



Hearthstone Community Church, Inc.

"The Full Moon Folk"



OCTOBER 23 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 23, 2015.

The Friday 23 October 2015 Hearthstone/Open Full Moon ritual will be in honor of ancestors. Alicia and Vella Rose will be facilitating this ritual, using song and a working to honor ancestors of blood, ancestors of spirit, and ancestors of place. Please come prepared to share a few sentences about one of your ancestors and you are encouraged to bring a picture or other memento to place on the altar during ritual. Ancestors of blood are those who are family members—perhaps one whose blood you share or someone else significant to you in your family line. Ancestors of spirit are those who were important to you in your spiritual tradition, vocation, hobbies or passions. Ancestors of place are people who lived on this land before you.

—Catherine

<http://hearthstone.fnorky.com>

GREETINGS

The season is getting cooler. I finally had to drag out a blanket last week: I found it was too cool to sleep easily. And, of course, we are coming up on Samhain—the end and beginning of our wheel of the year. It's time to take stock. What shall I take into the dark time of winter?

In the last year, I've lost a car—and gained one. I learned the wonders of our public transportation system and gotten to meet some very interesting people (including a very interesting conversation in French—I didn't say much, but I could puzzle out what the gentleman was saying).

My housekeeping has not improved, but I am managing to keep a passenger seat of the car empty so I can give a ride to a friend when I need to.

I'm reclaiming my music. I took a class that required me to dig out my guitars. I learned to fix the buzz in one of those guitars, so I no longer have to capo at the first fret. I am singing again.

In a conversation with my mother this afternoon, she reminded me that it's no surprise that I'm happier singing. According to her, I've been singing since I was able to talk – on key. She may be a little prejudiced...

I've also experienced some frustrations in my personal and work lives. I've taken criticism to heart and almost let it beat me.

So, what shall I keep with me? The singing, definitely. Guitars—yes. The new (old) car? Yes, I think I'll keep it as long as I can.

What to let go of? Perhaps letting criticism beat me. I need to go back and remember that I must take everything said and examine it: if it is not true, then I must let it go. That worry is something I must not take into the dark time.

What are you taking into the dark?

—Catherine

THANKS AND A TIP OF THE HAT

Hearthstone offers our gratitude to Amy/NyteRoze for our Sept. Open Full Moon ritual celebrating the Blood Moon and Mabon/Autumn Equinox. Her children Mars and Adara assisted with cleansing. Amy led us in a Tree Meditation with a different than usual focus: What nourishes us? What do we take in? Like a tree, we need enough of many things (e.g. soil, wind, rain, sun) and not too much of any. Amy segued into asking us to contemplate our relationships, the importance of cleansing our lives of toxic ones, refusing to replace those with new toxic relationships, and instead making relationship choices that nourish us. Tending our relationships can be like tending a garden—we must weed as well as plant and nourish. Attention must also be paid to the quality of the soil (working on our Selves) to provide healthy ground for planting our seeds/relationships.

Amy explained many energetic uses for moon light, especially this special Blood Moon: charging tools, connecting with spirit guides, listening, manifesting internal transformations.

The message of this thoughtful ritual was to release that which harms us, call to us what we need, and thus come into balance at this time of Equinox, as we move into the dark half of the cycle. We each received a laminated card with the beautiful "Psalm for Gaia" as a reminder of our sacred lives upon Mother Earth.

Thank you, Amy/NyteRoze, for guiding us to contemplate our lives and encouraging us to nourish ourselves. Blessed Be!

–Arynn

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 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*

PETS: Free/Low-cost Spay/Neuter and Vaccinations are available

CATS fixed for free / DOGS fixed for \$50

Dumb Friends League: Services valued on average at \$250 or more. Surgeries provided at above listed cost for owners with income of less than \$40,000 from all sources. You must qualify as low-income; bring documents. Spay/Neuter Clinics are offered on specific dates at locations across the metro area, from Aurora to West Denver, Arvada to Englewood. Arrive by 7:30 AM. First-come, first-served. Get more information by calling 720.241.7098 or by visiting the web site at ddfl.org

Reduced Cost Vaccinations for Dogs and Cats

Denver Animal Shelter: Saturday and Sunday mornings 9:00 – 11:00 AM at the shelter at 1241 W. Bayaud Ave, Denver. Vaccinations \$15 each, microchip \$25. You do not have to be a Denver resident. Details at 720.913.1311 or www.denveranimalshelter.org

ON COMPANION ANIMALS

I have received several requests to bring companion and therapeutic animals to Open Full Moons. We've spoken to the church, and they have agreed that mellow, friendly companions are welcome to join us at ritual. Please assess your pet carefully. For example, we know that Guinea pigs are lovely ritual companions, and easy to keep under control. Arynne has a lovely older dog who has severe separation anxiety, and will need to come with her so she is able to attend.

If you have a friendly, mellow animal who is not excitable and is good with attention from strangers, they are welcome to join us at ritual. Keep in mind that many cats do not do well with dogs, and since dogs are far more likely to have separation issues, expect a dog or two to be in attendance. I won't be bringing my pup; she adores people and likes to jump up on them and lick them all over, which is not good company behavior. At home I can direct her attention to me, but my own attention is divided at the OFM, so it isn't fair to her or the group to bring her until she mellows out and grows up a bit more, if then. So please, be judicious on deciding if your pet is a good companion for ritual. You are welcome to talk to us to help decide if a particular animal would be suitable to join us.

If an animal does disrupt the group, you will be asked to take it outside, so do be aware of the possibility. (A bark or two before settling is probably OK. Lots of it, not so much.)

—*Alia*

ORPHEUS PAGAN CHAMBER CHOIR UNDER THE SAMHAIN MOON

Reflections on Love, Life & What Lies Beyond

Featuring Liza Lehmann's "In a Persian Garden"
with Orpheus Pagan Chamber Choir
Andrew Ravensong, conductor and music director
Margaret Ozaki, soprano
Marlena Moore, mezzo-soprano
Humberto Borboa Beltran, tenor
Joseph Massman, bass-baritone
Molly Moran, piano

Sunday, November 15th at 4:00 PM

Wash Park Center for Music and the Arts 400 S. Williams St. in Denver
\$20 per person/\$15 seniors & students/under 12 free
For complete info: www.orpheuspcc.org

WSLA

Celebrate our Pagan Community and Get Information about Upcoming Community Events!

Saturday 11/15/2015 1-4pm at the fabulous MERCURY CAFE

2199 California Street Denver, CO 80205

(get there by the Light Rail station at 16th and Stout, come by bus or there's parking all around)

See old friends and meet new friends!

~ Community Events announcements ~

Meet local Teachers, leaders of several Wiccan/Pagan organizations, including members of WSLA and other people just like YOU who are searching for community

Open to the entire Wiccan/Pagan community

Coffee/Tea will be served and light snacks will be available for purchase

www.wsla-co.org

Women's Spiritual Leadership Alliance

TRUST IN WORKING SPIRITS

One of the things that I tease my wife about is how she acts when making popcorn. She actually listens to the speed that the popcorn is popping at, and opens the door before the timer dings. She claims that this is better than the way I do it. I just toss the bag in the microwave, hit the "popcorn" button and walk away. Yes, that is right—I do not have time to stand there for the two and a half minutes that it takes for a bag of popcorn to pop. My wife says that I might burn the

popcorn while doing this—she might be right; after all, some mysterious company that causes kitchen accidents might ship me an extra zero someday.

The other day, right after I teased my wife about it for the latest time, I thought of how our differences in popping popcorn illustrated the differences in our management styles. My wife likes to hover over people doing their jobs (plumbers, yard workers, me!) and supervise. I, on the other hand, tend to say, “This is what needs doing. If you need me, I will be doing something in the other room.” Needless to say, this habit gives her a pause whenever we pay someone to do something for us.

(In all fairness to my wife, I should point out that she teaches K-5. It is hard not to hover when you are used to working with young children.)

I will admit that at one time, I used to hover over hired help also. It is something that I grew out of as a restaurant manager. When a repair was needed in the restaurant, all I was sure about was that a piece of equipment was not working. Oh, occasionally, I thought I knew what the problem was; but honestly, I am not the most mechanically inclined of people. Given a choice between supervising and getting on with the next item on the checklist, well, let’s just say I was always behind on some task.

The same “Here is the task, do it” extended to my regular employees. One of the limitations of being human is that one can only look in a single direction at one time. Sooner or later, I had to turn my back on my employees and actually do something. I will admit that sometimes the trust was misplaced, but often it was because my instructions left something to be desired or I had hired the wrong type of person.

Now, you are probably asking what the heck does this have to do with witchcraft and magic. Quite simply, it illustrates my style of dealing with “working” spirits.

One of the things that a student of magic and witchcraft must learn, if they desire to work with spirits, is the correct way of doing so.

The first task is actually picking the right spirit for the job. For instance, you probably do not want to work with Loki, if you are aiming for a peaceful and well-organized work environment, full of team spirit. Unleashing Loki on your place of employment is not something you want to do if you are already having trouble with your co-workers. Knowing what spirit to pick takes research and experience; developing a relationship with various spirits also helps.

The second part of working with spirits is knowing how to summon such spirits and how to word your request correctly. There are some spirits, such as Loki, who you want to give very carefully worded instructions. All spirits occasionally have trouble understanding the concerns and desires of flesh bound human beings. It is best to write out your intention and kick it around for several days (if possible) before asking a spirit for help.

The third part is knowing that being a backseat driver is not going to help any. One of the tendencies that newer and greener witches and magicians have is to keep asking the spirit if they are doing the task. Often the person does not even realize that they are doing this; oh what harm could a Tarot reading do: “Is this spell actually working?” Each time, such a divination is performed, the spirit has to drop whatever they are doing, and answer the metaphorical phone. The more successful magicians and witches learn to let the spirit get on with its work; besides if a spell does work, you should be able to tell without a divination.

It has been my experience that paying attention to these three parts help tremendously when dealing with spirits for practical purposes.

Morgan Drake Eckstein

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



Come to the 24th Annual
Denver Witches' Ball
Saturday, October 24, 2015,
Doors open 6:00pm
Highlands Masonic Center
3550 Federal Blvd, Denver

The Mile High City's Premiere Pagan Halloween Masquerade Party
Live Music with the dark faerie Celtic vocal band Pandora Celtica,
Denver's shamrockingest band The Indulgents, and
Sensory Orchestra featuring members of Tuatha
Witches' Feast with new budget menu and beverages
Primal Roots Ecstatic Trance Drumming and Dancing for all
Shopping in the Magickal Marketplace
Psychic Fair with Aura Photography
Costume Contests
Advance Tickets Adults: \$25/Children 12 and Under: \$5
\$30 at the Door
Buy online at www.DenverWitchesBall.com
Or at Isis Books & Gifts and Herbs and Arts (cash only)

(contents of graphic above: A black cat with an arched back in front of the full moon with the text below.)

24th ANNUAL DENVER WITCHES' BALL

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Live Music with the dark faerie Celtic vocal band Pandora Celtica,

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and Sensory Orchestra featuring members of Tuatha

Witches' feast with new budget menu and beverages

Primal Roots Ecstatic Trance Drumming and Dancing for all

Shopping in the Magickal Marketplace

Psychic Fair with Aura Photography

Costume Contests

Advance Tickets Adults: \$25/Children 12 and Under: \$5

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Or at Isis Books & Gifts and Herbs and Arts (Cash Only)

EARTH TEMPLE

Earth Temple meets at Full Moon Books and Event Center, at 9106 W. 6th Ave. in Lakewood, for New/Dark Moon ritual work. All of our dates are Saturday evenings, and we normally begin our rituals right on the dot at 7:30 PM. Join our Meetup Group for reminders and information about specific rituals: www.meetup.com/EarthTemple. And, check out our Witchvox page for more info about us:

http://www.witchvox.com/vn/vn_detail/dt_gr.html?a=usco&id=35084

Our 2015 dates:

Nov 7

Dec 12

*---Chris, Dara, and Michelle
the Earth Temple steering committee*

WHOM TO CONTACT

Alia's phone number is 303-521-6620 (NOTE: This number has changed. We are having issues with the house phone; please call this number instead. It has been changed on the web page as well). 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 teal.cuttlefish@gmail.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 is simply a fanatic) 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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2015 Open Full Moon Dates

September 25

October 23

November 20

December 25—we will not meet, as it would be the 13th OFM of the year and a US holiday.

2016 Open Full Moon Dates

January 22

February 19

March 18

April 15

May 20

June 17

July 15

August 12

September 16

October 14

November 11