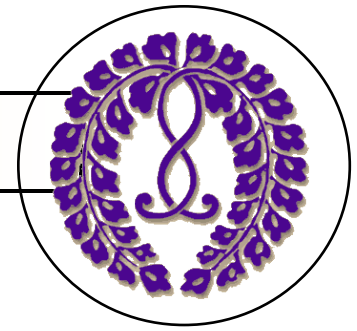


REEDLEY BUDDHIST CHURCH

P.O. BOX 24 ~ 2035 15TH ST., REEDLEY, CALIFORNIA 93654
 PHONE & FAX (559) 638-2146
<http://reedleybc.org>



April Calendar



6	Hanamido Construction	2:00 pm
7	Hanamatsuri Service & Luncheon	10:00 am
14	April Shotsuki Memorial Service & Family Dharma Service	10:00 am
18	Reedley BC Board Meeting	7:00 pm
20	Naito/Kobayashi Use of Kitchen & Social Hall	all day
May 4	Dharma School Beach Outing to Avila Beach	10:30 am
May 4	George Tsuji—Use of Conference Room	all day

Dharma School Beach Outing to Avila Beach



Saturday, May 4, 2024
 10:30 AM

The Reedley Dharma School will be hosting their annual beach outing to Avila Beach on Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 10:30 AM. Please see the flyer on page 7 for details. Please contact Melanie Sakata, Stacy Ramos, or Kimiko Hojilla.

Welcome

Welcome new Reedley Buddhist Church members!



Mrs. Ellen (Otani) Kato
 Mr. Philip Nishida
 Mr. Alan Kubota
 Ms. Phylis Nishida

APRIL TOBAN:

Church Toban: Sakata & Donaldson

BWA: Group 3: Joy Donaldson & Diane Kubota



HANAMATSURI SERVICE



Sunday, April 7, 2024
 10:00 AM

Lunch will be served following the service

April (Shotsuki) Memorial Service & Family Dharma Service

Sunday, April 14, 2024
 10:00 AM

Refreshments served following service.



FLOWERS FOR HANAMIDO

We are in need of flowers for the hanamido for Hanamatsuri. If you grow flowers or if you go to the grocery store, perhaps purchase and donate a few bunches!

Bring flowers on April 6, 2024 between 1:00 - 2:00 PM to the conference room. Construction will begin at 2:00 PM. Thanks!

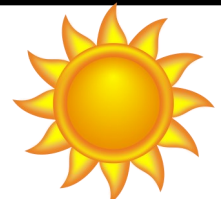
2024 Camp Dharma at Keola



Information is available on page 8 & 9! We can't wait to hear from all of you! We need to guarantee at least 60 campers! Won't you please let us know if you're coming??? WE HOPE YOU CAN COME!

Summer Bento 2024 June 22, 2024

See details on page 3



In Sympathy



Our deepest sympathy to the family of Mrs. Masako Kobayashi, mother of Robert (Bobby) Kobayashi, who passed away on March 2, 2024 at the age of 96.



Church Acknowledges Dana

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kobayashi
In Memory of Mrs. Masako Kobayashi \$100.00

Ms. Kathleen Kubo
In Memory of Mrs. Masako Kobayashi 50.00

March (Shotsuki) Memorial Service

Mrs. Kagumi Persall
In Memory of Nagiko Konishi & Sandra Konishi 125.00

Mrs. Joy Donaldson
In Memory of Joe Fujii & Clara Fujii 100.00

Mrs. Lynn Kurumaji
In Memory of Gunzo Miyamoto, Chiyono Miyamoto, Shigeku Nakata, James Miyamoto, Chohei Morita, Jiro Morita, & Rui Takeuchi 100.00

Mr. & Mrs. Dale Okamura
In Memory of Baby Okamura 100.00

Mr. & Mrs. Dale Okamura
In Memory of Yoshimi Takasugi 100.00

Ms. Lois Yamakoshi
In Memory of Helen Yamakoshi 100.00

Ms. Shizuko Taguchi
In Memory of Nobuko Taguchi, John Taguchi, Akiko Taguchi, & Michiko Taguchi 80.00

Mr. Stanley Hirahara
In Memory of Shigeo Hirahara & Phoebe Hirahara 50.00

Mrs. Chizuko Iwasaki
In Memory of Kiyoko Nishida 50.00

Mrs. Sue Kawamoto
In Memory of Miyo Yamasaki, Miyeko Kamikawa, & Haruye Nakata 50.00

Mr. & Mrs. Hideki Otani
In Memory of Ura Otani 50.00

Mrs. Hiroko Shimozono
In Memory of Itaro Nakata & Tsurue Nakata 50.00

The Family of Masato & Miyoko Kunishige
In Memory of Miyoko Kunishige 30.00

Mr. & Mrs. Albert Quiroz & Family
In Memory of Ken Sugai 30.00

Mr. & Mrs. Gary Sakata
In Memory of Mitsuko Togioka, Hiroshi Togioka, & Jisaburo Kawasaki 30.00

The Masumoto Family
In Memory of Fumiko Faye Masumoto 25.00

Mr. & Mrs. Chad Doi & Family
In Memory of Ken Sugai 25.00

Asami/Garrigus Families
In Memory of Yoneichi Asami 25.00

Continued in next column

March (Shotsuki) Memorial Service Cont:

Ms. Alisha Hirahara & Family
In Memory of Shigeo Hirahara & Phoebe Hirahara \$ 25.00

Mr. Alan Kubota
In Memory of Fumiko Kubo 25.00

Mr. & Mrs. Ben Nobuhiro
In Memory of Toyo Shiine 25.00

Ms. Priscilla Kehoe
In Memory of Ura Otani 20.00

Ms. Priscilla Kehoe
In Memory of Marian Togioka, Hiroshi Togioka, & Mitsuko Togioka 20.00

Mr. & Mrs. Larry Nishida
In Memory of Yasuye Nishida & Kono Kishi 20.00

Mrs. Nancy Sakata
In Memory of Hiroshi Togioka & Mitsuko Togioka 20.00

February (Shotsuki) Memorial Service

Mrs. Darlene Hashimoto
In Memory of Masato Sam Sakamoto 50.00

Mr. & Mrs. Chad Doi & Family
In Memory of Tomojiro Sugai, Tome Sugai, & Todd Sugai 25.00

April (Shotsuki) Memorial Service

Mr. & Mrs. John Nishio
In Memory of Elsie Morita 50.00

Ms. Tracy Sunamoto
In Memory of Kimiko Shiine & Hideo Shiine 50.00

May (Shotsuki) Memorial Service

Mrs. Shiz Kunishige
In Memory of Toshi Hashimoto 30.00

June Memorial Service

Mrs. Darlene Hashimoto
In Memory of Yukio Sakamoto & Ayako Emily Sakamoto 100.00

September (Shotsuki) Memorial Service

Mrs. Darlene Hashimoto
In Memory of Hideo Sakamoto 50.00



HANAMATSURI SERVICE & LUNCHEON



Sunday, April 7, 2024

10:00 AM



Reedley Buddhist Church Summer Bento 2024

Saturday, June 22, 2024

3:00 - 6:00 PM

\$20.00 pre-sale only

(A limited number of dinners available)



Teriyaki Beefsticks, Boneless Teriyaki Chicken, Chinese Chicken Salad, A-ge Somen, & Rice
Pastries & Country Store Items for Sale!

Deadline: Saturday, June 1, 2024

Send to: Reedley Buddhist Church - P.O. Box 24, Reedley, CA 93654

(cut and return the bottom portion)

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email or cell phone text (for receipt confirmation): _____

Summer Bento Dinner: _____ x \$20.00 Total Enclosed: _____

Make checks payable to: REEDLEY BUDDHIST CHURCH

Questions: Call Vickie Nishida at (559)903-0317 or email: vlnishida1@gmail.com

or email Karen Sakata at: kgsakata@verizon.net

It's too hot to cook! Let us do it for you!



Message from Rev. Nakata

Who is Monshu?

Hello to all Central California Nishi Hongwanji Sangha friends!



I wish to express my appreciation to the Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Women's Association for their financial support in acquiring a set of new Rimban robes, and also to the Clovis Buddhist Church for their financial support in acquiring the new Betsuin Associate minister's robe for Rev. Majima to use. Rev. Majima and I sincerely appreciate your continual support to the CC temples, and churches.

*A proper spelling of the Rinban is Rimban, so it is changed accordingly.

I introduced "What is a Betsuin" in the previous issue of our newsletters and I hope now you have a better understanding on what a Betsuin is. In this issue I would like to write about "Who is Monshu" with my buddy Kanamochi. Monshu literally means a main person - **shu** of the lineage - **mon**.

'Hi Kanamochi, where are you?'

"I am here, Rev. Kaz. I would like to know who is Monshu."

'Ok, Kanamochi. Have you noticed a portrait, hanging next to the Onaijin-altar in the Hondo?'

"Yes, I have. All CC churches has a framed portrait of the same person, except the Fresno Betsuin!"

'Great, you mindfully observe what is in the Hondo. And you are correct that the portrait has not been hung since moving from the old temple downtown. However, the portrait was placed last month when I was appointed interim Rimban. Now you can see it on the right side of their Onaijin next Sunday.'

"I see it is the portrait of young gentleman wearing an orange Robe. But I don't know who he is."

'He is the 26th Monshu of the Nishi Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, our mother Buddhist temple in Kyoto Japan.'

"Wow, 26th Monshu means there were 25 different Monshu(s) before him, right? It is a quite long time."

'Yes, correct Kanamochi. Nishi Hongwanji celebrated the 800th year anniversary of its founding last year. The Fresno Betsuin was one of the first temples founded in the Central Cal in 1901 and they will be celebrating its 125th year anniversary in 2026. The Nishi Hongwanji exists more than 6 times longer than Fresno.'

"It is amazing to know one temple has existed for such a long time. I am curious that how these 25 Monshus are related to each other?"

Do you know who the first Monshu was, I mean, who was a founder of Nishi Hongwanji?"

"Hahaha, Rev. Kaz. I know the founder of Nishi Hongwanji, it is Shinran Shonin."

'You know that Kanamochi! After Shinran Shonin died in 1263 (solar calendar), his descendants started maintaining his teaching and gravesite, as I introduced it in the last article. First, his daughter, Kakushin-Ni took care of him during his older age in Kyoto. After his death, she continued taking care of his gravesite.'

"So, she was *next of kin*, correct?"

'Yes she was. 8 years after his funeral, Kakushin-Ni and her son, Kakue had requested Nyoshin to take over the lineage of Shinran Shonin. This meant Nyoshin became the 2nd Monshu.'

"Nyoshin is a son of Zenran, right? I thought Zenran was the oldest son of Shinran Shonin but he was disowned by Shinran Shonin."

'Oh, you are a very good Dharma School student! In fact, Shinran Shonin did not want to disown Zenran personally, but as the leader of the Buddhist organization and out of fairness, Shinran Shonin had to show his discipline on his son. Although Shinran Shonin did not contact Zenran directly after he disowned his son, Kakushin-Ni, the youngest sibling of Zenran might have kept her connection with him. I have a story of Kakushin-Ni and Zenran and I will share their dramatized story as my Dharma Talk at Sunday services.'

"Wow, I would like to hear about their story!"

'Anyway, Nyoshin took over the lineage of Shinran Shonin as the 2nd Monshu, and Kakunyo who was a grandson of Kakushin-Ni served as the 3rd Monshu. Thereafter the descendants of Kakushin-Ni have been maintaining the Monshu position. It means the Nishi Hongwanji lineage is the maternal line of Shinran Shonin. In our Onaijin-altar, there is the Shinran Shonin's picture on the right side of the Amida statue and on the left side, there is Rennyō Shonin's picture. Rennyō Shonin was the 8th Monshu of the Nishi Hongwanji...'

"Oh, Rev. Kaz, I am getting sleepy..."

'I know learning the history makes people sleepy, but I would like to emphasize that the Monshu is a very important figure in our Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. He maintains our teachings and tradition generation to generation. The tradition of Monshu has been preserved by numerous members, you and I included. I personally think it is very beneficial to support Jodo Shinshu Buddhism and its organization to maintain the teaching.'

Continued on page 5



Message from Rev. Majima



Honoring the Eternal Wisdom:

Reflecting on Śākyamuni Buddha's Teachings and the Path of Nembutsu

In April, we celebrate the birthday of Śākyamuni Buddha, a wonderful opportunity to reflect on his teachings and introspect. Born as Prince Siddhartha Gautama in Lumbini, which is now on the border of Nepal and India, his enlightenment marked a realization of the way out of the cycle of birth and death, the source of suffering. Despite his awakening, we still find ourselves caught in the cycle of worldly pleasure and suffering. Out of compassion, Śākyamuni Buddha showed us the path to enlightenment, addressing various forms of suffering and anxieties, always emphasizing inner peace and compassion. Revered by many followers, he was called “Śākyamuni Buddha”, which means the sacred awakened one in Śākya tribe, and his teachings were spread as the Buddha Dharma in ancient India. His life and teachings provide us the awakened mind, guiding us with the compassion and wisdom of Śākyamuni Buddha.

After innumerable cycles of birth and death, Śākyamuni Buddha attained enlightenment under the Bodhi tree. He then spent 45 years wandering various parts of India, imparting over 84,000 teachings tailored to his followers' understanding and circumstances. Some teachings focused on calming the mind, while others addressed overcoming laziness. There are even stories where Śākyamuni Buddha, holding a flower, merely smiled without speaking, illustrating actions grounded in genuine understanding and compassion.

Despite living 2,500 years ago, Śākyamuni Buddha's teachings have transcended time, place, and ethnicity, reaching modern society. Encouraged to embrace his teachings guided by compassion, we recognize our struggle to realize them. It was out of compassion that Śākyamuni Buddha revealed the teaching of Nembutsu, the last path for those unable to save themselves.

Continued in next column



Rev. Majima's Message Continued:

Our founder, Shinran, praises Śākyamuni Buddha;

Śākyamuni Tathagata (Buddha) appeared in this world

Solely to teach the oceanlike Primal Vow of Amida;
We, an ocean of beings in an evil age of five defilements,

Should entrust ourselves to the Tathagata's words of truth.

Celebrating Śākyamuni Buddha's birthday honors his life and teachings, praising the compassion and wisdom symbolized by him. By living within Nembutsu, we pave the way towards the land of bliss.

Namo Amida Butsu.

Rev. Nakata's Message Continued:

So, I am dedicating my life to it as a Jodo Shinshu minister now. How about you? I will be happy to see that whoever takes over my position in the future has a strong passion to share the Jodo Shinshu teachings to our society. I will do my best, but I know I am not a perfect being to satisfy everyone.'

“Oh, you are such a humble person!”

‘Well...whether you believe it or not, I was NOT a humble person before I encountered Jodo Shinshu Buddhism. I was a person like ME, ME, and ME! But Jodo Shinshu Buddhism educated me to keep the mind of a lifelong student while being humble and positive. Such attitude towards life allows me to always be happy and enjoy every moment of life which is given by all sentient beings or Okagesama. Because the letter of Rennyō Shōnin reminds us that life with enjoyment is shorter than we expect, please don't adhere to each moment of negativity when you can enjoy each moment of joy.’

“Oh, that is a terrific way to live your life, as you are.”

Gassho.





April Monthly Memorial Shotsuki Service

The April Monthly Memorial Service will be conducted on **Sunday, April 14 2024 at 10:00 AM**. Families and friends are asked to attend and gassho. The deceased and seshu (observant) for April are as follows:

DECEASED:

George Kikuo Harada
Yietaro Antoku
Tomichi Kawakami
Kitaro Asakawa &
Mari Miyasaki
Isamu Hara
Yoneko Hatanaka
Bill Hirata & Richard
Yoshito Hirata
Roger Hiyama

George Masanori Hosaka
Akira Shimizu
Setsuko Kimura

Shigeo Naito, Mitsuharu
Naito & Mume Kawasaki
Shizuko Nakata
Fumiko Yamamoto
Charles Kiyoshi Iwasaki
Sadame Iwasaki
Kiyoshi Kawamoto
Sakano Ito
Tadato Kubota
Elsie Morita
Michiko Miyamoto
Tomo Nakagawa
Jo Nishida

Kazume Hanemoto
Tokino Kubo
Kazuo Jim Omori
Tom Minoru Sakata

Douglas Sasaki
Joan Masae Sasaki
Kimiko Shiine & Hideo
Shiine

Kenneth Takeo Suemoto

SESHU: (OBSERVANT)

Nancy Abe
Kay Antoku
Betty Aoki

Lisa (Hatakeda) Lo
Rich Hara
Irene Hatanaka

Art Hirata
Denise Hiyama & Teri
Kido

Todd Hosaka
Eloise Ibara
Karen Sakata & Kevin
Kimura

Amy Naito
Kenneth Ikemiya
Chizuko Iwasaki
Larry Iwasaki
Amy E. Naito
Sue Kawamoto
Craig Ito
Ben Kubota
Lynn Kurumaji
Michio Miyamoto
Midori Iwasaki
Julia Ueda & Larry
Nishida

Ben Nobuhiro
Kathleen Omachi
Nancy Omori
Nancy Sakata & Gary
Sakata

Paul Sasaki
Lynette Sasaki

Kenneth Sunamoto &
Michiko Nobuhiro
Donna Suemoto

Continued in next column

April Monthly Memorial Cont.

DECEASED:

Minoru Yokota & Chiye
Yokota

Tomokichi Sunamoto

Kazuko Taguchi
Toshiyuki Takasaki &
Chisako Betty Matoba
Haruko Tsuboi
Suye Tsuji
Bruce Uyeda

Mary Wada
Ai Fujiwara & Koichi Wada

SESHU:(OBSERVANT)

Linda Doi & Janet
Quiroz
Kenneth Sunamoto &
Kathy Hamada
Shizuko Taguchi

Yukiye Takayama
Margo Toyota
George Tsuji
Rachel Uyeda &
Mary Uyeda
Greg Wada
Ayako Yamada

Procedures for Requesting a Minister

Funerals:

The family will contact the Funeral Chairperson Gary Sakata at (559) 250-9687

Makuragyo Service:

During the week contact the Fresno Betsuin Office at (559) 442-4054 or **Rev. Nakata on weekdays or weekends directly (424) 666-7101.**

Family Memorial Service:

For services at the Reedley Buddhist Church: Contact the RBC President to check the availability of the Reedley Church. Then contact **Lee Osaki** at the **Fresno Betsuin** (442-4054) to schedule the service. Fresno Betsuin office hours are 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday thru Friday. Return call to Church President to confirm date and time.

For services at family home: Family will contact Lee Osaki at the Fresno Betsuin office to arrange for a minister.

Contact Number for Church Business

Reedley Church Phone: (559) 638-2146

Church President: Mr. Larry Nishida

Phone: (559) 903 - 0316

Funeral Committee Chair: Mr. Gary Sakata at:

Phone: (559) 250-9687

Fresno Betsuin Office: Lee Osaki: (559) 442-4054 (call to request a minister or schedule a family service in Reedley after contacting Reedley president for church availability)

Rev. Nakata: (urgent for Makuragyo) (424) 666-7101

Reedley Buddhist Church
2035 15th Street - P.O. Box 24
Reedley, CA 93654

Phone/FAX: (559) 638-2146

Website: <http://www.reedleybc.org>

Email Pres. Larry Nishida: lvnishida@gmail.com

Email Newsletter/Webmaster: reedleybc@gmail.com






REEDLEY DHARMA SCHOOL



**BEACH
OUTING**



Please join us for our beach
outing to Avila Beach

SATURDAY, MAY 4TH 2024

Meet at the beach at 10:30am

Lunch will be provided by Dharma School.
Families sign up to bring sides/desserts.

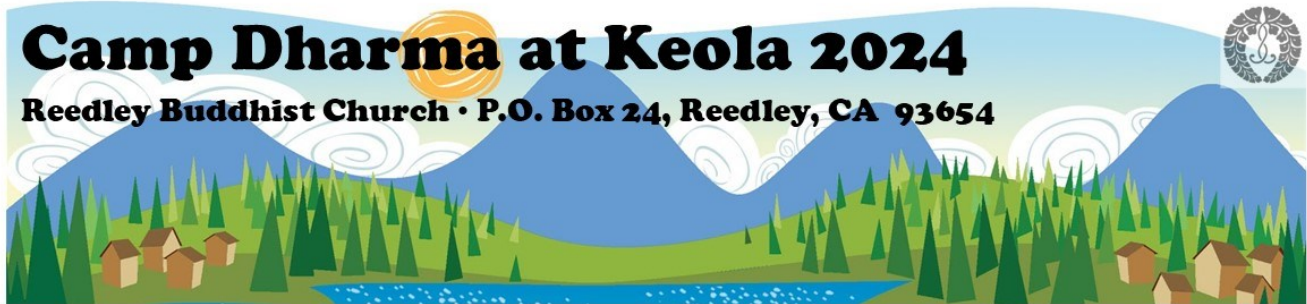


RSVPs can be sent to
keymekoh@gmail.com
mtsakata@gmail.com
ramos.stacya@gmail.com

Please RSVP by 4/19 with number of
Adults/ Children (with ages)
attending.

***Don't forget to mention any dietary
restrictions.***





February 26, 2024

TO: Members and Friends of the Reedley Buddhist Church

FROM: Judy Kobayashi & Reedley Buddhist Church

RE: **Camp Dharma at Keola 2024**

July 5 - 7, 2024

Huntington Lake

On behalf of the Reedley Buddhist Church, we are pleased to invite you to Camp Dharma at Keola 2024. Last year was our first year since 2012, and everyone said, the memories were priceless! Our program will focus on “family” with activities for participants of all ages. Camp highlights include nature crafts, hiking, fishing, games, team sports, swimming, boating, and the famous campfire with songs.

REGISTRATION: Please register by **May 1, 2024**. The registration rate will be \$156 per adult and \$152 for children ages 3 - 11. Children ages 2 and younger are free. **If your child is a Reedley Dharma School student, he/she will be funded for 1/2 of his/her registration by the Reedley Dharma School.**

We know it is early, but we need to know if we'll have the minimum amount of campers. **Please let us know if you're planning to attend by texting or emailing Judy at the number or email address below.**

In order to assign cabins and purchase supplies, we are requesting that **all** registration be submitted no later than **Wednesday, May 1st**. Checks may be made payable to the **Reedley Buddhist Church**. Please mail forms and payment to:

Judy Kobayashi
6362 N. Selland Ave.
Fresno, CA 93711

We will do most of our correspondence via email and all cabin assignments will be made with priority given to older adults or those with medical needs. Cabin preferences will be requested at a later date.

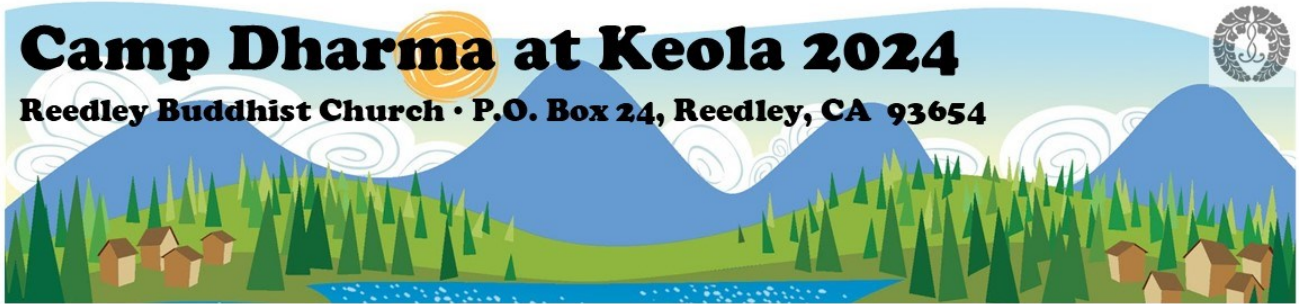
T-SHIRTS: The camp t-shirts are being donated by a generous donation made to the Reedley Buddhist Church Membership Committee. Please indicate your t-shirt size(s) on the registration form.

We are so excited to have this opportunity to sponsor this event again. Participants from previous camps have so many wonderful memories of fellowship, food, and activities.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email Judy at: **jk108@sbcglobal.net**

text, call or leave a message: (559) 281-3954

We look forward to having you and your family sign up for this unique summer adventure! We hope to see you at Huntington Lake! Please feel free to share this with the rest of your family and close friends!



Camp Dharma at Keola 2024

Name of Campers	Age (if minor)	T-shirt size	DS Student
		(Child - XS/S/M/L Adult S/M/L/XL/XXL)	Check if Reedley Dharma School Student
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

Address _____ City _____

Zip Code _____ Email: _____

Contact Numbers (cell) 1. _____ 2. _____

Emergency Contact Name _____ Phone # _____

NOTE: Children 17 years of age and younger must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult.

WAIVER: I hereby waive and release the Reedley Buddhist Church from any and all liability of injuries or illness incurred during the camp/camp activities.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to the **Reedley Buddhist Church**

Send registration and payment to: Judy Kobayashi - 6362 N. Selland Ave. Fresno, CA 93711

All registration forms and payment must be received no later than **Wednesday May 1, 2024.**