



Bishop Hokai Takada
1921 - 1924



Bishop Taido Kitagawa
1924 - 1933

1922-1931

The 1920s saw the blossoming into full flower of the mission's Fujin-kai or Women's Association. What had started out as a small group of volunteers providing refreshments for Shomieku and Obon rituals grew into something far greater through the active encouragement of Bishop Kitagawa and the dedicated leadership of Mrs. Koko Furusawa. The group's successful fundraising for victims of the Great Earthquake of 1923 so impressed Bishop Kitagawa that he made nurturing the group and expanding its membership a major priority. A regular cooking class he introduced to the mission in 1925 was very popular with its growing number of homemakers, and the emphasis Bishop Kitagawa placed on associating mission services with various entertainments like dance performances resulted in turnouts of as many as 1,000 people. Such events provided a great opportunity for

the Fujin-kai to recruit new members and to increasingly integrate the association's work into the overall mission and daily life of the Daishi Kyokai.

It has been said that the warm welcome provided by the Fujin-kai to sailors of the Japanese Imperial Navy visiting Los Angeles on training and trade missions remains one of the most noteworthy services provided by the Daishi Kyokai. In some circles the mission became known during this period as "the sailor's temple" and the Fujin-kai as "sailor's aunties". Meals, sightseeing, and a general "home away from home" were offered to sailors without relatives in the area. Both Japanese and Japanese-Americans held the Imperial Navy in high esteem and the Fujin-kai's generous hospitality was deeply appreciated by both groups. The result was a deepening of the mission's connections to countrymen on both sides of the Pacific, a dramatic increase in membership in the Fujin-kai, and further growth for the mission as a whole.

1923

- The Fujin-kai launches a fundraising campaign for the relief of victims of the Great Kanto Earthquake disaster.

1925

- First series of cooking classes (Japanese and Western) is held.



1922-1931



1924

- First Sunday school service is conducted by Reverend Ryohan Takagi.
- Reverend Taido Kitagawa succeeds Reverend Hokai Takada.

1926

- In San Pedro, the Fujin-kai welcomes sailors of the Japanese Imperial Navy, providing refreshments.

1931

- Reverend Seytsu Takahashi arrives in San Pedro.

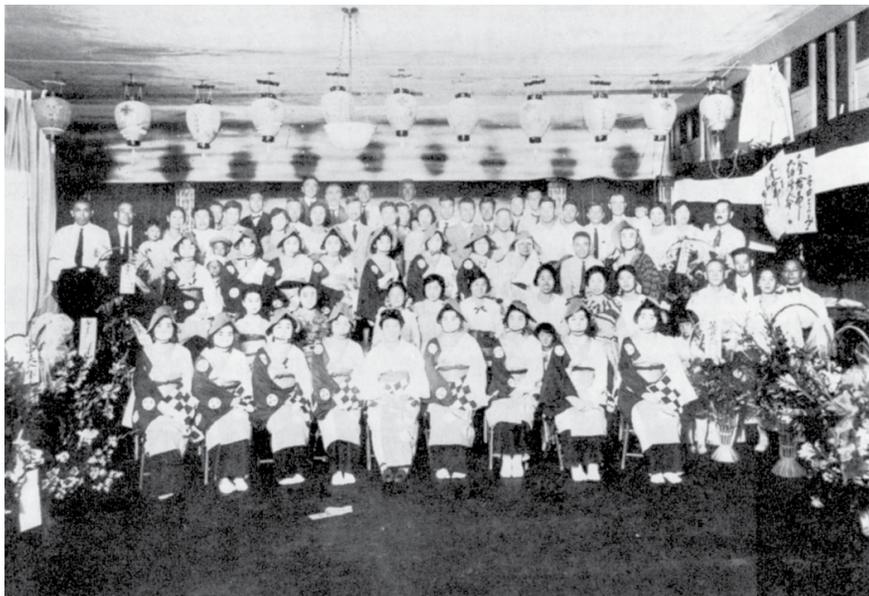


1931

- Koyasan Boy Scout Troop 79 (later renamed 379) is organized with Bishop Taido Kitagawa serving as chaplain.

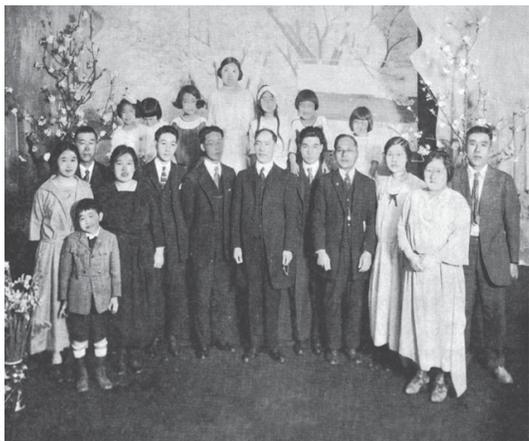
1922 1923 1924 1925 1926 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931

Obon Odori - July 30, 1922



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

Members gather for the Obon Odori and the Obon Segaki Service at the Daishi Kyokai on Central Avenue in the summer of 1922.



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

Daishi Kyokai Sunday School Meeting - April 27, 1924

Bishop Hokai Takada (center) holding an ojuzu. Standing to his right is Reverend Taido Kitagawa.

One-Year Memorial Service for Victims of the Great Kanto Earthquake - September 1, 1924



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

Members gather to mourn for the victims of the Great Kanto earthquake at the Daishi Kyokai.

Cooking Class - October 1925



COURTESY OF TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

Bishop Taido Kitagawa plans a cooking class program every Friday afternoon to further develop the Fujin-kai.



Sachiko Furusawa -
1920's

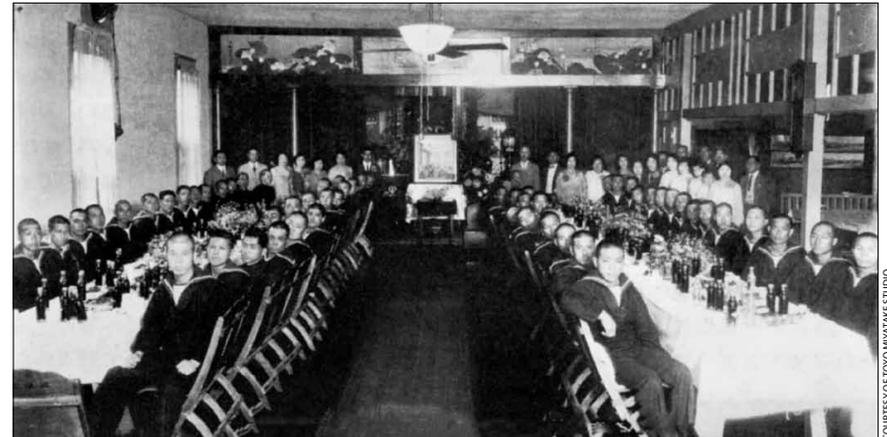
Married in 1913, Sachiko Furusawa, whose correct name is Koko, is pictured here with her husband, Dr. Takashi Furusawa. Seen below in their home on Weller Street, Mrs. Furusawa was the founder and the first Fujin-kai president.



Fujin-kai Welcomes Sailors of the Imperial Japanese Navy - August 9, 1926



The crew of Special Service Vessel, Jin'i, gathers in front of the Daishi Kyokai with members of the Fujin-kai.



In the middle is an oil painting that is donated to the Daishi Kyokai by the crew of Jin'i. The painting is said to depict a naval review by the Meiji Emperor.

Shomieku - March 18, 1928



It is believed that this photo was taken as the congregation gathered for the preparation of the Shomieku

service in March of 1928.

COURTESY OF TOYO MIYAKE STUDIO