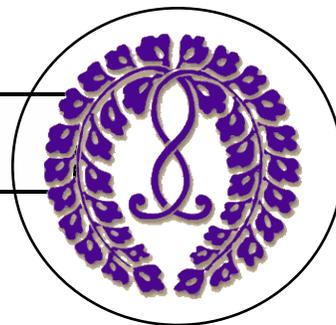


REEDLEY BUDDHIST CHURCH

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

PHONE & FAX (559) 638-2146

<http://reedleybc.org>



May Calendar



- | | | |
|----|---|----------|
| 8 | Mother's Day | |
| 17 | Reedley MAC Committee Meeting | 7:00 pm |
| 19 | Reedley BC Board Meeting | 7:00 pm |
| 22 | May Memorial (Shotsuki) & Dharma Service - Refreshments following | 10:00 am |
| | Reedley BWA Meeting - following service | 11:30 am |
| | BWA Flower Preparations for Memorial Day flowers for cemetery | 12:00 pm |
| 28 | BWA Deliver Flowers to Cemetery to older section | 9:00 am |
| 29 | Memorial Day Service Refreshments following | 1:00 pm |

ONLINE LINK FOR VIRTUAL SERVICES PROVIDED BY CC MINISTERS:

GO TO: https://twitter.com/fresno_nishi to get the YouTube link for the service.

Taste of Bazaar II



Thank you very much for your support of the "Taste of Bazaar" II fundraiser held on April 24th. It was a success and all the help from all the members and friends who helped out to prepare the delicious meal was appreciated!

Thank you to Vickie Nishida for spearheading the event and to her committee that helped with purchasing and prepping.

Thank you to donors Hideki Otani for donating the rice, Ben & Diane Kubota for donating the cucumbers for the namasu, and to Shuzo Toyota for donating the chili oil for the hot dish. Thank you to everyone who baked cookies for the dessert items as well.

We definitely could not do this without the help and support of our members and friends of the Reedley Buddhist Church. We hope you enjoyed the dinner!

May "Shotsuki" (Memorial Service) & Dharma Service



Sunday, May 22, 2022

10:00 AM

Don't forget...Dharma School!
Refreshments served following the service.



Memorial Day Service

at Church

Sunday, May 29, 2022

1:00 PM

Refreshments served following the service.

Reedley Obon is Back!

Save the Date!



Saturday, July 2, 2022

Hatsubon Service - July 3, 2022

MAY TOBAN:

Church Toban: M. Naito & Sakatas
BWA: Group 2 - Kathy Nishinaka





Church Acknowledges Dana

Ms. Judy Yoshida - Newsletter Donation	\$100.00
Mrs. Toshiko Kawagoe - Senior Meals Donation	100.00
Ms. Amy Naito - Senior Meals Donation	100.00
Mr. & Mrs. George Tsuji - Senior Meals Donation	100.00
Ms. Phyllis Asanuma - Senior Meals Donation	50.00
Mrs. Sue Kawamoto - Senior Meals Donation	50.00
Mrs. Amy Naito - Senior Meals Donation	50.00
Mr. Tracy Ito - Special Donation	300.00
Mrs. Masako Kobayashi - Special Donation	50.00
Mrs. Shiz Tsutsui - Special Donation	50.00
Mrs. Shiz Tsutsui - Special Donation	50.00
Mrs. Ayako Yamada - Spring Ohigan Service Donation	30.00

Hanamatsuri Service Donation

Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Nishinaka	100.00
Mr. Byron Taira	75.00
Mrs. Chizuko Iwasaki	50.00
Ms. Amy Naito	50.00
Mr. Michael Naito	50.00
Mrs. Alice Nakamura	50.00
Mr. Johnnie Togioka	50.00
Ms. Marcia Yamada	50.00
Mrs. Kiyoko Inn	40.00
Ms. Priscilla Kehoe	40.00
Mr. & Mrs. George Tsuji	40.00
Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Yee & Family	40.00
Mrs. Ayako Yamada	35.00
Mr. & Mrs. James Hatakeda	30.00
Mrs. Kikuyo Ikemiya	30.00
Ms. Lily Ikemiya	30.00
Mr. & Mrs. Kliff Justesen	30.00
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kobayashi	30.00
Mrs. Sue Kawamoto	30.00
Mr. Michio Miyamoto	30.00
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Sakata	30.00
Mr. & Mrs. Ty Tavlan & Family	30.00
Mr. & Mrs. Shuzo Toyota	30.00
Mrs. Nancy Kimura	25.00
Mrs. Lynn Kurumaji	25.00
Mrs. Amy Naito	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Danny Nakamichi	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Ben Nobuhiro	25.00

continued in next column

Hanamatsuri Service Donations continued:

Mr. & Mrs. Dale Okamura	\$ 25.00
Mrs. Ellen Yamada	25.00
Ms. Lois Yamakoshi	25.00
Anonymous	20.00
Mrs. Joy Donaldson	20.00
Mr. & Mrs. Albert Fujitsubo	20.00
Mr. Ken Nakamura	20.00
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Nishida	20.00
Ms. Shizuko Taguchi	20.00
Mrs. Yukiye Takayama	15.00

April Memorial Service Donations

Mr. & Mrs. Harvey Hanemoto	100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Iwasaki	100.00
Ms. Amy Naito	100.00
Garland Nicklaus Family	100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Ben Nobuhiro	100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Sakata	100.00
Mrs. Rachel Uyeda	100.00
Mr. & Mrs. Hitoshi Aoki	50.00
Mrs. Chizuko Iwasaki	50.00
Mrs. Sue Kawamoto	50.00
Mrs. Lynn Kurumaji	50.00
Mr. & Mrs. John Nishio	50.00
Mrs. Nancy Sakata	40.00
Mrs. Yukiye Takayama	40.00
Mr. & Mrs. George Tsuji	40.00
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kobayashi	30.00
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Nishida	30.00
Mrs. Amy Naito	25.00
Mrs. Ayako Yamada	25.00
Mrs. Ellen Yamada	25.00
Ms. Shizuko Taguchi	20.00
Mr. & Mrs. Dean Ueda	20.00

March Memorial Service Donations

Mr. & Mrs. Craig Ito	50.00
Mrs. Sue Kawamoto	30.00

February Memorial Service Donations

Mr. & Mrs. Danny Nakamichi	30.00
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Message from Rev. Nakata

Jodo Shinshu is for anyone that wishes to establish and enjoy a harmonious sangha



Hello all Central California Nishi Hongwanji Sangha friends! I wrote "Spring has come" in the previous newsletter. It is so true. I attended and conducted three in-person Hanamatsuri services last month, including one at the Orange County Buddhist Church where I was the guest speaker. At each of the services, I saw many smiling faces while sweet tea was being poured over the statue of the Baby Buddha in the shrine, decorated many beautiful flowers. Their smiles were like blooming flowers! At one church, I said "please pour tea over the Buddha like how you would like to celebrate your birth if you were able to be in the delivery room. Please imagine. Even before you were born, YOU had many helping hands for about 10 months and 10 days. Your life story of generosity by others had started before your birth. It is the Buddhist view... our life is filled with conceivable gratitude."

I was assigned to the Central California District in summer of 2019, and after the adjustment of my life in CC, in 2020 I started both weekly and monthly Buddhist study classes. What started with a monthly class at Visalia Buddhist Church led to a weekly class. Our Dharma Friend, Calvin Doi of Parlier (one of the main persons who asked me to serve in CC), was one of the passionate students who drove to Visalia for the 2-hour class. He contributed many enlightening comments to the class. However, our class did not last long. The pandemic halted our gatherings at the Visalia BC and forced us to switch our class format from in-person to online Zoom. Not everyone has the internet capability, so some class students stopped attending the class, yet, because of the class being online, new attendees from different parts of the Central California and even from the different regions of California have been gradually joining.

One of the new attendees, David, found us online, and he joined the online monthly class last fall. He was a very quiet person and did not ask many questions in the beginning. I asked him to present his own questions to the class. In January, as he was becoming more familiar to the class, he how he can help our education. Since Buddhism does not ask or obligate one to give back to the teaching, I told him just come and study. His generosity became eminent and he offered to run to fund raise. I did not understand his intention. At first, I thought he want to run or host a fundraiser, but he said he will run long distance which is an "ultramarathon" and hope to motivate people to donate. For those that are unfamiliar with an ultramarathon, in a regular marathon, the running distance is 42.195 km or 26-mile 385 yards. In an ultramarathon, the running distance is 50, 75 or even 100 miles.

Rinban and I established the Central California Ministerial Assistant education program for people who wish to learn a deeper understanding of Jodo Shinshu and to establish and enjoy a harmonious sangha. Rinban and I want to share everything we know as Kaikyo-shi (full-fledged minister), with anyone who would like to support Central Cal Buddhist education for our future. Understanding the

universal truth of impermanence, Rinban and I know that we cannot live forever. Thus, if many CC Sangha friends learn from us, they can continue sharing and enjoying the life of Jodo Shinshu, even after we are gone. A part of one of our main programs is that we send our students to Hiroshima, Japan to study and acquire an authentic Jodo Shinshu education, and to potentially receive ordination in our Jodo Shinshu order without spending too much of their own fortune.

David asked what program would most benefit from the Ultramarathon fundraiser. I explained that proceeds from the fundraiser can help reduce a student's living expense while in Hiroshima. The program is our future. David did several test runs to make sure the fundraiser is feasible and in the end, ran from Visalia to Reedley, Reedley to Parlier, Parlier to Kingsburg, Kingsburg to Fowler, and Fowler to Fresno, a distance of 70-miles in total.

The ultramarathon fundraiser was held on April 2. I drove to Visalia at 2AM because the start time was 3AM! I really appreciate those Visalia board members that opened the church for David at 2:30AM! At Reedley, Parlier, Kingsburg, and Fowler, many people came out to support and cheer for David and his co-runners. I really appreciate their support and for the refreshments made available to the runners. Fowler to Fresno was the final section. David's wife joined him and the other runners. At Fresno, over 25 people cheerfully welcomed him as he ran thru the goal tape. You can watch this video clip on our Twitter page (search for Central California Nishi Hongwanji Twitter).

David established a donation account on Instagram, but some of our sangha friends are not familiar with Instagram, so we received donations by checks for the fundraiser. So far, we received more than \$2000 for the 70-mile ultramarathon. What surprised me most were the many donors from local generous persons, many who have never been to our churches. David asked his running friends to promote his fundraiser and many of them supported his effort. During this fundraiser, I was able to meet and connect with many local new friends. I believe that people are the most important asset in our lives. I am so glad that I accepted his offer.

The pandemic handed us many challenges and difficulties. However, if we did not encounter the pandemic and did not start the online classes, my life and David's life may not have ever crossed. I do not thank the pandemic, but I deeply appreciate people such as Calvin Doi, who encouraged me to start the online course. Calvin really was a harmonious man.

Gassho.

Transportation to Services



There are times when you may need transportation to and/or from our services. We have some members who have volunteered to pick you up and/or take you home. We only ask that you are vaccinated and wear a mask inside the car.

Please call Gary Sakata at (559) 250-9687 and if no answer, leave a message. We will get back to you as soon as possible. Please let us know by the day before a service so we can make arrangements. Thanks!



Message from Rev. Nakagawa

Our Nenbutsu Dojo



Hondo, the main hall of Jōdo Shinshū Temple, has been uniquely called "Dōjō" or "Nenbutsu Dōjō" in the worldwide Buddhist tradition. Dōjō means an exercise hall, as in the case of the origin of "Dōjō" of all martial arts; such as, Jūdō, Karate or others are in the "Hondō" of Jōdo Shinshū. You must be surprised!

Our "Nenbutsu Dōjō" means **a hall for exercising the Nenbutsu.**

To exercise the Nenbutsu means to hear the Nembutsu and to be attentive to the Nenbutsu.

As Shinran Shonin taught in his "Kyō-Gyō-Shin-Shō" that follows: "'Hearing' is that all beings, hearing the origin and the history of the original prayer-for-the-world of Śākyamuni Buddha, cherish no doubting mind."

What is most necessary for this process of hearing and being convinced?

That means asking questions.

We Buddhists are very fortunate. Buddhism is unique in that it does **not** reject any questions, whereas many so-called "religions" emphasize "Blind Faith." You, as a Buddha-dharma follower, can ask until you understand. You can ask until your teacher gets in trouble.

You accept only when there is no more doubt. If you think it makes no sense at all, then don't accept it. Don't worry. There are 84,000 useful methods and clinical cases in Buddhism carried since 2,600 years ago, and there is sure to be a method that you can apply to your creative life.

To do so, first and foremost, start by hearing and asking questions here in this Hondo, the main hall.

In the Buddhist countries, there is a proverb that says: "Asking something you don't know is embarrassing only then, but if you don't ask, you will be embarrassed for the rest of your life".

Here is a story about two sisters, both over 85 years old.

One warm and bright Sunday, they decided to visit a friend who lived in a neighboring town about 20 miles away. They hadn't visited that town in the last seven years. They got in their old car and began to drive carefully to their friend's house.

As it happens to many of us, they became lost. Seven years were enough to change a whole roadmap around their

neighboring towns. And so, they decided after a while to stop and ask for directions. They drove into a gas station and asked the attendant. The attendant gave them very good instructions. He even offered to draw a map, but being hard of hearing or being embarrassed and a little proud, it caused them to say, "We know that town," and they went on ahead.

Soon they got lost again. And they decided once more to ask. Again, they got very clear instructions but being hard of hearing, they couldn't quite make out what was being said. Instead of asking again until they understood, they went on ahead, as if they had understood.

Soon they got lost again. Now, it was getting really serious, for they had somehow wandered into the backcountry which was like a desert. And on top of that, it was getting hotter and hotter.

Some days later, a police car spotted their car, stalled on an out-of-the-way desert path. One sister was still in the car; the second sister was about 200 yards from the car. Sadly enough, both were dead.

Upon investigation, the police found out that these two sisters had wandered around lost for nearly 24 hours and had covered over 200 miles. They also discovered that over ten people had been asked directions and that they all tried to explain. But apparently, the two sisters were both too proud to say simply that they couldn't understand or please say it again. For this, they become lost in the desert and met their sad end.

In life, being human, all of us get lost at one time or another. The important thing is to always be humble and ask for help and keep asking until we discover the way out of our lost-ness.

That is the importance of "Listening to the Dharma."

"Anyone whoever has been born into human form, attains Buddha-hood without exception. Moreover, one could attain Buddha-hood moment by moment without interruption and innumerable people would attain Buddha-hood unquestionably, you should never arouse the heart flinching from difficulties."

["Mahāyāna Sūtra Lankāra", Chapter 'Adhimukti' – 11]

If a person born as a human being could not become a Buddha even after living 100 years, then his/her life was ultimately in vain.

The first step to reaching the State of Buddhahood begins with "Keep Hearing/Listening."



HANAMATSURI 2022

Greetings from the Shibatas & the Cherry Blossoms in Japan!





May Monthly Memorial Service

The May Monthly Memorial Service will be conducted **IN-PERSON** on **Sunday, May 22, 2022 at 10:00 AM**. Families and friends are asked to attend and gassho. The deceased and seshu (observant) for May are as follows:

DECEASED:

Katsuji Abe
Dorothy Antoku
Yukio Hamada
Haruichi Hanemoto
Helen Matsuoka
Junzo Hashimoto

SESHU: (OBSERVANT)

Mitchell Abe
Kay Antoku
Clifford Hamada
Harvey Hanemoto
Joanne Hansen
Nori Hashimoto &
Mary Hashimoto

Tsurutaro Arakawa, Shizuye
Arakawa
Fumiye Asakawa
George Masato Hatanaka
Mariko Hiyama & Bradley
Hiyama

Keiko Hatakeda
Misa Hatakeda
Joyce Hatanaka
Denise Hiyama & Teri
Kido

Chiyo Hosaka
Shinichi Ikeda
Henry Hiroshi Iwanaga,
Tsumoru Kai
Harry Hayao Iwasaki
Fumi Kawagoe
Umeyo Saunders, Waka
Kawamoto, Setsuko
Kawamoto, Ken Kawamoto

Todd Hosaka
Kristen DelCont
Eva Iwanaga
Chizuko Iwasaki
Roy Kawagoe

Gunzo Kubota
Clarence Yamada
Toshi Hashimoto
Tsuyako Sue Miyakawa
Ryo Miyamoto
Kenneth Nishida
Matsue Nancy Hirasuna
Masao Okamura
Jintaro Kubo,
Kaizo Geo Kubo

Sue Kawamoto
Ben Kubota
Diane Kubota
Shiz Kunishige
James Miyakawa
Michio Miyamoto
Larry Nishida
Kathy Nishinaka
Dennis Okamura

Bobby Sakata
Tadayoshi Yamamoto
Kaichiro Sasaki
Kinuye Kay Takanishi,
Ayano Takanishi,
Takumi Joe Shinkawa
Keiko Sugai

Kathy Omachi &
Patricia Omachi
Nancy Sakata
Ruth Sasaki
Dennis Sasaki

Don Takanishi
Linda Doi & Janet
Quiroz

Continued in next column

May Monthly Memorial Cont.

DECEASED:

Satomi Takasaki,
Ginpei Takayama,
George Takasaki
Yukimi Noji
Douglas Togioka
Tsuneko Ideuye, Masutaro
Toyota, Katsutaro Toyota
Ralph Tatsumi Kimoto &
Rose Komoto
Naoemon Morikawa, Yasu
Kurokawa, Izo Kurokawa,
Imachi Yamada, Tomiko
Yamada
Bill Fumio Yamada, Robert
Minoru Yamada

SESHU:(OBSERVANT)

Yukiye Takayama
Kazuko Tatami
Sharon Morikawa
Shuzo Toyota
Amy Tsuji
Ayako Yamada
Ellen Yamada

Procedures for Requesting a Minister

Funerals:

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

Makuragyo Service:

During the week contact the Fresno Betsuin Office (442-4054) or Rev. Nakagawa on weekdays or weekends directly (970-7652).

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. Gary Sakata
Phone: (559) 250-9687

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. Nakagawa: (urgent for Makuragyo) (559) 970-7652

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. Gary Sakata: kgsakata@verizon.net

Email Newsletter/Webmaster: reedleybc@gmail.com





Reedley Obon Festival

Saturday, July 2, 2022

Food sales - 5:00 PM • Dancing - 8:00 PM

Reedley Buddhist Church - 2035 15th Street - Reedley, CA

Food Vendors: Lolo's Shaved Ice, BWA Somen Noodles, Yoshi's Sampler & Deluxe Plates, Papa Murphy's Pizza, Jr. YBA Drinks & Popcorn, Dharma School Mochi Ice Cream, & Sergio's Tacos & Churros

Entertainment: Fresno Gumyo Taiko

Come out and dance! No experience needed!



Hatsubon/Obon Service - Sunday, July 3, 2022 at 10 AM

Questions? - Email: reedleybc@gmail.com



2022 CCBEC/MAP May Seminar
CC Archive project:
Recollection of the old time
church activities and their family
May 25, 7pm on zoom
 presented by
Rev. Karen, Rev. Toshie, Mrs. Sharon



Free to attend: Please email CCDCBEC@Gmail.com for zoom link

A Taste of Bazaar II - April 24, 2022





Reedley BWA YARD SALE



Save the Date! - October 15, 2022



Start cleaning out those closets and garages! Due to lack of space, we will not be able to accept any items until
October 11th & 12th

Furniture, bedding, kitchenware, electronics, antiques, games, appliances, baby items, children's clothing, etc.



Central California Nikkei Foundation

Shredding Community Service and Fundraiser

Saturday, May 21, 2022

9am to 12 noon

Securely dispose of personal documents,

tax papers,

Books-hardback & paperback,

Hard Drives.

Limit: 10 Banker Sized Boxes per car

Cost: \$15 per Banker Sized Box

\$15 per Hard Drive

Cash or Check only

Please make check payable to CCFN

Event will be Drive-Thru

Boxes will be emptied from your trunk/tailgate and returned

Held at Vintage Gardens

540 S. Peach Ave., Fresno

Questions contact: Susan Hayashi – 325-1457 or
text 906-8540

Seniors who cannot drive to the event, call Susan by **April 30**
and arrange for pick-up.





Fresno Buddhist Church invites you to our Twenty-sixth Annual

Hawaiian Plate Dinner

Saturday, May 21, 2022

2 pm to 6 pm

Plate Dinner

includes Chicken Katsu, rice, Hawaiian potato/macaroni salad, tsukemono salad, dessert

Take-out Only

Fresno Betsuin Family Dharma Center • 2690 E. Alluvial

Donation: \$17.00

We have delayed this year's fundraiser from April to May, due to concerns over Covid-19. Also in the interest of safety, we are making a few adjustments. The Dinner will be essentially be the same, but we have taken steps to streamline the preparation. Also, only individuals who have been fully vaccinated will be allowed to volunteer. Safety First is uppermost in our minds.

This year, we will not do outside deliveries, so all meals must be picked up at the FDC. In the interest of caution, at this time, we are having **Take-out Only**.

Let's look forward to the return to normal.

Please write your check to the FRESNO BUDDHIST CHURCH.

Order Form

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Dinner Tickets: \$17 x _____ = _____

Raffle Tickets: \$5 x _____ = _____

Donation: _____ = _____

Total Enclosed = _____

Please write check to:

Fresno Buddhist Church • 2690 E. Alluvial Ave. • Fresno, CA 93720 and return form by Friday, May 13.
Your dinner tickets will be mailed to you.

Any questions? Call Sherian or Glenn at 435-8050, or email: glenntheham@sbcglobal.net