



# Hearthstone Community Church, Inc.

## "The Full Moon Folk"



### **OCTOBER 18 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, October 18, 2013.

On October 18, Hawk Shadow and friends invite you to celebrate Samhain by joining us for an exploration the nature of Fate, and the role we all must take in weaving our own lives.

—Catherine

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### **GREETINGS**

October is here. The nights are getting longer and longer; in fact, the time between sunset and moonrise after the full moon this month is extremely short. This is the Hunter's Moon.

I remember my father hunting almost every October. He and my brother (or my sister, when my brother was in college) would go up to the mountains, often along with some of my father's buddies for deer or elk seasons. This was not a luxury – this was for meat for the year. We didn't go hungry if they didn't get anything, but seeing those packages in the freezer was a comforting image. We were prepared for the winter.

This is what the Hunter's moon is about – preparing for the coming winter. Preparation isn't just about food though. This is the time we prepare ourselves for the coming dark time. Going into the dark time of the year takes mental and emotional preparation as well as physical. In essence, we need to try to stockpile things that will provide a comforting image to our minds and hearts until the light returns.

—Catherine

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### **THANKS AND A TIP OF THE HAT**

Hearthstone offers our appreciation to Nyterose for offering a lovely rite of release at our September Open Full Moon. Just as deciduous trees release their leaves in the Fall, and are renewed in the Spring, we were led in an inner working to release that which doesn't serve us.

Assisted by her children Mars and Alora, Amy provided each participant with large flat leaves and colored markers. We were invited to contemplate what we had in our life -- a habit, attitude, anything we wanted to be rid of, and write it on the leaves. In meditation we connected with Mother Earth through our feet/roots, and Father Sky through our arms/branches, and charged our leaves with the energy of release and the promise of renewal. When each person was ready we dropped our leaves to the ground. Nyterose gathered up the leaves and promised to burn them at the New Moon.

Thank you, Nyterose, for the gift of this ritual that left us feeling attuned to Nature, cleansed, and refreshed. We are now more prepared for the study, rest, and renewal that Winter will offer us.

—Arynn

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## 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

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## 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 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.

–Alia

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## IS LUCK A ZERO SUM GAME?

One of the things that you occasionally hear in the community is that the Wiccan Rede forbids acting, if it will result in the harm of another person. Let's ignore the fact that this interpretation is overstating how limiting the Rede is, perhaps even completing missing the boat, and just focus for a second on one of the most extreme examples of how outrageous and limiting this idea can be – the working of magic for luck purposes.

For many people who embrace this extreme interpretation (perhaps because they like to argue and/or the extreme view allows them to justify doing nothing to help themselves), even luck spells are forbidden. Why? Because in order to have good luck, someone else has to suffer bad luck; that is, one is harming someone else because they are losing the good luck that they would otherwise gain if you would not have cast your spell.

Now personally, I find this extreme view that the Rede allows a witch to do nothing to be highly wrong. This extreme view presumes that good luck is the same for everyone – it is not. It also assumes that luck is a finite resource – again, not true.

For instance, some people consider landing a six figure a year job to be good luck. But not everyone, for some people realize that a six figure a year job requires a lot of hard work and/or stress. For someone desiring a simple life style, landing a six figure a year job is a stroke of bad luck. The same goes for romances: some people really like excitement; others view excitement to be extremely stressful. The only area that you might be able to argue that everyone sees good luck in the same way is the area of health – ironically, me being lucky enough to avoid catching icky sicknesses adds to the possibility that you will be lucky enough to avoid them too.

As for luck being a finite resource, this presumes that one cannot do anything to increase luck in the first place. It is like saying that Stephen King had the same chance of selling his novel, *Carrie*, if he had submitted it only once as he would have after the actual thirty times that he did submit it. Stephen King did not rob luck from anyone; he earned the right to be lucky by pure stubbornness and the fact that he wrote a better story than his competition.

And given these two facts, that luck looks different according to the needs and personality of the receiver, and that good luck is often just the sheer willingness to continue to try when other people have given up, I would argue that the one type of magic that is always allowable, even under the most extreme interpretation of the Wiccan Rede, is the good old fashioned luck spell.

### **Morgan Drake Eckstein**

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

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## **EARTH TEMPLE**

Earth Temple meets at Full Moon Books and Event Center, at 9106 W. 6th Ave. in Lakewood. All of our dates are Saturday evenings. Please arrive at the store before 7:30 pm, since the store closes and the doors lock right at 7:30. Please check out our Witchvox page for more info about us: [http://www.witchvox.com/vn/vn\\_detail/dt\\_gr.html?a=usco&id=35084](http://www.witchvox.com/vn/vn_detail/dt_gr.html?a=usco&id=35084). Thank you, Hearthstone, for sharing information about our circle!

<b>Event</b>	<b>ET date</b>
NM/Samhain	Oct 26 (6:30 – 9:00 p.m.)
Yule	Dec 14

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## **WHOM TO CONTACT**

Alia's phone number is 303-680-1741. Catherine's is 303-886-7067. 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](mailto:alia@fnorky.com); Catherine's e-mail address is [catherine@fnorky.com](mailto:catherine@fnorky.com)

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## **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 is simply a fanatic) please feel free to submit your writing to [catherine@fnorky.com](mailto:catherine@fnorky.com). Content will not be edited. We can usually make room for more voices.

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

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### **2013 Open Full Moon Dates**

**October 18  
November 15  
December 13**