy life, a peaceful life, Full of smiles anew.

We would like to give back a great big hug, And two little words... Thank You!

(Please also thank Mother Earth together, the greatest mother of us all!)

Portland Tenchi Kane no Kami Spring Grand Ceremony 4/6/14

Sermon by Rev. Robert Giulietti

Crossroads – My Decision to Become a Minister

- 1) Congratulations for attending the 2014 Spring Grand Ceremony here at the Portland Church
- 2) I would like to talk about my decision to become a minister.
 - a. Describe decisions in general. We make decisions every moment of everyday.
 - b. Our decisions have consequences.
- 3) If I did not become a minister, my mother's work would have gone to waste. It was clear to me after she died that her life's work, her goyo, was not complete. I would have considered it very sad if she spent the majority of her effort promoting faith and supporting missionary work, and we did not pick up where she left off.
- 4) If only I could have concluded this earlier in my life.... IF, IF, IF....
- 5) Andy Sensei may not mention this to people, but there are many sacrifices that ministers have to make in order to perform missionary work and be leader of faith.
 - a. He would probably command a much higher salary if he focused all his efforts on his career. He is well educated and would be able to apply his talents many high paying careers that are available.
 - b. He could be out with his buddies right now drinking beer and celebrating the opening of the 2014 baseball season.
 - c. There are many ways that he could spend his time....
- 6) I am here to tell you that it would be sad if Andy Sensei poured all this effort into leading faith, and there were nobody who listened to him and the development of faith is not continued into the future.
- 7) There is a way that you can show your appreciation for Andy Sensei. If you are able to find Kami within and build your individual practice and celebrate your life with Kami by your side, Andy will know that his time and sacrifices were for a good reason. The manifestation of faith and celebration of life is something for us all to behold. Please continue to develop your faith. As long as you are in Portland and attend this church, please do what you can to demonstrate that you receive a life of fulfillment.

Update on Konko-Sama's health condition

Thank you so very much to everyone for your prayers.
Konko Sama is reported, although limited, to be returning to his Mediation goyo.

Let us keep praying for Konko Sama every day as he does for us!

Letter from Konko Headquarters attached.

KCNA Faith Training Institute – Registration Deadline May 11th!!

“You should try to come to the hiromae [worship hall] by completing your work earlier than usual or by making arrangements to leave work without causing an inconvenience. You should listen to the teachings and study more about this faith. Then you will naturally be able to receive divine blessings.”

(Gorikai Book of Teachings III: Jinkyu Kyogoroku 30-2)

I highly encourage those who wish to learn more about faith and deepen their spiritual understanding to attend a FTI session. Please read the letter below from the Faith Training Division Operation Committee. Registration forms available online at konkofaith.org (under Faith Enrichment Opportunities). – Lisa

Hello Everyone!

We hope you're all having a wonderful year so far filled with many great blessings!

It's that time of year, again! The KCNA would like to invite you to attend this year's Summer Faith Training Institute (FTI) being held **Friday, June 27th, 2014 through Sunday, June 29th, 2014** at the University of California, Berkeley. This is the 3rd section of a four-part curriculum, but everyone is encouraged to attend even if you have not been able to make it to the previous sections (you do not need knowledge of the prior classes in order to participate.) We are going to be covering a wide range of topics for this Summer's FTI so please refer to the flier that is attached to this email for the full list (*Note: Head Ministers - please post flier in your church*). Applications are **due by May 11th 2014**. Lodging, meals, and transportation to and from the airport will be provided by KCNA, so please don't worry about making these arrangements.

KCNA believers who would like to be partially reimbursed for their transportation to FTI may apply for a transportation scholarship. **The transportation scholarship covers the cost of transportation up to \$200; if greater than \$200, a minimum of \$200 is guaranteed upon approval of scholarship. Any KCNA believer may apply for this scholarship.**

Please join us and share our individual knowledge and experiences to help each other develop our faith! Please look over all of the attached files and fill out the necessary forms that apply to you.

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at this Summer's FTI!

Ashton Kish
FTD Operations Committee

KONKO CHURCHES OF NORTH AMERICA

2014 FAITH TRAINING INSTITUTE

Friday, June 27th to Sunday, June 29th
At The University of California, Berkeley campus

CLASSES

- Founder: "Message of Divine Reminder/Ikigami Konko Daijin (age 55-60)"
- Organization: "Present Konkokyo – Current Organization Structure & Priorities"
- Disciples: "KCNA History – Pioneers – Part 1 (Pre-1970)"
- Theology: "What is Ikigami?"
"Introduction to the Concept of Toritsugi Mediation"
"Toritsugi in Practice"
- Application: "Becoming more involved in our local church and KCNA"
"Facilitating Faith Discussions – Faith Stories"

This year's curriculum has been targeted to educate all believers who are interested in learning more about Konkokyo and as a continuation of learning from the previous classes. You did not need to attend past classes in order to participate and understand this year's classes.

Come join us to discover and learn and explore as we share knowledge of the Konko Faith with others.

A transportation scholarship is available.

(Covers the cost of transportation or if greater than \$200, a minimum of \$200 is guaranteed upon approval of scholarship).

This transportation scholarship is available to everyone.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS IS SUNDAY, MAY 11TH 2014

For more information and/or FTI application, please contact the Head Minister at your local Konko Church, email KCNA.FTD@GMAIL.COM or call the KCNA Office: 415-992-6768.

2014 KCNA Conference

Faith Movement Theme:

"Kami and us,
completing each other—
Live the Faith!"

*Let us receive Kami's
blessings and
unconditional love;
living a joyful life
of appreciation*

Keynote Speaker:

Rev. Motoo Tanaka
Konko Church of Osaki
(Tokyo, Japan)



Don't forget yours!

For more information, please contact
your local Church or the following:

conference@konkofaith.org

Toronto Church: 416-266-4763

KCNA Office: 415-992-6768
kcnaooffice@konkofaith.org

Aug. 8-10
toronto
CEDAR GLEN OUTDOOR CENTRE



Registration Deadline is June 1—sign up now!

Honoring Our Beloved Spirits of May

5/02/63 Mrs. Matsuko Onishi
 5/04/63 Rev. Shiro Takeda
 5/14/45 Mr. Haruzo Uzunoe
 5/15/60 Mr. Hiroshi Yokoo
 5/15/99 Mr. Richard Ralph Dusek
 5/16/87 Mr. Manabu Hashimoto
 5/17/1919 Ms. Katie Paramore
 Ms. Kuniko Kumasaka

5/19/81 Mrs. Masako Sada
 5/21/37 Mrs. Toyo Uzunoe
 5/21/38 Mr. Katsuji Teramichi
 5/25/74 Mrs. Eloise Davis
 5/27/49 Mr. Kenji Sakamoto
 5/26/13 Mr. Yutaka Uzunoe
 5/28/12 Mr. Lee Evans Davis
 5/31/13 Mr. Noah Davis



Church Events Calendar

May

- | | | |
|-----------|---|-----------------|
| 4 | MONTHLY SERVICE
Vancouver, Fresno - Grand Ceremony | 10 am |
| 5 | *(Mon) Church Shed Clean-up | 10 am |
| 9 | *(Fri) Mother's Day Rose Sale for Community
8:30 am & 2:45 pm | |
| 11 | Mother's Day Brunch
Gardena, Chicago – Grand Ceremony | 11 am |
| 17 | *(Sat) Richmond Spring Fest-church fundraiser 4am-4pm
*Montavilla Neighborhood Cleanup 8:30am-9:30am | |
| 18 | MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE
Yukata Uzunoe 1 Year Anniversary (26 th) | 10:00 am |
| 25 | Seattle – Grand Ceremony | |
| 26 | (Mon) Memorial Day Service (Rose City Cemetery) | |

June

- | | | |
|--|--|--------------|
| 1 | MONTHLY SERVICE | 10 am |
| 2 | *(Mon) Church Rooftop cleaning | 10 am |
| 15 | MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE
Father's Day BBQ | 10 am |
| 27-29 KCNA Faith Training Institute @ UC Berkeley | | |

Last Month:

Spring Grand Ceremony – Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in appreciating and celebrating the blessings of the universe. Truly, like Andy sensei's simile of "The grand ceremony is like Opening Day, but for Spring," the rains let up for the service, and from then on out, it was a full week of beautiful Spring sunshine with flowers blooming everywhere!

Volunteer Opportunities:

5/5 (Mon) 10am: shed cleaning in time for neighborhood clean-up

5/9 (Fri): AM - Please come help prep and wrap roses to sell to children for \$1.00. Prep begins 7am.

5/17 (Sat) Montavilla Clean-up. In between making mochi and Richmond set-up, we'll need help taking a load or two to the parking lot next door!

5/17 (Sat) Richmond Spring Festival

4am-8am: Making mochi at church.

9:45am-11am: Set-up @ Richmond

11am-4pm: Selling mochi and new item – Filled Cakes (Imagawa-yaki). Choco or strawberry marshmallow, Spam'n Cz, & Anko. Please volunteer for

a few hours as you can!

