



Fathers provide, protect, and keep order with love.
Without the command of Heaven, all would be in chaos.

**Thank You For All Your Hard Work! &
A Happy Father's Day to All Fathers & Father Figures!**

Sermon given at Vancouver Grand Ceremony – Rev. Andrew Uzunoe
Self-worth built upon Kami sama

I. Intro

Grand Ceremony is a celebration of life renewal once more

II. Our current state

- I have noticed things have become very detrimental for our human souls. Social media is anything but social, isolation, people close their doors to turn on their computers. All these friends online, facebook, how many have people personally sat down and had a meal with? How many know the real you?
- In technology, a major human mistake is that we think about whether we “could”, rather than if we “should”. Though great benefits, can help, reach many people, also very dangerous. Smart phone have made people dumb. Can't do anything without phone, can't remember numbers, etc. My UPS work example – new programs show routes turn by turn. People have no area knowledge, they get lost within a street if program goes wrong.
- People have become slaves to technology - the apps, spending hours a day on social media. In restaurants, on the bus or trains, while driving in cars, at home, with family people have their noses in the phone/ ipad. Kids are no longer playing, learning to co-exist, learning about consequences for their actions.
Little kids at ball games are playing with ipads or other tech games, not even watching or learning the real game in front of them. Driving for UPS all over town - 75 degrees, California blue sky, not one kid even at park, day after day. From 2 years ago I see in Camas. Where are the kids? Not playing in yards either. All inside, most likely in front of tube.
- Coaching baseball see the results of this, add aka the tv disease. Is incredible, it is everywhere, almost all kids can not listen or pay attention to instructions - 5 seconds they are no longer listening at all, even when they want to!
- Parents raising kids with ipads, no interaction, emotion, just mind numbing instant gratification. When I bought our Honda Pilot, the dealer couldn't get over that I required them to take out the entertainment center in the back. Why would I wanna do that they asked?

We live in a beautiful pacific northwest, see the country, talk to family, learn about what we are doing, where we are going - Learn patience@!!!!!!

- Maybe the single most important lesson to learn growing up, that is grossly being ignored in today's society. We go on a trip to have a good time, not make good time.
- There's a movie called Wall-e, cute sci-fi of future and fate of planet and people, but coming true. There were people sitting next to each other and texting each other on their screens, never looking up to know they were right there.
- I see online people are extremely rude, so out of touch with reality, with any sense of consequences for their actions or words. Swear at people, steal whatever, tell you to kiss off, if you ask then to be polite/settle down, rage quit, and the worst I see a lot, is they actually say, "go kill yourself in real life" if they don't like what you say or are doing. Since they don't have to answer for what they say or do, no consequences for actions being taught, and so therefore become a danger to themselves and others when they do have to go into public.
- People are more fragile than ever, they do not have a strong foundation, and these negative actions and words are used to make themselves feel better about themselves.
- People's foundations are built upon what others say about them. Self worth is how many likes they get on facebook. Leads to having to one up others who get more likes. Leads to exaggerations and living doing things they don't believe in or even like, just so they feel "kool". So it begs the question, please ask yourself:

III. What is the foundation your self-confidence is built upon?

- When people talk to you, criticize or even give constructive evaluation. Our 1st priority is to consider the source.
Who is talking to us, what is their expertise on the subject matter, what is their knowledge of who we are, and our goals?
- Many times I have witnessed people being very distraught, or even changing their actions based upon what someone who has little to no credibility has told them. When asked "Why did you do this?" they answer that it's because they want to be pleasing everyone. This is not possible.
- Must review, who do we want to be our sounding board? All people need to be evaluated sometimes, in some things, it keeps us grounded and honest. But, where do we find this? What do we trust? What do we do about the rest of the criticism? There is only one - what the Founder taught, the world has become human [tech] centered world, we must return to a Kami centered world to find peace and fulfillment, self worth a purpose.
- **Kami is the foundation we must build our life upon**, our self worth, our reason for existence, our purpose in life. As the Founder said, "A metal cane will get bent, and a bamboo or wooden cane will break. Therefore, use Kami as your cane. Kami can never be bent, can never break, and can never die" (Gorikai I Kondo Fujimori 4.) Therefore, Rely upon Kami for all things.

So let us close our laptops, shut off our electronics, take off the earbuds, and with our foundation in Kami, be able to look at people eye to eye, have more face to face communication, and not be afraid of or hide who we really are. Thank you.

5/9 Mother's Day Rose Sale. Thank you to Michie sensei and Teresa who helped wrap all 4 dozen roses. Thank you to Kami sama for AMAZING timing of perfect weather. Pouring down rain but beautiful sun breaks all three times we were outside to sell the roses before and after school, and for the noon Kindergarten dismissal!

5/11 We had a lovely **Mother's Day brunch** at Sweet Tomatoes. (No clean-up needed ☺). Thank you again to our wonderful mothers!

5/4 & 5/17 (Sat) Church Shed & Montavilla Clean-up - Thank you so much to Frank Sunada, Jr! With everyone unavailable, Lisa sensei alone could not have loaded the trailer.

Thank you, Thank you!! Also to Dan and Daniel Jackson for taking and dumping the trailer at the cleanup. Your help was most needed!

5/17 (Sat) Richmond Spring Festival - Thank you to everyone who came to help - the entire Jackson Family, Linda Akagi, Uzunoe senseis³. A great big special thank you to Jim Hill and family, for all of their support in letting us borrow equipment, showing us how to use it, setting up our booth, and even helping on the front lines when we needed breaks!

5/25 Seattle Church Grand Ceremony - Thank you the Seattle Church ministers and believers for inviting us to join in your Spring Grand Ceremony. Thank you also for the love and dedication you poured into the delicious foods you prepared for everyone!

5/30 Welcome **visitors from San Francisco Church!** Akiko Takeshita & Lewis Kawahara stopped by the church during their travels, and was greeted by Andy sensei & Michie sensei. Praying for safety the rest of your trip and we hope you enjoyed your stay in the NW!

Visit to "a quiet place"

Last year Andy sensei and I were privileged to meet friends of the Yano Family (Konko Mission of Wahiawa, HI),

Mr. & Mrs. Leon & Linda Webber.

They are a lovely couple from Alaska who have converted their parents' house out in Molalla to a place of meditation and peace.

Their dedication ceremony was on the 17th, which we regretfully could not attend, but were able to make a visit a few days beforehand and were graced with a lovely session of faith sharing.

More on a quiet place to follow in issues.

Thank you Leon & Linda for sharing your precious time with us!



Honoring Our Beloved Spirits of June

6/01/47 Mr. Sumitaro Yamashita
 6/10/95 Mrs. Teru Uzunoe
 6/14 Mrs. Kinuko Saito
 6/14/38 Mr. Fujiemon Kondo
 6/16/46 Mr. Masatsugu Sata

6/19/08 Mr. Christopher Shaw
 6/22/39 Mrs. Noriko Niiyama
 6/25/32 Mr. Yasuichi Kondo
 6/28/55 Mrs. Matsu Yamashita
 6/28/88 Mrs. Leota Stansell

Upcoming:

<i>Church Events Calendar</i>	
JUNE	
1 MONTHLY SERVICE	10 am
9* (Mon) Church Rooftop/gutter cleaning	10am-12
15 MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE	10 am
Father's Day BBQ	
27-29 KCNA Faith Training Institute @ UC Berkeley	
* (Date change)	
JULY	
6 MONTHLY SERVICE	10am
19 (Sat) (tentative) Montavilla Street Fair Prep Day	10am-12
20 MONTHLY MEMORIAL SERVICE	10 am
(tentative) Montavilla Street Fair – Fundraiser	11-4pm
25 (Fri) Natsu Matsuri Prep day	10am-12
26 (Sat) Church Fundraiser @ Uwajimaya Summer Festival "Natsu Matsuri"	9am-5pm
27 Jerry Inouye Golf Tournament	

6/9 Fix it Monday - church roof/gutters.

*(Start date changed from 6/2 to 6/9)

For our June project, we will begin checking the church and church house roof tiles, as well as fixing or replacing the well-loved gutters.

Please bring eye protection as we'll be looking up from ladders and there is a lot of debris on the gutters. Thank you!

6/15 Father's Day BBQ potluck.

Amy sensei is organizing the food for the BBQ, please contact her if you have questions on what to bring. Thank you!

amyuzunoe@gmail.com

6/27-29 (Fri-Sun) KCNA Faith Training Institute. Lisa sensei attending as staff/instructor.

6/27 The Jerry Inouye Golf Tournament will be held on Sunday, July 27th. Please contact Andy sensei for more info.

Konkospirit@live.com