

Our Promise
Dharma Talk by Spencer Tada
March 4, 2012

Being raised in a family of Buddhist followers, we were baptized and started learning our religion at an early age. The Donald Tada/Harue Yamasaki and the Masayuki Higashi/Tamie Maeda families were Sangha members of Lihue Hongwanji Mission since the late 1800's and who still believe in Amida's compassionate grace today. We therefore want to continue supporting the church's livelihood while awaiting a newly assigned reverend.

We represent a large number of OHANA people who have worked hard to build and propagate the BUDDHA, the DHARMA, and the SANGHA at LHM!

Our parents and grandparents have led the SANGHA in the past, so we would love to help carry on this tradition!

I have been through five major surgeries and AMIDA has guided me through each one. My treatments started in June 2006 for an arrhythmic heart condition which required a stent and a pacemaker. After a photo-endoscopy revealed cancerous tumors in my esophagus and stomach, robotic surgery was done in October 2007. I contracted MRSA while under this recovery which changed my physical health extensively!

Follow up CT scans for that operation found a pituitary adenoma which needed two procedures in October 2009 and April 2010 to successfully fix it! Scans to check those surgeries discovered a subdural hematoma had occurred which required emergency repair of the brain in January 2011!

I have received excellent diagnostic and medical treatments from the University of California Irvine Medical Center's teams of doctors and staff.

After all of these operations I am very lucky to be in good health!

Elaine has been a wonderful wife, mother and nurse for us throughout this period!

While I was undergoing these medical procedures, there were times we turned to prayers for help. Although we did not know if asking AMIDA would be okay to do, we felt his presence supporting us!

We pray each night for his guidance and wisdom which gives us all the strength to be strong.

This SANGHA gave us the strength we needed to recover from those operations! We have become healthier and better Buddhists because of your caring, concerns and prayers. We also appreciated your cards, letters, emails and thoughtful gifts during this period of wellness!

We therefore promise: "We thank AMIDA for showing us the way to freedom and we will endeavor to walk in his noble path every day of our lives!"

Please continue your efforts to keep LHM going and flourishing!

We know that all of you will work diligently as always to maintain the life of our "HONDO."

Mahalo!

Namo Amida Butsu! Namu Amida Butsu! Namu Amida Butsu!

In gassho,

Stuart, Elaine and Spencer Tada