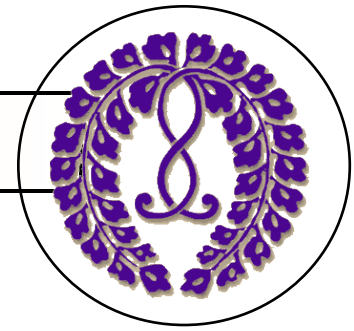


REEDLEY BUDDHIST CHURCH

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

PHONE & FAX (559) 638-2146

<http://reedleybc.org>



July Calendar

5	Funeral Service for Mary Uyeda	10:00 am
11 - 13	Camp Dharma at Keola	all day
15	Omigaki - Altar Cleaning	6:00 pm
19	Conference Room Reserved - Nishida Family	9:00 am
19	Fowler Obon Festival	
22	90th Anniversary Meeting	6:00 pm
22	Reedley Board Meeting	7:00 pm
26	Conference Room Reserved - Tavlan Family Ikemiya Family Memorial Service	11:00 am
27	July Shotsuki Memorial Service & Family Dharma Service	10:00 am



July Shotsuki Memorial Service & Family Dharma Service

**Sunday, July 27, 2025
10:00 AM**

Lunch will be served following the service.



Rev. Majima Becomes the Resident Minister of the Reedley Buddhist Church

The Reedley Buddhist Church would like to announce that Rev. Mieko Majima has become the official resident minister of the Reedley Buddhist Church. She will also be supervising the Visalia Buddhist Church, Hanford Buddhist Church, the Buddhist Church of Parlier, and the Buddhist Church of Fowler.

Rev. Majima will continue to live at the church parsonage and most of her duties will remain the same. Rev. Nakata will be overseeing the Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Temple and the Kingsburg Buddhist Church.

This change will be official on July 1, 2025. If you have any questions, please contact RBC president, Joy Donaldson. (contact number & email on page 7.)

Congratulations to Reedley's Dharma Scholarship Recipient



Congratulations to the 2025 Reedley Buddhist Church Dharma Scholarship recipient, Jackson Hashimoto. He is pictured here with RBC President, Joy Donaldson and Rev. Mieko Majima. Best wishes on your future endeavors Jackson!

JULY TOBAN:

Church Toban: Donaldson, M. Naito, Kajihara, & Toyota

BWA: Group 1: Karen Sakata



In Sympathy



Our deepest sympathy to the family of **Mrs. Haruye Nagata**, mother of Carol & Stan Hirahara, who passed away on May 3, 2025, at the age of 102.

Our deepest condolences to the family of **Mrs. Mary Uyeda** who passed away on June 17, 2025 at the age of 97.



Message from Rev. Majima

A Time to Reflect with Gratitude — Welcoming the Obon Season



As July begins, we start to feel that the Obon season is drawing near once again. Many of us gradually begin preparing—cleaning the home altar, making plans to visit the cemetery—and quietly getting our hearts ready. Obon is a precious time to remember those who have passed and to renew our sense of gratitude.

In Japan, Obon has long been observed as a meaningful opportunity to express appreciation to our ancestors, to reflect on the interconnection of life, and to touch the teachings of the Buddha.

Our lives are made possible through the support of countless lives—our parents, grandparents, ancestors, and beyond. Recognizing that truth and placing our hands together in reverence is at the heart of Obon.

In our daily lives, we eat, work, and go about our routines as if everything is simply given. But not a single part of our lives is sustained by our efforts alone. When we say “*Itadakimasu*” before a meal, we’re not just following a custom. We are expressing thanks—for the lives of the ingredients, for the sun, earth, rain and people who nurtured them, and for those who prepared the meal. That small gesture “*Itadakimasu*” carries a world of gratitude.

In fact, my life continues through the lives of others. To be alive is to receive and carry the weight of countless lives before me. It is a truth that humbles and inspires. I learned to say “*Itadakimasu*” from my parents, and to recite “*Namo Amida Butsu*” from my grandmother. Though they have all passed away, it is because of them—because they lived their lives grounded in the Dharma—that I now recite the *Nembutsu*. Encountering the Buddha’s teaching and walking this path of *Nembutsu* is, I believe, what they most wished for me.

One of the things I appreciate most is when you say, “Please lead us *Gassho*.” But in truth, I am not the one leading the *Nembutsu*—it is you who reminds me to say it, and for that, I am truly grateful.

The Buddha said, “Stay close to good friends.” I truly believe this is one of the most important teachings. Over time, I’ve come to realize just how deeply true those words are. It is through the presence of good people—those who walk the path with sincerity and kindness—that I am reminded of the *Nembutsu*, and encouraged to live with gratitude.

Continued in next column

To place our hands together and say “*Thank you*,” “*Itadakimasu*,” or “*Namo Amida Butsu*” in our everyday lives—this is how we send our gratitude across the river of life to those who have already crossed to the other shore. It is both a sign of thanks and a heartfelt greeting.

Obon is not only a time to remember the departed, but also a quiet moment to recognize that I am here, alive, through the gift of life passed on to me. And often, it is these everyday words—“*Itadakimasu*” and “*Namo Amida Butsu*”—that help us realize this truth.

May this summer also be a time of gentle reflection and deep gratitude, as we recite the *Nembutsu*, embraced by the Buddha and our loved ones who continue to watch over us.

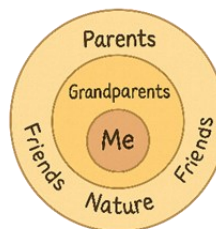
“Saying Thank You with Our Hearts — What Obon Teaches Us” (for students)

Have you ever said

“*Itadakimasu*” before a meal?

Maybe your parents or grandparents say it. In Japan, we say “*Itadakimasu*” to show respect and gratitude before eating. It

means, “I humbly receive,” and it’s a way of saying thank you—not just for the food, but for everything that made the meal possible: the sunlight, the rain, the farmers, the cooks, and the life of the animals and plants that became part of our meal.



In the Buddhist tradition, we learn that everything is connected. No one lives all by themselves. We are here because many people helped us—our parents, teachers, friends, and even people we’ve

never met. Obon is a special time in summer when we remember our ancestors, the family members who came before us. Even if we don’t know their names, they are part of our story.

Continued on page 3



Message from Rev. Majima (For Students continued from page 2.)



During Obon, many families go to the temple. They clean their home altars, visit graves, offer flowers or incense, and say *Namo Amida Butsu*. When we say *Namo Amida Butsu*,

we are remembering that we are loved, supported, and never alone. It is also a way of saying "thank you" from deep inside our hearts.

Obon is not a spooky holiday.

It is a peaceful and warm

time. It reminds us to appreciate the life we have and to be

kind to others. Even some-

thing simple—like saying "thank you," offering a flower,

or saying *Namo Amida Butsu*—can help us feel connected to the people who came before us and to everyone around us today.

So next time you say "Itadakimasu" or *Namo Amida Butsu*, remember:

You are never alone. You are part of a big family of life.



CAMP DHARMA AT KEOLA

Camp Dharma at Keola will be held on July 11 - 13, 2025, at Huntington Lake at Camp Keola. Although we are past the registration deadline, we have some spaces still available.

It's a great opportunity to socialize, relax, and spend the time in the cooler high Sierras for the weekend! If you are interested, please contact Judy at: (559) 281-3954 or at jk108@sbcglobal.net ASAP! Registration is \$162 for adults, and \$158 for 3-11 yr olds.

Central Cal Obon Festivals



The Central California Temples Obon Festivals will be held throughout the summer. The dates are as follows:

Visalia - Saturday, June 28, 2025 - 5:00 PM
Dancing at 8:00 PM

Fowler - Saturday, July 19, 2025 4:00 - 9:00 PM
Dancing at 6:30 PM

Parlier - Saturday, August 2, 2025
Dancing at 8:00 PM

Kingsburg - Saturday, October 11, 2025 - TBA

Planning Underway for Reedley's 90th Anniversary & Booklet Photos

The 90th Anniversary of the Reedley Buddhist Church is set for Saturday, April 25, 2026. All members, family, former members, & friends are invited to attend! This notice will give you plenty of time to SAVE THE DATE!

A booklet of photos of members and their families will be made for the anniversary, so we are asking that each member schedule a time for a photo session. These photos will be taken by Glenn Nakamichi Photography.

We have scheduled 3 photo sessions and 2 have been scheduled around the holidays so your family members will have the opportunity to be in your photo. Photos can also be of just yourself and sessions will be scheduled in 10-15 minute intervals.

The dates scheduled are as follows:

Sunday, October 5, 2025 - 11 AM to 5 PM

Saturday, November 29, 2025 - 9 AM - 3 PM

Saturday, December 27, 2025 - 9 AM - 3 PM

Photos sessions are complimentary and you will have the opportunity to order photos from Glenn Nakamichi if you choose to. **More information to follow!** A schedule will be made and we will do our best to accommodate you.



Dharma School End of Term



Pre-School Class



Perfect Attendance Awardee



Kindergarten/1st Grade



Senior Class



2nd - 5th Grades

Although some students were missing from the pictures, the Reedley Dharma School celebrated the End of Term on June 8th with 9 students receiving Perfect Attendance. A new term will begin on Sunday, September 7th.



Looking Ahead

Rev. Majima will be gone from August 19 - September 4. She will be attending the Minister's Fuku in Lodi, stop in Hawaii at her former temple, then will be in Japan for personal days. If you have any church related emergencies, please contact President, Joy Donaldson at (559) 859-7861. Rev. Nakata from the Fresno Buddhist Temple will be on call for any emergencies.

OMIGAKI Altar Cleaning



Please come out to help!

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

6:00 PM

Dinner will be served!



Message from Rev. Majima

しちがつ ことし ぼん きせつ ちか かん ぶつだん そうじ
七月に入ると、今年もお盆の季節が近づいてきたことを感じます。お仏壇の掃除やお
はかまい じゅんぴ すこ ところ ととの かた おお ぼん
墓参りの準備など、少しずつ心を整えていかれる方も多いことでしょう。お盆とは、
な ひと しの かんしゃ たいせつ
亡き人を偲び、感謝のこころをあらたにする大切なときです。

にほん ぼん せんぞ かんしゃ たし ほとけ おし
日本では、お盆を先祖に感謝し、「いのちのつながりをつかめ、仏さまの教えにふれ
る」機縁として受けとめてきました。 私たちのいのちは、りょうしん そふ ぼ
先祖方、そして数えきれないほどのいのちとご縁に支えられています。そのことにきづ
き、て あ ぼん
き、手を合わせるのがお盆のこころです。

ひ び く なか わたし あ まえ しょくじ せいかつ
日々の暮らしの中で、私たちは当たり前のように食事をし、生活していますが、その
ひと じぶん ちから な た しょくじ まえ
どれ一つとして「自分だけの力」で成り立っているものはありません。食事の前に
「いただきます」と手を合わせるのは、しょくざい そだ しぜん ひと
「いただきます」と手を合わせるのは、食材となったいのち、育ててくれた自然や人
びと、ちょうり ひと…… おん かんしゃ あらわ おこな
びと、調理してくれた人… … そうしたすべてのご恩へ感謝を表す行いです。

この「いただきます」には、いのちを とうと こころ ぎょうしゅく わたし ほか
のちをいただいて生きている。だからこそ、「私が生きている」ということは、かぞ
えきれないいのちの上に成り立っている とうと げんじつ き
尊い現実なのだと気づかされます。

わたし りょうしん おし そ ぼ なもあみだぶつ とな
私は、両親から「いただきます」を教えてもらい、祖母から南無阿弥陀仏と唱えるこ
とを教えてもらいました。もう両親も祖父母も亡くなりましたが、これは、いま私
が なもあみだぶつ とな な ひと み ぶつぼう でん
南無阿弥陀仏と唱えるのは、亡き人びとがその身をもって仏法を伝えてくださったこと
に他なりません。私自身が仏法に出会い、お念仏の道を歩むことこそ、なによりご先祖
が た のぞ う
方が望んでいたことと受けとめています。

「いただきます」「ありがとう」「南無阿弥陀仏」と、日々のなかで手を合わせるこ
と。それは、いのちの川のかち かし む ぎし わたし せんぞかた
た感謝のしるしであり、こころ あいさつ
心からのご挨拶でもあります。

ぼん な ひと しの わたし う つ い
お盆は、亡き人を偲ぶだけではなく、私がいのちを受け継いで生かされているという
じじつ しず て あ じかん
事実、静かに手を合わせる時間です。そして、それにきづかせてくれるのが、「いた
だきます」や「南無阿弥陀仏」といった、にちじょう なか つか ことば
日常の中で使われる言葉なのです。

この夏もどうぞ、ほとけ せんぞ みまも ねんぶつ しず かんしゃ
とときをお迎えくださいますように。 合掌



Church Acknowledges Dana

The Family of Edward Okada <i>In Memory of Edward Okada</i>	\$ 350.00
Ms. Nanette Hashimoto <i>Use of Conference Room - Jackson's Graduation</i>	300.00
Mr. & Mrs. Steve Hendricks <i>Donation to 2025 Camp Dharma</i>	100.00
Mrs. Shiz Tsutsui <i>Senior Meals Donations</i>	105.00
Ms. Amy Naito <i>Senior Meals Donation</i>	100.00
Mrs. Sue Kawamoto <i>Senior Meals Donation</i>	50.00

June Shotsuki Memorial Service Donations

Mr. Harvey Nakamura <i>In Memory of Asako Nakamura</i>	250.00
Mr. & Mrs. Dale Okamura <i>In Memory of Sode Sakuragi & George Okamura</i>	100.00
Mrs. Cathy Tanizaki Zachry <i>In Memory of Kimiye Tanizaki</i>	100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Sakata <i>In Memory of Michiko Ikeda, Kiyomi Takahashi, Helen Kimura, Ayako Emily Sakamoto, Yukio Sakamoto, & Arakichi Kimura</i>	60.00
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Iwasaki <i>In Memory of Ben Nakagawa</i>	50.00
Mrs. Lynn Kurumaji <i>In Memory of John Morita</i>	50.00
Mrs. Alice Nakamura <i>In Memory of Takematsu Nishi</i>	50.00
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Nishida <i>In Memory of Midori Nishida, Michi Ikeda, Rith K. Sasaki, & Kiyomi Takahashi</i>	50.00
Mr. & Mrs. George Tsuji <i>In Memory of Shizuko Kimoto</i>	50.00
Mr. & Mrs. Kliff Justesen <i>In Memory of Emiko Matsuno</i>	35.00
Mr. & Mrs. Danny Nakamichi <i>In Memory of Tom Nakamichi</i>	30.00
The Masumoto Family <i>In Memory of Fred Minoru Masumoto</i>	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. James Hatakeda <i>In Memory of Ron Arakawa</i>	25.00

Continued in next column

June Shotsuki Memorial Service Donations cont.

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kobayashi <i>In Memory of Michi Ikeda & Kiyomi Takahashi</i>	\$ 25.00
Ms. Amy Naito <i>In Memory of Michi Ikeda</i>	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Dean Nishijima <i>In Memory of Yasuki Kitaoka</i>	25.00
Mrs. Kagumi Persall <i>In Memory of Harukichi Konishi</i>	25.00
Kenneth Sunamoto Family <i>In Memory of Jerry Sunamoto</i>	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Nori Hashimoto <i>In Memory of Junzo Hashimoto</i>	20.00
Ms. Lily Ikemiya <i>In Memory of Hisao Tamaki</i>	20.00
Mr. Ken Nakamura <i>In Memory of Takematsu Nishi</i>	20.00

May Shotsuki Memorial Service Donations

Mrs. Ayako Yamada <i>In Memory of Naoemon Morikawa, Yasu Kurokawa, Izo Kurokawa, Imachi Yamada, & Tomiko Yamada</i>	40.00
Mrs. Shiz Kunishige <i>In Memory of Toshi Hashimoto</i>	30.00
Mrs. Joanne Hansen <i>In Memory of Helen Matsuoka</i>	25.00

April Shotsuki Memorial Service Donations

Mrs. Ayako Yamada <i>In Memory of Koichi Wada & Ai Fujiwara</i>	30.00
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Obon Service Donations

The Masumoto Family <i>In Memory of Fred Minoru Masumoto & Faye Fumiyo Masumoto</i>	50.00
Mrs. Nancy Kimura	25.00
Mrs. Joanne Hansen	25.00
Mr. Philip Nishida	25.00

Maintenance Fund

Ayako Yamada	40.00
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You are cordially invited to the
Reedley Buddhist Church
90th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, April 25, 2026

10:00 AM

Celebration Service, Chigo Parade,
& Luncheon

catered by Pardini's Restaurant

More information to follow. Please save the date!



“Celebrating the past, present, & future.”



Central Cal Nenbutsu Family Gathering

(Fresno, Fowler, Hanford, Kingsburg, Parlier, Reedley, Visalia)

Saturday, September 20, 2025

9:30AM ~ 2:00PM

Fresno Buddhist Temple

Guest Speaker: Rev. Kodo Umezu

Activities for Children

Bounce House

Taco Truck, Pizza, Shave Ice

Bingo for Everyone



July Monthly Memorial Shotsuki Service

The July Shotsuki Memorial Service will be conducted on **Sunday, July 27, 2025 at 10:00 AM.** Families and friends are asked to attend and gassho. The deceased and seshu (observant) for July are as follows:

DECEASED:

Kyujiro Kikumoto
Yukino Hikiji
Shizuye Hada
Yoshino Hara

Hattaro Haraguchi
Seizo Suyemoto
Satoru Goto & Harold Keio
Arakawa

Izumi Hirata &
Jean Ayako Kubo
Masu Hosaka, Sato Takata
& Sohichi Hosaka

Mine Ichihana
Kuichi Nakata
Itsuki Tsudama
Kinuyo Morioka, Kazue

Ishida, & Sumiye Sue Iwai
Suzuno Tsunekawa &
Seishiro Yamada
Haruki Harry Kawagoe

Yaeko Kawamoto
Masujiro Nagai
Ichizo Kanefuku & Tomi
Shitanishi

Masayuki Kubo
Mitsuno Naito
Takematsu Nishi &

George Nishi
Yaeno Kofu & Mitsuye
Fujisawa
Taki Okamura
Tom Tadashi Mori

Edward Masao Otani &
Mitsuyo Otani
Saye Sakata
Kikutaro Shimizu

Tsuru Shimozono &
Kunikichi Shimozono
Chyono Ninomiya &

Shizuye Susie Murakami

SESHU:(OBSERVANT)

Mitchell Abe
Kay Antoku
Gerry Hada
Cheryl Miyakawa
& Nannette Mori
Hatsuko Hanashiro
Naomi Hashimoto

Keiko Hatakeda

Art Hirata

Todd Hosaka
Yoko Ichihana
Kenneth Ikemiya
Kiyoko Inn

Dale Ishida

Craig Ito
Kent Kawagoe & Roy
Kawagoe

Sue Kawamoto
Nancy Kimura

Ben Kubota
Alan Kubota
Amy Naito

Alice Nakamura

Ronald Nishinaka
Dale Okamura
Cheryl Miyakawa
& Nannette Mori

Hideki Otani
Gary Sakata
Teruko Shibata

Hiroko Shimozono

Kathy Hamada

Continued in next column

July Monthly Memorial Cont.

DECEASED:

Noboru Takasaki
George Hiroshi Takayama
& Wilma Takayama
Satoyo Tanizaki
Yoshihiko Tatami
Koei Toyota
Tamayo Uyeda
George Iwao Kobayashi

SESHU:(OBSERVANT)

Yukiye Takayama
Helen Hamaoka
Cathy Tanizaki Zachry
Kazuko Tatami
Shuzo Toyota
Rachel Uyeda
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 **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

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

Email Newsletter/Webmaster: reedleybc@gmail.com

