



Hearthstone Community Church, Inc.

"The Full Moon Folk"



JULY 27 OPEN FULL MOON

Hearthstone meets the Friday before or the Friday of the Full Moon in the upstairs chapel 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. This month's ritual is FRIDAY, JULY 27, 2012.

At the July OFM, Amy, Mars and Alora will present a ritual honoring the spiritual and community ties we all share.

--Catherine

GREETINGS

I usually use this space to muse upon the happenings of the month. This time, I am asking the community for healing energy for my best friend and partner in Hearthstone, Alia. Late Friday night or early Saturday morning, Alia suffered a minor hemorrhagic stroke. She is at the Rose Hospital ICU in Denver. According to her husband, Doug, any bleeding has stopped and the neurologist does not believe he will have to do any surgery. However, because of problems with pain medications, she has not been conscious enough for the doctors to do a full work up.

In addition to this, Alia's significant other, Kent, was hospitalized in late May for Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome. He is recovering slowly and is expected to be home in the next two weeks. However, any recovery will take a long time.

Please keep Alia and her family in your thoughts and send them any energy you can spare.

---Catherine

THANKS AND A TIP OF THE HAT

Thanks to Morgan and his helpers of many ages for their wonderful ritual for the end of June. Morgan helped us remember those who have passed from our community – both our personal communities and the larger pagan community. We shared our feelings and built a stronger community. Thank you again, Morgan, for touching our hearts.

—Catherine

HEARTHSTONE RITUALS

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

ON DONATIONS

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



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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. **We ask that you 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. We will keep Hearthstone Community Church, Inc. running as long as possible, and we need your support to continue to serve the community.**

We aren't going to start collecting at the door, and no one will be turned away for not having a donation. However, we would like to suggest a donation of 5 to 10 dollars per person. (The extra is to cover the pagans that are unable to donate.) 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.

WICCAN BASICS CLASS

Sacred Stone Circle <http://sacredstonecircle.org/> will be providing Wicca Basics classes beginning in late spring. For those interested, please go to the website and fill out the New Student form at: http://sacredstonecircle.org/?page_id=1063. We will contact you with the particulars. Check out our other offerings as well. There is lots of information on the site.

We thank all who attended the FIRST ANNUAL DRUMMING DOWN THE SUN - WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2012, 6 pm - 10 pm, Addenbrook Park. This new event was a huge success, and over 100 participants attended (it was a super kid-friendly event). The drumming, fluting (flauting?), community socializing, dancing, yoga, and singing was a joyful way to celebrate the Summer Solstice and the change from the Light (Goddess) half of the year to the Dark (God) half of the year. We do plan to sponsor this as an annual celebration; the intent is to bring balance and celebration for flip side of Drumming Up The Sun on the Winter Solstice.

www.sacredstonecircle.org. - be sure to check back often for other events and offerings.

In service to the Goddess and God,

---Sage and HavenWood

High Priestess and High Priest of Sacred Stone Circle

BUT WE CAN PROMISE YOU REASONABLE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

While I wasn't promised a safe Wicca or ceremonial magic system, I was promised something: reasonable safety precautions. Exactly what these reasonable safety precautions vary from group to group, but it seems to be a standard promise that we will try to provide you with a safe spiritual journey.



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One might be a cynic like myself, and view this promise much like the promises made by airlines and car manufacturers. "We will not guarantee that the vehicle will not crash, but we will do our best to ensure that most of the parts remain on the vehicle during the course of the trip." In the case of Wicca and other esoteric traditions, the promise focuses more on the practitioner's mental and emotional state. "We will not guarantee that you will not be forced to make hard decisions or deal with sticky situations, but we will do our best to keep your mental turmoil down to societal acceptable levels."

One of the safety precautions that I see in the greater pagan and magical community is the "support group." One of the advantages of the support group, no matter what form it takes, is that you can share your experiences without worrying so much about what people are going to think. Being able to talk openly about what one is experiencing is a major safety precaution that being part of a spiritual community provides.

During my teenage years, I lived in a small town where everyone knew everyone else and their business; needless to say, I was mostly in the closet about my religion and spiritual beliefs, and the experiences that I was having that involved things not acceptable to your average Christian. It was only a decade later that I learned that many people in the town had known that I was not a Christian. Unfortunately, that information came too late to help me.

The result of having to keep my experiences secret, including things that I could see that were not physically there, was a slight touch of mental instability. While I doubt that I am more stable today, I will admit that being able to compare notes about the "invisible" presences have helped me feel more stable. And sometimes, that all one really needs—the knowledge that you are not the only person in the world to experience something, or to struggle with a decision, or to feel deep down that there is another way to live your life.

There are other safety precautions that the pagan and esoteric systems provide, such as a guided introduction to spiritual and magical forces, instructions on how to banish certain disruptive energies, and theories about what is really happening. But honestly, I think that the most important one is the simple ability to talk with like-minded people about the experiences that we are having.

While we are all going to have hard times, sometimes magnified by our beliefs and practices, it is nice to know that we are not alone on this spiritual journey.

Morgan Drake Eckstein

Morgan Drake Eckstein writes about Golden Dawn, Wicca and other mystery traditions on his blog at: <http://gleamingsfromthedawn.blogspot.com/>

EARTH TEMPLE

Earth Temple celebrates New Moons and Sabbats. With the exceptions noted below, our rituals are held at our NEW location: Full Moon Books and Event Center, 9106 W. 6th Ave. in Lakewood.

We start announcements at 7:30, and then start ritual when announcements end. Our dates are all Saturdays. Hope you can join us!

Event

Lughnasagh

ET date

Aug 4



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New Moon	Aug 18
New Moon	Sep 15
Mabon	Sep 22
New Moon	Oct 13
Samhain	Nov 3**Location TBA
New Moon	Nov 17
New Moon/Yule	Dec 15

WHOM TO CONTACT

Alia's phone number is 303-680-1741. 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>.

Alia's e-mail address is alia@fnorky.com; 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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2012 Open Full Moon Dates

July 27

August 31

September 28

October 26

November 23

December 28