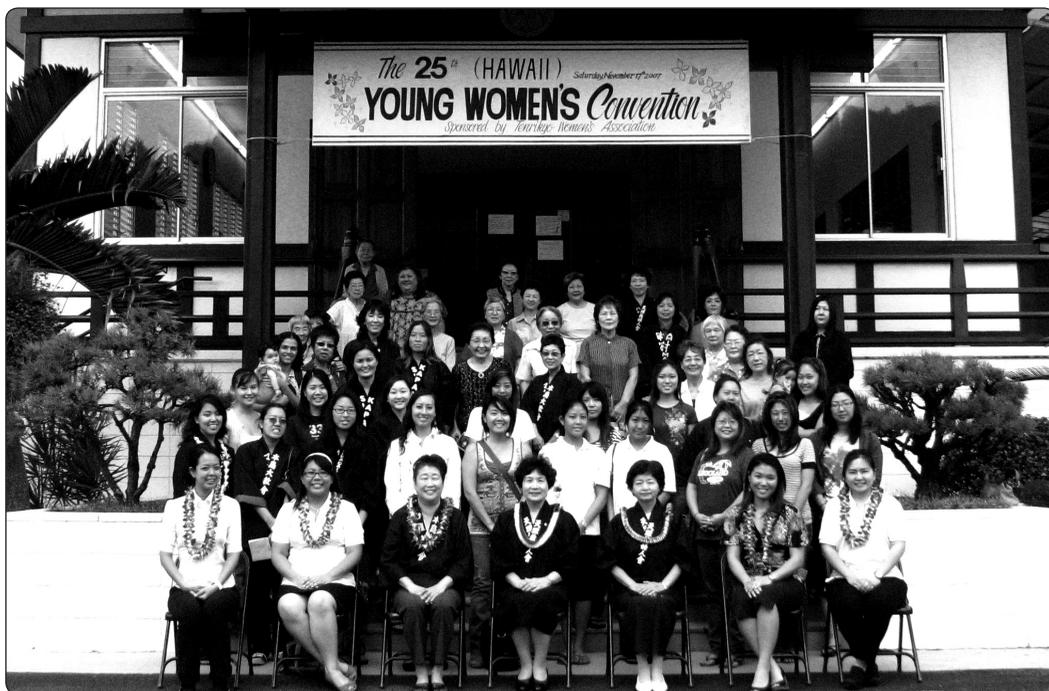


No. 196 DECEMBER 2007

ORIGINS

*After you have devoted yourself day by day, I shall
leave you entrusted with the management of everything.
Ofudesaki I:67*



*25th Young Women's Club Convention
November 17, 2007*

Message from the Head of the Overseas Department November 26, Tenrikyo 170

Thank you very much for your daily effort at your respective roles. The last few days has been very cold in Ojiba and it gave us the impression that winter had already come. However, we are blessed to have fine weather today and the November Monthly Service was performed joyously with the Shinbashira as the core.

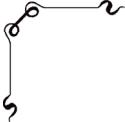
In the Service Prayer, the Shinbashira expressed his resolution to convey the true heart of the Parent to those who misuse the free use of the mind and suffer from illnesses and troubles not knowing the true Parent and to make efforts to walk the path of single-hearted salvation with those people. In addition, he follow the Divine Model of Oyasama in a unity of mind and devote ourselves to sprinkle the fragrance of the teachings and save others. And he prayed that God guides us toward constructing the world where we can spend our days living in harmony by helping one another.

Following the service, the sermon was delivered by Honbuin, Rev. Hidekazu Kita. Rev. Kita explained how important it is for Yoboku to practice the teachings of the Path by quoting the Shinbashira's words at the Autumn Grand Service and the Anecdotes of Oyasama. With his own experience as the head of the Education and Nurturing Department of Church Headquarters, he said that one of the wonderful aspects of the teachings which Oyasama taught us is that the teachings of this Path is taught with the Japanese syllabary, which men and women of all ages can put into practice everyday.

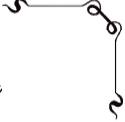
Lastly, this year marks the 20th anniversary of Tenrikyo Mission Center in the Philippines. A commemorative monthly service will be conducted on December 2nd. I will be attending this service representing the Overseas Department.

The year is drawing to a close. Let us spiritedly do our utmost until the end of the 170th year of Tenrikyo.

Yoichiro Miyamori, Head of the Overseas Department



November Monthly Service Prayer



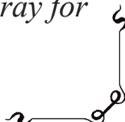
Before You, God the Parent, Tenri-O-no-Mikoto, who resides in this shrine, I, (Michihito Hamada, bishop of the Mission Headquarters of Hawaii) pray with reverence.

God the Parent, as we live in the bosom of Your deep parental heart, which desires to save all people of the world, the bodies we are lent, constantly receive Your blessings. This is truly more than we can expect, and we deeply express our gratitude for Your grace, as you guide us on the path toward the joyous life. As we embrace the teachings within our hearts, according to Your intention, we are applying our effort toward single-hearted salvation, and today is the day we are granted to conduct the November monthly service at this mission headquarters. The service performers will unite their hearts to perform the seated service and Teodori joyously in high spirits. We brothers and sisters of this Path have looked forward to this day and today, we are gathered here in prayer before You to sing the Mikagura-uta. As You watch us, we hope that You can be spirited as well.

As we are presently hastened to apply our effort in nurturing the successors of the path, we had the pleasure of having Mrs. Yumiko Ito as an instructor, at the Church Headquarters sponsored 25th Young Woman's Convention held yesterday.

As Yoboku we are taught that our unconditional effort toward hinokishin will enable us to discover the light within our hearts and the path toward the joyous life will appear. We vow to not be influenced by the current of the times by further deepening our faith single-heartedly toward God as we sincerely apply our utmost effort in salvation work.

May You, God the Parent, accept our sincerity, and we ask that You guide us toward reconstructing the world where we can spend our days living in harmony by helping one another. Together with everyone present, I pray for these blessings.



Mission HQ November Monthly Service Sermon

Reverend Melvin Iwata

(Tenrikyo Honolulu-ko Church)



Good morning everyone. It's so very nice to see all of you here today at our Mission Headquarters of Hawaii, and I am so happy that I was able to offer my prayers together with all of you at today's monthly service.

I would like to begin by thanking Rev. Tsunenori Ichise for doing the translation today and for his sincere patience.

I had the most difficult time putting my thoughts in writing because many of the things I would like to talk about today, are things that I, myself, have a hard time putting into practice. However, I pray that even in some small way what I say today, will help all of us in our quest to further our own spiritual growth and maturity.

170 years ago in the first words declared by God the Parent, through the mouth of Oyasama, is this sentence:

“At this time I have descended here to save all humankind.”

In the Ofudesaki Part VI, Verse 4, we are taught:

“What do you think this path is? It is the true path that will settle this world.”

I firmly believe that this was God the Parent's intent when on October 26, 1838 Oyasama became God's Shrine. However, when we look at our society and our world today, are we getting closer to a world of true peace and salvation for all humankind?

I do not believe we can honestly answer, yes, to this question. Today, I would like to see if I can find some of the answers, to see why we seem to still be so far away, from God the Parent's and Oyasama's intent.

This time of year, the Autumn season, is one that many of us sports fans really look forward to because we have football, and the basketball season is also just beginning. Many times I have heard coaches say, “We cannot control what the other team does, we can only control what we do and how well we play.”

In the Ofudesaki Part V, Verse 8, we are taught:

“Even between parent and child, husband and wife, and brothers and sisters:

November Monthly Service Sermon

their minds all differ from one another. “

In the Divine Directions of June 1, 1889, we are taught:

“With human beings: the body is a thing lent by God, a thing borrowed. The mind alone is yours.”

Through these verses, God the Parent is teaching us that we cannot control or change how other people think or use their minds. We can only change and control our own mind because this mind alone is ours.

In the Ofudesaki, Part VII, Verse 109, we are taught:

“If only human beings throughout the world have purified their minds and lead lives joyously...”

Further in the Songs for the Service, Song 10, Verse 4, we are taught:

“Greed is fathomless like muddy water. When your mind is completely purified, Then comes paradise. “

From these verses, we are taught that the cleansing and purification of each of our own minds is of utmost importance. After we attain true purity of mind, then comes paradise, when we can live each day truly joyously. This is the most important teaching of Oyasama, and must be the goal of each and everyone of us followers of Tenrikyo.

This is easy to say but most difficult to accomplish. For me, it is definitely the most difficult thing, each day, not to use negative thoughts and not to accumulate mental dust.

Many times when I am performing the

service, I find myself just going through the motions and not truly reflecting on Oyasama’s teachings, to cleanse and sweep the dust from my mind, using God the Parent as my broom.

As all of you are aware, we have so many different religions throughout the world, and right here in Hawaii, in fact, right here on Pali Highway, we have so many churches and temples. Then we may ask, with all of these many religions how come we still have not attained God the Parent’s intent at creation? The joyous life for all humankind.

That is why this path of Tenrikyo is so very important, because it really is the true path that will settle this world. This important responsibility lies on the shoulders of each and everyone of us gathered here today.

I know that since we come to church we all feel we are religious and that we have faith. In the dictionary, in defining the word faith, it says, “Unquestioning belief, complete trust in God.”

Here, I can only talk about myself but although I thought I had faith, many times instead of complete trust in God the Parent, I was making decisions and taking action, using only my own very limited education, intelligence, and strength.

At this time, I would like to share this Anecdote of Oyasama No. 122 entitled “As Long as There is Virtue.”

A great drought struck all of Yamato in the summer of 1883. At that time, Isaburo Masui, who was still farming in Izushichijo

November Monthly Service Sermon

Village, was staying at the Residence every day to help with farm work. By and by, a messenger from his own home came to ask Isaburo to return home, saying, "At the village people are busy drawing water into the rice fields. They are complaining that all the villagers are out doing the work except Isaburo. Can't you come home just for while to show your face?"

Isaburo had already resolved, "I do not care what happens to my own field," so he flatly refused, saying, "It was very kind of you to come but I cannot leave," and sent the messenger back home. However, later, Isaburo thought, "I am contented because I feel that it is the best thing for me to be able to put even a bucket-full of water into the field of the Residence during this drought. But if my neighbors are discontented on account of this, it will not do." So he reconsidered, thinking, "I already said 'no,' but I will go back and at least show my face," and he went to tell Oyasama his decision. Thereupon, Isaburo received these words from Oyasama;

"Even if it does not rain from above, as long as there is virtue, I shall make water rise as vapor from the ground below."

When he went back, the whole village was in great commotion day and night with everyone busily drawing water from the wells in the field. Isaburo and his wife, Osame, went out together to the fields and drew water until late into the night. However, no water was drawn into Isaburo's own field; it was all drawn into the fields of others.

Osame mixed the water she had received from the water hole near the Kanrodai with the water from her house, and day and night, twice a day, she sprinkled it around her family rice field with a dried rice stalk. A few days later, Osame, wondering how her family rice field was faring, made the rounds before dawn and to her surprise found the field which she had not watered filled with water rising from the ground. Osame remembered afresh the words of Oyasama and was deeply moved with the realization that Oyasama's words were indeed always true.

That year, the crop of the entire village was bad but the Masui family was blessed with a good harvest of about twenty-two kilograms per are."

The important thing to note here is that, Isaburo Masui put water, not into his own field, but into the fields of the Residence and others.

In the Songs for the Service, Song 3, Verse 7, we are taught;

"Whatever may happen, from now on, I will go single-heartedly leaning on God."

From this Anecdote and Verse from the Songs for the Service, in our life of faith, regardless of the situation we are faced with, if we lean on God the Parent and practice Oyasama's teachings, we will accumulate virtue and thus, receive marvelous blessing.

Now, I would like to share with all of you another Anecdote No. 31, entitled

November Monthly Service Sermon

Even when beggars came, She would say:

“Thank you for your trouble.”

Her attitude and manner of speaking never changed. She considered them all to be Her loving children. Once a person met Oyasama, no matter what kind of person he was, he would be moved by Oyasama’s parental love and be reformed at once. Perhaps they were moved by Oyasama’s compassion.

For example, even a police officer who came to investigate and a local ruffian had been converted to the faith. After just one visit, many either entered the faith or experienced a change of heart.

These are recollections of Naokichi Takai.

Again, this is something we all do, but, from this anecdote, Oyasama is teaching us that we should not discriminate against others, but have compassion and treat everyone equally.

I truly believe that one of the reasons why we have not been able to settle this world and achieve salvation for all humankind, is because so many of us still have not been able to cleanse our minds of prejudice, discrimination, and passing judgment on others.

Finally today, I would like to share with all of you this well-known anecdote No. 123, entitled “Is Man the Object?”

Oyasama told Shirobei Umetani soon after he became a believer in the faith:

“Become a person with a gentle heart. Save other people. Change your habits

“The Measure of Heaven.”

One day Oyasama said to Izo Iburi:

“Izo, will you cut down a tree in the mountains and make a straight post from it?”

Izo promptly did so. Afterward, Oyasama said:

“Izo, try to place a ruler against the post.” and She continued:

“Isn’t there a gap between the two?”

When Izo placed the ruler against the post there was in fact of gap. So he replied, “There is a little gap.” Then Oyasama taught: “Exactly! Even the things that are considered to be straight by all the people of the world are warped when they are placed against the measure of heaven.”

From this anecdote, Oyasama is teaching us something so very important as followers of Tenrikyo. As human beings we all do it, but we should not pass judgment on other people, because a lot of times our own standards, which we think are so straight and correct, are warped when they are placed against the measure of heaven.

Next, another Anecdote No. 195, entitled, “Thank you for your Trouble.”

Oyasama made no distinction between people and She was a very compassionate person. No matter what kind of person She met, She never showed any sign of discrimination. No matter what kind of person came to the Residence, She considered everyone to be Her child. No matter how great a man came, She said:

“Thank you for your trouble.”

***November Monthly Service Sermon
and temperament.”***

He was hot-tempered by nature.

Shirobei was working at the Residence, plastering the wall of Oyasama's Resting House which was under construction in 1883. When he heard people maliciously gossiping that "the mason from Osaka, who cannot get work there, has had to come as far as Yamato for work," he became very indignant. In the middle of the night, he quietly gathered his belongings and started to return to Osaka.

Walking on tiptoes, he was about to leave through the main gate when he heard Oyasama cough from her room in the Nakaminami-gatehouse. "Ah! Oyasama!" he thought; his feet stopped and his anger disappeared.

Next morning, while he was having breakfast with the rest of the people at the Residence, Oyasama appeared and said:

"Shirobei, is man the object? Or is God the object? Remember that God is the object."

Through this anecdote, I feel that Oyasama is teaching us several very important things to help us settle this world.

1. Become a person with a kind and gentle heart.

2. Change and correct our bad habits, especially, our anger and temper.

3. Work hard each day to bring much joy, happiness, and comfort to others. In other words, engage in salvation work everyday.

4. Always keep God as our object, leaning on God the Parent with unquestioning belief and complete trust.

In closing, I would like to wish you all a very Happy Thanksgiving. Thank you very much for your kind attention.

December Monthly Service

December 16, 2007 (Sunday, 9:00 a.m.)

***Sermon in Japanese by Reverend Masahiko Iburi
(Director-in-Chief of Administrative Affairs)***

English Interpretation by Moses Nakao

Faraway Friends of the Path



DAVID INOUYE

Hawaii Central Church /
Higashichuo Grand Church

Aloha from the Home of the Parent, Tenri! My name is David Inouye from Hawaii-Kai Mission Station, Hawaii Central Church and I am currently teaching English at the Tenrikyo Language Institute (TLI) for the last two years. This is the 2nd time I'm devoting time to Tenrikyo in Jiba. The first time I was a student studying Japanese at TLI for one year and then studied the Teachings of Tenrikyo for another year through an incredible program called, Oyasatofusekomika. Now in my 2nd time in Tenri, I am currently devoting more time as a teacher for the same school.

For those who don't know what TLI is, it's a school that teaches Japanese and the Teachings of Tenrikyo to people all over the world, as well as other languages to Japanese students. It's also a school that trains Japanese people to become

teachers. Currently, there are two local boys attending this school. Tate Kakitani, who is studying in the Japanese Language Course and Dean Nakamura, in the Oyasatofusekomi Course.

Tate is spending everyday speaking, writing, listening, and reading Japanese. The course he is taking fully concentrates on studying Japanese in a Japanese environment, which provides nearly anyone with the opportunity to master the Japanese language in a single year. The program is so awesome that you could probably slack off a little in studying (not recommended) and still converse fluently in Japanese by the end of the year, which is what I think Tate is doing. (Just Joking)

As for Dean, he's studying in his 2nd year as a student of the Oyasatofusekomi Course (I think of it as an Oyasato Seminar Course 4 mixed with people from all over the world). This course teaches the Teachings of Tenrikyo to foreign students and provides the opportunities to actually carry out the things you learn. Most times we hear, we learn, and we know the Teachings of Tenrikyo, however in this course you are able to experience the Teachings of Tenrikyo at a church, on missionary training, during keidai (security duty), living at the Jiba, cleaning the Main Sanctuary, saving people, making speeches in front of an audience, doing Shuyoka, etc...all to apply the Teachings of Tenrikyo and understanding it even more than before. I'll admit going through that course was not easy for me,

but absolutely worthwhile.

For me, being a teacher at TLI has taught me many things. One thing I would like to mention is I love my students! I see them as not my students, but rather like my own children. I worry about them everyday, hope that they improve to be great, be able to succeed in not only English, but more importantly spiritually. I want them to know more than I know and do more than I ever will do. I even went as far as shaving my head bald for their success. By the way, it feels pretty cool to wipe your head with a towel and a week later it's like Velcro.

Although I'm not a true parent, I do realize one thing. Parents only have love for their children and do an incredible amount of things for them. They will do so much for their children that they will get frustrated, tired, exhausted, and upset in trying to raise and take care of them. The sad part in doing so is that the children most likely will not realize and may never understand the parental heart until they are parents themselves. The children will in no way be able to return the amount of love and time the parents dedicate to their children. Therefore, as a parent you must stay strong and continue to do your best without frustration, exhaustion, or anger and instead with dedication, sincerity, and love. And as a child, you must start to realize this love and return back as much as you can.

We all know that nobody's perfect.

10 However as children we tend to forget about

that in our own parents and as parents, we most likely will not admit to our mistakes to our children. I found it extremely hard to apologize to my students when I made mistakes or guided them in the wrong direction. However by admitting my mistakes, I felt that they further understood me and now believe that I only intend the best for them and their future.

Seeing these things through my students, it continues to strengthen my gratitude towards my parents, John and Mei. They have indeed shown me their parental hearts throughout the years and I know that they will continue to do so until, they past away for rebirth. Even with the mistakes they make in life towards their children, it is only human and a guidance message. Sometimes these mistakes are not from them, but from the intentions of God the Parent.

I believe that God the Parent has this parental love of worrying about the children everyday, hoping for the best to succeed spiritually, and to live the Joyous Life. Through God's parental love there will be frustration and anger where we cannot see and may not understand God's parental heart or intentions. However there are only good intentions of dedication, sincerity, and love in the difficulties and blessing that we receive each day.

As stated in the Ofudesaki:

Day after the day, the concern of the Parent is only about the means to save you.

Ofudesaki 14:35

Everyone throughout the world is a child dear to the Parent. There is no knowing what I may say out of My deep love for you.

Ofudesaki 14:52

However trying your condition may be, the Parent will work to the utmost. Take heart!

Ofudesaki 15:8

To Tsukihi, all of you in the world are My children. Though My thoughts for you are filled with love,

No one is aware of it, and the ponderings of each of you are only of dust.

Ofudesaki 17:68-69

Finally, referring back to TLI, the benefits you get from this school are incredible. Where can you learn Japanese,

meet people from all over the world, enjoy life as a student, experience Japan life and culture, understand more about Tenrikyo, and be living at the Jiba, sowing seeds of sincerity?

It was very difficult for me in making the decision to come here, especially from living in Hawaii, with family, friends, a great job, late night Zippy's, loco mocos, etc... (wow, I miss Hawaii, who wouldn't?). However, coming to Tenri is something that I consider a true blessing for my future and would like to thank my Grandpa Gordon and Grandma Yoshi for planting those seeds and my parents, Michael, Michelle, and Tony for allowing me to be here. Mahalo and Happy Holidays to all and look forward to returning to Hawaii in 2009!

Take care and take it easy!



David sporting a new look and entertaining his students at Tenrikyo Language Institute

ISLAND LIFE

Young Women's Convention

Sponsored by Tenrikyo Church HQ Women's Association



On Saturday, November 17th, the Hawaii Young Women's Club held their 25th YWC Convention at the Tenrikyo Mission Headquarters on Pali Highway. Many attended the event that started at 9:30 in the morning. After the seated service, we heard the message from the Shinbashira's wife, speeches from Satoko Sasaki and Annabella Taylor, and a faith experience speech from Mrs. Yumiko Ito, our guest speaker from the mainland. The Young Women made a pledge and sang in unison. At the end of the formal portion, we had general announcements by Rev. Lynn So, advisor to the YWC, and then we took a group picture. Lunch was provided by the Women's Association and the afternoon activities were hosted

by the Young Women's Club. There was a caricature artist that drew pictures of those attending and Kathy Lam and Louise Inafuku instructed the strawberry bead activity that kept everyone busy for hours. For those that were able to attend, we had a dinner in honor of our guest, Mrs. Ito at the Shokudo restaurant. There was a lot of laughter as we stuffed ourselves with the ono food.

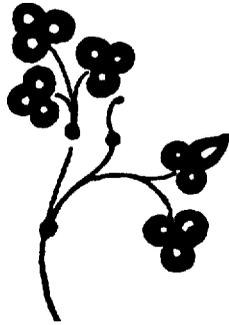
Thank you to everyone who attended the convention and for making it a success, special thanks to those that traveled from the outer islands to attend, and a BIG MAHALO to all those that helped coordinate and plan everything for this event. Without your efforts things would not have gone as smooth. In total we had sixty-four attendees this year.



YWC Convention Photo Album



Satoko Sasaki shares her faith experience



Annabella Taylor shares her faith experience



Posing after completing a craft activity

What Do You Think?

Q: What are some of the things that you are looking forward to this holiday season? What are you thankful for as the year comes to an end?



Reverend Ronald Yama (72)

"For Thanksgiving every year we meet at my niece's house in Mililani. We get the whole family to get together so that we can enjoy each others company. My two boys come home and we can all reflect on the past year and be thankful for every year that we get to spend together."



Yumiko Ito (57)

"Every year we have a family get together. Family is very important to me and this is the time to express our happiness for the blessings from God The Parent. It is a time where I like to give thanks to other people, expressing gratitude for the whole year. New Year's is a way to say 'yoroshiku' for the upcoming year."



Dan Suzuki (32)

"I look forward to spending time with the family and catching up with home projects. I am thankful for this year, as I have been able to experience new types of responsibilities - the birth of my daughter, a new job, and the YMA presidency. I am thankful for my wife, my son, and my daughter."



Taylor Inouye (4)

"I want presents!! I want to see Santa Claus! For Christmas I want to have Ariel's pink dress. I'm going to give Santa cookies & milk."

20th Hawai'i Island General Meeting



On Sunday, November 25, the 20th Hawai'i Island General Meeting was held at Kilauea Church.

The Big Island Kyoyu-kai was founded in 1962, providing followers of the Island of Hawaii to combine their efforts in various activities and deepen their bonds of friendship together. In 1987, to commemorate the 80th Anniversary of the Women's Association, the first Hawai'i island district Women's Association General Meeting was held. Taking this event as a platform for future events, the first annual Hawai'i Island General Meeting was held the following year, in 1988, with the service performance as its main purpose. Since then, we welcome the Bishop and his wife every year, to perform in the service together and to receive spiritual direction, directly from the Bishop. This also gives us a valuable opportunity to share an enjoyable time with the Bishop and his wife.

With Bishop & Mrs. Hamada as the

core, the service was performed spiritedly in three rotations of service performers. The service performance was followed by greetings from district head, Rev. Tadamasu Nishimura and then by Bishop Hamada. In his greetings to the congregation, Bishop Hamada shared his thoughts on the importance of focusing our performance of the service toward world salvation. The remainder of the program consisted of taking a commemorative photo, lunch prepared by each representing church, and a DVD presentation reflecting back on the last 20 years of activities. The day came to an end with everyone enjoying Lucky Number prizes.

Numerous followers made the 100 mile drive from Kona to join us, gathering a total of 50 participants. A special thanks goes out to the young men and women of Kailua-Kona Church for their efforts with the DVD presentation and producing the photograph panel exhibit.

Hawaii Central Church 50th Anniversary

On November 4th, Sunday, Hawaii Central Church celebrated its 50th Anniversary. The ceremony, which started at 10 a.m., was attended by over sixty members and guests. Among the attendees were Higashichuo Grand Church Head Minister Hiroaki Kashiwagi, along with nineteen other guests from Japan and five members from the mainland. Led by Head Minister Tryon Inouye, the members of the church spiritedly performed the service. After the service Reverend Kashiwagi along with Bishop Michihito Hamada provided speeches about the church. Following the speeches by the two guests, Reverend Inouye provided a speech followed by a very short, but heartfelt word of thanks from church co-founder Mrs. Yoshi Inouye. Overcome with emotion over the fifty years that have passed, a teary-eyed Mrs. Inouye in her soft voice expressed her gratitude for all

that made the church possible and thanked the guests and members in attendance.

Following the ceremony a reception was held at Pagoda Restaurant. A video tribute, created by church follower Grant Inouye, highlighted the many memories from over the years. The reception was attended by over ninety guests and members.

Hawaii Central Church was started in November 1957 by Reverend Gordon Kakuji Inouye and his wife Yoshi Inouye. When asked on her thoughts of the day, Seiko Itokazu, daughter of Inouye, replied “The church was the best thing to happen in our lives. Mom (Mrs. Inouye) is so happy seeing everyone happy doing the service every month. It was worth all the hardships we went through for future generations. Thank you to everyone for all the support of Hawaii Central Church throughout the fifty years!”



Castle Church 4th Head Minister Installation Service



On November 28th, Wednesday, Castle Church held it's Head Minister Installation Service. Reverend Aileen Ayakawa became the 4th Head Minister of Castle Church. Before the Insallation Service we asked Reverend Ayakawa to share what led her to aspire to become a head minister.

My name is Aileen Ayakawa, daughter of the late Reverend Isao Jyo who passed away for rebirth on February 5, 2006. On October 26 of this year, I was granted authorization from the Shinbashira to become the next head minister of Tenrikyo Castle Church.

One similar question that many people ask me is, "What made you decide to succeed your father?" Unlike some ministers, I cannot say that it is due to illness or problems. About thirty years ago, I completed the three month Shuyoka course followed by one month of Kentei Koshu. At that young age and truly loving Oyasama and the teachings of Tenrikyo,

I thought that one day I MIGHT become a minister. Through the years observing the various ministers, churches and their followers, I realized it wouldn't be an easy task. So I decided, "uhmm maybe I'll just be a supportive member." Periodically I would have dreams of my past Daikyokai Kaicho-san, the late Reverend Noboru Katayama as if I was still doing my missionary travels with him. Not really wondering what the dreams meant, I just continued living my daily life. In 2002 at the age of 86 years old, my father had a cerebral hemorrhage and through the grace of God received his blessings and recovered 95%. Shortly after, there was talk among my family members as to what would become of the church when daddy would not be able to do his minister's duties. I couldn't see returning the church to the Daikyokai after my father had worked so hard throughout the years as yoboku and minister. After deep thought and encouragement from my Ayakawa family, I secretly told my father that I would take over Castle Church, so don't worry. But I told him he would have to continue taking care of the altar to help in his recuperation and well being. This is the main reason why I decided to succeed my father, to continue in his efforts.

From this day forward, may I sincerely thank everyone and humbly ask for your guidance and support as I fit into my father's shoes. Mahalo!

Community Hinokishin Day

. Please assemble at Mission HQ at 9:00 a.m. Please wear your green hinokishin T-shirts. If you do not have a shirt, please contact Mission HQ. Monthly Nioigake day will continue to be the Monday after Mission HQ's monthly service.

December 4th (Tues)

(First Tuesday of every month)

2008 Spiritual Development Course in Jiba

The English Spiritual Development Course is a three-month course held in the Home of the Parent, Jiba, from April thru June. Classes on the Tenrikyo teachings, the scriptures, and the musical instruments are held in the English language. Students will also engage in *hinokishin*, which is the action done to express gratitude for the blessings of God the Parent and Oyasama.

*The deadline to apply is this month so please inform Mission HQ by **December 10th** for prospective students.*



Weekly Sunday School
Every Sunday at Mission HQ
10:00 a.m. ~ 11:00 a.m.

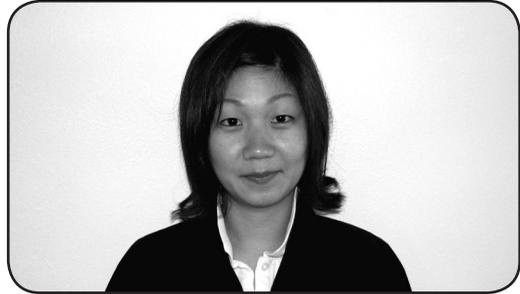
Aloha Band Practice
Every 3rd Sunday
1:30 p.m. ~ 4 p.m. at Mission HQ

POM POM WORKSHOP FOR LEADERS HELD

In adding a new pom pom section, the Aloha Band conducted a four-day pom pom workshop for leaders from November 9-12 which was conducted with an instructor from BGA Headquarters Ms. Hiroko Tanaka (of Izumi GC). Band director Mr. Yasutsugu Miyauchi said that the workshop was filled with much useful content and essential techniques which he will be able utilize with the Aloha Band as a whole. Many thanks go to Ms. Hiroko Tanaka who flew in from Japan to conduct the workshop and to Boy's and Girl's Association Headquarters for funding the trip.



Practicing the Pom Pom!



Instructor Ms. Hiroko Tanaka

WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS



On November 4th, Sunday, Natalie Mima (Koshinokuni Hawaii Church/Koshinokuni Grand Church) and Jeffrey Kao were married at the Moana Surf Rider Westin Resort. Congratulations and best of luck to the happy couple!



On November 10th, Saturday, Lincoln Okada (Shimagahara Hawaii Mission Station/Shimagahara Grand Church) and Keiko Murata were married at Tenrikyo Kami-Kumamoto Church (Chikushi Grand Church) in Kumamoto Prefecture, Japan. Congratulations and best of luck to the happy couple!

HAWAII JUDO NEWS

On November 10, 2007, Chrissy Chow won silver in the 52kg Senior Women's Division and Daniel Chow won gold in the 66kg Senior Men's Division at the 2007 Continental Crown Tournament in Seattle Washington.

Congratulations to medalists at the Jita Kyo-ei Judo Tournament held in Lima, Peru, on November 3, 2007: TL: Kaimana Lundquist: silver, Bree Rapoza: gold and silver, Paihi Pestano: gold and silver, BL: Mindy Chow: **three gold**, Cassidy Chandler: silver.



Also on October 19-20, 2007, Mindy Swanson won bronze in the +78Kg Senior Women's division and gold in the Senior Women's Open division and Taylor Ibera won bronze in the 44Kg Senior Women's division at the U.S. Open in Atlanta, Georgia.

Congratulations to all the Judo athletes and thank you for representing Hawaii and Tenri Judo with pride and respect!

MISSION HQ (DENDOCHO) ANNOUNCEMENTS

Visitation By Reverend Masahiko Iburi

On December 14th, Friday, Tenrikyo Church Headquarters Director-in-Chief of Administrative Affairs, Reverend Masahiko Iburi and Head of North America Section Reverend Takaharu Ichise will be arriving in Hawaii on Jalways (JO) Flight 78 in the morning. Please feel free to greet both guests at either the airport or Mission HQ.

Oyasato Seminar Course II

From December 26 (Wed) to 29 (Sat) the Oyasato Seminar Course II will be held at Mission HQ.

Successors of the Path Seminar

Saturday, March 29, 2008

Tenrikyo Mission Headquarters of Hawaii

8:30 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Open to Tenrikyo members and non-members aged 17-40. Participants should have some basic knowledge of the Tenrikyo teachings.

Please inquire Mission HQ for further information

HAWAII DENDOCHO 2008 SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

JANUARY

1/26-27 Sat-Sun BGA Leadership Camp
1/27 Sun BGA Park Cleanup and New Year BBQ Picnic

FEBRUARY

2/18 Mon Tenri Cultural Center Cleanup Hinokishin Day
2/22-23 Sat-Sun YWC Follow Miss Kokan Seminar

MARCH

3/21-23 Fri-Sun 33rd Annual BGA Spring Camp & General Meeting
3/29 Sat Successors of the Path Seminar
3/30 Sun WA Hawai'i Island Oyasama Congratulatory Instrument Performance

APRIL

4/8 Tue WA Oahu Oyasama Congratulatory Instrument Performance
Oyasama Birthday Pilgrimage to Jiba
4/20 Sun BGA Oyasama's Birthday Activity

MAY

5/3 Sat All Tenrikyo Hinokishin Day
5/17 Sat WA, YMA, YWC Joint General Meeting
5/24-26 Fri-Sun YMA-YWC Special Olympics Hinokishin

JUNE

6/13-14 Fri-Sat BGA Mission HQ Sleepover
6/15-7/12 Hawaii Spiritual Development Course (One Month)

JULY

7/4 Fri 53rd Annual Tenrikyo Picnic
7/18-30 BGA Children's Pilgrimage to Jiba
TBA Lecture for Mothers

AUGUST

8/14-16 Thu-Sat Gagaku Workshop for Children
TBA 38th Annual Tenrikyo Bazaar

SEPTEMBER

TBA All Tenrikyo Nioigake Day

OCTOBER

10/18 Sat YMA Commemorative Gathering (In Jiba)
October Pilgrimage to Jijba
10/31 Fri BGA Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF

NOVEMBER

11/28-29 Fri-Sun BGA Band Camp
TBA Hawai'i Island District General Meeting
TBA Hawaii Translation Conference

DECEMBER

12/20 Sat YMA-YWC HUGS Charity Dinner Hinokishin
12/26-29 Fri-Mon Oyasato Seminar Course II

Tid Bits

Associations' Reports



BOYS & GIRLS ASSOCIATION

TRICK OR TREAT FOR UNICEF!

Due to the efforts and generosity of many people and kids, we have collect \$550 which will help UNICEF provide basic necessities to children in such countries as Bangladesh (recent cyclone disaster), Mogadishu (conflict), Mexico (flood disaster), Haiti (vaccination campaign). Thank you very much!

ALOHA BAND CAMP!

The band training camp which was originally scheduled during the Thanksgiving weekend from November 23-24 (Fri-Sat) for all band members and prospective members has been rescheduled for December 21-23.

Band camp will begin on Dec. 21 from 6:15 p.m., before the evening service at Dendocho. Camp will end on Dec. 23 at 11:30 a.m.. Camp fee is \$5.00 for the first child and 2nd child on is \$3.00 Age requirement is 8 and above.

There will be no pom pom practice at the camp. Contact Yasu at 382-4229 or Rumi at Dendocho. Please encourage your members' children, grand children, nieces, nephews and friends to participate in this unique activity open for ages from 7 years and up.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Every Sunday. 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th Sunday from 10 a.m.-12 noon, and third Sunday at 9 a.m.

ALOHA BAND PRACTICE!

Every third Sunday from 1:30 – 4 p.m.

Thank you all for your support!



YOUNG WOMEN'S CLUB

YWC Convention

Thank you very much to everyone who participated in the Young Women's Convention this year. All of your efforts made the convention a success.

YWC Volunteers for the HUGS Christmas Party

We are looking for volunteers for the HUGS Christmas party this year. This year they are expecting 450 to 500 guests that will be attending. The party will be held at the Tenri Cultural Center from approximately 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 15th. The Young Women's Club has been asked for help with the meal preparation and with the serving of the meal. If you are available to volunteer, please email Terri at terrim@servco.com.

YWC Planning

If you are interested in attending a YWC planning session for the up-coming year, please email Terri at terrim@servco.com. We have a tentative schedule set up but would like to go over scheduling any additional activities for 2008. The planning session will probably occur in late December.



WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

This year, we members of the Women's Association have taken the first step into the three years, one thousand day season, in anticipation of the 100th Anniversary of the Women's Association. In our guidelines for Association activities it states, "Let's inquire into the origin" and "Let's put our hearts into performing the service." Let us become awakened and come to firm realization of the desire of the Women's Association President, expressed in these two lines. With hearts of gratitude, let's work together in anticipation of finding our new beginning, in this last month of the year.

NUUANU HALE VISITATION

December 8 (Sat) 9:30 ~ 10:30

MONTHLY MEETING

December 10 (2nd Mon)
Meeting 9:00 ~ 10:00
Anecdotes of Oyasama 10:15 ~ 11:15
Ten Divine Providences 11:15 ~ 11:45

WOMEN'S MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS PRACTICE

December 11 (Tues) 9:00 ~ 10:30

TCC HINOKISHIN

December 15 (Sat) 9:00 ~ 11:00

WOMEN'S SUPPORT NETWORK

December 16 (Sun) after lunch following Mission HQ's Monthly Service

NEW YEAR'S PARTY

Celebrate the New Year with us on our January monthly meeting day, January 14. We will have enjoyable games for everyone to participate. The more the merrier! A participation fee of \$10 will be collected by Mrs. Satoe Kakitani or to Mrs. Shigemi Nakao by December 26th.

* December Mission HQ monthly service luncheon Hinokishin by North Honolulu group. Thank you!



YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION

HINOKISHIN

The H.U.G.S annual event at Tenri Cultural Center will be held on December 15th from 9am-10pm.

There will be three shifts:

Shift #1: 9am-12pm-table/chair/tent setup/shuttle bus

Shift #2 : 3-6pm-parking-attendant/dendocho preparations

Shift #3: 8:30pm-10pm-table/chair return/Dendocho preparations

Lunch and Dinner will be provided.

*December 16th will be the tent breakdown.

Kuakini Mochi pounding will be held on December 27th from 10-2 p.m. We will need a headcount as lunch will be provided.

MONTHLY MEETING

December 12th at 7 p.m. at Rainbow Hale. See you there!!



The Hungry Reporter

I've been making it an effort to eat a lot healthier and one advice I was given was to increase the vegetables, fruits, legumes and fish in my diet while cutting down on meats as much as possible. By all means, I do not follow that guideline as strictly as I should. I would starve at a monthly service lunch if I did. However, I told myself that I would rather watch what I ate most of the time so that I can occasionally deviate toward the (so called)

lesser healthy things some of the time. That works for me. This month I decided to share a nice stuffing recipe I saw on Vegetarian Times. Not the standard stuffing we normally enjoy, however I felt it would interest those with the flair for variety! I know you will enjoy this!

Cranberry-Pecan Brown Rice Stuffing

Ingredients

Brown Rice	1 Cup	Onion	2 Tbsp
Dried Cranberries	$\frac{1}{2}$ Cup	Poultry Seasoning	1 tsp
Dried Orange Peel	1 tsp	Toasted Pecans	$\frac{1}{2}$ Cup chopped
Vegetable Broth	$\frac{1}{2}$ Cup	Fresh Parsley	$\frac{1}{4}$ Cup chopped
Margarine	1 Tbsp	Salt & Pepper to taste	
Celery chopped	$\frac{1}{2}$ Cup		

Directions

1. Prepare brown rice according to package instructions.
2. In a medium microwave-safe bowl, mix cranberries and orange peel with vegetable broth and microwave on HIGH for 2 minutes. Set Aside.
3. Heat a large saucepan over high heat and add margarine. Stir in celery, onion and poultry seasoning and sauté 3 minutes. Stir in cranberries, orange peel, vegetable broth, pecans, parsley, rice and cook over medium heat for 3 more minutes or until all liquid is absorbed. Serves 8.

*To toast pecans: Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Place pecans on a small cookie sheet and bake for 5 minutes. Be careful not to burn pecans. Cool.

December 2007

1st Sat	Missionary House Monthly Service	TCC	10:00 a.m.
2nd Sun	BGA - Sunday School	Mission HQ	10:00 a.m.
4th Tue	Monthly Hinokishin Day	Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
8th Sat	Nuuanu Hale Visitation	Mission HQ	9:30 a.m.
9th Sun	BGA - Sunday School	Mission HQ	10:00 a.m.
10th Mon	WA - Monthly Meeting	Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
11th Tue	WA - Musical Instruments Practice	Mission HQ	9:30 a.m.
12th Wed	YMA Monthly Meeting	RH	7:00 p.m.
13th Thu	BGA Staff Meeting	RH	7:00 p.m.
14th Fri	Rev. Masahiko Iburi & Rev. Takaharu Ichise arrives (~19th)		
15th Sat	WA - TCC Hinokishin	TCC	9:00 a.m.
16th Sun	Mission HQ Monthly Service		9:00 a.m.
	WSN	Mission HQ	1:00 p.m.
	Aloha Band Practice	Mission HQ	1:30 p.m.
17th Mon	Nioigake Day	Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
21st Fri	BGA - Aloha Band Camp (~23rd)	Mission HQ	6:15 p.m.
26th Wed	Monthly Yohaishiki	Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
	Mission HQ Year-end clean-up (following Yohaishiki)		
	Oyasato Seminar Course II (~29th)		
27th Thu	Kuakini Mochi Pounding	Kuakini Hospital	9:00 a.m.
30th Sun	Mission HQ Mochi Pounding	Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.

January 2008

1st Tue	New Year's Service	Mission HQ	10:00 a.m.
5th Sat	Missionary House Monthly Service	TCC	10:00 a.m.

WA = Women's Association
 BGA = Boys & Girls Association
 YMA = Young Men's Association
 YWC = Young Women's Club

TSA = Tenrikyo Student Association
 RH = Rainbow Hale
 WSN = Women's Support Network
 TCC = Tenri Cultural Center

TENRIKYO MISSION HEADQUARTERS OF HAWAII
2920 Pali Highway
Honolulu, HI 96817
phone: (808) 595-6523 fax: (808) 595-7748
e-mail: origins@tenrikyo-hawaii.com
Tenrikyo homepage: <http://www.tenrikyo.or.jp>
Tenrikyo Online: <http://www.tenrikyo.or.jp/kaiden/newsletter/>
Hawaii Mission HQ Online: <http://www.tenrikyo-hawaii.com/news>

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Dendocho Year-End Schedule 2007

December 26 (Wednesday)	
Dendocho Year-End Clean-up	After Yohaishiki
December 27 (Thursday)	
Kuakini Hospital Mochi Pounding	11:00 a.m.
December 30 (Sunday)	
Dendocho Mochi Pounding	7:00 a.m.
January 1, 2008 (Tuesday)	
Dendocho New Year's Service	10:00 a.m.