



VOLUME 60  
ISSUE 3

# The Fresno Buddhist Church

Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Temple

# GEPPU

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



MARCH  
2025

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Time is like a river... you cannot touch the same water twice, because the flow that has passed will never pass again.  
Enjoy every moment of your life. ~ Unknown

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REV. KAZ NAKATA

## Live As you Are – Teaching of the Ultimate Inclusiveness



Hello to all Fresno Betsuin Sangha Friends!

Surprisingly, I have received many comments from Sangha friends, on my last Geppo article explaining the difference between Jodo Shinshu and Shin Buddhism. I initially assumed that everyone was familiar with the fundamental teachings of Jodo Shinshu, but I have come to realize that this is not the case. Therefore, in this article, I would like to write about the foundational principles of Jodo Shinshu, which formed the basis of the teaching of sono mama (“live as you are”). Please share your thoughts after reading this. Let me know if there are any parts you’d like me to explain in more detail. I’d be happy to cover those topics in future issues.



Since its founding in 1901, Fresno Betsuin has been a temple belonging to the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha tradition, officially known as Jodo Shinshu. Its founder, Shinran Shonin, was originally a Tendai Buddhist monk who studied under Honen Shonin and later, established Jodo Shinshu in Japan. The head temple is Hongwanji, commonly known as Nishi Hongwanji, located in Kyoto, and the denomination consists of approximately 10,000 temples worldwide and more than 30,000 ordained reverends.

At the center of each temple’s main hall (Hondo) is either a statue (wooden or painted) of Amida Tathâgata or a scroll inscribed with Namô Amida Butsu, which serves as the principal image of reverence (honzon). Jodo Shinshu is a community of people who are embraced by the teachings of Amida Tathâgata and recite the Nembutsu (Namô Amida Butsu).

These teachings are based on three sutras delivered by Shakyamuni Tathâgata —the Larger Sutra of Immeasurable Life (Bussetsu Muryojukyo), the Contemplation Sutra (Bussetsu Kanmuryojukyo), and the Amida Sutra (Bussetsu Amidakyô)—as well as texts written by Shinran Shonin, such as the Shoshin Ge, Jodo Wasan, Koso Wasan, and Shozomatsu Wasan, and the Gobunsho written by Rennyo Shonin. Commonly used chants in Sunday services, such as the Juseige and Sanbutsuge, are passages from the Larger Sutra of Immeasurable Life, while the Shoshin Ge is recited during funeral services.

The central teaching is that through the power of Amida Buddha’s Primal Vow, one receives Shinjin (entrusting heart) and follows a life of Nembutsu. When one’s life in this world ends, they will become a part of our memory, and return to this world of delusion to guide others (Genso Ekou). I will provide a detailed explanation of the teachings on Shinjin and Genso Ekou in future issues.

As a way of life, one follows the teachings of Shinran Shonin by listening to the true intent of Amida Tathâgata’s teaching, reflecting on oneself while reciting the Nembutsu, and living with both humility and gratitude. Rather than relying on worldly prayers for personal gain, one embraces a life of gratitude and appreciation.

The followers of Jodo Shinshu are a fellowship (Dôbô Kyôdan) who revere the teachings of Shinran Shonin and come together in the practice of Nembutsu. They form a community dedicated to sharing the wisdom and compassion taught in the teaching of Amida Tathâgata. Through this, they contribute to the realization of a society where both oneself and others can live with spiritual fulfillment and peace.

Traditionally, members of the Fresno Betsuin are referred to as Sangha. However, in Jodo Shinshu, the proper term is Monto (followers of the Jodo Shinshu). Therefore, the ceremonial stole worn around the neck during any Jodo Shinshu service is called the Monto Shikisho (ceremonial recognition stole).

In Jodo Shinshu, the attainment of enlightenment does not depend on the practitioner’s actions, such as “accumulating merit”. The teaching of Amida Tathâgata is the vow to bring all beings to the state of enlightenment, and there are no conditions placed upon us to receive it. Thus, our recitation of the Nembutsu is an expression of gratitude for the teaching of Amida Tathâgata —this is known as Go-on-hôsha (expressing gratitude for the benevolence and compassion of Amida Tathâgata’s teaching).

From the above, you can understand that Jodo Shinshu is a teaching in which one attains enlightenment by living as you are and reciting the Nembutsu. I sincerely hope that you all live within this wonderful teaching. Gassho.

Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Temple

## 2025 SPRING OHIGAN SEMINAR

at the Fresno Buddhist Temple Dharma Center

**Saturday, March 22, 2025**  
**9:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m.**



**Guest speaker:**  
**Rev. John Iwohara**

### **“THE POTENTIAL OF JODO SHINSHU AND YOUTH PROPAGATION”**

Rev. Iwohara received his novice ordination (tokudo) in 1983 while an exchange student at the International Christian University as an undergraduate studying at UCLA. After receiving his B.A. from UCLA in Psychology, Rev. John then received an MA degree in Community and Social Psychology from Wilfrid Laurier University in Canada. While in Canada, he helped out at the Toronto Buddhist Church. Following this, he began his formal studies in Jodo Shinshu Buddhism at Ryukoku University. After earning the MA degree in Shinshu Studies, he was allowed to continue with my doctorate studies in Jodo Shinshu through a grant from the Japanese government.

Rev. John has served the Buddhist Churches of America (BCA) temples for over 25 years, for Fresno, Vista, Seattle, Venice (Los Angeles), and currently assigned to the Gardena Buddhist Church (GBC). At the GBC, he also serves as the Headmaster to the Wisteria Chugakko (Middle School) Summer School Program, as well as an advisor to the Ichi-mi (“single flavor”) club. Ichi-mi is organized for LGBTQ+ and allies and is an officially recognized affiliate organization of the GBC.

**Seminar sponsored by the Iwatsubo Family**  
**Rev. Iwohara will also be our speaker at the Spring Ohigan & Shotsuki**  
**Service on Sunday, March 23 @ 10:00 a.m.**



## Meaning of Namo Amida Butsu

By Caitlyn Okabayashi, Youth MA Trainee

In church, we say Namo Amida Butsu usually at least once every time we go. It's either after church, starting classes for the kids, and so on. But, do you know the real meaning behind it? Why do we say it? Well, continue reading if you want to find out!

Namo Amida Butsu can be split into two words. Namu and Amida Butsu. Namu means "I take refuge". This word came originally from namaste. Amida Butsu actually doesn't have a meaning to it. But, in the different language called Sanskrit, the word Namo Amida Butsu is split into two words. Namo and Amita **abha**. Namo has the same meaning as Namu. In our culture, we mixed these two different ways to write it and changed it to Namo. However, Amita means immeasurable. Bha means light or connection.

When you put the two words together, Namo Amida Butsu means I trust you with connection. Now, how does this translate into why we say this is because the whole purpose of saying is that you are saying, "I take refuge in everything that helps me live." Certain things you eat are a great example of this. Lets say, you eat a store bought muffin for breakfast. Now ask yourself, where do you get this muffin from? The grocery store, right? But, what leads to the grocery store having these muffins? A delivery truck. How does the delivery truck get its food? From a production area where the muffin will be made. Where does the production area get the ingredients from to make a muffin? A farmer with the resources of a person, sun, water, and etc. My point is, one thing is the outcome to a long process of why you are living. These types of steps are applied in everyday use. Like clothes, pens, paper, and much more.

So, the whole point of saying Namo Amida Butsu in church is saying that you take refuge in everything that helps you live your life. You acknowledge the reasons and steps caused for you to come to the church. You acknowledge why you live, for our food sources, and much more. It just means that you're thankful for the connection the steps do to help you get to where you are living today. Even though you don't realize it everyday, without these steps, we wouldn't be alive. Make sure you always remember that the things you do in life are caused by a root and steps to help you get there.

Norman Otani,  
Fresno Betsuin Board Chairperson



Warm greetings, to our Fresno Buddhist Church Betsuin members. If you have visited our church property in the recent couple of weeks, the special cherry trees planted alongside the entry driveway leading to the Hondo have started to begin blossoming—a sign that in a few weeks, one of my favorite seasons, "SPRING" will soon arrive. I hope that each of our sangha members was able to share a Valentine's Day with your loved ones, and in doing so, had a joyful day.

The Fresno Buddhist Church Betsuin-125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Committee, co-chaired by: Jim and Jenny Kubo, held a meeting in January 2025; I would like to provide some of the meeting highlights. First, for those sangha members who make long-term plans for calendaring purposes, please SAVE-THE-DATE: Saturday: November 7, 2026. Secondly, the theme of our celebratory event will be, "*Strength in Sangha*;" a beautiful logo, has been designed and selected, to be used in several ways, to both promote and encourage support from not only our temple sangha members, but we also will be inviting our Central California District Council temples, and all of the other districts and their temples in the BCA.

After we all get adjusted to the Daylight Savings Time change on March 9, 2025, please make plans to join us, to enjoy the warmer spring-time weather, the Cherry tree blossoms in full bloom, and attend the *Spring Ohigan Seminar* with Rev. John Iwohara on Saturday: March 22, 2025; followed by the *Spring Ohigan & March Shotsuki Service* on Sunday: March 23, 2025, with guest speaker: Rev. John Iwohara.

I look forward to greet and talk to as many of our sangha members, both long-time members, and new members who have joined the Fresno Buddhist Church Betsuin, at the *Spring Ohigan* events, and enjoy each other's fellowship, to renew friendships, and to make new friendships, throughout one or both of these special Jodo Shinshu programs planned.



## Education and Propagation

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

### REV. KAZ' OFFICE HOURS

Every Tuesday & Friday from 2PM to 5PM  
FDC Office

### THURSDAY NIGHTTIME MINDFULNESS MEDITATION/CHANTING

3/6, 3/20, 3/27 (no session 3/13)  
7PM - 7:45PM in the Hondo

### SUNDAY (Sitting & Walking) MEDITATION IN THE HONDO

3/2, 3/9, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30 @ 8:30AM - 9:15AM

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

Mon., 3/3 @ 7:00PM - 8:30PM

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

### SUNDAY FRIENDS & FAMILY SERVICE & DHARMA SCHOOL

Sundays, 3/2 & 3/30 @ 10AM

### SUNDAY FRIENDS & FAMILY SERVICE, SANGHA KIDS & KODOMO CENTER COLLABORATION

Sunday 3/9 @ 10AM

### SUNDAY FRIENDS & FAMILY LAY SERVICE

Sunday 3/16 @ 10AM

Guest speaker & temple member, Mr. Warren Maruko  
"Why I Come to Temple"

### SPRING OHIGAN LECTURE IN THE FDC

Sponsored by the Iwatsubo Family

Saturday, 3/22 @ 9:30AM to 12:00PM

Guest lecturer: Rev. John Iwohara

### FRIENDS & FAMILY SERVICE COMBINED WITH SPRING OHIGAN AND SHOTSUKI HOYO SERVICE

Sunday, 3/23 @ 10AM

Guest speaker: Rev. John Iwohara

### JAPANESE HOWAKAI

Tuesday, 3/11 @ 10AM, MPR

### BYAKUDO-KAI JODO SHINSHU CLASS IN THE MPR

Saturday, 3/8 @ 8AM-9AM

### YOUTUBE SERVICE VIDEOS

On the homepage of the fresnobuddhisttemple.org website,  
click "YouTube Channel" to watch previously recorded Sunday  
Dharma services

### BETSUIN WEBSITE - [www.fresnobuddhisttemple.org](http://www.fresnobuddhisttemple.org)

Please check the website for updated schedules, events, and  
temple info.

*We send caring thoughts to our  
members and friends who are suffering from  
illness, to those who care for them and to those  
who have lost loved ones.*

*In memory of Dharma friends,  
**LINDA HISAKO GIBSON**  
**ARTHUR YAMAGUCHI***



### 2025 Memorial Service Schedule

2025 is the memorial year for those who passed away in:

2024 - 1 year	2013 - 13 years	1993 - 33 years
2023 - 3 years	2009 - 17 years	1976 - 50 years
2019 - 7 years	2001 - 25 years	1926 - 100 years

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

If 2025 is a significant service memorial year for a loved one,  
please contact the temple office to schedule a service.



FRESNO BETSUIN HANAMATSURI AND APRIL  
SHOTSUKI HOYO SERVICE WILL BE HELD ON  
SUNDAY, APRIL 20, 2025  
10:00AM

REV. HENRY ADAMS, RESIDENT MINISTER OF THE SAN  
MATEO BUDDHIST TEMPLE WILL BE OUR GUEST  
SPEAKER.

PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING THIS IMPORTANT  
SERVICE AND WELCOME REV. ADAMS BACK TO  
FRESNO!



### Rev. Kaz teaches a Two-Year Youth Buddhist Class every Friday at 6:00PM



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 in Rev. Kaz' Dharma Center office and the second-year class will be ritual training in the 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](mailto:rev.kaznakata@gmail.com)

### 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](mailto: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! The Geppo is also accessible on the website, should you prefer that option.

Email: [info@fresnobuddhisttemple.org](mailto:info@fresnobuddhisttemple.org) for login information.

Thank you to all of those who are already making a difference!

### MEMBERSHIP PLEDGE

So many members have already paid in full, their pledge for 2025... thank you! Remember, you can pay with a credit card or PayPal (fees apply for both).

Have you sent your pledge for 2024 and/or years prior? If not, now is a good time to renew your financial support of the Fresno Betsuin. Thank you.

### 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: [info@fresnobuddhisttemple.org](mailto:info@fresnobuddhisttemple.org)

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



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1167810  
[cherylarakaki@msn.com](mailto:cherylarakaki@msn.com)



## Fresno Gumyo Taiko

**NEW BEGINNING TAIKO CLASS**  
STARTING LATE JANUARY, 2025  
Wednesdays  
7:00pm - 8:30pm



FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

ALYSSA ZEPEDA

(559) 797-5351

[alyssakay@gmail.com](mailto:alyssakay@gmail.com)



# MARCH SHOTSUKI HOYO

*will be observed on Sunday, March 23, 2025 @ 10:00AM in the HONDO*



Abe, Yoshiro	Kimura, Taiichi	Nakamura, Miyuki	Shitanishi, Clara
Aburamen, Kanichi	Kimura, Yasuichi	Nakamura, Seinosuke	Shitanishi, Jay
Aoki, Harvey	Kinoshita, Minoru	Nakashige, Isao	Shitanishi, Keri
Arakawa, Francis Hiroye	Kinoshita, Yaichiro	Nakashima, Kiyoko	Shitanishi, Yoshitaka
Araki, Shizuko	Kitani, Masakichi	Nakashima, Kuni	Suda, George
Arie, Hisashi	Kitano, Tomoye	Nakata, Haruye	Suehiro, John Takeshi
Arie, Jyonosuke	Kiuchi, John Ryotaro	Nakatani, Tsuru	Sugahara, Setsuyo
Arie, Shizunosuke	Knipe, Edward Carroll	Negoro, Jane	Sunada, Teruko
Campos, Lillian	Kobayashi, Jessie	Negoro, Paul Kazuo	Taguchi, Nobuko
Deguchi, Henry	Kobayashi, Masako	Niino, George	Tahara, Kenichi
Deguchi, Michiko	Kobayashi, Tsutae	Nishijima, Masao	Taira, Izumi
Doi, Daijiro	Kobayashi, Zenichi	Nishikawa, Tami	Takahashi, Baby Boy
Domoto, Shizuko	Kodama, Iwao	Nishimura, George	Takahashi, Irene
Ezaki, Toru	Kozai, Mark	Nishimura, Minetaro Harry	Takahashi, Kay Kiyomi
Fujimoto, William	Kubo, Ada	Nishino, Miyo	Takahashi, Mae
Fujiwara, Ryuichi	Kubo, Sumio	Nishio, Onobu	Takao, Taneichiro
Goto, Mihoko	Kubota, Eddie Eiichi	Nitta, Meri	Takashima, Kamematsu
Hanashiro, Seigi	Kubota, Kathleen	Noda, Chika	Takemoto, Misayo
Harada, Jimmy Itsuo	Kubota, Koharu	Ochiai, Fusa	Taketa, Itsuye
Harada, Toshiko	Kubota, Tadashi	Oda, Yaeko	Tanaka, Mitsugu
Hasebe, Betty Setsuko	Kubota, Wesley	Oguri, Masaichi	Tanimoto, Kiyomi
Hasegawa, Shunji	Kumagai, Karoku	Oguri, Taka	Teranishi, Ayako
Hata, Gladys	Kumano, Thomas	Okada, Yae	Teraoka, Masayoshi
Hata, Margie	Kumashiro, Konami	Okano, Kenneth Kiyoshi	Teraoka, Toyomo
Hayashi, Yoshio	Kurushima, Daisuke	Omi, Haruye	Tokubo, Kiyoshi
Heyano, Tazu	Lauris Jr., Dainis	Omori, Yuri	Tsubota, Hisao
Hill, Bessie Mieko	Maekawa, Mitzi Mitsuko	Otani, Ura	Tsudama, Tsuchiyo
Hirahara, Phoebe Hideko	Maekawa, Noble Kazunobu	Oye, Hisaichi	Tsuji, Kichijiro
Hirahara, Shigeo	Masada, Kazuye (Baby girl)	Peck, Lina	Tsuji, Yoichi
Hirata, Minoru	Masaoka, Jim Susumu	Sadao, Katsumi	Tsuruoka, Lily Yuri
Horiuchi, Tadaichi	Masumoto, Carole	Saito, Michiko	Tsuruoka, Teruo
Ikeda, Sugimatsu	Matoba, Isano	Sakaguchi, Chiyoe	Umamoto, Asayo
Ikeda, Masao	Matsumoto, Harry	Sakai, Shizu Evelyn	Urabe, Baby Boy
Ikehara, Tarokichi	Matsumoto, Jessie	Sakamoto, Chiyoko	Urabe, Ichisaku
Ikuma, Grace	Matsumoto, Sana Bessie	Sakamoto, Wakayo	Uyeki, Henry
Ikuma, Haruo	Matsumura, Kelly Kiyoo	Sakata, Asataro	Uyema, Bunpachi
Inaki, Toyojiro	Matsumura, Emiko	Sakata, George	Wada, Ben Tsutomo
Inouye, Nancy	Matsunaga, Niichi	Sakata, Herbert	Wakida, Shizuno
Ishii, Lily	Matsunaga, Yoshiko	Sakomoto, Katsu	Whitaker, Yukiko
Ito, Jinichi	Mayeda, Henry	Sano, Tom Kunio	Williams, Toyoko Sato
Iwamura, Tohei	McQuillan, Marian	Sasaki, Hatsuko	Yamada, Sadame
Izuno, George Hitoshi	Minakata, Matsunojo	Semitsu, Tanezo	Yamada, Ted Tasuku
Jue, Irene	Misaki, Iwao	Seto, Kichijiro Roy	Yamaguchi, Fujino
Jofuku, Marjie	Miyake, Fred Tsumoru	Seto, Kijiro	Yamaguchi, Shinsuke
Kakemoto, Tetsukichi	Miyamoto, Margie	Seto, Leroy	Yamaguchi, Tsuta
Kamikawa, Miyeko	Miyata, Harry Hideo	Seto, Sukio	Yamamoto, Kiyoso
Kataoka, Yoshikazu	Mizuki, Henry	Shiga, Shigezo	Yamamoto, Norio Kay
Kato, Jiro	Morishita, Mary	Shimizu, Wakichi	Yamamoto, Tsuruzo
Kato, Milton	Morita, Yuki	Shimoide, Masako	Yamanaka, Takara
Kawahata, Sam Isamu	Motoyoshi, Asoka	Shimoide, Shuzo	Yamasaki, Miyo
Kawasaki, Ben	Murashima, Teruyo	Shimomura, Gunzo	Yamashiro, Robert
Kawasaki, Muki	Nagahama, Zenkichi	Shinkawa, Hideo	Yomogida, Becky
Kawasaki, Tom	Nagata, Kiyomi	Shinkawa, Mary	Yoshida, Shigetaro
Kebo, Frank Kengo	Nakagawa, Akimitsu	Shintaku, Masato	Yoshimune, Kazue
Kimura, Sadajiro	Nakagawa, Kiyotaro	Shinto, Harry	Yoshimura, Hikoji T.
			Yuyama, Agnes



## ~ Nighttime Mindfulness Chanting Meditation ~

शान्तिः

Positivity comes  
from your inner peace ...

All sentient beings  
equally reach the state of  
Equanimity...

Open to the Public, come as you are

初夜礼讃偈

Dates: March 6, 20, 27 - no session 3/13 Time: 7pm

Place: Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Temple Sondo



### BYAKUDO-KAI

Byakudo-Kai (Group of White Path) was once a respected group of dedicated Jodo Shinshu practitioners within the Fresno Betsuin Sangha. We are now reviving the group as an active organization. The focus of the revived group will be on the daily practices (Otsutome) of Jodo Shinshu, with an emphasis on melodic chanting, in celebration of the Fresno Betsuin's upcoming 125th anniversary.



If you're interested in deepening your connection to the core principles of Jodo Shinshu, we invite you to join us. Our next meeting will be on **Saturday, March 8 at 8:00 AM** in the Multi-Purpose Room. Open to the public. For more details, please contact Rev. Kaz at [rev.kaznakata@gmail.com](mailto:rev.kaznakata@gmail.com)

Participants at the  
first gathering - Feb  
2025







**OBON IS...** Honoring the past & appreciating the moment... Watching the lanterns sway in the breeze... The sight of young and old alike, in colorful yukatas & happi coats... Spending an evening with family & friends... A sense of being...

**WHILE THE SIGNIFICANCE OF OBON DOES NOT CHANGE, WHAT HAS CHANGED IS THE DATE!**

**NEW DATE!!**  
**Saturday, May 31, 2025**

To avoid the heat of summer, we are moving Obon to May 31, 2025. We are hoping it will improve the experience of Obon, where we can have more activities outdoors, and most importantly, have our Bon Dancing during a time of the year where we can be more comfortable for our celebration. This is a whole new approach to Obon, and we hope to offer more food, more variety, and new offerings for you as attendees.

More information to come, but please **SAVE THE DATE!**  
**MAY 31, 2025**

**FRESNO BUDDHIST TEMPLE**  
 2690 E. Alluvial Ave.  
 Fresno, CA 93720

[www.fresnobuddhisttemple.org](http://www.fresnobuddhisttemple.org)  
 (559) 442-4054  
[info@fresnobuddhisttemple.org](mailto:info@fresnobuddhisttemple.org)



**YEP... YOU HEARD IT RIGHT!**  
**FRESNO OBON IS ON SATURDAY, MAY 31, 2025!!**

**OBON DANCE PRACTICE SCHEDULE**

Monday, April 21  
 Wednesday, April 30  
 Monday, May 5  
 Wednesday, May 14  
 Wednesday, May 21

All practices start at 7:00PM in the Family Dharma Center Gym

Bring Round Fan, Folding Fan, Kachi-Kachi and Towel

**ALL AGES WELCOME!!**

Questions? Contact Lesley Guerra at (559) 824-3163 or [lesleykg@prodigy.net](mailto:lesleykg@prodigy.net)



**Padma for Cadette / Sangha Award for Boy Scout /**

**Applied Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Studies for Teens**

**Age ranges from 11 to 16, No admission fee**

**2024 Fall Class Schedule**

**All classes begin at 6:00PM**

**Aug 16, 23, 30      Sep 13, 20, 27**

**Oct 4, 11, 18, 25      Dec 6, 13, 20**

**Jan 10, 17, 24, 31      Feb 7, 14, 21, 28**

**Class Curriculum:**

Foundation of Buddhism, Sanskrit Buddhist History,

Chinese Buddhist History, Tibetan Buddhist History,

Pali Buddhist History, Japanese Buddhist History,

Buddha in Sanskrit and Chinese, Dharma in Sanskrit and Chinese,

Sangha in Sanskrit and Chinese, Nianfo/Nembutsu,

Pūjā/Incense Burning, Buddhism as Psychology,

Bodhi in Sanskrit and Chinese,

Nirvāṇa in Sanskrit and Chinese, Sukhāvatī in Sanskrit and Chinese,

Tibetan Studies (1) - Vajrayāna Concepts,

Tibetan Studies (2) - Maṇḍala, Buddhism in Pali Sutta (1),

Buddhism in Pali Sutta (2), Apocrypha in Buddhism,

Brahmanism and Confucianism in Mahāyāna, Jhāna in Pali Sutta (3),

Daoism and Mahāyāna, Shinto-ism and Buddhism, Sukhāvatī in Pali, etc.

*Instructor: Rev. Kaz Nakata, PhD candidate in Buddhist Studies, MA, MBA*

Please text Rev. Kaz at 424-666-7101 for inquiry



**FRESNO BETSUIN BUDDHIST WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION  
(FBBWA)  
2025 CABINET**

**INSTALLED ON JANUARY 25, 2025**







## WOOD CRAFTING CREATIONS

**DATE: SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2025**

**TIME: 12:30PM (3HRS)**

**FAMILY DHARMA CENTER, MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM**

**REGISTRATION FEE: \$40 (INCLUDES SUPPLIES)**

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO EXERCISE YOUR MIND, IMPROVE FOCUS, AND EXPERIENCE A SENSE OF ACHIEVEMENT, JOIN OTHERS IN WOOD CRAFTING ONE OF THE SCENES SHOWN. ANYONE IS WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE!**

**REV. KAZ WILL PROVIDE DETAILED AND CAREFUL GUIDANCE. SAMPLES OF THE COMPLETED CRAFTS CAN BE SEEN IN REV. KAZ' OFFICE SHOWCASE.**



### ← 'SAKURA DENSHA'

(LIGHT RAIL TRAIN WITH CHERRY BLOSSOMS) IS INSPIRED BY SCENERY OF KYOTO JAPAN.

**WILL BE ILLUMINATED WITH LED LIGHTS.**

### 'SUNSHINE TOWN' →

DEPICTS A SMALL & COZY DOWNTOWN WITH A CAFÉ & BOOKSTORE.

**WILL BE ILLUMINATED WITH LED LIGHTS.**

**CLASS IS SPONSORED BY THE  
FRESNO BETSUIN BUDDHIST  
WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (FBBWA)**



**TO REGISTER: WRITE THE NAME OF THE PREFERRED DEPICTION IN THE MEMO OF YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO "FRESNO BUDDHIST CHURCH", ATTN: REV. KAZ AND MAIL BY MARCH 19 TO: 2690 E. ALLUVIAL AVE., FRESNO 93720 OR DROP CHECK OFF TO REV. KAZ' OFFICE BY MARCH 23.**



## Fresno Betsuin Dharma School by Michiko Nakata, Superintendent

Dear Fresno Betsuin Dharma School families and Sangha friends,

After the February 9th lay service, Dharma School students went on a field trip to the Fresno Zoo. A total of 17 participants attended, including Dharma school students, their families, and teachers. Thank you to everyone who joined us. Stay tuned for the next event!

The upcoming Dharma School schedule is as follows:

- \* **March 2** : Friends & Family service with Dharma school classes
- \* **March 9** : Friends & Family service with Dharma school classes
- \* **March 16** : Lay service
- \* **March 23** : Spring Ohigan (Lunch with Rev.Iwohara)
- \* **March 30** : Friends & Family service with Dharma school



Fresno Betsuin Camping in the Sierras,  
Janis & Gregg Sera and Debbie Suda, Directors

### 2025 Camp Sign-ups

**When:** Friday, July 25 to Tuesday, July 29, 2025  
**Where:** San Luis Obispo Buddhist Temple  
**Who:** 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Teens in the 2024 to 2025 school year  
**How:** Must be a member of a Buddhist Church in the BCA  
 Email us at [cgsera@pacbell.net](mailto:cgsera@pacbell.net) to sign up



**STEAK DINNER FUNDRAISER - Saturday, MAY 17, 2025**

### KENDO: The Way of the Sword

Since January 2023, the Fresno Buddhist Church has approved having in-person kendo classes in the FDC Gym. These classes are normally held on Wednesday and Friday evenings. Note: Church events or matters will always supercede the noted regular kendo classes and advance notice will be provided when this occurs.

#### Wednesday and Friday Class Schedule

**Beginner Youth: 6pm - 6:45pm**

**Beginner Adult: 7pm - 8:45pm**

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



#### NOTICE:

There will be NO kendo class on:

\*March 6 (Wednesday)

Contact information: Norman Otani

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

PH: (559) 322-1210

**SIGN UP NOW FOR THE 24TH ANNUAL FRESNO BETSUIN GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
**SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025**  
 see flyer & forms on pages 19-22

Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Temple

CC Jr YBA, Kylie Kubo - President

### ACTIVITIES:

**February 8th** - Six of our members were available to Zoom with students from Sotoku High School in Hiroshima. We had a lot of fun discussing the differences in cultures and academics. We also discovered that they love Starbucks as much as we do! We are hoping to make this a frequent activity.

### February 16 - Curry Bowl Fundraiser

We would like to thank everyone who purchased a curry bowl and everyone who supported our bake sale! The funds raised in this fundraiser help pay for our attendee fees for the upcoming Coast District and Southern District Jr YBA conferences. Thank you!

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**March 9th** - Monthly Meeting

**March 15th** - assisting with Reedley's Crab Feed

**March 22nd** - Coast District Conference

**April 26th** - Year End Trip to Six Flags Magic Mountain

**May 3rd** - Assisting with the Golf Tournament Banquet

**May 31st** - assisting with the Fresno Obon shaved ice booth

**New Enrollment 2025-26:** If there are any upcoming 8th-12th graders who would like to join Jr. YBA next year please email [centralcaljryba@gmail.com](mailto:centralcaljryba@gmail.com) for more information! We would love to have you join us!



### The CC Jr. YBA needs your help!

The CC Jr. YBA is collecting the following to be made into bedding and toys for the cats and dogs at the Valley Animal Center

#### NEEDED

**Used Blankets** (any size - cotton, fleece, polyester, etc.)

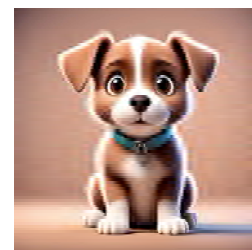
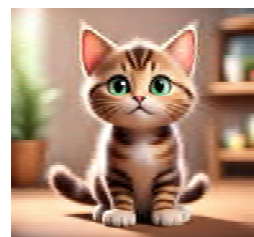
**Used Towels** (any size)

**Used T-shirts**

#### WHEN

Please bring used blankets, towels, and T-shirts to the Family Dharma Center on Lay Service Sundays: **March 16, April 13, May 11, June 1** (the last Friends and Family Service)

**Thank you for your support!**



### DONATE BLOOD, SAVE A LIFE!

SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2025  
8:30AM - NOON





### Multi-Chance Drawings, Hunter Arakawa

The winning tickets were drawn for Jaclyn Tamura, Fred Nagata, and Mr. & Mrs. William Ueki. Congratulations to these February winners. We are approaching March, so get those ticket stubs in. Buy the tickets, or sell them to your friends. We have had winners from the outside the temple membership, and we welcome their participation. Thank you for your support.

### Betsuin Golf Tournament, Hunter Arakawa

We hope you have the date Saturday, May 3, 2025 saved to participate in our next tournament. We will be starting the tournament at 1:00 p.m. and hosting the banquet at our Family Dharma Center. We hope that all those who do golf will join us, along with your friends. We are contacting our sponsors and donors to help us in the fundraising portion of the tourney. We are also hoping that our youth members and friends will help us during the banquet. Thank you for your help and support of this activity.

### Fresno Betsuin Senior Club, Rose Kuramoto

The next luncheon will be on Tuesday, March 4 starting at 11:30 a.m. We know it will be delicious since Emiko Taketomo will be preparing the lunch, along with her Toban group. We do welcome you to join us for the first time.

Rev. Kaz will be going to Arkansas in Sept 17-19. Anyone interested in visiting Rohwer and Jerome camps may contact Rev. Kaz.

Rev. Kaz will be in charge for April 1<sup>st</sup> luncheon.

Club meeting adjourned after bingo games.

**DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR HAWAIIAN PLATE DINNER TICKETS! SEE ORDER FORM ON NEXT PAGE. ORDER DEADLINE IS APRIL 4th**



Heard But Not Seen

### Kansho Bell Heard But Not Seen Kansho Bell Seen But Not Heard

Gordon Misaki, Restoration Coordinator

The Kansho: "the calling bell" can be found in three locations on the Fresno Betsuin complex. The large 3000-pound bell within our bell tower has been well documented since it was received in 1979 donated by Mr. Yehan Numata, a successful industrialist in Japan and devout Jodo Shinshu Buddhist. The bell is usually rung at Obon and New Years. There are two other smaller bells in different locations.



Seen But Not Heard

The first is "heard but not seen". In a corner nook behind the Onaijin is a bell that is rung before each service prior to the entrance of the ministers. There does not appear to be any documented history but the inscription on the bell says "**Donation to the Fresno Buddhist Church T. Hirayama Nov 1902.**" We can only speculate that this is the first bell used at the original downtown Buddhist Temple on Kern St. What is unusual is that there is a crack in the bell which appears to have been repaired with a weld. Our best guess is that in 1919, the original temple burned down and fell to the ground from the third story resulting in the crack. Because of the weld, the sound is a little different but just as effective.

When we moved into the Family Dharma Center, we built a small iron/wood covering under which we placed another Kansho Bell near the southwest corner of the Dharma Center. While we were having services in the Dharma Center, the bell was rung before each service. Unfortunately, several years ago before we put up our security fence, the bell was stolen. But fortunately, we had another bell in storage. Late last year Justin Lesser, a Boy Scout seeking an eagle scout project, put forth the idea of rebuilding the cover and installing the bell. The inscription on this bell was "**Fresno Buddhist Temple H. Nakagawa T. Jitsumyo**". Because of the completion of our new Temple, it is anticipated that this bell will not be heard unless there is a special service nearby. Thus, it is anticipated that it will be "seen but not heard".

There was no plan to restore these bells, but just wanted to share with you a little bit of historic information.

Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Temple



*Fresno Buddhist Church invites you to our Twenty-ninth Annual*

## **Hawaiian Plate Dinner**

**Saturday, April 12, 2025**

**2 pm to 5 pm**

### **Plate Dinner**

includes Chicken katsu, Rice, Hawaiian potato/macaroni salad, Tsukemono salad, Dessert

**Fresno Betsuin Family Dharma Center • 2690 E. Alluvial**  
**Donation: \$20.00**

For over 29 years, our dinner has proven to be a real favorite for people of all ages. During this time, we have perfected our Chicken katsu recipe, and our Hawaiian potato/macaroni salad is a unique entree. Our dinner is simple but delicious!

Proceeds from our fundraiser will be used to help fund the operations of the Family Dharma Center, and the Temple. Your support is appreciated!

Lee Osaki, our office manager, will be handling all ticket sales. Please direct any questions, regarding tickets, to Lee. Her office number is 559-442-4054, email: [losaki@fresnobuddhisttemple.org](mailto:losaki@fresnobuddhisttemple.org)

**Please write your check to the FRESNO BUDDHIST CHURCH.**

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#### Order Form

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Dinner Tickets: \$20 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, April 4.****  
Your dinner tickets will be mailed to you.

Any questions? Call Sherian or Glenn at 435-8050, or  
email: [glenntheham@sbcglobal.net](mailto:glenntheham@sbcglobal.net)

**For ticket info, call Lee at 442-4054 or**  
**email: [losaki@fresnobuddhisttemple.org](mailto:losaki@fresnobuddhisttemple.org)**

## EDUCATION &amp; PROPAGATION PROGRAMS

## Caregivers/Project Dana, Donna Ishii

The Betsuin's grounds are starting to blossom with the Cherry trees, Tulip trees and the Ume tree. They are so beautiful in full bloom and soon we'll have our own Blossom Trail. *Project Dana's Home Bound Meal Program* is slowly blooming for 2025. Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup> will be our next HB meals delivery. As the date nears, your driver will call to confirm with you. We thank you for your patience and support!



*Project Dana* is very thankful for all the years of donations and for every *Project Dana* volunteer that helped us throughout the past 17 years! (June 15, 2007 was our 1<sup>st</sup> HB meal delivery). We feel that everyone involved in this program is guided by the principles of "*Dana*" and we are truly grateful for your continued support!

*Project Dana* thanks the 2025 donors for their kindness and generosity. For the month of February, (January 20, 2025 to February 20, 2025). *Project Dana* wishes to thank everyone who donated monetary and miscellaneous items: Midori Nakagawa, Gordy Misaki, Laurie Muzyka, Dave Omachi, Kimie Kagawa-Chomel, Tak & Amy Tsuda, Bill & Joann Namba, Kathleen Kubo, Kiyoko Inn, Albert & Lorraine Fujitsubo, Lester Obata, Will & Joanne Ishihara, Linda Takahashi, Brian Nagata (IMO Jane Nagata), Yoshiye Ii, Eiko Ii, Lisle Funeral Home, Terrie Araki, John & Sally Tomita, Paula Kanagawa, Sue Nishida, Georgia Kawamoto, Margie Mukai, Linda Takeda, Linda Takeda (IMO Jerry Ishii), Patty & Ken Kanemoto, Toshiro & Keiko Otake, John & Arlene Urabe, Reiko & William Ueki, Doris Nii, Ken & Arline Yokota, Yoshiki & June Kagawa, Barney Sano, Ukulele Group, Wednesday Morning Tai Chi Class.

*Project Dana* gratefully thanks all the 2024-2025 volunteers & delivery drivers for their continued donations & support! Thank you: Rev Kaz, Michiko Nakata, Midori Nakagawa, Gene & Sharon Nagata, Michi Hotta, Terrie Araki, Sherian & Glenn Hamamoto, Ruth Yoneda, Leslie Ohashi, Lynn & Jay Arakaki, June Urabe, Sue Nishida, Geri Shimamoto, Dorothy Kobashi, Mineko Kuramoto, Paula Kanagawa, MaryAnn Miyasaki, Janet Aoki, Arline & Ken Yokota, Hunter & Rumi Arakawa, Linda Takahashi, Florence Hamamoto, Elle Shitanishi, Joanne Kubow, Sue Yamasaki, Arlene Urabe, Margie Mukai, Karen Mukai, Bob & Jane Shintaku, Don & Irene Miyasaki, Linda Takeda, Melanie Fry, Karen Kondo, Alice Nishimura, Susan Nagata, Sharon Fujita, Helen Hanashiro, Wayne Yamagiwa, Lee Jensen, Kathy Hamada, Rona Iida, Carolyn & Bob Okamoto, Georgia Sano, Gale & Geno Nakai, Michael & Alene Hayashi, Gordon & Susan Hayashi, Gordy Misaki, Alvin & Hatsuko Hanashiro, Kenny & Patty Kanemoto, Chris Nishimoto, Georgia Kawamoto, Ruth Takeda, Nancy Yotsuya, Lee Jensen, Jerry Fukuda, Irene Leach, Keiko Maruko, Karen Uyemmaruko, June Kamigawachi, Mark Mansuri, Cynthia & Gene Tsukamoto, Norma Kawano, Sherrie Nakashima, Martin Nishikawa.

*Project Dana* extends Our Deepest Condolences to our Homebound Program families that have lost a loved one from January 2024 – December 2024. They were loved and are truly missed!. Namu Amida Butsu.

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

**FYI:** The March homebound delivery meal is on Friday, March 28th. Your driver will contact you to confirm! Stay Healthy & Safe!

## Project Outreach &amp; Eco-Sangha Lynn Arakaki

We are taking donations for Poverello House, The Evangel Home, Fresno Community Food Bank (monetary only), local elementary clothes closets and Community Hospital Infant Care. We are collecting professional clothing for Fresno State graduates to wear for job interviews.

Eco-Sangha is selling Hatsuko Hanashiro's salad dressing for \$10 a bottle and refills for \$5, to raise money for eco-friendly products to be used at church events.

Helpful sustainable information from [www.uhhospitals.org](http://www.uhhospitals.org): Drink filtered tap water. Bottled water typically contains significantly more microplastics than tap water, due to the packaging, so avoid bottled water when you can. Microplastics can also get into tap water, so consider using a water filter. Both distillation and carbon blocker filters can filter out 100 percent of known microplastics from drinking water.

Did you know that rain water can water garden by drainage four feet away from your foundation?

Food Containers: Thank you for donating take-out containers for the leftovers at events. We currently have enough containers on hand, but a notice will be placed in the Geppo if additional containers are needed.



## Blood Donation, Hunter Arakawa

Sunday, March 23 from 8:00 a.m. to noon will be our next scheduled blood donation day, which coincides with Spring Ohigan Service. Our goal that has been imposed on us from the Central California Blood Center is a minimum of 25 units, since our last effort only produced 10 units. Please do plan on donating on that day if at all possible. Thank you very much for your support and donations.



# SOMEONE'S LIFE IS IN YOUR VEINS.

## FRESNO BUDDHIST TEMPLE BLOOD DRIVE

**SUNDAY, MARCH 23<sup>RD</sup>**  
**8:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.**

2690 E. Alluvial Ave, Fresno, CA 93720



Central California  
Blood Center

**SCAN**  
TO SCHEDULE

VISIT US AT  
[DONATEBLOOD.ORG](https://DONATEBLOOD.ORG)



Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Temple



## GIFT CARDS



There's always an occasion, birthdays, celebrations, or even a last minute get-together, in our lives. No time to shop for a gift? How about a gift card... there's something for everyone! Please peruse the list below and see if there is something that might work for you. As always, thank you for supporting this program which buys needed supplies at the temple.

I will see you on Sundays at the temple, or you can call me, text me or email me to make other arrangements to buy cards.  
 Patty 559-281-6374 [motopatty@gmail.com](mailto:motopatty@gmail.com) Ruth 559-709-4665 [ruthyoneda@hotmail.com](mailto:ruthyoneda@hotmail.com)

## GIFT CARDS 12/10/24

I have noted the percentage(subject to change) that we earn on the discount.

SMALL DENOMINATIONS MARKED WITH \* ARE ONLY AVAILABLE DURING THE HOLIDAYS

RETAILER	DENOMINATION	PROFIT %
ACE HARDWARE	\$25, \$100	6
AMAZON	\$10*, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250	1.6
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	7
DAVE & BUSTERS	\$25	13
DICKS	\$25	8
EDWARDS	\$10, \$25	8
EL POLLO LOCO	\$10, \$25	7
FLEMINGS/OUTBACK	\$50, \$100	10
HOME DEPOT	\$25, \$100	4
HOME GOODS	\$25	6
HONEY BAKED HAM	\$25	12
IHOP	\$25	8
JAMBA JUICE/CINNABON/AUNTIE ANNE	\$25	6
KOHL'S	\$25	7
LOWE'S	\$25, \$100	4
MACY'S	\$25, \$100	10
MARSHALLS/HM GOODS/TJ MAXX	\$25	6
MCDONALDS	\$10, \$25	3

RETAILER	DENOMINATION	PROFIT %
MICHAEL'S	\$25	7.5
NIKE	\$25	11
NORDSTROMS & RACK	\$25	4
OLIVE GARDEN/YARDHOUSE	\$25	8
OUTBACK/FLEMINGS	\$50, \$100	10
PANDA EXPRESS	\$25	8
PANERA	\$10, \$25	8
PET SMART	\$25	6
RED ROBIN	\$25	8
REI	\$25	8
ROSS	\$25	8
RUTH'S CHRIS	\$50, \$100	8
SAVE MART	\$25, \$100	2
SEPHORA	\$25	6.5
SMART & FINAL	\$25, \$50, \$100	3
SPROUTS	\$25, \$50, \$100	5
STARBUCKS	\$5*, \$10, \$25, \$50	4.5
SUBWAY	\$10	6
TACO BELL	\$10	5
TARGET	\$10, \$25, \$50, \$100	2.5
TJ MAXX/MARSHALLS/HM GOODS	\$25	6
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

# 24th ANNUAL FRESNO BUDDHIST TEMPLE golf tournament

**Saturday, May 3, 2025**

**1:00PM Shotgun Start**

**MADERA MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE  
23200 Avenue 7, Madera CA 93637**

**4 - PLAYER SCRAMBLE  
\$165 per person**

**TOURNAMENT BANQUET & AWARDS  
FRESNO BUDDHIST TEMPLE DHARMA CENTER  
2690 E. Alluvial Ave., Fresno 93720**

**6PM No-Host Bar Social  
6:30PM Banquet**

**DONATION & SPONSORSHIP  
OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!**



**QUESTIONS?  
CONTACT DEAN NISHIJIMA  
(559) 917-8573**



# PLEASE JOIN US

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

### LOTUS (Corporate) Sponsor - \$1,200

- Half-page personal advertisement in Tournament Program
- One Team Entry (Four Golfers), free carts and Tee prizes
- Awards Ceremony and Team Banquet

### LILY (Business/Personal) Sponsor - \$600

- Listing under Business/Personal Sponsors in Tournament Program
- Half -page personalized advertisement in Tournament Program
- Awards Ceremony and Team Banquet

### BAMBOO (Tee) Sponsor - \$150

- Team Name on Tee sign
- Listing under Tee-Sponsorship in Tournament Program

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**MADERA MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE**  
**23200 Avenue 17, Madera 93637**

11:30AM Check-In  
 1:00PM Shotgun Start

### TOURNAMENT BANQUET

**Welcome back to the Family Dharma Center!**  
**2690 E. Alluvial Ave., Fresno 93720**

6:00PM No-Host Bar Social  
 6:30PM Banquet  
 Awards, Raffle & Silent Auction



## THE FRESNO BUDDHIST CHURCH TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

**SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025**  
**1:00PM SHOTGUN START**

**MADERA MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE**  
**23200 AVENUE 17, MADERA CA 93637**



### ENTRY FEE

A \$165 PER PERSON DONATION INCLUDES GREEN FEE WITH CART, TEE PRIZES, CLOSEST TO PIN & LONGEST DRIVE AWARDS AND BANQUET. NON-GOLFERS MAY ATTEND THE BANQUET FOR \$20. TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE MUST BE NOTIFIED NO LATER THAN APRIL 26<sup>TH</sup> OF ANY NON-GOLFERS ATTENDING THE BANQUET.

**TOURNAMENT BANQUET**  
 FRESNO BETSUIN FAMILY DHARMA CENTER  
 2690 E. ALLUVIAL AVE., FRESNO CA 93720

QUESTIONS OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

DEAN NISHIJIMA  
 (559) 917-8573 OR MIDORINISHI@GMAIL.COM

### RESERVATION DEADLINE

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE RECEIVED BY  
 MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2025

REGISTRATION, DONOR & SPONSOR FORMS  
 AVAILABLE AT [WWW.FRESNOBUDDHISTTEMPLE.ORG](http://WWW.FRESNOBUDDHISTTEMPLE.ORG),  
 FROM ANY COMMITTEE MEMBER OR BY EMAILING:  
[INFO@FRESNOBUDDHISTTEMPLE.ORG](mailto:INFO@FRESNOBUDDHISTTEMPLE.ORG)



## THE FRESNO BUDDHIST CHURCH TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

**SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025  
1:00PM SHOTGUN START**



**MADERA MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE  
23200 AVE 17, MADERA CA 93637**

ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE TOURNAMENT WILL BENEFIT THE FRESNO BUDDHIST TEMPLE, SERVING THE NEEDS OF THE MEMBERS AND YOUTH THROUGHOUT THE CENTRAL CALIFORNIA SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY

### TOURNAMENT ENTRY FORM

**GOLFERS:**

Name (last, first)

	Banquet?	NCGA	Current Index	
	Yes or No	Established?	or	
		Yes or No	Avg. Score	Age

1. _____	Email: _____				
<b>(Team Captain – check in at 11:30AM)</b>					
2. _____	Email: _____				
3. _____	Email: _____				
4. _____	Email: _____				

- ☉ Tournament Format will be a scramble. All levels of golfers are encouraged to participate-adults & children.
  - ☉ Handicaps are subject to verification and will be adjusted, at the tournament committee's discretion.
  - ☉ Handicap Maximums: Men = 28 and Women = 32.
- If you do not have a NCGA established handicap, the tournament committee will assign one for you.

**Please remember, this is a fundraising event, so most importantly, have FUN with your friends and family!**

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (    ) \_\_\_\_\_

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

**ENTRY FEES:**

Golfers:	# of persons _____ @ \$165.00 each =	\$ _____
Dinner (non-golfers)	# of persons _____ @ \$20.00 each =	\$ _____
Total Fees =		\$ _____

Please make check(s) payable to: "THE FRESNO BUDDHIST CHURCH"

Mail completed form and payment to: BETSUIN GOLF TOURNAMENT  
8576 N. Calaveras  
Fresno, CA 93711

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:**  
Monday, April 14, 2025



**QUESTIONS?**  
Dean Nishijima (559) 917-8573



# SPONSORSHIP COMMITMENT and DONATION FORM



## THE FRESNO BUDDHIST CHURCH TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

**SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2025  
1:00PM**

**MADERA MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE  
23200 AVENUE 17  
MADERA, CA 93637**

Please fill out this form completely and accurately.  
Legibility is essential for our records and for advertising accuracy.

Select Sponsorship level, if applicable.

Complete Silent Auction portion for each donated item and/or gift certificate.

Please confirm all information and attach business or personal card.

Make checks payable to: **"The Fresno Buddhist Church"**

- ☐ **LOTUS (Corporate) Sponsor - \$1,200**
- ☐ **LILY (Business/Personal) Sponsor - \$600**
- ☐ **BAMBOO (Tee) Sponsor - \$150**
- ☐ **CONTRIBUTIONS (Monetary) ... .. \$ \_\_\_\_\_**
- ☐ **SILENT AUCTION: Estimated Retail Value \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Minimum Bid, if requested \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Include Business Card, Pamphlet, other information (for advertisement, donation & bid information)

Description of Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Restrictions, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* All silent auction donations must be received by April 14, 2025**

Date item to be picked up: \_\_\_\_\_

Pick-Up Instructions: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**BUSINESS INFORMATION:** Print Donor's name exactly as they would like it to appear in the tournament program

Business/Donor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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

City State Zip

Phone: Business \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Attach camera-ready copy of advertisement for Golf Tournament Program

**Please mail this form to: Betsuin Golf Tournament  
c/o Bob Okamoto ■ 8576 N Calaveras, Fresno, CA 93711**

**The Fresno Betsuin Golf Tournament Committee  
thanks you for your support and generosity!**





## CENTRAL CALIFORNIA NIKKEI FOUNDATION

### Shredding Community Service and Fundraiser

**Saturday, April 5, 2025**

**9am to 12 noon**

Securely dispose of personal documents,  
tax papers, books (hardback & paperback)

**Limit:** 20 Banker Sized Boxes per car



**Cost:** \$15 per Banker-sized Box

Cash or Check only, please.  
Make checks payable to "CCNF"

**Drive-Thru Only**... Boxes will be emptied from your trunk/tailgate and returned

**Event will be 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 **March 24** to arrange for  
pick up.

## Beginning iPhone Classes For Seniors At The Nikkei Center

### Learn More About:

- Messaging fun and safety
- Installing, using and deleting apps
- Navigating the internet
- Using your phone's camera, albums and sharing
- Volunteer instructors from Gakko Gives



Please contact Maura Miller for more information  
559-252-4036, Ext. 251 or  
[mauram@vintagegardens.org](mailto:mauram@vintagegardens.org)





# SCOUT DAY 2025

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**APRIL 19, 2025**

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

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**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!**



2025

MARCH

2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
<div><div><div><div>It's time to Spring Ahead</div><div></div></div><div><div>Move clocks ahead one hour at 2AM, March 9th!</div><div>Don't be late for meditation &amp; Dharma Service!!</div></div></div></div>						
8:30a-9:15a Meditation, Hondo 10a Friends & Family Dharma Service (Kaz) 2p-4p Pickleball, Gym	5p-6p Yang 24 Tai-chi, Gym 6p-7p Yang 48 Tai-chi, Gym 7p Hybrid Intro to Buddhism Class via Zoom & In-person, MPR (Kaz) 7p Taiko Practice, CR#1	11a Senior Club Lunch & Meeting, MPR 2p-5p Rev. Kaz' Office Hrs 7p Basketball, Gym	9:30a Tai-Chi, FDC 7p Board Mtg, FDC (Kaz) 7p Taiko Practice, CR#3	7p Night time Mindfulness Chanting Meditation, Hondo 7p Basketball, Gym	2p-5p Rev. Kaz' Office Hrs 3:30p Vintage Gardens Howakai (Maj)	Hoji: 11a ~ Hondo (Kaz) 8a-9a Byakudo-kai Jodo Shinshu Class, MPR (Kaz) 9a-12p JLCS, CR#1 & 3
SPRING AHEAD ONE HOUR!! 8:30a-9:15a Meditation, Hondo 10a Friends & Family Dharma Service (Kaz) Dharma School & Kodomo Ctr Collaboration, MPR 2p-4p Pickleball, Gym	5p-6p Yang 24 Tai-chi, Gym 6p-7p Yang 48 Tai-chi, Gym 7p Taiko dinner/mtg, MPR 9:30a Fairwinds Howakai (Maj)	10a Japanese Howakai, MPR (Kaz) 2p-5p Rev. Kaz' Office Hrs 7p Basketball, Gym	9:30a Tai-Chi, FDC 10:30a Crochet/Craft, MPR 6p-9:30p Kendo, Gym 7p Taiko Practice, CR#3	7p CCDC Mtg, Visalia (Kaz) 7p Basketball, Gym	2p-5p Rev. Kaz' Office Hrs 6p-9:30p Kendo, Gym	9a-12p JLCS, CR#1 & 3 5p Reedley BC Crab Feed
8a-12p Blood Donation, FDC 8:30a-9:15a Meditation, Hondo 10a Spring Ohigan & Shoutsuki Service (Kaz) Speaker: Rev. John Iwihara 2p-4p Pickleball, Gym	5p-6p Yang 24 Tai-chi, Gym 6p-7p Yang 48 Tai-chi, Gym 7p Taiko Practice, CR#1	2p-5p Rev. Kaz' Office Hrs 7p Basketball, Gym	9:30a Tai-Chi, FDC 11a Ryukoku Mtg., Gardena BC (Kaz) 6p-9:30p Kendo, Gym 7p 125th Anniversary Committee Mtg., MPR 7p Taiko Practice, CR#3	7p Night time Mindfulness Chanting Meditation, Hondo 7p Basketball, Gym	2p-5p Rev. Kaz' Office Hrs 6p-9:30p Kendo, Gym	Hoji: 11:30a ~ Hondo (Kaz) 9a-12p JLCS, CR#1 & 3 11a Kingsburg BC Service
8:30a-9:15a Meditation, Hondo 10a Friends & Family Dharma Service (Kaz) 12:30p FBBWA Sponsored Craft Class, MPR (Kaz) 2p-4p Pickleball, Gym	5p-6p Yang 24 Tai-chi, Gym 6p-7p Yang 48 Tai-chi, Gym 7p Taiko Practice, CR#1	2p-5p Rev. Kaz' Office Hrs 6p E&P Mtg., MPR (Kaz) 7p Basketball, Gym	9:30a Tai-Chi, FDC 6p-9:30p Kendo, Gym 7p Taiko Practice, CR#3	7p Night time Mindfulness Chanting Meditation, Hondo 7p Basketball, Gym	2p-5p Rev. Kaz' Office Hrs	7p Basketball, Gym

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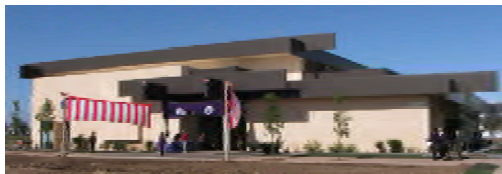
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### March Happenings...

"BUDDHISM 101" CLASS W/REV. KAZ ~ 3/3

VINTAGE GARDENS HOWAKAI ~ 3/7

FAIRWINDS HOWAKAI ~ 3/17

JAPANESE HOWAKAI ~ 3/11

SPRING OHIGAN SEMINAR WITH REV. JOHN IWOHARA ~ 3/22

SPRING OHIGAN & MARCH SHOTSUKI SERVICE ~ 3/23  
GUEST SPEAKER: REV. JOHN IWOHARA

NIGHT TIME MINDFULNESS MEDITATION ~ 3/6, 3/13, 3/20, 3/27

FRIENDS & FAMILY DHARMA SERVICES ~ 3/2, 3/9, 3/30

FRIENDS & FAMILY DHARMA "LAY" SERVICE ~ 3/16

REEDLEY BUDDHIST CHURCH CRAB FEED ~ 3/15

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME STARTS ~ 3/9  
DON'T BE LATE FOR MEDITATION & DHARMA SERVICE!!

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

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

### HANAMATSURI SERVICE - APRIL 20, 2025



### April Heads Up....

"BUDDHISM 101" CLASS W/REV. KAZ ~ 4/7

VINTAGE GARDENS HOWAKAI ~ 4/4

FAIRWINDS HOWAKAI ~ 4/21

JAPANESE HOWAKAI ~ 4/8

HAWAIIAN PLATE DINNER FUNDRAISER - 4/12

SCOUT DAY ~ 4/19

HANAMATSURI & APRIL SHOTSUKI SERVICE ~ 4/20

NIGHT TIME MINDFULNESS MEDITATION ~ 4/3, 4/10, 4/17

FRIENDS & FAMILY DHARMA SERVICE & CLASS ~ 4/6, 4/27

FRIENDS & FAMILY DHARMA "LAY" SERVICE ~ 4/13

OBON DANCE PRACTICE ~ 4/21, 4/30

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EVENTS!