



VOLUME 59  
ISSUE 5

# The Fresno Buddhist Church

Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Temple

# GEPPPO

website: [www.fresnobuddhisttemple.org](http://www.fresnobuddhisttemple.org)

2024

MAY  
2024

"EACH DAY COMES BEARING ITS GIFTS. UNTIE THE RIBBON." - Ann Ruth Schabacker

REV. KAZ NAKATA

Hello everyone, I am newly assigned to the Fresno  
Betsuin Buddhist Temple!



Hello to all Fresno Betsuin Sangha friends!

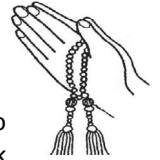
Under the umbrella of the Fresno Betsuin, there are five districts of Bowles, Clovis, Fresno City, Kingsburg, and North Fresno. Members of these five districts are a part of Fresno Betsuin Sangha friends and family. I am newly assigned to the Fresno

Betsuin Buddhist Temple. Really, I am not kidding you! I was technically working under the CC minister's sharing system and making visits to Fresno Betsuin for services and events until recent changes were made.

It is confusing so allow me to explain: In 2019, my family moved from Los Angeles to Central Cal with my new assignment of serving Parlier, Reedley, and Visalia Buddhist Churches. In 2022, when Rev. Nakagawa started experiencing difficulties in serving the other CC churches including the Fresno Betsuin due to his health concerns, I agreed to cover his ministerial serving area as my additional agreement with the support of Rev. Midori Nakagawa. So, I was saying "I am covering from Merced to Bakersfield" for a while.

In February this year, I was notified of my new assignment to serve the Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Temple and in March, received new instructions for the assignment. Soon after receiving my new assignment, I requested from the Betsuin Board to use the office in the Dharma Center as a minister's office. Some (or most) of you remember that there were ministers' offices at the old Betsuin in downtown Fresno. However, since selling the downtown property, the Fresno Betsuin ministers began working from their homes because there was no dedicated ministers' office at the Dharma Center. According to Rev. Nakagawa, he and his colleague attempted to work from the office of each CC church, but it became a burden, so they decided to work from home. After moving to Fresno, I was surprised that the ministers did not have a dedicated office and at the same time, I wondered how ministers can be accessible to sangha members without a fixed location to meet.

After the Board's approval, Gordy Misaki and other generous sangha members helped clean up a "storage" room, converting it into the minister's office. Thanks Gordy and his buddies!



After their professional cleaning effort, I moved into the office and established office hours. Please check the Betsuin calendar for my schedule. Also please check the live updates on the Betsuin website or on "X" (our social network platform), because I may not be in the office during certain hours due to other events, services, etc. Please visit me!

Besides my office hours, I am implementing several activities which were impossible to do when I was busy working for multiple temples. I wish to make home visits for sangha friends who have transportation or physical difficulties. I also plan to make visitations with the Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Women's Association. Hopefully, I can visit as many of our friends as I can and say hello to them in person.

In addition to Sunday services, I have added weeknight services called "Nighttime mindfulness chanting meditation." In our Jodo Shinshu tradition, our founder Shinran Shonin conducted six services a day with six different chanting every four hours (Roku-ji Raisen). For an 'early' nighttime service, there is a chanting called Shoyaraisan-ge. We have been practicing this melodious chanting for more than two months on Sunday mornings. As the resident minister, I will continue this weeknight service as a part of Jodo Shinshu rituals and for spreading the Buddha Dharma.

Another activity I offer is "helping hands - Dana." When I was working at Sacramento Betsuin, many Betsuin friends were living far from their children. Some of them experienced troubles with their computers, such as virus infection, misplaced files or they simply did not know how to draft Emails. Prior to my ministry career, I ran my own IT company for several years and have knowledge of networking and computer peripherals. I used to visit their homes to fix their problems. And I also made easy car repairs and even installed shingles on their roofs. Yes, you can call me a handy man, but I will not take Mr. Steven Mukai's reputation as THE Fresno Betsuin Handy Man!

These activities are implemented to thank you for being Sangha friends of Fresno Betsuin. I will continue my best to serve each of you through the various activities of Dana.  
Gassho.

Norman Otani,  
Betsuin Board Chairperson



Warm greetings to our Fresno Buddhist Church Betsuin sangha members. It is spring time in Fresno, and the surrounding central valley communities; and I was pleasantly surprised to see a few weeks ago, the first yellow monarch butterfly darting from flower to flower, nurturing itself on the sweet plant nectar. As I currently am able to go to the Fresno Buddhist Church temple grounds, generally about two (2) times per week; I have clearly noticed that the landscape of the cherry trees, has now in most instances, changed to the green leaves as the spring weather has been wonderfully warm and allowed nature to bring out this wonderment in all its many forms.

At press time, I and I hope many of our sangha members will be attending the April 21, 2024 *Hanamatsuri Service* in the Hondo; if my recollection is correct, due to a conflict in my 2023 personal schedule, I was not able to enjoy this Jodo Shinshu traditional annual service, so I am especially looking forward to being in attendance this year, as the Guest speaker is BCA Bishop Reverend Marvin Harada.

I will be concluding my second year of my term as your Fresno Buddhist Church Betsuin board chairperson, at the end of 2024; so, you may have heard me mention that the Fresno Buddhist Church Betsuin board is looking for my successor in 2025. What does the board chairperson do, and who is best qualified to fill this important role for the Fresno Buddhist Church Betsuin? From my introduction, provided by the immediate past-board chairperson, Gordon Ah-Tye; what attracted my involvement to volunteer for this challenging position, was that I could "do as little or as much as I wanted in regards to the number of monthly services I attended, participation on committees, etc." This made my acceptance to be the 2023 and 2024 board chairperson, much more welcoming, and gave me the motivation, to try my best and to meet each day, week, month, and year with optimism; which together with all of the other elected board officers, board members, and advisory council members, will be very willing to help our next leader meet the many challenges encountered (including yours truly, as I would become one of the advisory council members for a period of three (3) years).

So, who is willing to accept this opportunity? Please step forward and be counted, as the next 2025 Fresno Buddhist Church Betsuin board chairperson, and to be part of the planning and preparation for the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2026, and attending other interesting Jodo Shinshu events, etc.

### KENDO: The Way of the Sword

Kendo classes are held on Wednesday and Friday evenings, and based on the age and experience of the participant; each participant must be approved by the instructor: Norman Otani, 6 Dan Renshi, after an initial "free trial lesson." The specific kendo class fees information, and a waiver of liability document will be provided to the participant/guardian; after the initial trial lesson is completed.

Regular Wednesday and Friday weekly classes have resumed; except on the dates per the **\*NOTICE\*** below.  
New beginner youth and adult kendo students will be accepted; until future notice.

#### Wednesday and Friday Class Schedule

**Beginner youth: 6:00pm-6:45pm**

**Beginner adult: 7:00pm-8:45pm**

**Advanced Kendo (sword drawing): 9:00pm-10:00pm**



#### **\*NOTICE\*:**

There will be **NO** kendo classes on

**\*Wed., May 1**

**\*Fri., May 24**

Contact information:

Norman Otani

Email: [norman.otani@gmail.com](mailto:norman.otani@gmail.com)

PH: (559) 322-1210

#### CORRECTION!

In the previous issue of the newsletter, Rev. Majima was listed as an "Associate Minister" of the Fresno Betsuin. Please note that this was in error. Rev. Majima is the Resident Minister for the Fowler, Hanford, Parlier, Reedley and Visalia Buddhist Temples and NOT an Associate Minister of the Fresno Betsuin.

Rev. Kaz Nakata is the Interim Rinban for the Fresno Betsuin.

We apologize for any confusion or inconvenience caused by this error. Thank you.



## Education and Propagation

Please join us to listen to and practice the Buddha Dharma.

### THURSDAY EVENING MEDITATION/CHANTING WITH REV. KAZ

5/2, 5/9, 5/16, 5/23

7:00PM - 7:45PM

### SUNDAY MEDITATION CLASS

(Sitting and Walking Meditation)

5/5, 5/12, 5/19

(No class on 5/26 Memorial Day)

8:30AM - 9:15AM

### SUNDAY FRIENDS & FAMILY SERVICE IN THE HONDO DHARMA SCHOOL

5/5 @ 10:00AM

### REV. KAZ'S BUDDHISM 101 CLASS - HYBRID

ATTEND IN PERSON AT THE DHARMA CENTER OR VIA ZOOM

Mon., May 6

7:00PM - 8:30PM

Please email for Zoom link: rev.kaznakata@gmail.com

### BUDDHIST STUDY CLASS HOWAKAI IN JAPANESE

Tues., May 14 at 10:00AM

Family Dharma Center, Multi-Purpose Room

### GOTANE, MAY SHOTSUKI SERVICE AND HATSUMAIRI CEREMONY

Sun., May 12 @ 10AM

Speaker: Rev. Nobuo Miyaji

### FRIENDS & FAMILY LAY DHARMA SERVICE IN THE HONDO

Sun., May 19 @ 10AM

Guest Lay Speaker: Dr. Gordon Misaki"

followed by

### DHARMA SCHOOL x KODOMO CENTER ACTIVITY IN THE FDC

### ECO-SANGHA AT EARTH DAY AT FRESNO CITY COLLEGE

Sat., May 4

### CENTRAL CAL BUDDHIST EDUCATION SEMINAR ON ZOOM

Rev. Mutsumi Wondra

"Essence of Shinran Shonin's Teachings"

Tues., May 28

7:00PM - 8:30PM

Please email for Zoom link: rev. kaznakata@gmail.com

\*\*\*\*\*

For more information, or questions on services or upcoming events, please email: fresnohondo@gmail.com

Please check website regularly for any changes in the schedule  
www.fresnobuddhisttemple.org

## Rev. Kaz teaches a Two-Year Youth Buddhist Class every Friday at 5:30PM via Zoom

Since 2019, four Fresno Girls, Makayla Kubo, Kylie Kubo, Izumi Ryan, and Kanon Nakata have completed the "Applied Jodo Shinshu Class", a two-year (74-hour) credit course. This class also covers the requirement for Girl Scouts Cadettes Padma and Boy Scouts Sangha Award. Upon completion of this course, they are entitled to be a Youth Ministerial Assistant (Youth MA) for which hours of ministerial help is counted as community service. Their Youth MA title will remain until graduation from college or age 23, whichever comes first, and they can form their Buddhist club at their college. There are public speaking opportunities, not only at temple/church, but also at local communities.

The first-year class will be provided via zoom and the second-year class will be hybrid (ritual training at Hondo). The age requirement is 11-19 years old. No application fees required.

For details, please contact Rev. Kaz at 424-666-7101 or rev.kaznakata@gmail.com

## Fresno Gumyo Taiko

**NEW BEGINNING TAIKO CLASS**

Starting in January  
2024  
Wednesdays  
7:00pm -8:30pm



FOR INFORMATION CONTACT  
LEE JENSEN AT 313-9850  
Leilanilee11@gmail.com

## MEMORIAL WEEKEND SERVICES

### MAY, MAY 26

- 9a Fresno Memorial Gardens  
 9a Clovis Cemetery  
 10a Washington Colony Cemetery  
 10:30a Sanger Cemetery  
 11:30a Kingsburg Cemetery  
 1p Hanford Cemetery

### MONDAY, MAY 27

- 8:30a Parlier Cemetery  
 9a VFW, Roeding Park  
 9a Selma Cemetery  
 9:45a Fowler Cemetery  
 10a Japanese Interfaith, Mt. View Cemetery



### 2024 Memorial Service Schedule

2024 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

2023 - 1 year	2012 - 13 years	1992 - 33 years
2022 - 3 years	2008 - 17 years	1973 - 50 years
2018 - 7 years	2000 - 25 years	1925 - 100 years

As the days, months and years go swiftly by, we often forget to schedule memorial services for our departed relatives.

If 2024 is a significant service memorial year for a loved one, please contact the temple office to schedule a service.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

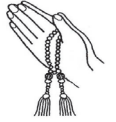
**THE FRESNO BETSUIN WILL OBSERVE RENNYO SHONIN MEMORIAL, SHOTSUKI HOYO FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE AND HONOR SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS**



**SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2024 AT 10:00AM**

**OUR GUEST SPEAKER  
 WILL BE  
 REV. HARRY BRIDGE,  
 RESIDENT MINISTER OF  
 THE BUDDHIST CHURCH  
 OF OAKLAND**

## Central California Nishi Hongwanji Ministerial Assistant Program (CCNHMAP)



Registration is currently being accepted for the CCNHMAP developed by Rev. Kaz specifically for Central Cal members and non-members. Please seriously consider participation in this program to further your knowledge of Jodo Shinshu Buddhism.

**Mission of a Ministerial Assistant:** Ministerial Assistant (known as MA) is a voluntary position/status for those wishing to learn the Jodo Shinshu tradition and to provide ministerial support to the temple and churches in the Central California and is directed by the ministerial advisor to the Ministerial Assistant Program (MAP).

**Registration and Requirements:** Apply through your temple/church or through the ministerial advisor. There is no requirement for educational background or age, but all applicants are required to show their eagerness and humbleness for words and deeds.

For more information, please contact:

Rev. Kaz, ministerial advisor for CCNHMAP:

rev.kaznakata@gmail.com

Paula Kanagawa, Chairperson, Central Cal Buddhist

Education Committee: info@fresnobuddhisttemple.org

## KEEP IN CONTACT!

Allow us to keep you posted on current events, upcoming fundraisers and important announcements thru email or text! Email & text blasts are the easiest ways to get last minute important information out to our members, so please update your email address & cell. Send to: info@fresnobuddhisttemple.org.

Your email address will not be shown on email blasts and will not be shared, unless we have your permission.

Speaking of email, we sure would appreciate more of our members signing up to receive the COLOR Geppo via email! Let us know if you're interested in helping the temple save printing & mailing costs! Members only, can access the Geppo from the website, should you prefer that option. Email Lee for login information. Thank you to all of those who are already making a difference!

## MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE

Time sure flies! With the fourth month of 2024 behind us, please check your records to be sure that you've paid your temple pledge. If you have not, won't you take the time to send in your contribution for 2024 and/or previous years now? We appreciate those who continue to keep their pledges current and the many who have already paid 2024 in full.







**MAY SHOTSUKI HOYO**  
(Memorial for Betsuin Members)

*will be observed on Sunday, May 12, 2024 @ 10:00AM in the HONDO*



Aburamen, John	Kato, Shunsaku	Niino, Asayo	Tange, Keiji
Akaba, Naoto	Kawaguchi, Baby Wilson	Niino, Chiyoko	Taniguchi, Kiyoko
Aoki, Mitsuyoshi	Kawamoto, Kiyozo	Niino, Hiroshi	Taniguchi, Tarobei
Arakawa, Toyoko	Kawano, Kenneth	Nishida, Kiku	Tashima, Maki
Araki, Kenso	Kawasaki, Ujio	Nishida, Milton	Tashima, Mikiye
Araki, Michael	Kimura, Hana	Nishioka, Cherry	Tatsumura, Shinichi
Arata, Don	Kitano, Joseph	Nitta, James	Tokumoto, Shizuko
Doizaki, Keiji	Koda, Yoshitsugu	Ogata, Heikuro	Tokunaga, Takeo
Fukagawa, George	Kodama, Toshimi	Ohashi, Masayuki	Tonai, Sataro
Fukuda, Joanne	Koga, Toshiyuki	Okada, Malcolm	Tonai, Yutaka
Fukuda, Mitsuye	Komoto, Katsuro	Okada, Mary	Tsudama, Helen
Fukuda, Seishiro	Konishi, Harry	Okada, Masuye	Tsukida, Masanobu
Goishi, Henry	Kondo, Kazuyo	Okada, Takayo	Tsukamoto, Seiichi
Hamachi, Sakubei	Kubo, Jintaro	Okada, Yoshitoshi	Ueki, Umeko
Hamada, Hajime	Kubow, Ruth	Okazaki, Betty Sumie	Urata, Edward
Hamada, Jeanne	Kumaki, Seisaku	Okazaki, Katherine	Utsunomiya, Kaname
Hamamoto, Yasufumi	Kumasaki, Miyosaku	Okonogi, Bunkuro	Uyeki, James
Hamasaki, Tsutomu	Kumashiro, Sueyo	Okuyama, Kinzo	Uyemaruko, Sachiye
Hara, Takichi	Kunitake, Roy	Omachi, George Hatsuo	Uyemaruko, Yaichi
Haramoto, Fujiye	Kurisu, Haya	Onchi, Lily	Uyemura, Hatsuso
Hashimoto, Kazumi	Kurisu, Jisuke	Oto, Kaizo	Uyemura, Toshiye
Hashimoto, Senzo	Kuwamoto, Satoshi	Oto, Takao	Uyemura, Zentaro
Hatake, Shigeo	Maruyama, Masayoshi	Sakamoto, Setsugo	Washiya, Shigeo
Hatayama, Aiko	Maruyama, Shinkichi	Sakamoto, Thomas	Watanabe, Taniyo
Hatayama, Narumi	Masui, Shizuyo	Sakow, Masako	Yabitsu, Tsugiko
Hayashi, Yojiro	Masumoto, Alan	Sanwo, George	Yamada, Alice
Hew, Kevin Lindsay	Matsunaga, Chito	Sasajima, Arata	Yamada, Kazuo
Hiramatsu, Yaematsu	Misaki, Katsumi	Sasaki, Tamaki	Yamada, Setsu
Hirasuna, Alice	Misaki, Takami	Sato, Franklin	Yamada, Tadaichi
Hirasuna, Matsue	Miyagawa, Shinichi	Saunders, Umeyo	Yamagiwa, Jiro
Hirata, George	Miyake, Haruto	Sekimoto, Hideo	Yamagiwa, Yoshiye
Hirose, Yaichi	Miyake, Umeyo	Sekine, Teru	Yamaguchi, Kikume
Hiroyasu, Joyce	Miyamoto, Gary	Seto, Momoye	Yamamoto, Anna
Hishida, Shizuka	Mizutani, Jitaro	Shinkawa, Takumi	Yamamoto, Ben
Hiyama, Mariko	Mobley, Kenneth Michael	Shinkawa, Yoshio	Yamamoto, Fukiko
Honda, Shusaku	Mori, Shigeo	Shintaku, Misao	Yamamoto, Yoshino
Hoshiko, Harumi	Morishita, Dora	Shiraishi, Shunki	Yamamura, Louise
Hoshiko, Torata	Moriwaki, Kentaro	Suda, Hiromu	Yamasaki, Alan
Ibara, Kazuko	Motoyoshi, Sachimaro	Suehiro, Itsuko	Yamasaki, Sumiko
Iida, George	Mukai, Mary	Suo, Mikio	Yamashita, Jerry
Ikeda, Kazumi	Murakami, Shunzo	Tachino, Kazuo	Yasuda, Mitsuo
Imai, Keizo	Nagata, Harry	Tachino, Masao	Yokota, Ann
Inahara, Hyakuzo	Nagata, Ihei	Taira, Kikuo	Yokota, Sakae
Inami, Jennifer	Nagata, Nobuo	Takahashi, Dennis	Yokoyama, Chester
Inouye, Allan	Naito, Mitzi	Takeda, Teruko	Yoneyama, Tomota
Inouye, Teruko	Nakagawa, Tsunao	Takemoto, Haruko	Yonezawa, Ryosaburo
Iwatsubo, Grant	Nakagawa, Umekichi	Takeshita, Jane	Yoshikawa, Kimiko
Kagawa, Takeo	Nakamoto, Juichi	Taketa, Sumiyo	Yoshikawa, Ruth
Kajikawa, Shunpei	Nakamura, Kumaichi	Taketomo, Matsuno	Yoshimoto, Katsuo
Kamikawa, Koichi	Nakamura, Terry	Takikawa, Shotaro	Yoshioka, Tokichi
Kanesaki, Donald	Nakata, Stephanie	Tamaki, Masakazu	Yoshioka, Toshie
Kasamatsu, Yukio	Namba, Ayako	Tamura, Yoshiye	Yuki, Hitoshi
Kataoka, Tsunetaro	Namba, Isamu	Tanaka, Yukio	Yumen, Zenichi
Kataoka, Yoshiko	Nguyen, Luong	Tanaka, Umekichi	Yuyama, Kenji
			Yuyama, Mark

## ~ Nighttime Mindfulness Chanting Meditation ~

शान्तिः

Positivity comes  
from your inner peace ...

All sentient beings  
equally reach Equanimity...

Open to the Public, come as you are

Dates: May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Time: 7pm

Place: Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Temple Hondo

初夜礼讃偈

Fresno Buddhist Temple Women's Association

### CULTURAL CLASS

Taught by Jun Hotta

Saturday, May 18, 2024

10:00AM – Noon

Family Dharma Center Multi-Purpose Room

Learn to make greeting cards and cards ready for framing,  
complete with matting.  
(Frame not included)

Cost:

\$3.00 for Fresno Buddhist Temple members

\$5.00 for non-members

If you are interested in attending this class,  
please RSVP to Jun Hotta by May 11<sup>th</sup>

Call (559) 312-7352 or email: [j46882@gmail.com](mailto:j46882@gmail.com)





## PILGRIMAGE TO POSTON by Robert Shintaku

On March 27, 2024, Reverend Kaz and Michiko Nakata and their daughters Kanon, Michilu, and Akika met Gordon and Susan Hayashi, Robert and Jane Shintaku, and Tom and Nancy (Doi) Wilson and their daughter, Wren Emiko at the Poston Memorial Monument at Poston, Arizona. In 1992, a group of former Poston Internees from Sacramento led by Ted Kobata, built the Poston Memorial Monument that was dedicated on October 6, 1992. After a service at the monument, they went to the site of the remnants of the adobe school buildings from Camp 1 of the Poston Concentration Camp, then to the Colorado River Indian Tribes Museum in Parker, Arizona.

Poston was one of ten camps that held people from Washington, Oregon, California, and Arizona during WWII. Poston, located on the Colorado River Indian Reservation south of Parker, Arizona, is where 18,000 people were interned from May 1942 to November 1945. When Poston was built, the government built barracks and buildings such as showers, toilets, laundry room, kitchen, and mess hall. For the schools, the men and women internees constructed buildings from adobe bricks in the three camps in Poston. The adobe school buildings of Camp 1 are the only ones remaining. After the internees left, the buildings were used by the Indians, but they have not been used for many years and are deteriorating. Some restoration work is being done through the efforts of the Poston Community Alliance, an organization whose purpose is to preserve the history of Poston.

Since Reverend Kaz Nakata came to the United States in 2003, he has served several temples. While he was in Sacramento, he met someone who was on the committee that built the Poston Memorial Monument and learned about the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. Since then, he has visited and held services at all ten Internment Camps.



Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Temple



**GOTAN-E  
(OBSERVANCE OF  
SHINRAN SHONIN'S  
BIRTHDAY),  
AND  
MAY SHOTSUKI  
SERVICE**

**SUNDAY, MAY 12  
10:00 a.m.**



**Guest Speaker:  
REV. NOBUO MIYAJI**

**BCA Minister Emeritus  
and Former Rinban of  
the Fresno Betsuin**



## ADVERTISEMENTS

To help us offset the costs of printing the "Geppo", please consider advertising your business or group. If you are interested, please contact Lee Osaki at the Betsuin office.

For Betsuin members:

Business Card: \$20/month or 3 months for \$45 (advance pay)

1/5 Page: \$25/month or 3 months for \$60 (advance pay)

For non-members:

Business Card: \$25/month (no 3-month rate) 1/5 page: \$30/month (no 3-month rate)

**Lynn Arakaki**  
Distributor

Independent Distributor



445 West Pico Avenue  
Clovis, California 93612-4242  
559-291-9357  
559-392-0497  
1167810  
cherylarakaki@msn.com



**BROTHERS**  
RAMEN & JAPANESE EATERY

(559) 554-9486

132 W. Nees Ave., Ste #108  
Fresno, CA 93711

**WE ARE  
OPEN!**

**DINE-IN TAKE-OUT DELIVERY**



**IT'S ALMOST TIME TO TAKE OUT YOUR HAPPI COATS AND YUKATA!  
THE 2024 OBON SEASON IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!  
FRESNO'S OBON IS SATURDAY, JULY 6, 2024**

**DANCE PRACTICE SCHEDULE IS BELOW...**

**SAVE THE DATES & KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR MORE INFORMATION**



PRACTICES WILL BE HELD AT THE  
FRESNO DHARMA CENTER GYM  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

OBON FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Visalia 6/29, Fresno 7/6,  
Reedley 7/13, Fowler 7/20,  
Kingsburg 7/27, and Parlier 8/3

ALL PRACTICES START AT  
7:00PM

MON., JUNE 17  
THURS., JUNE 20  
MON., JUNE 24  
TUES., JULY 2

DON'T FORGET TO BRING:

KACHI-KACHI  
ROUND FAN  
FOLDING FAN  
TENUGUI (TOWEL)

Questions? Contact Lesley Guerra  
lesleykg@prodigy.net  
(559) 824-3163



**DHARMA SCHOOL X Fresno Kodomo Center**  
**Fun Day Sundays!**



Join us on April 28 to learn how to make SUSHI ROLLS with Mrs Hatsuko Hanashiro.

On May 19, the Fresno Gumyo Taiko group will have a short performance and interact with the children (and adults!) using their Japanese drums.



# 2024 HATSUMAIRI CEREMONY

Sunday, May 12, 2024 at 10 am

## HATSUMAIRI

Hatsumairi is a special ceremony where grandparents or parents present their child(ren) to the Amida Buddha and the Sangha for the first time.

Children of all ages (newborn through high school) are welcome to participate in this ceremony. The ceremony is a first step taken by parents to raise their child according to a Dharma centered life and in establishing a world of stability and peace of mind for their children.

The Fresno Buddhist Temple's Hatsumairi will be held in conjunction with our annual Gotan-e service on May 12, 2024 at 10 am, which celebrates the birth of Shinran Shonin.

**Application Deadline:**  
**May 1, 2024**



Applications may also be found online



## Hatsumairi Application

Child's Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's First & Middle Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Boy \_\_\_\_\_ Girl

Child's Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Birthplace: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Cell# (text ok?) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form by May 1, 2024 to the Fresno Buddhist Temple 2690 E. Alluvial Ave, Fresno, 93720 or email your pdf file to [losaki@fresnobuddhisttemple.org](mailto:losaki@fresnobuddhisttemple.org)

There are no application fees, but donations are gratefully accepted.



### Welcome All 4-5 year olds!

A two week summer program introducing Japanese culture and way of life: group harmony, conservation of resources, respect for elders, and cooperative effort open to children of all ethnicities and religious denominations in a safe environment. This program will be led by Rev. Kaz Nakata, certified teachers, and volunteers.

**July 8-19, 2024**

Children will sing Japanese songs, play Japanese musical instruments, Obon dance, meditate, practice mindfulness, and show their gratitude and appreciation everyday.



## The Fresno Kodomo Center

Fresno Children's Japanese Cultural Center

### For more Information:

Rev Kaz Nakata:  
rev.kaznakata@gmail.com

Alene Hayashi:  
amhayashi@sbcglobal.net  
Text: (559) 269-2402



## July 8-19, 2024

### 8:30 - 11:30 am

**Fresno Buddhist Temple**  
2690 E Alluvial Ave, Fresno

Tuition: \$300  
CCDC Members: \$250  
Fresno Buddhist Temple Members: \$150





Fresno Betsuin  
 “Camping in the Sierras”  
**Steak Dinner**

**Saturday – May 11, 2024**

**\$25.00 Eat-In or Take-Out**

**4:00 - 7:00 pm**

Fresno Betsuin Family Dharma Center

Tickets can be purchased from:  
 Campers

Betsuin Office – 559-442-4054

Jenny Kubo – jkubo@comcast.net

Or Send in Order Form Below

**Steak Dinner Order Form – Return with Check by 4/27/2024**

Make Checks Payable to: Fresno Buddhist Temple

In memo line please note: Camping in the Sierras

Mail to: Jenny Kubo 10544 N Old Course Dr, Fresno, CA 93730

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Dinner Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ x \$25 = \_\_\_\_\_

Donation = \_\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed = \_\_\_\_\_

Eat In \_\_\_\_\_ Take Out \_\_\_\_\_



Thank you for your support of the campers!

Geppo

## Boy Scout Troop 199 Diego Mendoza, Historian

Hello, I am Diego Mendoza, serving as the Historian for Troop 199. This month, our troop actively participated in a crab feed and a camporee.

Our crab feed turned out to be a remarkable success. Every ticket was sold, and a large number of attendees graced the event. The troop collectively organized this event, which required a two-day preparation period. On the day of the event, our scouts served as diligent servers.

During the camporee, our troop enthusiastically engaged in various competitions. Notably, we secured 3rd place in the chili cook-off with our entry named "The Great Disaster". Additionally, we clinched the 2nd position for the fastest rope burning challenge. The experience was immensely enjoyable, and we cherished every moment of it.

We express our heartfelt thanks to all those who continuously support Troop 199.



## Seeking New Choir Members



Do you find yourself singing in the shower? Or, humming along with the radio in the car? If so, we need your enthusiasm to strengthen our group!

The Fresno Betsuin Choir is starting up again after a long absence due to COVID.

We meet every Wednesday from 3:00-4:00PM at the Family Dharma Center. COME JOIN US!

For more information, contact Florence Hamamoto – [florencehamamoto@gmail.com](mailto:florencehamamoto@gmail.com) or (559) 513-6586



ASIAN COOKBOOKS

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

CRAFTBOOKS

FICTION/NON-FICTION

HERITAGE/CULTURAL BOOKS

BUDDHIST BOOKS

## FRESNO BETSUIN BOOKSTORE IS ACCEPTING USED BOOKS

Proceeds from the sale of your donations will benefit  
Events & Projects sponsored by the  
Education & Propagation Committee

Drop off at the Family Dharma Center or call Sharon Nagata  
at 559.355-4976

Check out the website for a list of titles in stock now, for  
sale ... [www.fresnobuddhisttemple.org](http://www.fresnobuddhisttemple.org)



## Fresno Betsuin Camping in the Sierras

### More Happy Campers Needed

Now is the time for all fun seeking teenagers to come to the aid of Camping in the Sierras. We are seeking 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade teens to share a fun filled week on the beautiful California coastline. The prerequisite is to be open to good food, fun activities, making new friends and creating memories that will last a lifetime. We are extending this invitation to fill the last few available slots. If you know of anyone who fits this description, please have them contact us. We need your help contacting and inviting your grandchildren, nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends. There are no restrictions on residency, they only need to be a member of a Buddhist church.

**WHO: 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Teens** in the 2023 – 2024 school year  
Must be a member of a Buddhist Church

**WHAT: 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Camping in the Sierras - 2024**

**WHERE: San Luis Obispo Buddhist Temple**

**WHEN: Friday, July 26<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**WHY: Fun, Fun and More Fun!**

**HOW:** Email Gregg & Janis Sera at: [cgsera@pacbell.net](mailto:cgsera@pacbell.net) or  
Debbie Suda at: [deborahsuda@gmail.com](mailto:deborahsuda@gmail.com)

### 2024 Camp Steak Dinner Fundraiser - Saturday, May 11, 2024

With Gassho and Gratitude,  
Gregg, Janis, Debbie  
Camping in the Sierras Directors



## Fresno Betsuin 23rd Annual Golf Tourney, Hunter Arakawa

We hope you are part of the supporters of the tournament as a golfers, sponsor, donor, or helper. Thanks to everyone who has any involvement with the tourney..

### Fresno Betsuin Senior Club - April 2 meeting

Meeting called to order by Emiko Taketomo, shokuzen no gassho led by Rev. Kaz. A wonderful lunch was prepared by Emiko Taketomo and further made interesting with an exercise program, instead of just sitting around playing Bingo... a healthier way of following the luncheon.

Next month, May 7, toban 3 will serve berrocks as the main course, so we hope you will be able to attend.

### Multi-Chance Drawings, Hunter Arakawa

The April Board Meeting was lucky for Blake Morikawa, Doris Nii, and June Kamigawachi. Congratulations to them and hope YOUR name appears in the next Geppo! You still have plenty of time to enter the rest of the MCDs, and keep in mind the Grand Prizes in December.

### Bowles Buddhist Church, Hunter Arakawa

Our annual Memorial Day will be observed on Sunday, May 26, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the Washington Colony Cemetery. We hope you are able to attend if you have lost one of the Bowles members or past members of relatives.

### Fresno Betsuin BWA, Lynn Arakaki

The FBBWA will be making floral bouquets for distribution at the Mountain View Cemetery.

If you have any flowers that you would like to donate for this project, please deliver them to the Family Dharma Center at 1:00PM on Sunday, May 26.

Thank you in advance for your contributions!





## EDUCATION &amp; PROPAGATION PROGRAMS

## Caregivers/Project Dana, Donna Ishii

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month's Crochet/craft classes have been postponed for a few months. We will let you know when these classes will resume. For any information, please call Sherian at (559) 960-6451. Wednesday morning Tai Chi class will be continuing thru June 12<sup>th</sup> and will be taking the rest of June, AND all of July off. We hope to resume in August. For more information, please contact the Betsuin (559) 442-4054. We will keep you updated in the Geppo each month.



Thank you everyone for your kindness and generosity to our program. *Project Dana* is very fortunate and grateful to have so many Supporters! For the month of April, (March 20, 2024 to April 19, 2024), Project Dana wishes to thank everyone who donated monetary, food and miscellaneous items: Wednesday Tai Chi Class, Ukulele Group, Lisle Funeral Home, Mark Mansuri & June Kamigawachi, Junior & June Kagawa, Fran Imahara (IMO Nancy Inouye & Allan Inouye), Mas & Geri Shimamoto (IMO Hiro Tsudama), Naomi Tamura, Keiko Maruko, Barney Sano, Gene & Sharon Nagata, Gary Tsudama, Mariko Mukai, Yoshiye Ii, Eiko Ii, Shelly Kiritani, Dave Kawakami, Paulette Matsubara, Patti & Ed Bungo.

*Project Dana* gratefully thanks all the volunteers for their continued support! Thank you: Joyce Kubose, Gene Nagata, Sharon Nagata, Terrie Araki, Jun Hotta, Patti Tyner, Midori Nakagawa, Michiko Nakata, Ruth Yoneda, Leslie Ohashi, Lynn & Jay Arakaki, Sherian & Glenn Hamamoto, June Urabe, Sue Nishida, Geri Shimamoto, Dorothy Kobashi, Mineko Kuramoto, Chris Nishimoto, Paula Kanagawa, Harvey Hanemoto, MaryAnn Miyasaki, Arline Yokota, Hunter & Rumi Arakawa, Linda Takahashi, Florence Hamamoto, Elle Shitanishi, Joanne Kubow, Sue Yamasaki, Arlene Urabe, Margie Mukai, Karen Mukai, Bob & Jane Shintaku, Melanie Fry, Donald & Irene Miyasaki, Karen Kondo, Alice Nishimura, Susan Nagata, Sharon Fujita, Helen Hanashiro, Wayne Yamagiwa, Kathy Hamada, Rona Iida, Carolyn & Bob Okamoto, Amy & Tak Tsuda, Gordon & Susan Hayashi, Alvin & Hatsuko Hanashiro, Kenny & Patty Kanemoto, Georgia Kawamoto, June Kamigawachi, Mark Mansuri, Karen Uyemaru, Keiko Maruko, Alene & Michael Hayashi, Michi Hotta, Nancy Yotsuya, Irene Leach, Scarlett Sato, Gordy Misaki, Lee Jensen, Norma Kawano.

Please don't hesitate to call the Betsuin office if you know anyone needing a Homebound meal, senior information or wish to volunteer for the Project Dana program. (559) 442-4054 or email [projectdana@fresnobuddhisttemple.org](mailto:projectdana@fresnobuddhisttemple.org).

**FYI:** ~Thank you June Kamigawachi & Mark Mansuri for the Kenji's Teriyaki Obento for April 24<sup>th</sup>'s Home Bound meals. They were truly enjoyed & much appreciated!!!

~Project Dana wishes to express our sincere condolences to the family of Ed Morishima. Ed was a wonderful and generous supporter of Project Dana. He will be truly missed by all!

~Next homebound delivery meal is tentatively Friday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. Your driver will contact you to confirm the date! Please Take Care & Stay Safe!

## ECO-SANGHA

## Clean Your Trash, Recycle, and Green Waste Carts!

Now that we're throwing our food scraps and organic waste in the green waste cart, let's keep the cart clean with Sanitrol Can Cleaning!

## SANITROL CAN CLEANING

(559) 330-2267

**ABOUT US** - Hi there! We are a local eco-friendly trash can cleaning service. We clean, sanitize, disinfect & deodorize your trash, recycle and green waste bins. Our specialized truck uses reclaimed water. Quarterly service is \$35 for 3 can cleanings.

## PROJECT OUTREACH

Thank you for the food container donations. We use them up as fast we receive them at our events. Bring your beverage and containers and utensils and help us save on dishwasher usage. Thank you for being sustainable.





## GIFT CARDS



It's already May! Need a Mother's day gift or a graduation gift. If you are can't think of anything to purchase, how about a gift card?

Please check out our list below. I try to be at the Dharma Center every Sunday. If not, Ruth usually covers for me.

If you would like to place an order, please contact:

Patty Kanemoto [motopatty@gmail.com](mailto:motopatty@gmail.com) 559-281-6374

Ruth Yoneda [ruthyoneda@hotmail.com](mailto:ruthyoneda@hotmail.com) 559-297-9004

## GIFT CARDS 2/17/24

(I have noted the percentage that we earn on the discount. The percentage can change.)

(SMALL DENOMINATIONS WITH \* ARE ONLY AVAILABLE DURING THE HOLIDAYS.)

RETAILER	DENOMINATION	PROFIT %
ACE HARDWARE	\$25, \$100	4
AMAZON	\$10*, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250	1.7
ARCO	\$100	1.5
BARNES & NOBLE	\$10, \$25	8
BATH & BODY	\$10, \$25	12
BEST BUY	\$25	4
BIG 5	\$25	8
CARLS JR	\$10, \$25	5
CARTERS	\$25	10
CHEESECAKE FACTORY	\$25	5
CHILI'S	\$25	11
CHIPOTLE	\$10, \$25	9
CVS	\$25, \$100	6
DAVE & BUSTERS	\$25	13
DICKS	\$25	8
EDWARDS	\$10, \$25	7
EL POLLO LOCO	10, \$25	6
FLEMINGS/OUTBACK	\$50, \$100	10
HOME DEPOT	\$25, \$100	4
HOME GOODS	\$25	7
HONEY BAKED HAM	\$25	12
IHOP	\$25	8
JAMBA JUICE/CINNABON/ AUNTIE ANNE	\$25	6
KOHL'S	\$25	4
LOWE'S	\$25, \$100	4
MACY'S	\$25, \$100	10
MARSHALLS/HM GOODS/ TJ MAXX	\$25	7
MCDONALDS	\$10, \$25	2

RETAILER	DENOMINATION	PROFIT %
MICHAEL'S	\$25	6
NORDSTROMS & RACK	\$25	4
OLIVE GARDEN/YARDHOUSE	\$25	8
OUTBACK/FLEMINGS	\$50, \$100	10
PANDA EXPRESS	\$25	8
PANERA	\$10, \$25	8
RED LOBSTER	\$25	8
RED ROBIN	\$25	8
REI	\$25	8
RITE AID	\$25	4
ROSS	\$25	8
RUTH'S CHRIS	\$50, \$100	10
SAVE MART	\$25, \$100	2
SEPHORA	\$25	5
SMART & FINAL	\$25, \$50, \$100	3
SPROUTS	\$25, \$50, \$100	5
STARBUCKS	\$5*, \$10, \$25, \$50	4.5
SUBWAY	\$10	4.5
TACO BELL	\$10	5
TARGET	\$10, \$25, \$50, \$100	2.5
TJ MAXX/MARSHALLS/ HM GOODS	\$25	7
TOTAL WINE	\$25	7
ULTA	\$25	7
VONS/SAFEWAY	\$25, \$100	4
WALGREENS	\$25	5
WALMART	\$10, \$25, \$100	2.5
WENDY'S	\$25	6
YARD HOUSE/OLIVE GARDEN	\$25	8

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](mailto:vlnishida1@gmail.com)  
or email Karen Sakata at: [kgsakata@verizon.net](mailto:kgsakata@verizon.net)

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



# iPhone H.E.L.P. Classes At The Nikkei Center

## *We Are Offering 2 Classes*

**Beginners :** Calling, Texting, Facetime, Downloading Apps, Navigating The Internet, Social Media, Medical/Prescriptions, And More!

**The Next Step:** Messages (Stickers, Effects And Avatars), Utilizing Files, Creating Widgets, Modifying Photographs (Adjust, Filter, Crop), And More!

*Please Contact Maura For More Information:*

559-252-4036, Ext. 251 or

[mauram@vintagegardens.org](mailto:mauram@vintagegardens.org)

Vintage Gardens Assisted Living Community  
540 S. Peach Ave. Fresno, CA 93727

## Central California Nikkei Foundation



***Nikkei Hour***  
**Vintage Gardens**  
**Every Friday**  
**12:30-1:30**



If You Are A Senior, We Would Love To Have You Join Us!  
We Alternate Between A Crafty Service Project, A Craft Project For Ourselves And, Occasionally, A Demonstration.

Please Let Us Know You Are Coming By Thursday. 559-252-4036, Ext. 250 or [mauram@vintagegardens.org](mailto:mauram@vintagegardens.org)  
Vintage Gardens 540 S. Peach Ave. Fresno, CA 93727



## Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Temple

"Namo Amida Butsu"  
Our Home...



1901-2018



2010



2022

**FRESNO BUDDHIST CHURCH**  
2690 E. ALLUVIAL AVE.  
FRESNO, CA 93720

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 24  
Fresno CA

If you are not the intended recipient, please call (559) 442-4054 to request removal of your address from our mailing list. Thank you.

**MAY 12, 2024**



**May Happenings...**

**THURSDAY NITE CHANTING MEDITATION ~ 5/2, 5/9, 5/16, 5/23, 5/30**

**SUNDAY MEDITATION ~ 5/3, 5/12, 5/19**

**FRESNO BETSUIN GOLF TOURNAMENT ~ 5/5**

**INTRO TO BUDDHISM CLASS W/REV. KAZ ~ 5/6**

**FRIENDS & FAMILY SERVICE ~ 5/5**

**VINTAGE GARDENS HOWAKAI ~ 5/3**

**FAIRWINDS HOWAKAI ~ 5/20**

**BUDDHIST STUDY CLASS JAPANESE HOWAKAI ~ 5/14**

**WEDNESDAY MORNING TAI-CHI ~ 5/1, 5/8, 5/15, 5/22, 5/29**

**CAMPING IN THE SIERRA'S STEAK DINNER ~ 5/11**

**GOTAN-E, MAY SHOTSUKI SERVICE ~ 5/12**  
**GUEST SPEAKER: REV. NOBUO MIYAJI**

**LAY SERVICE AND DHARMA SCHOOL x KODOMO CENTER**  
**COLLABORATION FUN DAY SUNDAY ~ 5/19**

**MEMORIAL WEEKEND SERVICES ~ SEE SCHEDULE ON PAGE 4**

**REMEMBER TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE REGULARLY IN CASE OF**  
**CHANGES TO SCHEDULE**

**PLEASE SUPPORT ALL C.C. TEMPLES' AND ORGANIZATION**  
**EVENTS!**

**JUNE 20, 2024**



**June Heads Up....**

**SUNDAY MEDITATION ~ 6/2, 6/9, 6/16, 6/23, 6/30**

**INTRO TO BUDDHISM CLASS W/REV. KAZ ~ 6/3**

**FRIENDS & FAMILY SERVICE ~ 6/2**

**RENNYO SHONIN MEMORIAL, JUNE SHOTSUKI SERVICE AND**  
**SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION ~ 6/9**  
**GUEST SPEAKER: REV. HARRY BRIDGE**

**VINTAGE GARDENS HOWAKAI ~ 6/7**

**FAIRWINDS HOWAKAI ~ 6/17**

**BUDDHIST STUDY CLASS JAPANESE HOWAKAI ~ 6/11**

**WEDNESDAY MORNING TAI-CHI ~ 6/5, 6/12**

**REEDLEY BUDDHIST CHURCH SUMMER BENTO ~ 6/22**

**TSUBAME NO GAKKO ~ 6/17 - 6/28**

**VISALIA OBON ~ 6/29**

**REMEMBER TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE REGULARLY IN CASE OF**  
**CHANGES TO SCHEDULE**

**PLEASE SUPPORT ALL C.C. TEMPLES' AND ORGANIZATION**  
**EVENTS!**