

Origins

No. 284 April 2015



Boys and Girls Association Spring Camp (3/20 - 3/22)

Tenrikyo Mission Headquarters of Hawaii

Relay Essays by Bishop & Mrs. Yamanaka & Board of Directors

From this month, the first page of *Origins* is featuring relay essays by the bishop, his wife, and board of directors, who will share with us their seasonable thoughts and feelings, ideas on the teachings and faith, stories about their church or family members, reminiscences of their younger days, and so on. Please look forward to reading their unique essays!

Our Life of Faith

Bishop Shugo Yamanaka

Time certainly flies. Next month marks two full years since I came to Hawaii as the new bishop with my wife and our second-grader son.

It still seems like yesterday that we arrived at Hawaii Dendocho shortly before noon on Friday, May 10, two years ago, worshiped and gave greetings very nervously in the shinden, and received warm welcome from many members of the Congregation. Since then, we have made personal exchanges with a variety of members of the Congregation—young, old, women, and men—and thanks to everyone’s support, we have somehow managed to fulfill our duties and responsibilities as bishop and his wife. In the meanwhile, we had two wonderful occasions of receiving the Shinbashira’s visitation in a span of one year—Installation Service for the new bishop in June 2013 and Hawaii Dendocho 60th Anniversary Service in May 2014. Both occasions were met with great success because of the great efforts and dedications made by everyone in the Congregation. Thank you so much.

Approximately 20 years ago, when I married my wife who had been born and raised in Mexico, we fully expected that we would stay involved with overseas mission of Tenrikyo somehow. However, never did we expect to be living in Hawaii with our children 20 years later. Our son seems to have gotten used to his school life in Hawaii with his English comprehension improving much faster than initially anticipated. Our daughter, who had to be left alone in Tenri to finish high school, graduated in late February last year and came to join us in Hawaii. Though she had a few instances of homesickness for her friends in Japan, she has obtained her driver’s license and now lives in good spirit and health as a “part-time joshi-seinen.” As my wife and I were more concerned about our children than ourselves before coming to Hawaii, we now feel so grateful.

In our human life, we face a variety of things happening to and around us, through which we experience various emotions. It may be said generally, however, that for most ordinary people 80 or 90 percent of their ordinary human life consists of daily, weekly, or monthly repetitions of the same routines. I suppose that there are very few people, except for the extremely wealthy, who keep doing something new and different every day. I think it is the basis of our faith, or our daily life of faith, that we live each day with a sense of happiness, spiritedness, and joyousness in any moment even though we keep repeating the same things.

Of course, it is also important that when something special has occurred we pray to God the Parent to show our gratitude if it’s favorable or ask for blessings if unfavorable. However, faith is not something

which we occasionally remember having when something special—bad or good—happens, but it should lie in our daily and constant attitude of perceiving the workings of God the Parent, trusting in the guidance of the everliving Oyasama, and thus living each moment with a mind of gratitude and joy. I think that it is referred to as “life of faith” precisely because our daily life should be rooted in our faith as such or our faith should be intertwined with our daily life. Accumulation of our daily life of faith as such shall lead us to a mind aspiring to sprinkle the fragrance of the teachings and engage in salvation work.

Those who are acceptable in the eyes of the Parent
will grow only more spirited step by step and day by day. (Ofudesaki XV:66)

March Monthly Service Prayer

Appearing before You, God the Parent, Tenri-O-no-Mikoto, I (Shugo Yamanaka) Bishop of the Mission Headquarters of Hawaii speak with reverence on behalf of the Hawaii congregation.

God the Parent, You revealed Yourself to this world by receiving Oyasama as the Shrine and taught us the truth of all things, guiding us on the path toward the Joyous Life. We are living in joy and high spirits as we feel Your blessings each and every day. At the same time, we are putting forth our efforts to grow spiritually to accord with the intention of God the Parent. Today is the day we are granted to conduct the March Monthly Service at this mission headquarters. We the service performers will unite our hearts as one to perform the Seated Service and the Dance with Hand Movements joyously. We will be joined by brothers and sisters of the Path in Hawaii who have looked forward to this day and have gathered here today, in singing the Songs for the Service in unison and high spirits. As You watch us, we hope You will be spirited as well.

The Boys & Girls Association Spring Camp will be held from the 20th until the 22nd of this month with the General Meeting scheduled on the 21st. All the staff will firmly engage in conveying the joy of having faith in God the Parent and Oyasama as well as the importance of performing the service to the children who will be carrying the Path on their shoulders, so that the Path in Hawaii may continue for endless generations. Also on the 27th, we will conduct the Spring Memorial Service, where we will recall our predecessors' dedication to the Path and their accomplishments, so that we can strive to keep their legacy alive by carrying out their hopes and intentions for our Path.

Together we vow to accord with the intention of God the Parent, whose desire is for all humankind to live the Joyous Life, and as instruments of Oyasama we will walk firmly on the path of single-hearted salvation and single-heartedness with God here in Hawaii. Especially with the 130th Anniversary of Oyasama just ten months away, each and every one of us is firmly determined to make decisive efforts to grow spiritually so as to bring about concrete actions and results befitting this important season of the final year of our pre-anniversary activities. May You, God the Parent, accept our sincerity, and we ask that You guide us further towards the advancement of the Path in Hawaii and the reconstruction of the world into a Joyous Life World where everyone will live together in harmony helping and caring for one another even a day sooner. Together with all present, I sincerely pray that You bless us so.

Mission HQ March Monthly Service Sermon

Rev. Yasutsugu Miyauchi Head Minister of Asakusa Hawaii Church

We have just completed the March monthly service at Mission Headquarters of Hawaii in high spirits. As I have been assigned to deliver this month's sermon, I ask for your kind attention for a short while.

Time passes by very quickly and it is already March of the 178th year of Tenrikyo. This year is the final year of the pre-anniversary activities towards the 130th Anniversary of Oyasama. We have ten months left and I am sure that you are doing your utmost each day of what you resolved towards Oyasama's Anniversary. Although I am inadequate, I have been making my efforts in the hopes that it will make Oyasama happy even a little more so that I may be able to observe the 130th Anniversary of Oyasama with gratitude and joy.

This anniversary of Oyasama will be my fourth one since coming to Hawaii. I am sure that for many of you, you experienced many things in your faith and life with each anniversary. The reason I came to Hawaii in the first place was because of Oyasama's anniversary. In 1981, five years prior to the 100th Anniversary of Oyasama, if I recall correctly, the pre-anniversary were beginning to be carried out, such as the announcement of the Instruction and so forth. My father who was the head minister at that time had given instructions on what his children and family needed to do towards the 100th Anniversary of Oyasama. I have an older sister, older brother and younger sister. My father, the



head minister, started with the oldest. Until my turn came, I thought to myself, "What is he going to tell me to do? Will he say to work at Church Headquarters, or to go to a missionary house?" When my turn came he said, "I want you to go to Hawaii and work as a seinen, a live-in staff at the Mission Headquarters of Hawaii for five years until the 100th Anniversary." In those days it wasn't easy to come to Hawaii and besides I had no interest about overseas so I asked him to give me some time to think about this. A few days later, I told my father that I would go for three years. Then he answered, if you are going, it has to be for five years. Since it was prior to the 100th Anniversary, it was a special season, so I thought I should obediently listen to what the parent says and made my decision to come to Hawaii. The term was for five years, but I am still here to this day.

Since then over thirty years have passed and next year will be the 130th Anniversary of Oyasama and I will be observing the fourth anniversary since I came to Hawaii. I came to realize that my eldest son is also

working as a seinen, a live-in staff here at Mission Headquarters of Hawaii during the pre-anniversary season and I cannot help but feel a sense of awe and gratitude.

Oyasama's anniversaries are observed every ten years and to us followers we are taught that this is our milestone for our spiritual growth. Therefore the effort we put into growing spiritually; the effort put in during this season and to have Oyasama see your efforts and bringing Her joy is important. God the Parent, the Parent of all humankind, desires us to make the effort to understand the parent's intention and by the deep parental heart guides us and nurtures us by showing us various things during this season. When each of us is able to cleanse the mind, then we will have the mind that can savor the joyous life which is the purpose of human creation. God the Parent is waiting for this day to come even a day sooner.

In the Ofudesaki it says,

I wait patiently for My children to awaken to the truth. There is nothing else in the thoughts of God. IV:65

As written, God the Parent is patiently waiting for us to spiritually grow.

About five years ago, I attended the Course for Head Minister Candidates in Jiba which is necessary to become a head minister. At that time, the instructor said the following,

“The salvation God the Parent is saying means the salvation of the mind. To save one's mind is to replace one's mind. From what mind are we replacing it to? It is from a mind that cannot savor the joyous life to

a mind that savors the joyous life. The fifty years of Oyasama's Divine Model teaches us how to have the mind of the joyous life.”

It is because we have learned of the teachings of Oyasama that each time we become ill or faced with a problem, we are able to accept it as a message from God who is guiding us to have the mind that can live the joyous life. Through a knot we become aware of our habits, character and our *innen* or causality. Using the guide of Oyasama's Divine Model we can replace our mind each day and endeavor to have a mind that savors the joyous life. I believe that we should be very grateful to know of the parents sincere intentions. In the Ofudesaki it is written,

The reason Tsukihi began human beings was the desire to see you lead a joyous life. XIV:25

In Chapter Ten of the Doctrine of Tenrikyo, the “Joyous Life,” it is written,

God the Parent created human beings to see the Joyous Life of humankind and, thus, to share in that joy. To bring this intent of God the Parent into realization is the significance of human life and the ultimate goal of humankind.

However long you may continue to believe, Your life shall ever be filled with joy. Mikagura-uta V:5

A bright and spirited mind is a joyous mind. By living each day with this joyous mind, we shall find true happiness and

shall feel that life is indeed worth living.

Although we followers say this and hear this often, in the course of our busy daily lives we often forget the deep parental heart in these words and apt to become upset or complain about one another. God the Parent tells us to live the joyous life, however, it is not so easy to live in the state of the joyous life and I find myself repenting and pledging to make the effort each day.

Presently I am doing salvation work on a person who had a heart ailment. In the beginning I was visiting her at her home to administer the sazukey. However, due to multiple strokes she would be hospitalized. She is currently living in a rehab care facility. She hasn't had any strokes for a while now, but she is unable to walk on her own due to the after effects of the strokes and receives therapy at the facility. It has already been three years since I first met her. From about a year ago, she began to tell me about herself. When her condition is not well, I have difficulty understanding her English, so I started to bring my wife with me and presently we visit her together. As we listen to her we came to understand that she has deep rooted problems in her life and does not have contact with her family. So sometimes we bring our boys with us and she happily introduces us to everyone around her telling them that we are her family. Through this person, we are able to do salvation work as a family.

A famous minister often said, "To save is to be saved." What is meant by to save is to be saved is that by praying for the salvation

of others, the sincere efforts to have someone be saved even a little, is the true sincerity that God the Parent accepts and will provide us the blessings for us to become happy. Through the salvation work of this person, we became aware that rather to be grateful that we are able to use each day the healthy bodies that are loan to us; instead, because we have been drawn to this path and through the teachings of Oyasama that we are the ones that are being saved and for this I am so grateful and filled with joy.

As I mentioned earlier, we have ten months left to Oyasama's anniversary. The anniversaries of Oyasama are the season for spiritual growth and we often hear that it is the season to be saved. For this anniversary, the Shinbashira has urged all yoboku's to engage in salvation work and is hoping that each of us is responding to the parental heart of Oyasama who has been urging for our spiritual growth. In this year's Spring Grand Service, the Shinbashira said in his sermon, "Some feel it is too late to start engaging in pre-anniversary activities; however it is never too late. If you see that there is one more year to go, then you have many things you can do during that one year." The Shinbashira is urging us to the last moment to carry out our activities. We still have ten more months till the anniversary. Let us continue to keep in mind to engage in spreading the teachings and salvation work by doing whatever we can and especially what only we can do so that we can bring joy to Oyasama by showing Her our spiritual growth and observe the 130th Anniversary of Oyasama on January 26 of next year.

Island News & Mission HQ Announcements

Boys and Girls Association Spring Camp & General Meeting

Over 50 children, leaders and counselors participated in the Annual Boys and Girls Spring Camp and the 40th General Meeting from March 20 through 22. Three fun days of games, narimono practice, group talent show and traditional marshmallow toasting at the evening camp fire and a beautiful day of hiking at Makapuu Trail on Sunday capped off this year's event. At the 40th BGA General Meeting on Saturday, a special tribute was given to outgoing BGA Chairman Rev. Owen Nakao who delivered his farewell remarks after serving 10 years in leading and nurturing Hawaii's youngest members. Rev. Audrey Suga-Nakagawa of Tenrikyo Lanai Church has been appointed to succeed him as the new chairperson. Mahalo to Rev. Nakao for his many years of dedication and commitment. Also a warm thank you to Bishop and Mrs. Yamanaka, BGA and Dendocho staff, parents, churches, and the many volunteers including the Young Men's Association, the Young Women's Club, and Tenrikyo Student Association who assisted with the camp preparation, activities, meals, and transportation. The camp was a great success due to everyone's efforts and support.



Women's Association Big Island Oyasama's Birthday Gathering

On March 29th, the Women's Association Big Island Chapter conducted their annual gathering to celebrate Oyasama's 217th birthday. About 30 members of the Big Island Chapter gathered at Kakaako Church including Mrs. Sachie Yamanaka with two representatives from Oahu.



Tid Bits

Associations' Reports

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

Hawaii is getting warmer and Oyasama's birthday is just around the corner. Oyasama's Birthday Gathering will be held on 7th of this month. Whether you are assigned to play a musical instrument or not, let us sing The Songs for the Service which Oyasama loves and pray for world peace.

Bazaar Sewing Hinokishin

Every Wednesday 9:00am - 12:00pm
At West House

WA Monthly Meeting

April 6th (Mon) 9:00 a.m.

*Narimono Practice will be held after the meeting.

WA Oyasama's Birthday Gathering

April 7th (Tue) 7:00 p.m.

*Donation: \$3 Please wear happi coat and white socks.

*Dendocho April Monthly Service will be conducted on Saturday, 11th.

*Please bring canned food donation to Dendocho by Saturday, 11th.

*The April Monthly Service luncheon hinokishin is assigned to Hofu group.

Tenrikyo Women's Association 97th Annual General Meeting

Sunday, April 19, 2015 at 9:30 a.m.

Tenrikyo Church Headquarters
Inner Courtyard

BOYS & GIRLS ASSOCIATION

Message from Incoming BGA Chairperson— Audrey Suga-Nakagawa

Greetings and a warmest aloha! I am most honored and humbled to be appointed as the new chairperson of the Tenrikyo Hawaii Boys and Girls Association. It is a major responsibility to lead the next generation of Tenrikyo followers and I appreciate the opportunity to serve in this capacity. We hope to continue to encourage more children to participate in the many BGA activities throughout the year. Through BGA, they can learn more about the Tenrikyo teachings while making new friends and building lasting relationships. As we approach the 130th anniversary of Oyasama, let us embrace the association's headquarters guideline:

“Let us have parents and children familiarize themselves with Oyasama's Divine Model and develop the habit of implementing the teachings”.

Also we shall strive toward the goals for the association's activities:

- 1) Conduct church sleepover and encourage parent and child visits to churches
- 2) Encourage parents and children to participate in hinokishin activities in districts
- 3) Carry out association activities intended to nurture middle school students.

On behalf of the BGA members, parents and staff, I want to express again our deepest appreciation to Rev. Owen Nakao for his long years of service, unwavering devotion to the

Tenrikyo teachings and leading by example of living a joyous life. I welcome the challenge to continue building this path for our young members and ask for your continuous support and guidance.

Oyasama's Birthday Celebration

Please join us for the Foundress' birthday celebration on Sunday, April 19th at 9:30 a.m. at the Mission Headquarters. A short storytelling of the Foundress' life, fun games, and a light pizza lunch and cake will be part of the festivity. Let's wish the Foundress a very Happy Birthday.

Children's Pilgrimage Summer 2015

The Children's Pilgrimage date is set for July 24-30, 2015. Check in at 38th Moya is on 7/24, 4pm and check out is 7/30 at 9am for general group and 10:30 for Shohi (Boys & Girls Hinokishin Corps). Airfare assistance is available for those participating in Shohi.

Flight reservations can be done on your own or through Panda Travel. Groups of five or more can book airport bus transfer with the Overseas Department. Children's Pilgrimage applications are available at MHQ or contact Rev. Audrey Suga-Nakagawa at 836-3333 or email: audsn@hawaii.rr.com for an application by email.

YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION

Aloha YMA members! Thank you to everyone for all your support and hinokishin efforts towards the BGA Spring Camp and 40th General Meeting. I must say that the camp fire

was yet another success, and the children were in awe and amazement of the size and intensity of the fire. We continue our monthly activities of kamina-nagashi each month following the Dendocho monthly service, and the Life of Oyasama study sessions on the last Friday of each month. Remember that Dendocho monthly service is on the 2nd Saturday in April (4/11), and the next study session will be held on Friday, April 24th, 6:30pm at Dendocho.

Join us for our monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 15th from 7:30pm at Rainbow Hale for service practice, faith enrichment, event planning, and fellowship. We will be planning our annual General Meeting which will be held on Saturday, May 16th. Hinokishin With A Smile!

STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

We had successfully finished the 40th boys and girls association camp, and I would like to thank everyone who came out to help. Every person from the leaders to the night watch volunteers were a great help. The camp would not be possible without you. We would also like to welcome new members that had graduated from BGA this year. Whom are Kristi Yamamoto, Alyssa Higaki, and Scharlie Hamada. They are now officially a part of TSA and will be working with us. TSA will continue to have our monthly sleep over at Dendocho the night before monthly service so please feel free to come out on Friday April 10th @ 6:30p. Once again thank you for everyone's support given to TSA, mahalo!



The Hungry Reporter

There is a new line of seasoned broth from Swanson that is so flavorful and makes it easy to create an amazing soup in minutes! Thai coconut soup was a favorite that used to take a good sized list of specific Asian ingredients but now you can pick up a carton of broth, coconut milk, a few produce items and a rotisserie chicken and the soup is on in Ten Minutes! This is so good! Enjoy!

Ten Minute Thai Chicken Soup

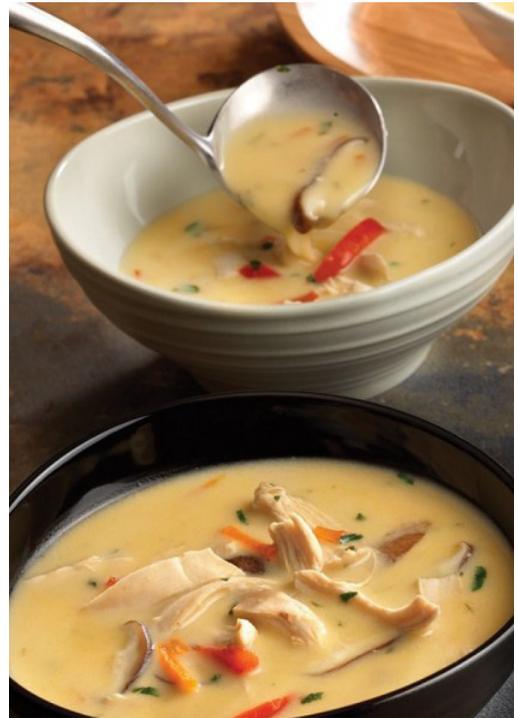
Ingredients:

2 tsp Vegetable or Peanut Oil
1 medium Red Bell Pepper, cut into thin strips
1 cup sliced Shitake, Crimini or White Mushrooms
32 oz (1 carton) Swanson Thai Ginger Broth
3 cups shredded Rotisserie Chicken
14 oz (1 can) Unsweetened Lite Coconut Milk
Juice of one Lime
Chopped Chinese Parsely

Directions:

1. Sauté the sweet bell pepper and mushrooms in the oil in a large saucepan for 2 to 4 minutes until crisp tender.
2. Add the broth and coconut milk and heat to a boil.
3. Reduce the heat to medium, add the chicken and simmer until the mixture is hot and bubbling, 3 to 5 minutes.
4. Stir in the lime juice and cilantro just before serving.

Prep time: 5 mins Cook time: 10 mins Total time: 15 mins
Serves: Serves 4



April Calendar 2015

4 th	Sat	Adopt A Hwy Cleanup Hinokishin	Meet @ Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
6 th	Mon	WA Monthly Meeting	Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
		TCC Monthly Service	TCC	1:00 p.m.
7 th	Tue	WA Oyasama's Birthday Gathering	Mission HQ	7:00 p.m.
9 th	Thu	BGA Meeting	Rainbow Hale	7:30 p.m.
11 th	Sat	Mission HQ Monthly Service	Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
		Sunday School	Rainbow Hale	AfterYorozuyo
		Aloha Band Practice	Mission HQ	1:30 p.m.
13 th	Mon	Monthly Nioigake Day	Meet @ Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
		TCC & Bunko Joint Comm. Meeting	TCC	7:30 p.m.
14 th	Tue	Community Hinokishin Day	Meet @ Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
		Mrs. Sachie Yamanaka to return to Japan		
		Nurturing Comm. Meeting	Mission HQ	7:30 p.m.
15 th	Wed	YMA Meeting	Rainbow Hale	7:30 p.m.
19 th	Sun	BGA Oyasama's Birthday Activity	Mission HQ	9:30 a.m.
23 rd	Thu	Bishop Shugo Yamanaka to return to Japan		
		Mrs. Sachie Yamanaka to return to Hawaii		
24 th	Fri	YMA The Life of Oyasama Study Session	Mission HQ	6:30 p.m.
26 th	Sun	Yohaishiki (26th day service)	Mission HQ	9:00 a.m.
		Hand Dance and Musical Instrument Practice		AfterYohaishiki
30 th	Thu	Bishop Shugo Yamanaka to return to Hawaii		

Welcome Party for Overseas Followers (Kisansha no Yube)

Date & Time: Sunday, April 20, 2015 from 5:00pm

Place: Church Headquarters Dining Hall Three (Daisan Shokudo)

Donation: 1,000 yen (Free for 12 years old or under)

*Please apply to the General Affairs Section of Overseas Department through your directly supervised church by April 13.

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Hawaii Spiritual Development Course

Dates: June 21 (Sun) to July 16 (Thu) 2015

Course information:

Classes in *The Doctrine of Tenrikyo*, *The Life of Oyasama*, the Mikagura-uta, faith experiences speeches, and the dance and musical instruments for the service. Students will engage in *hinokishin* activities which provide them with precious opportunities to savor the joy of faith with their whole being.

Age requirement: 17 or older

*Please apply at the Mission HQ office by June 14 (Sun)

*Please ask Mission HQ for more information.