



Hearthstone Community Church, Inc.



"The Full Moon Folk"

GREETINGS

It's been a tumultuous month of October already. I had the pleasure of participating in an interfaith Blessing of the Animals on Sunday the 5th in honor of St. Francis of Assisi day. In addition to the Wiccan, there were folks of Buddhist, Krishna, Catholic, Methodist, and Sufi faiths there, and many people took their animals to each officiate, resulting in very well-blessed animals.

I do love the autumn. The days are cooler than summer, and eventually slide into a "brisk" temperature that I find very enjoyable after a summer of tolerating the heat. This is the time of year I'm most likely to simply wander off for no apparent reason and drink in the sights, sounds and smells of the Earth settling in for Winter.

I did get some medical news that will have me in surgery and recovering as we approach winter. I hope to schedule that surgery in the second week or so of November. Any blessings or healing energy you feel inclined to pass to me would be gratefully accepted.

—*Alia*

THANKS AND A TIP OF THE HAT

Hats off to Amy! Our Hearthstone community celebrated autumn equinox and the full moon under the able leadership of Amy. As we prepare our hearts for winter, she spoke to us of appreciating community, reminding us to reach out to those who are having a hard time. As we move into the more introspective time of year, Amy challenged us to courageously ask ourselves "Am I getting from life what I intend to get?"

We commenced the ritual's guided meditation with participants bringing our breathing into sync. Then with each inhalation and exhalation, Amy challenged us with questions, encouraging each person to silently and honestly answer questions about our life, facing with courage that which we

need to bring into balance. After the meditation we each in turn were invited to reach unseeing into a dark bag containing glass "stones" in elemental colors, select one, then consider whether traits of that element might be out of balance within us. In summary, we were guided, challenged and assisted to come into balance NOW, before cold, dark winter arrives at our doors!

Thank you, Amy, for presenting a ritual that flowed smoothly and rhythmically, and left us feeling cared about! Thank you also for planning activities to occupy the little ones so that we could concentrate. Additional thanks to teens Alyria and her friend Maeve who supervised the children.

—*Arynn*

OCTOBER OPEN FULL MOON

Hearthstone meets the Friday before or the Friday of the Full Moon at the First Unitarian Church at 14th and Lafayette in Denver. The church doors open at 7, and we like to start at 7:30. (We are NOT big proponents of Pagan Standard Time, but if there is weather related driving trouble or a problem on the freeway, we've been known to wait a bit longer.) This month's ritual is FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2008.

Remember, please, that Hearthstone doesn't expect everyone to enter in Perfect Love and Perfect Trust, as there are people you don't know there, but to enter with a willing heart and an open mind, and leave your differences at the door.

Some traditions are more controversial than others, or may contain a component that disturbs someone attending an Open Full Moon. It is one of the risks of exploring different traditions. Should anyone be uncomfortable, unsettled, or upset about any ritual presented by Hearthstone, please contact Alia or Catherine to discuss -- and hopefully resolve and heal -- the issue.

—*Alia*

For the October 12th Open Full Moon: Valerie Langston Brettillo, M. Div. will lead us in an embodied celebration of the Triple Goddess - the Maiden, Mother, Crone within us all. Come ready to sing, dance, and do some sacred creativity. All ages, dance, movement abilities, and levels of experience are very welcome. Bring a rhythm instrument if you'd like and there will also be plenty to share.

Valerie Langston Brettillo received her Master of Divinity (M.Div.) from the Iliff School of Theology in 1998. Since that time she has served several years as the Director of The Celebrants, a Denver-based ecumenical sacred dance troupe, as well as teaching and sharing Sacred Dance in various faith communities, including providing adjunct instructional support for the Sacred Dance classes at Iliff. She is also a singer, priestess, healer, preacher, and sexuality educator. She is a leader and priestess in local Feminist Wiccan communities, including co-founder of a Denver-based coven. She resides in the Denver Metro area with her husband and two young daughters.

ON DONATIONS

(This standard blurb was partially rewritten again in September & October 2008.)

Many of our local Pagan organizations run on a shoestring. Your donations do make a difference, and the cost of a movie ticket to one of these organizations from several of their patrons can make the difference between failing and thriving. (Not to mention making the organizers excited and happy that their efforts are of value to you.) If you'd prefer not to donate to Hearthstone, I encourage you to donate something to the organization of your choice. Your donations can make the difference between an organization thriving and folding.

We appreciate that many of you donate to the church. Hearthstone is managing to keep costs low and usually breaks even these days. Since Alia can no longer support the church on her own, we ask you to please give what you can to support the work and service

of the church to the community. The more you can spare, the longer we will be around, and the more we can help those who need it. While we will keep Hearthstone Community Church, Inc. running as long as possible, we do feel we should let you know that we still need your support to continue to serve the community. Again, if you would prefer not to donate to Hearthstone for whatever reason, we ask that you donate to one of the groups providing public events so that we can continue to have a thriving community with many public activities.

We suggest a donation of 5 to 10 dollars per person. If you can't afford it, you are still welcome – if you can afford more, we'd be delighted to accept it.

NOTE: Hearthstone is a church and your donations to Hearthstone are **tax deductible**. If you would like to write a check so you can keep track of your donations, we can certainly handle that as well.

CAPITOL HILL REIKI CIRCLE

Capitol Hill Reiki Circle -- Third Wednesday of every month through 2008. For more information contact Jo, 720-255-5132 or JoMar01@comcast.net.

www.myspace.com/reikicircle

EARTH TEMPLE

Earth Temple rituals have moved to a new location: Ye Old Firehouse, 3232 Depew Street, Wheat Ridge. With a few exceptions, all of our rituals will be held at this location. With one exception, all dates are Fridays, with community announcements starting at 7:30 pm, and ritual starting when announcements conclude. Here are the remaining dates of ET's 2008 schedule with the exceptions and locations listed.

Earth Temple 2008 dates

Oct 24 – NM – Ye Old Firehouse

Samhain – November 1 (Saturday) from 5:30 - 9:30 pm at the Wheat Ridge Senior Center.

Nov 28 – NM – Ye Old Firehouse

Dec 19 – Yule – Ye Old Firehouse

NEW MOON CIRCLES AT WITCHES BREW

Mary Reeves and Robin Vinehall, from Tree in the Circle, will be holding New Moon Esbat rituals at Witches Brew on the Sunday closest to the New Moon. They will be presenting an open New Moon in Scorpio Esbat ritual at Witches Brew on Sunday, October 26. Mary and Robin will be invoking the goddess Arianrhod, whose energy is consistent with the astrological energies of Scorpio and with Yesod, the ninth sephira of the Qabalistic Tree of Life, taken in the order of the "Downward Striking Lightning Flash". (Don't worry! They'll explain things before the ritual. No previous knowledge of Qabalah or even astrology is necessary.) The ritual will be in traditional Wiccan form, incorporating both Qabalah and astrology into a powerful and empowering ceremony.

The doors will close for regular business at 7:00 PM and ritual will begin at 7:30 PM
Blessed Be,

Robin and Mary

Witches Brew Coffee House is at 4900 West 46th Ave.; Call: (303) 997-9571 or online at: <http://www.myspace.com/witchesbrewdenver>

WHO TO CONTACT

Alia's phone number is 303-680-1741. Southwynde's is 303-698-1066. Catherine's is 303-534-5264. If you would like to officiate at a future Open Full Moon, for Pagan or Wiccan clergy, or for any other Hearthstone business, please contact either Alia or Catherine.

Hearthstone Community Church has a website at <http://hearthstone.fnorky.com> It's kept current, so anything you miss here should be there.

Alia's e-mail address is alia@fnorky.com; Southwynde's is Southwynde@yahoo.com; (it is not frequently checked). Catherine's e-mail address is catherine@fnorky.com

GUEST COLUMNS?

If you have something to say, and are willing to let Alia or Catherine edit it slightly, (generally for grammar – Alia has the soul of an English teacher and Catherine wants to be one) please feel free to submit your writing to catherine@fnorky.com. Content will not be edited. We can usually make room for more voices.

This newsletter is for Hearthstone Community Church, Inc. of Denver, Colorado. Editor: Catherine Mock. Publisher: M. Alia Denny

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2008 Open Full Moon Dates

October 10, 2008
November 7, 2008
December 12, 2008

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Hearthstone Community Church, Inc.
3071 S. Dexter Way
Denver, CO 80222
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