

# BUDDHIST CHURCH OF FOWLER



## THE WHITE PATH

MONTHLY BULLETIN VOL. 501

NOVEMBER 2020

### NOVEMBER

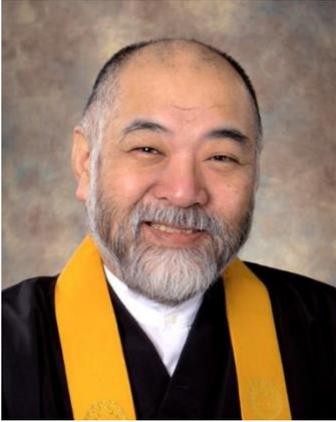
Please be advised that due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the following church activities for the Fowler Buddhist Church have been **cancelled**:

November 1	Family Service and Dharma School
November 15	Etaikyo and November Shotsuki Memorial Service

We appreciate your patience and understanding.

We hope everyone remains safe and healthy.

Namo Amida Butsu



## **One-Thousand-Folded Paper Cranes**

**(*Senbazuru* = Strings of folded paper cranes numbering one thousand)**

The other day when I talked about ‘One-Thousand-Folded Paper Cranes’ in a pet memorial service, it attracted a lot of people's interest, so I will write about it.

The first thing I would like to emphasize is that the wish contained in the thousand-folded paper cranes is "live" or "longevity.” Recently, the meaning of this wish has been forgotten, and it is often found in places where a thousand-folded paper cranes should not be displayed, such as a graveyard. If you are not careful when introducing foreign artifacts, ‘Lost in Translation’ will occur.

Perhaps the misunderstanding began when we heard about the thousand-folded paper cranes, dedicated to the memorial monument to the boys and girls who were victims of the Atomic Bomb, which bears the name of Sadako, the girl who died from the effects of the Atomic Bomb in Hiroshima.

Unfortunately, even now 75 years after the Atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima City, many countries will never acknowledge the fact that humans, as well as most living beings, can never co-exist with nuclear energy. They are not willing to do so; therefore, there are many children around the present world who are suffering from radiation damage of nuclear energy.

It is the reason why Hiroshima citizens continue to offer the thousand-folded paper cranes to the monument.

By the way, the origin of the thousand-folded paper cranes goes back to Archbishop Rogen, who was a leader of Japanese Buddhism in the 10th century. Gansan Daishi, also known as Rogen 元三大師良源(912~985), is one of the leaders who took the initiative in propagating Buddhism, which was a monopoly of the aristocratic class before his time to the common people. He is also famous for being a direct teacher of the 6th master of Jodo Shinshu, Genshin Kasho.

When Rogen, highly respected by the common people at that time was on his death bed due to aging, many citizens of Kyoto who heard of his sickness began to dedicate strings of thousand-folded paper cranes to the nearby shrines and temples. They shared their prayers for the longevity of Rogen: "Venerable Rogen Shonin, please live longer." So why did they dedicate "the strings of thousand folded-paper cranes"?

Rogen is considered the first person to make frequent use of Buddhist narratives when sharing Buddhism to the common people. He explained in an easy-to-understand manner the truth reality of Mahayana Buddhist basics. For example, "Kokudo Sansen Sōmoku Shikkai Jōbutsu 国土山川草木悉皆成仏" means, "All sentient beings that exist in this universe have the element of becoming a Buddha as potentiality"; but he pleasantly shared the same passage by using observed-facts of the familiar animal world that everyone knows.

There is a passage in Rogen's Dharma-talk that continues to influence the ordinary people until the 21st century. Regarding Buddha-nature, some species of animals, such as elephants, lions, deer, and peacocks etc., though not as potential as humans, sometimes gain Buddha-nature within their lifespan on Earth. Typical examples are cranes and turtles. When observing the cranes, it is said that once cranes become a pair, they will live together for the rest of their lives and if one dies in an accident, the other will remain single for the rest of its life.

When observing the turtle, probably because it is close to Buddha-nature, the turtle is a family-minded being, and parents always nurture, putting their child and grandchild on their back shells. The sense-of-care also favors other creatures, and it is often heard that

a fisherman, thrown out of a boat at sea, was rescued after being carried on his back by a sea turtle even for three days and three nights.

It is said that such kinds of birds and beasts that carry well potentiality get Buddha-nature; for example, a crane gets a thousand-years life, and a turtle gets a ten-thousand-years life. Especially when both the crane-pair would emerge with Buddha-nature, the two are said to work the role of messenger of the gods or buddhas while maintaining the love of the couple for a thousand years. That is why these crane-pairs always are adopted as a happy-go-lucky motif to all Arts of Japan.

This fable must have been well understood by the citizens of Kyoto because this story included criticisms of the court life at that time by Rogen Shonin, especially the disorder of the marriage life of the upper aristocratic class. The thousand-folded paper cranes also include the meaning of a warning bell as the same creature from the crane's standpoint, toward the awkward reality of the human beings who ought to be closest to emerging Buddha-nature. People are naturally aware of the commonality of Life's preciousness in this world.

Rogen is also known for creating one of Japan's unique religious customs that has lasted until the 21st century. He is the inventor of the "Paper Oracle" tied to the branches of the trees in the precincts, which is the familiar landscape of Japanese shrines and temples. Even now on New Year's Day, at least 30% of Japanese people who visit the shrines and temples draw 'Omikuji = Paper Oracle', write their prayers or New Year's resolutions on the paper, and tie them to the branches of trees in the precincts.

Before Rogen, people were just "folding" paper and offering it to gods as a dark and negative act, such as an ancient religious occult "curse." Rogen, in accordance with the Buddhist policy of guiding the primitive religion without denying it, turns the negative "folded-paper Oracle" into a positive "prayer" act of "tying it" to the tree in the sanctuary. He was the person who created this tradition and brought Japanese ancient religion out into the place of light. His achievements were welcomed by the entire devout people.

So, therefore people would offer strings of thousand-folded paper cranes as the act of earnestly wishing for the longevity of dear Rogen Shonin. Again, the act of dedicating a thousand-folded paper cranes is the act of earnestly wishing for the longevity of the person.

Gassho,  
Rev. Kakei Nakagawa, Rinban



## **Showing our reverence to our founding generations**

Rev. Kaz Nakata

Hello, all Central California Sangha friends! We are welcoming in November with cool weather and only two more months to the year 2021! Since March, most temple/church activities have been suspended under the Health Department guidelines. Our Central Cal Sangha leaders have been discussing how to cautiously re-open temples/churches to our Sangha members with essential concern for everyone's health. As you are aware, some "outside" activities are held such as the Obon Dance, and the Drive thru Food fundraisers. I have confidence that all helpers for these events will put extra effort into preventing the spread of any disease. As one of the outside activities, Rinban and I decided to conduct New Year's Eve Service whether our temples/churches reopen by the end of the year or not. The main event of the Service is to gong the Kansho/Bonsho bell. Plans are to chant Juseige in front of the bell outdoors, then everyone tolls the bell. Hand sanitizer will be provided to use after you touch the bell hammer. It will be a short Service, but I am sure it will be a very meaningful Service for all. Even if you are not able to come out to toll the bell, no problem. I will be sure to live stream our Service to share the resonating sound of the bell! Some CC churches have their Ministerial Assistants to conduct services or we will have a guest to conduct the Services at your local churches. I will have more detail in my December article!

As I promised in my October article, I like to write about my research on the internment camps and my talk at the Fall Ohigan Service. I hope many of our Dharma School children will read this article. Since I have become a BCA minister, I have had several occasions to visit Manzanar. I have visited all 10 internment camps since coming to the U.S. in 2003, and Manzanar is the only location where I have visited multiple times. When I was a senior at Ryukoku University Kyoto Japan, I was researching for my final paper, thesis for the graduation. Ryukoku is known as a Ministerial training school of Jodo Shinshu. At the time, I encountered the word "Japanese-American". Until then, I really did not know who the Japanese Americans were. I received K-12 education in

Japan, but they did not teach the history of the Japanese American because it is not a part of Japanese history. Likewise, the U.S. public schools do not teach the history of American Japanese at their school. In December of 1941, the Japanese military attacked Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. Because the “Japanese” attacked the U.S., the U.S. government worried about Japanese in the U.S., especially Japanese on the west coast. Two months later in February 1942, the 32nd U.S. President Franklin Roosevelt signed an Executive Order to construct relocation centers for Japanese and Japanese American. Japanese immigrants in the U.S. are called Issei, which means the 1st generation. Japanese-American at that time were mainly the 2nd generation U.S. born children. They are called Ni-sei. Ni means two and sei means generation. 3rd generation Japanese American is known as San-sei (Three/Third generation). Three months later in the announcement of the Executive Order, the Civil control administration printed a poster to Japanese (Issei) and Japanese American (Nisei and Sansei) ordering them to move into the internment camps.

As I mentioned, after I moved to the U.S., I visited all 10 camps in person for my personal research. During my research, I was able to interview people who were in the camps. They were mostly our temple church members, especially members of Buddhist Women’s association. I found some interesting facts. I interviewed different age groups of people who would have been pre-teen , in their 20’s, and over 30’s in camp. I started my research nearly 60 years after WWII, so I was not able to talk to many people who would have been in their 30’s or 40’. I was expecting to hear their experience of difficulties, frustration, and hardship while in the camp, but what I heard from them was quite different. Not all but most had rather good memories of the camp, especially the pre-teen and teens who enjoyed their life in camp. Sometimes they went fishing and swimming outside of camp, some said that in camp, was the first time they saw so many Japanese. Everyone was speaking Japanese and played Japanese games. Many of their parents lost their homes, land, and personal belongings when they relocated to the camp. There is no doubt that the internment experience was a big tragedy for all the adults, but I am sure that their children were their hope for the future. According to the interviews, many children in the camp enjoyed their life. I am sure their laughter and smiling faces helped their parents bear their hardship. Three years after the Executive Order, people were released from the camps and they spent their lives trying to rebuild their family

life and re-establish the Japanese American community. Without their tireless and selfless efforts, we might not have been able to enjoy our temple/church activities until March.

Right now, in 2020, we are under a stay at home condition because of the pandemic. I am sure many parents are experiencing hardship, and so their children's laughter and smiling faces will definitely help and support their parents. These children are the hope and the future. Like the people of our founding generation, we too will overcome our hardship by our children's/grandchildren's laughter and smiling faces.

Gassho

## **NOVEMBER ETAIKYO AND SHOTSUKI MEMORIAL SERVICE**

Please view, join and participate in the November virtual services on Twitter.

Nov 1 @ 10 AM - CC Combined Shotsuki Service from Fresno

Nov 8 @ 10 AM - CC Combined Sunday Dharma Service from Kingsburg

Nov 15 @ 10 AM - CC Sunday Dharma Service from Fresno

Nov 22 @ 10 AM - CC Sunday Dharma Service from Fowler

Nov 29 @ 10 AM - CC Combined Eitaikyo Service from Reedley

If you have any questions or need assistance, please feel free to call the Betsuin Office Monday-Friday (559) 442-4054 or Reverend Kaz (424) 666-7101.

**The Shotsuki names for the month of November are:**

Hina Tsuboi  
Wasa Kuramoto  
Shizuno Matsuoka

Mieko Honda  
Masajiro Miyake  
Tamayo Hirasuna  
Mikiye Mukai  
Haruso Kimura  
Yasuo Fujikawa  
Kenji Takimoto  
Masuno Nishina  
Nobu Shimoda  
Itsuyo Iwamoto  
Haruko Toyama  
Dennis Nakagawa  
Yoshimi Nakahira  
Matsuso Takeda  
Patsy Ashida  
Ben Nakamura  
Taeko Yamashita  
Chizu Miyagawa  
Marjorie Yuriko Miyasaki  
Fred Masakiyo Sakazaki  
Masami Ray Nishina  
Kenji Takimoto  
Sachiko Onaka  
Shigeru Shig Uchiyama  
Kim Nishina  
Lily Yuriko Kato  
Russell Shimizu  
Toshiko Arasuna  
Mitsuro Tomoyasu  
Harry Honda  
Shirley Honda  
Howard Matsumura  
Tomoko Lily Kawamoto  
Henry Fujikawa

**CHURCH TOBAN FOR  
NOVEMBER**

**District IV**

Board of Governors:

Craig Honda  
Sharon Asakawa

Toban  
Sharon Asakawa  
Tayoko Honda

**BWA NEWS**

The Bonenkai service and luncheon scheduled for December has been cancelled.

The 2020 FBWA officers and rijis will continue to serve their office for 2021, for the third year.

President: Aiko Kamine  
Vice President: Irene Hara  
Secretary: Alice Fujikawa  
Treasurer: Janice Yoshimoto  
Social Co-chairs: Yoko Miyoshi and Janie Yuen  
Auditor: Hitomi Sera

Rijis:

Group I (District 1-3): Irene Hara and Hitomi Sera

Group II (District 4 & 5): Yoko Miyoshi & Arlene Keithley

Everyone, please stay safe and healthy. We look forward to activities in 2021

**FOWLER GOLF CLUB ANNUAL  
FELLOWSHIP GOLF  
TOURNAMENT**

The 24th annual Fellowship Golf Tournament was held October 10th at Ridge Creek Golf Club. Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, dinner could not be served in the Social Hall following the tournament. Thank you to all the volunteers who coordinated the tournament, raffle donors and tee sponsors. Thank you to all who made this second largest fundraiser for the temple a success.

Congratulations to the following teams:

**Open Division**

**1st Place:** Ben Fujikawa, Matt Fujikawa, Frank Fujikawa & Linda Fujikawa

**2nd Place:** Neil Ryan, Erik Young, Bryan Hata & Nick Nishikawa

**3rd Place:** David Hammond, Joe Hammond, Mike Butts & Richard Monis

**Women's Division:**

**1st Place:** Sharon Kerr, Sue Yamasaki, Lacy Barnes & Janice Kebo

## October 2020 Donations

### Shotsuki

\$ 50.00 Linda Matsumoto Family  
\$ 30.00 Kimihiro & Hitomi Sera  
\$ 25.00 Carol Takahashi  
\$ 25.00 Janis & Wayne Sutow  
\$ 25.00 J.L. Hayashi \$  
20.00 Bey & Susan Driss  
and Family

### In Memory of Toshio & Tomoko Kawamoto

\$250.00 Robert, Deanna  
(Kawamoto) & Emma Hanashiro  
\$ 100.00 The Families of Toshio &  
Tomoko Kawamoto

### In Memory of Betty Tokubo, 7th Year Memorial

\$ 100.00 Tak & Amy Tsuda

### In Memory of Chuck Ideta

\$ 30.00 Joe & Irene Hara

### In Memory of Dennis Yee

\$ 50.00 The Kevin Fukuda Family

### Mochitsuki

Please note, that due to COVID-19, the Fowler Mochitsuki for 2020 has been **cancelled**. We hope to continue our traditional Mochitsuki in 2021.

## **2020 FBCFGT Tee Sponsors**

Gong's Market of Sanger/Barr Pharmacy, Michael Ohashi  
Kasco Fab, Inc., Hidemi "Kim" Kimura  
Ronald Takahashi  
Sam & Beth Masumoto  
Aloha Family Optometric Group, Drs. Gary Mukai; Rick Ideta  
Earl Honda  
Yano Chiropractic Center, Randy Yano  
C.D. Simonian Insurance, Inc., Jonathan Simonian  
Pacific Choice Brands, Inc., Al Andrews  
Valley Plastic Surgeons, Dr. Kent Yamaguchi  
JSL Technologies, Inc., Ben Fujikawa  
Chapel of the Light, Michael Rabara  
Bob & Linda Kishi  
Manor Drugs, Pam Yoshikawa  
Lisle Funeral Home, John Urabe  
Popsie's Bar & Grill, Irene Rodriquez  
George & Ruri Sugimoto  
Nakayama Farm, Keith Nakayama; Gerald Nakayama  
Sunnyside Donuts  
Ben & Noreen Yosako  
Fowler Packing Company, Dennis Parnagian  
Hatakeyama Family  
Ronald H. Ashida  
Barton K. Ashida  
Tad T. Nakamura, CPA  
Union Bank, West Fresno Branch  
Structicon, Kimihiro Sera  
Kimihiro & Hitomi Sera  
The Frank Hashimoto Family  
Howard & Satomi Hiyama  
Ron & Maxine Yoshimoto  
Robert L. Jensen & Associates, Rob Jensen  
Wallin Funeral Homes, Charles Wallin  
Tina Kato-Clarey  
National Raisin Company, Carlotta Bedrosian

Michael & Darla Sterios  
Kurata Automotive Services, David Kurata  
United Japanese Christian Church  
Fresno Betsuin Temple Golf Tournament  
Kiku Floral, Lorrie & Larry Yamada  
Redcat Football Boosters  
Gene T. Yamaguchi, DDS  
Dean & Midori Nishijima  
Fowler Physical Therapy, Kurt Karle  
Alvin & Rose Hayashi  
Zeni-Ya Japanese Fast Food, Rose & Keri Zenimura  
China Garden Restaurant, Alan Wong  
Kawano Dental  
Oxnard Buddhist Temple  
Teriyaki Don, Louie Ishihara  
Donaghy Sales LLC  
Wright Oil Company, Humiyo Wright  
Trinity Fruit Sales, David White  
La Tapatia Tortilleria, Inc., Helen Hansen  
Team Ben Davis, Dave, Kenny & Ben  
Karen Kondo  
Dee C. Nishimine, DDS  
Glenn Ota, Morgan Stanley  
D/M Don & Marsha Yoshimura  
Mid Valley Packaging & Supply, Carrie Gahvejian  
GAR Bennett  
Bee Sweet Citrus, Jim Marderosian  
Mountain View Fruit Sales  
Nakashima Golf, Inc., Hideo Fujiwara/John Nakashima  
Robert V Jensen, Inc  
Dinuba Buddhist Church  
Integrated Prescription Management, Troy Collins  
Ted Waldron, Fortune Associates

## **2020 FBCFGT Donor List**

Buffalo Wild Wings  
Doghouse Grill  
Mid Valley Packaging & Supplies  
Madera Municipal Golf Course  
Jocy's Mexican Restaurant  
Fowler Pizza Factory  
Barton Ashida  
Vino Grille & Spirits  
DiCicco's Italian Restaurant, Downtown  
Valley Ice One  
Riverside Golf Course  
Kijima Japanese Restaurant  
Valent Corp., Lyndon Inouye  
J & L Custom Golf, Larry Raley  
Sun-Maid Raisin Growers, Michael Moriyama  
La Elegante Mexican Restaurant  
Robert V. Jensen, Inc., Michael Martin  
Troy Tagaki  
Malaga Shear Co., Don Sparkman  
Elizabeth Olive  
Rosie's Flower Shop, Rosie Torres  
Richard's Prime Rib & Seafood  
Ridge Creek Dinuba Golf Course  
Fowler Floral & Gift Shop  
Dave's Auto Service  
Pheasant Run Golf Club  
Kabab City, Fowler  
Bluffe Pointe Golf Center  
Valley Wide Beverage Company  
Rev. George Shibata  
Kiku Floral, Lorrie & Larry Yamada  
Gerald & Cherie Nakayama  
Poindexter Nut Company  
Dragonfly Golf Course  
Greg & Gay Mukai

Roger Takeda  
Fowler Ace Hardware  
Bob & Linda Kishi  
Fowler Packing Company  
Star Acupuncture  
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Pro-Screen, Inc.  
Steve Fujii  
Frank & Linda Fujikawa  
Central Fish Company, Morgan Doizaki  
The Cosmopolitan Tavern & Italian Grill  
Kogetsu-Do Confectionery, Lynn Yada  
Donaghy Sales, LLC  
Fowler Family Dentistry  
United Health Centers  
Rick & Marlene Miyasaki  
Gary & Arlene Keithley  
Manor Drugs  
Belmont Country Club  
Sharon Kerr  
GAR Bennett

# CURRY RICE

to-go

## FRESNO BUDDHIST TEMPLE

2690 E. Alluvial Ave., Fresno 93720

**SAT., NOV. 14<sup>th</sup>**  
and  
**SUN., NOV. 15<sup>th</sup>**

**DRIVE THRU PICK UP ONLY**  
**NO DINE-IN**  
**FAMILY DHARMA CENTER**  
**11:00am – 1:00pm**

**PRE-SALE ONLY**  
**ORDER BY NOV. 7<sup>TH</sup>**  
**LIMITED TO 250 PER DAY**

To order, complete & return this form with payment; Call the office (559) 442-4054; OR  
Email: [info@fresnobuddhisttemple.org](mailto:info@fresnobuddhisttemple.org) (include order & pick up date)

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Select the day you would like to pick up your order. Please choose only one date.  
We will confirm your selection by phone or email.

**SATURDAY, NOV 14**  
11:00AM – 1:00PM

OR

**SUNDAY, NOV 15**  
11:00AM – 1:00PM

Quantity	Item	Price	Item Total
	<b>BEEF CURRY</b>	<b>\$ 12.00</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
	<b>VEGETABLE CURRY</b>	<b>\$ 12.00</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>
	<b>DONATION</b>	<b>THANK YOU!</b>	
	<b>Please make checks payable to: "FRESNO BUDDHIST TEMPLE"</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 0.00</b>

Mail to: 2690 E. Alluvial Ave., Fresno CA 93720

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!**



# December Meal To-Go

## TERIYAKI CHICKEN

### OBENTO BOX

**BBQ TERIYAKI CHICKEN**

**RICE – VEGETABLE MEDLEY – FRUIT – DESSERT**

**SAT., DECEMBER 5 ... 11AM – 1PM**

**FRESNO BUDDHIST TEMPLE**

**2690 E. ALLUVIAL AVE., FRESNO 93720**

**DRIVE THRU PICK-UP ONLY – NO DINE-IN  
PRE-ORDERS ONLY**

Please pre-order by November 25<sup>th</sup>.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form, email your order  
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**QUANTITY**

**PRICE**

**ITEM TOTAL**

# \_\_\_\_\_

\$15.00 EACH

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

DONATION

THANK YOU!

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL

\$ \_\_\_\_\_



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Mail form & check to: 2690 E. Alluvial Ave., Fresno CA 93720