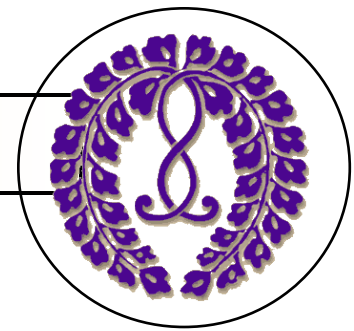


# REEDLEY BUDDHIST CHURCH

P.O. BOX 24 ~ 2035 15TH ST., REEDLEY, CALIFORNIA 93654

PHONE & FAX (559) 638-2146

<http://reedleybc.org>



## April Calendar

6	Reedley Hanamatsuri Service & Luncheon	10:00 AM
7	CC Jr. YBA Meeting - reserve hall	2:00 PM
8	Rev. Majima - Reedley City Council Meeting Invocation	7:00 PM
13	Monthly Shotsuki and Family Dharma Service	10:00 AM
22	Reedley BC Board Meeting	7:00 PM

### Hanamatsuri Service & Luncheon



**Sunday, April 6, 2025 - 10:00 AM**

**Lunch will be served following the service.**

### April Shotsuki Memorial Service and Family Dharma Service

**Sunday, April 13, 2025 - 10:00 AM**

**Refreshments will be served following the service.**

## 17th Crab Feed & Silent Auction THANKS YOU!



The 17th Annual Reedley BC Crab Feed & Silent Auction was a huge success! We appreciate all the hard work from members and friends who made it a fun night for all in attendance! Special thank you to the CC Jr. YBA members and parents who came to help.

We also are grateful to all our wonderful donors who generously donated goods, services, desserts, and monetary donations to the Silent Auction. We did very well and we had some happy bidders taking home some wonderful items!

Thank you to Kliff Justesen who served as our Master of Ceremonies and kept the dinner and auction moving along.

It's definitely not just a fundraiser, but a great way to get together with the Sangha and socialize as well. Save the date for next year's Crab Feed and Silent Auction... March 14, 2026! Thank you!



### *Hanamido Flowers Needed!*

The BWA will be assembling the hanamido for Hanamatsuri on Saturday, April 5th at 2:00 PM. They are asking members to bring flowers from your garden or purchased from the store between 1:00 - 2:00 PM to the Conference Room. Thank you!

2025 Camp Dharma at Keola information available on pages 9 - 10! We can't wait to hear from all of you!



## Welcome New Members!

The Reedley Buddhist Church would like to welcome its new members!

Phyllis Asanuma  
Mark Abe

### APRIL TOBAN:

Church Toban: K. Ikemiya, Nishida, Kurumaji, & Kobayashi



BWA: Group 1: Karen Sakata



## Message from Rev. Majima



### Mindfulness in a Busy World

Every year in April, we celebrate the birth of Siddhartha Gautama, who later became the Buddha. His teachings, spoken over 2,500 years ago, continue to offer profound wisdom for our modern world. In a time of rapid change, stress, and uncertainty, the Buddha's insights on mindfulness, compassion, and interconnectedness remain as relevant as ever.

Buddha taught that suffering arises from attachment and craving. Today, in our fast-paced society, many people find themselves constantly seeking more—more success, more possessions, more approval. Yet, this endless pursuit often leads to dissatisfaction. Mindfulness, or being fully present in the moment, is a practice that helps us step away from this cycle. Whether through meditation, conscious breathing, or simply paying attention to our surroundings, mindfulness allows us to appreciate life as it is, rather than always chasing something outside of ourselves.

### Compassion as a Solution to Division

The world today is filled with conflict—between nations, communities, and individuals. The Buddha's message of compassion teaches us that understanding and kindness can heal divisions. Instead of seeing others as separate from ourselves, he encouraged us to recognize that all beings experience suffering and joy, just as we do. By practicing empathy and offering support where we can, we contribute to a more peaceful world.

### Interconnectedness in a Global Society

Buddha emphasized the principle of interdependence—nothing exists in isolation. In our modern world, this truth is clearer than ever. Our actions, no matter how small, have ripple effects across communities and even the entire planet. From environmental responsibility to ethical consumerism, the choices we make today shape the world for future generations.

### Applying Buddha's Teachings Today

Celebrating the birth of the Buddha reminds us that his wisdom is not just for monks or scholars but for everyone. In our daily lives, we can practice gratitude, reduce excessive desires, and show kindness to those around us. These small efforts accumulate and bring us closer to the world of peace and harmony that the Buddha envisioned.

The first step in practicing Buddha's teachings begins with reflection. Before directing our efforts outward, let us first turn them inward. How do our thoughts and actions connect with the world and influence it? Continuously asking ourselves this question is essential. In Jodo Shinshu, reciting the Nembutsu—"Namu Amida Butsu"—is a profound form of reflection. It is not merely a ritual but an opportunity to recognize the boundless compassion of Amida Buddha and to awaken to our own limitations and interconnectedness.

Through the Nembutsu, we are reminded that we are embraced by wisdom and compassion beyond our own efforts. Rather than striving for perfection, we acknowledge our imperfections and entrust ourselves to Amida's vow. This realization brings a sense of peace and humility, guiding our actions with gratitude and mindfulness.

This month, as we honor the Buddha's wisdom, let us engage in daily self-inquiry, deepen our awareness, and recite the Nembutsu—not as a duty, but as a natural expression of reflection and gratitude.

Namo Amida Butsu

Rev. Majima's Message to the students is on page 4.





## Message from Rev. Majima

### お釈迦様の誕生日と花まつりの由来

4月8日は、お釈迦様の誕生日です。この日を祝う行事として、日本では「花まつり（灌仏会）」が行われます。

### お釈迦様の誕生

お釈迦様（ゴータマ・シッダールタ）は、約2500年前のインド・ルンビニー園でお生まれになりました。伝説によると、お母様のマヤー夫人がルンビニー園で休んでいたとき、右脇からお釈迦様が誕生されたといわれています。生まれてすぐに七歩歩かれ、その一歩ごとに蓮の花が咲き、「天上天下唯我独尊」とおっしゃったと伝えられています。

### 花まつりの由来

「花まつり」は、お釈迦様の誕生を祝う日本独自の行事です。この時期は桜をはじめ、さまざまな花が咲くことから「花まつり」と呼ばれるようになりました。

花まつりでは、お寺に「花御堂」と呼ばれる小さなお堂を設け、その中に誕生仏を安置します。そして、誕生仏に甘茶をかけるのが特徴的な儀式です。これは、お釈迦様が誕生した際に、天から甘露の雨が降り注いだという伝説に由来しています。

また、甘茶をいただく習慣もあります。甘茶には邪気を払う力があるとされ、昔から健康や長寿を願って飲まれてきました。

### 花まつりの意味

花まつりは、お釈迦様の誕生を祝うだけでなく、私たちが「いのちの尊さ」や「感謝の心」を見つめ直す機会でもあります。お釈迦様が説かれた「慈悲（いつくしみ）」の心を大切にしながら、私たちが日々の生活を振り返る機会にしたいものです。



## Church Acknowledges Dana

Anonymous <i>Special Donation</i>	\$ 200.00
Mr. & Mrs. John Nishio <i>Special Donation</i>	150.00
Mrs. Hiroko Shimozono & Family <i>Senior Meals Donation</i>	100.00
Mrs. Hiroko Shimozono & Family <i>In Memory of Mrs. Setsuko Hironaka</i>	50.00
Mrs. Sue Kawamoto <i>Senior Meals Donation</i>	50.00
Mrs. Shiz Tsutsui <i>Senior Meals Donation</i>	50.00

### March Shotsuki Memorial Service Donations

Mr. & Mrs. Craig Ito <i>In Memory of James Ito, Shigeyo Ito, &amp; Fukutaro Ito</i>	100.00
The Family of Hideo & Kimiko Shiine <i>In Memory of Toyo Shiine</i>	100.00
Ms. Lois Yamakoshi <i>In Memory of Helen Yamakoshi</i>	100.00
Asami/Garrigus Families <i>In Memory of Yoneichi Asami</i>	50.00
Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Okamura <i>In Memory of Eizo Tashiro</i>	50.00
Dr. & Mrs. Glenn Hamaoka <i>In Memory of Tom Takayama &amp; Haruko Oda</i>	30.00
Mrs. Sue Kawamoto <i>In Memory of Miyeko Kamikawa, Miyo Yamasaki, &amp; Haruye Nakata</i>	30.00
Mr. Alan Kubota <i>In Memory of Fumiko Kubo</i>	30.00
The Family of Masato & Miyoko Kunishige <i>In Memory of Miyoko Kunishige</i>	30.00
The Masumoto Family <i>In Memory of Fumiko Faye Masumoto</i>	25.00
Mrs. Kiyoko Inn <i>In Memory of Tsuchiyo Tsudama</i>	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Hideki Otani <i>In Memory of Ura Otani</i>	25.00

### April Shotsuki Memorial Service Donations

The Family of Hideo & Kimiko Shiine <i>In Memory of Hideo Shiine &amp; Kimiko Shiine</i>	200.00
Mr. & Mrs. John Nishio <i>In Memory of Elsie Morita</i>	50.00

### 2024 Maintenance Fund

Kathy Hamada	40.00
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## Message from Rev. Majima for the students

### The Happy Story of Little Buddha

A long time ago, in a beautiful garden called Lumbini, a special baby was born. His name was Siddhartha, but later, people called him Buddha. His mother, Queen Maya, was walking in the garden when suddenly, baby Buddha was born. And guess what? He took seven little steps right away! With each step, a beautiful lotus flower bloomed under his feet. Then, he looked up at the sky and smiled. The world was happy to welcome him!



On that special day, something magical happened. The sky opened up, and sweet rain gently fell to bathe the little baby. People say it was the heavens celebrating his birth. Today, during Hanamatsuri, or the Flower Festival, we pour sweet tea over Buddha's statue to remember this wonderful event.



Little Buddha grew up in a big palace with many toys, delicious food, and soft pillows. But one day, he became curious. He wanted to see what was outside the palace walls. So, he took a trip and saw many things he had never seen before—some people were happy, but others were sad or sick. This made him think deeply. He wanted to find a way to make the world a happier place for everyone.

Buddha's story teaches us to be kind and caring to all living beings. Just like he wanted to help others, we can also share kindness by smiling, helping friends, and saying nice words. So, on Buddha's birthday, let's celebrate by being good to each other and remembering that kindness makes the world shine!

Since the March Shotsuki service has been scheduled late in the month, other March donations will be listed in the May newsletter.





Reedley Buddhist Church

# OBON FESTIVAL



**Saturday, May 17, 2025**

**Food Sales - 5:00 PM**

**Dancing - 7:00 PM**

**Featuring Fresno  
Gumyo Taiko**

**Food Vendors:** Casa Oinari, Sergio's Tacos & Churros, RBC Shaved Ice, Papa Murphy's Pizza, BWA Somen, Jr. YBA & Dharma School drinks & mochi ice cream, and more!

Obon is a time of joyous celebration and gratitude to celebrate the generations who went before us and gave us the gift of life. We celebrate with colorful dancing which the community is invited to participate.

Reedley Buddhist Church - 2035 15th St. - Reedley

For info: [www.reedleybc.org](http://www.reedleybc.org)







# Reedley Obon Dance Practice Schedule



Obon instructors Lynn Kurumaji & Karen Sakata have announced the dates for practice! Since we are celebrating Obon early this year during a cooler time of the year, we are changing our dance practices to accommodate the students who have school and cannot attend practices during the week. The following dates have been scheduled:

- Friday, April 11, 2025 - 7:00 PM
- Sunday, April 13, 2025 - 12:00 noon  
(after Dharma School & Service)
- Friday, April 25, 2025 - 7:00 PM
- Sunday, April 27, 2025 - 2:00 PM
- Friday, May 9, 2025 - 7:00 PM

### IF NEEDED:

- Friday, May 16, 2025—7:00 PM

Please bring your towel, folding fan, round fan, and kachi kachis to practice.

Please invite your friends and family to join us and make this Obon Festival a nice and “cool” event!



# Hatsubon Service Sunday, May 18, 2025 10:00 AM



The families of the following will be observing Hatsubon:

- |                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Ron Arakawa     | Nancy Sakata     |
| Noboru Takasaki | Sam Saburo Bungo |
| Nancy Omori     | Sumiko Ichiuji   |
| Nancy Abe       | Setsuko Hironaka |

If you have a loved one that passed in 2024-25 and you would like him/her to be included in the 2025 service, please contact President Joy Donaldson.

**SCOUT DAY 2025**

APRIL 19, 2025

Fresno Buddhist Church  
2690 E. Alluvial Ave., Fresno, CA 93720

Scout activities 10 am – 2 pm  
Lunch provided at 12 pm

Ages 5 – 17 are welcomed, bring a friend, learn some new life skills, and learn how to be prepared for life!



## April Monthly Memorial Shotsuki Service

The April Shotsuki Memorial Service will be conducted on **Sunday, April 13, 2025 at 10:00 AM.** Families and friends are asked to attend and gassho. The deceased and seshu (observant) for April are as follows:

### DECEASED: SESHU:(OBSERVANT)

George Kikuo Harada	Mark Abe
Yietaro Antoku	Kay Antoku
Tomichi Kawakami	Betty Aoki
Kitaro Asakawa & Mari Miyasaki	Lisa (Hatakeda) Lo
Isamu Hara	Rich Hara
Yoneko Hatanaka	Irene Hatanaka
Bill Hirata & Richard Yoshito Hirata	Art Hirata
Roger Hiyama	Denise Hiyama & Teri Kido
George Masanori Hosaka	Todd Hosaka
Akira Shimizu	Eloise Ibara
Setsuko Kimura	Karen Sakata & Kevin Kimura
Shigeo Naito, Mitsuharu Naito & Mume Kawasaki	Amy Naito
Shizuko Nakata	Kenneth Ikemiya
Fumiko Yamamoto	Chizuko Iwasaki
Charles Kiyoshi Iwasaki	Larry Iwasaki
Sadame Iwasaki	Amy Naito
Kiyoshi Kawamoto	Sue Kawamoto
Sakano Ito	Craig Ito
Tadato Kubota	Ben Kubota
Elsie Morita	Lynn Kurumaji
Michiko Miyamoto	Michio Miyamoto
Tomo Nakagawa	Midori Iwasaki
Jo Nishida	Julia Ueda & Larry Nishida
Kazume Hanemoto	Ben Nobuhiro
Tokino Kubo	Kathleen Omachi
Fujiye Okino	<b>Cheryl Miyakawa</b>
Kazuo Jim Omori	<b>Omori Family</b>
Tom Minoru Sakata	Gary Sakata
Douglas Sasaki	Paul Sasaki
Joan Masae Sasaki	Lynette Sasaki
Kimiko Shiine & Hideo Shiine	Kenneth Sunamoto & Michiko Nobuhiro
Kenneth Takeo Suemoto	Donna Suemoto

Continued in next column

### April Monthly Memorial Cont.

<b>DECEASED:</b> Minoru Yokota & Chiye Yokota Tomokichi Sunamoto	<b>SESHU:(OBSERVANT)</b> Janet Quiroz Kenneth Sunamoto & Kathy Hamada Shizuko Taguchi
Kazuko Taguchi Toshiyuki Takasaki & Chisako Betty Matoba	Yukiye Takayama Margo Toyota
Haruko Tsuboi Suye Tsuji Bruce Uyeda	George Tsuji Rachel Uyeda & Mary Uyeda Greg Wada
Mary Wada Ai Fujiwara & Koichi Wada	Ayako Yamada
Mitsuko Hashimoto, Kinu Yamagata, & Hiroshi Kawasaki	Ellen Yamada

### Procedures for Requesting a Minister

#### Funerals:

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

#### Makuragyo Service:

To request a service please contact **Rev. Majima** at **(949) 278-0120.**

#### Family Memorial Service:

**For services at the Reedley Buddhist Church:** Contact the **RBC President, Joy Donaldson** at (559) 859-7861 to check the availability of the Reedley Buddhist Church. Then contact Rev. Majima at (949) 278-0120 or at: [rev.mmajima@gmail.com](mailto:rev.mmajima@gmail.com)

**For Service at Family Home:** The family will contact Rev. Majima to arrange for a service.

### Contact Numbers for Church Business

**Reedley Church Phone:** (559) 638-2146  
**Church President:** Mrs. Joy Donaldson  
 Phone: (559) 859-7861  
**Funeral Committee Chair:** Mr. Gary Sakata at:  
 Phone: (559) 250-9687  
**Fresno Betsuin Office:** Lee Osaki: (559) 442-4054

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. Joy Donaldson: [ojoydonaldson@gmail.com](mailto:ojoydonaldson@gmail.com)  
 Email Newsletter/Webmaster: [reedleybc@gmail.com](mailto:reedleybc@gmail.com)







The Buddhist Church of Parlier  
PRESENTS

# Practical Shin Buddhism in Everyday Life

Rev. Dr. Kenji Akahoshi

“Shifting from Please to Thank You”  
A contemporary view of Shin reveals  
Gratitude leads to a joyful guide to life

**Saturday, April 12, 2025, 3:00 p.m.**



Join us for a visit from Reverend Dr. Kenji Akahoshi as he delves into the journey everyone is seeking: “How to lead a joyful life through gratitude in our everyday life.” It is this unique perspective of Shin that guides us to recognize that our lives and our awakening are received from the efforts of others. Interdependence reveals we are truly supported by others and this realization results in a response of gratitude. Our gratitude offers a completely different reality, different from the context of prayer or petition for a personal desire. Gratitude becomes the open gate to a vast field of benefits.

BUDDHIST CHURCH OF PARLIER  
360 S. NEWMARK  
PARLIER, CA 93648





March 1, 2025

TO: Members and Friends of the Reedley Buddhist Church

FROM: Judy Kobayashi & Reedley Buddhist Church

RE: **Camp Dharma at Keola 2025**  
**July 11 - 13, 2025**  
**Huntington Lake**

On behalf of the Reedley Buddhist Church, we are pleased to invite you to **Camp Dharma at Keola 2025**. This will be our 3rd year since starting up Camp Dharma again after an 11 year pause. Many campers have said the memories have been 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 campfire with songs and S'mores!

**REGISTRATION:** Please register by **May 21, 2025**. The registration rate will be \$162 per adult and students 12 and over, and \$158 for children ages 3 - 11. Children ages 2 and younger are free. **If your child is a registered Reedley Dharma School student, he/she will be funded for \$100 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 number of campers. **Please let us know if you're planning to attend by texting or emailing Judy at the number or email address below** then send in your registration and payment by the deadline.

In order to assign cabins and purchase supplies, we are requesting that **all** registration be submitted no later than **Wednesday, May 21st**. Please make checks payable to the: **Reedley Buddhist Church**. Please mail forms and payment to:

Judy Kobayashi / Camp Dharma at Keola  
 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 will be **\$5.00 each**. Please indicate your t-shirt size(s) on the registration form and include this fee with your payment. The remainder of the cost will be generously covered by Ben & Diane Kubota.

We are so excited to have the 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, former members, and close friends!



Camp Dharma at Keola 2025

Name of Campers	Age (if minor)	T-shirt size	DS Student
		(Child - XS/S/M/L Adult S/M/L/XL/XXL) include \$5.00 per t-shirt	Check if a Reedley Dharma School Student (subtract \$100 of fees)
_____	_____	_____	<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 # \_\_\_\_\_  
(responsible party not attending Camp Dharma)

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Camper Fees: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

T-shirts: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

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

Send registration and payment to: Judy Kobayashi / Camp Dharma at Keola - 6362 N. Selland Ave. Fresno, CA 93711

All registration forms and payment must be received no later than **Wednesday May 21, 2025.**