

August Monthly Service

Good morning, everyone! Happy Sunday in this new week of Kami's blessings. Thank you very much for attending our monthly service for August, 2025. I hope you are all in good health & excellent spirits on this wonderful summer morning.

In today's service, we also include prayers for students to improve themselves in all aspects of their academic achievement. Our founder prayed for young people to have good health & education. He has said,

*Young people should work hard, become smart and
be able to remember well what they have learned.*

Young people are treasures of the world. It is vitally important for the upcoming generation to do their best to perfect themselves physically, mentally & spiritually in order to be of great service to the world.

Some time ago I received this message from Kami:

**To you, young people!
Your true way to happiness
is found in this faith.
Come and learn it faithfully.
Become the light of the world!**

Since then, I have offered this prayer in my mind to Kami as often as possible and during every prayer service.

Once they have been introduced to the Konko Faith, I truly feel young Americans want to know more about it. There are many religions in the world. Among them, they sense some important message in our faith. We should be ready for them however they want to contact us, whether it be email or another way, like phone-calls or visits. I want to do anything I can to show them what I know about our faith and what I have experienced about Tenchi Kane No Kami & how Kami functions.

I hope as many young people as possible sincerely learn our faith and become a light to the world, because the way to real happiness can be found in the Konko Faith.

In 1873, Kami revealed the *Divine Reminder* to our founder, Ikigami Konko Daijin. It has the essentials of the Konko Faith, showing the way to real human happiness while communicating with Kami. It is simple, clear-cut and divine blessings do follow.

Since my family moved to Chicago in 1997 for propagating this faith, I have had the earnest wish to prove that opening the way of *this* faith depends upon **my peaceful joyful heart**; as is said in the *Divine Reminder*, *Kami's blessings begin within one's grateful and caring heart, a heart in harmony and joy*. And since then, I have tried to take away each of the ways of my life that rely on my own strength, and to deepen the peace & joy in my heart through every happening in daily life. By doing so, and trying as if I could attain it, I have received divine blessings more than I expected, even though I somehow failed to deepen the peace & joy in my heart.

How marvelous Kami's workings are! During those years, KC Chicago was established in 2009, and gradually influenced many people around us. Since then, I offer a sacred Ceremony Prayer every other year for Memorial Day Services for the Chicago Japanese-American Community. And our church has been recognized as an important religious organization of the city. Recently on Aug. 3, my wife and I joined the Japanese-American Community picnic. Sitting in the shade of the trees we enjoyed fresh air, talking with old friends and eating delicious dishes & sweets.

I now am strongly convinced that this faith surely shall be opened by realizing two important points:

1. I have no power, no ability and no talent
2. The greatness of the peaceful joyful heart

Now, I am so grateful that I can just earnestly focus on looking into my own heart without any sense of having to do something. I am dedicated to deepening my **Waga heart** during the moment-to-moment events of life.

I sincerely hope that my **Waga heart** will become a shining light, and that I can be of great service for gradually embracing the whole world with a **Waga heart** and help to establish *Wagakokoro era* in this world.

Thank you!