



Newsletter: Late January/Early February 2023

Hearthstone Rituals

*Hearthstone doesn't expect everyone to enter in
Perfect Love and Perfect Trust,
as you may not know many of the other attendees,
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 confuses or disturbs someone attending an Open Full Moon ritual. It is one of the risks of exploring different traditions. Should anyone be uncomfortable with a ritual presented by Hearthstone, please discuss your feelings with the Ritual Leaders or one of the Board members (Amy, Catherine, Sarajane, and Arynne) so that we may hopefully resolve and heal your concern.

Hearthstone is a safe and sober environment. Please respect your fellow participants by not attending ritual under the influence of drugs or alcohol.



OPEN FULL MOON RITUALS

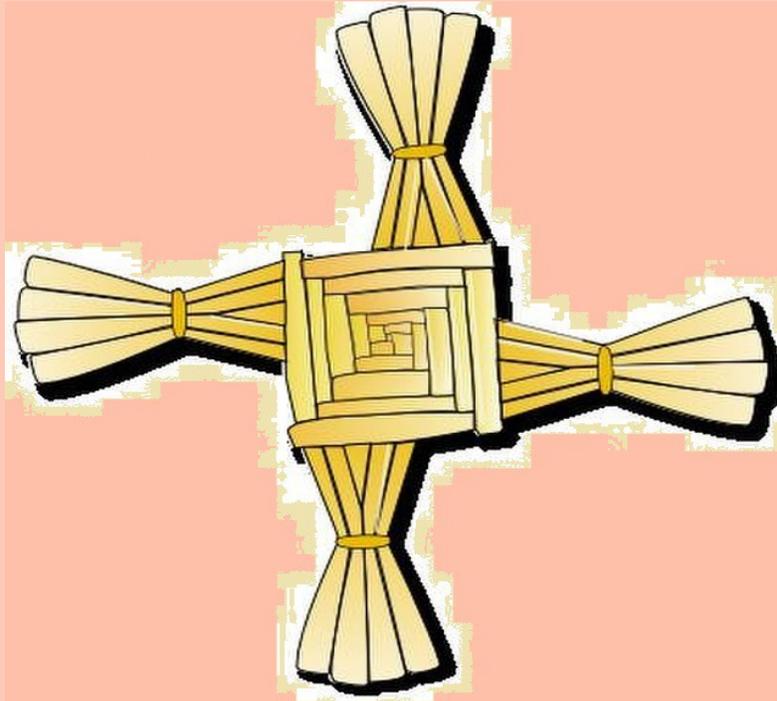
*Join us in person at the Althea Center, 1400 Williams St, Denver
Doors open at 7 pm, Announcements begin at 7:30 pm followed by ritual.*

No late entry after 7:30.

Hearthstone's February 3, 2023 Ritual is in person! Join us!

GUIDELINES Hearthstone is concerned about the various viruses active in Colorado at this time, and we respect each individual's assessment of risk/benefit of in-person events. However, if you are sick or not feeling well, please stay home. We encourage, but do not require, masks. Masks and hand sanitizer will be available. Thank you.

UPCOMING OPEN FULL MOON RITUAL

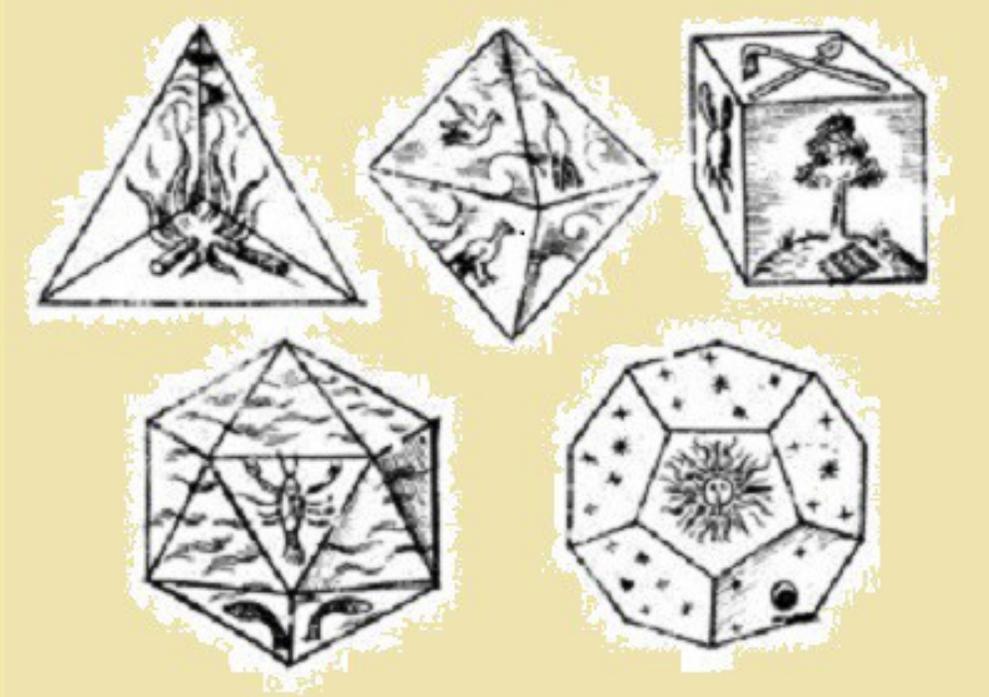


Friday, February 3, 2023

Join Hearthstone and Moon for our February 3, 2023 ritual, working with the energies of Imbolc. We will call upon Brigid to light our way out of the darkness that may have overshadowed us due to the pandemic. Now is a time of healing.

This ritual is intended to improve health, whether it be mental, emotional, or physical. We will ask Brigid's aid in addressing things that either we must do or stop doing so we can take steps to improve our health. A mini reiki blessing will be done for participants who request it.

Thanks and a Tip of the Hat for our January 6th Ritual



Hearthstone thanks Vella Rose for her January 6th OFM ritual celebrating the first full moon of 2023. Vella Rose led us in using Platonic Solids to connect with the classical elements (Air, Fire, Water, Earth, and Ether).

Vella led the group in song and chant to cast each element of the circle. We then discussed each solid and its elemental correspondence as written by the ancient Greek philosopher Plato (from his work *Timaeus*, ca. 350 BCE). Vella distributed different-shaped dice representing each of these solids, as well as a 6th die – similar to the Platonic Solids, but without the Platonic solids' equal sides and lines – which we used as a determiner during the divination.

During the ritual, we attuned ourselves to each of these five solids and elements using a combination of Sufi breathing and ceremonial magick sounds in order to use the solids as tools of divination to help to bring closure to 2022 and determine what we should focus on in 2023. We then opened the circle using song and chant.

Vella has led community rituals, always using music, for many years. As she retires from community service we will miss her depth of knowledge, her energy, and her music. Hearthstone (and I!) thank her so much for her dedication to the community.

-----Catherine

Articles from our community members!



GUEST COLUMNS?

If you have something to say, and are willing to let Arynne edit it slightly, please feel free to submit your original writing to ArynneD@aol.com Content will not be edited. We can usually make room for more voices. We appreciate our contributors!



BRIG AMBUE - BRIGIT THE COWLESS

Blessed Imbolc to everyone! May the hope of the increasing sun inspire and sustain you.

For many people Imbolc is dedicated to Brigit, either as saint or Goddess. In Ireland this is called Lá Fhéile Bride and is an official national holiday, a "Bank Holiday," along with Bealtaine, Lúnasa, and Samhain!

Brigit appears throughout the Irish manuscripts in many ways. Sometimes She appears as a triple figure, or more than one triad. In some stories Brigit is the name of a mother and a daughter both. Daughter of An Dagda, wife of Bres, mother of Ruadan; She invented the keening, caointeoireacht (kween TOR ucht) over the dead out of Her grief for the death Her son.

From "Cormac's Glossary" we read: "Brigit, i.e., a poetess, daughter of the Dagda. This is Brigit the female sage, or woman of wisdom, i.e., Brigit the goddess whom poets adored, because very great and very famous was her protecting care. It is therefore they call her goddess of poets, by this name. Whose sisters were Brigit the female physician (woman of leech craft), Brigit the female smith (woman of smith work), from whose names with all Irishmen a goddess was called Brigit."

In modern Pagan practice Brigit is still a source of inspiration. She is called on for abundance, mercy, guidance. She stands for the strength of the blacksmith, the inspiration for the poet, the green energy of the healer. Her appeal is so vast it can seem almost universal. She moves so many of us.

She appears in some of the texts as "Brig Ambue" or Brigit the cowless, the impoverished, the disinherited. In particular, this is how She is identified in references to a missing law text that seems to have focused on judgements concerning the most vulnerable and least empowered of Irish society, especially women.

It's not clear whether this Brig was Herself dispossessed, or if this Brigit was a member of the highest class, a well-positioned judge whose judgments set compassionate precedents grounded in Irish law and culture that elevated the status and wellbeing of those who needed that most.

I love it that this aspect of Brigit combines compassion and judgement. The DCWC Triad for Right Judgement is Just, Discerning, Wholesome. As Pagans we claim the power of judgement and also the power of balance. We value not only compassion, but practicality, and cleverness. What a judge She must have been! I wish we still had access to the law texts attributed to Her.

When it comes to charity, there is no question that giving is good, but most of us wonder how and when to give in order to do the most good, and if possible to not only support our neighbors in trouble but help solve the problems that threaten them.

It is this consideration that draws so many hearts to Her and it is Her compassion and good judgement that makes it so easy to organize our annual Food Bank of the Rockies drive in Her name.

And we're doing that again, this year! I'm so grateful that we are a bit past the worst and most frightening moments of the last three years. There has been so much death, uncertainty, and fear. We lived through the terrifying daily sight of red skies due to wildfires, through empty shelves, and closing businesses. Homelessness is always an awful prospect but suddenly it seemed that there were many hundreds more of our neighbors moved out of housing and into cold tents on the sidewalks and in parking lots. They say that for every single death there are nine significant mourners, and that we saw over one million excess deaths due to COVID-19. That's a lot of grief for us to be holding together. That's more than any one of us can mend back together.

For myself, as a person with an invisible vulnerability to COVID-19, the isolation was cuttngly cruel, and the world seemed so different whenever I ventured out in my car and got a glimpse of my community. It's a little less that way now.

In the same way that every day from Winter Solstice to Brigit's Day gets a little brighter and a little longer, while still being cold, and wintery, it seems like we are getting a little bit better ourselves. We have vaccines. We have sanctioned homeless campsites. More people have found apartments and jobs. It's still scary. There are signs everywhere that our world has been disrupted and it hasn't smoothed out quite yet.

My own circle has moved from being online as a crisis reaction to staying online as a great way to connect and to teach. I can see advantages and strategies where I previously only saw problems and responses. I can still be in danger, and not be in crisis.

And that's where timing comes in. Every year we organize our drive for Food Bank of the Rockies in partnership with Spiritways Metaphysical and an online donation link - in February. It's after the first of the year that the big holiday bills come in, and in many cases this is the time of year when people who have lost their jobs are trying to make ends meet while they look for work. These are the weeks before that tax refund comes back. This is the time when a little boost can keep a family going.

And this is when you can find the Druidry Centered Women's Circle's fundraiser with Food Bank of the Rockies and Spiritways Metaphysical. Click on the link below and know that every \$1 you donate provides 3 meals! For just \$5 you feed 15 people. It's such an incredibly powerful and effective way to change the world!

This is the best time to make a difference, to keep our neighbors going during the toughest months. Together we give them a little bit more light every day.

Thank you for your donation.

<https://ignite.foodbankrockies.org/DCWC>

Peace of the mountains to you,

Paulie Rainbow

Founder: Druidry Centered Women's Circle

<https://DCWC.earth>

www.meetup.com/druidry-centered-womens-circle-events/

For more information on Brigit, check out this information from Clann Bhride:

<https://clannbhride.org/articles-and-essays/finding-brighid-in-the-ancient-lore/>

Pádraigín Ní Uallacháin has released a new cycle of songs dedicated to Brigit:

<https://www.irishsong.com/music/brigid/>

Upcoming Community Events

The Althea Center for Engaged Spirituality



Hearthstone meets the Friday before or the Friday of the Full Moon. When we have in person rituals, we meet in the Historic Library at the Althea Center for Engaged Spirituality, 1400 Williams St., Denver, CO. There are two small parking lots: to the north (next to the building) and to the east of the building (across the alley), each with spaces for 20 cars.

Enter through the Main Door at the corner of Williams St. and 14th Ave. The door opens at 7:00 pm, and we lock the door at 7:30 pm to secure the building. There are no late admissions.

Hearthstone Community Church Website Link:
<http://hearthstonecommunitychurch.org/>



Earth Temple hosts Wiccan rituals each month around the time of the New Moon. All our rituals are open to the public and are held at Full Moon Books in Lakewood. For all the most current information about Earth Temple, visit our Meetup Group: www.meetup.com/EarthTemple or our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/EarthTempleColorado>.

Our 2023 ritual dates:

February 17

March 24

April 14

May 19

June 16

July 14

August 18

September 15

October 13

November 10

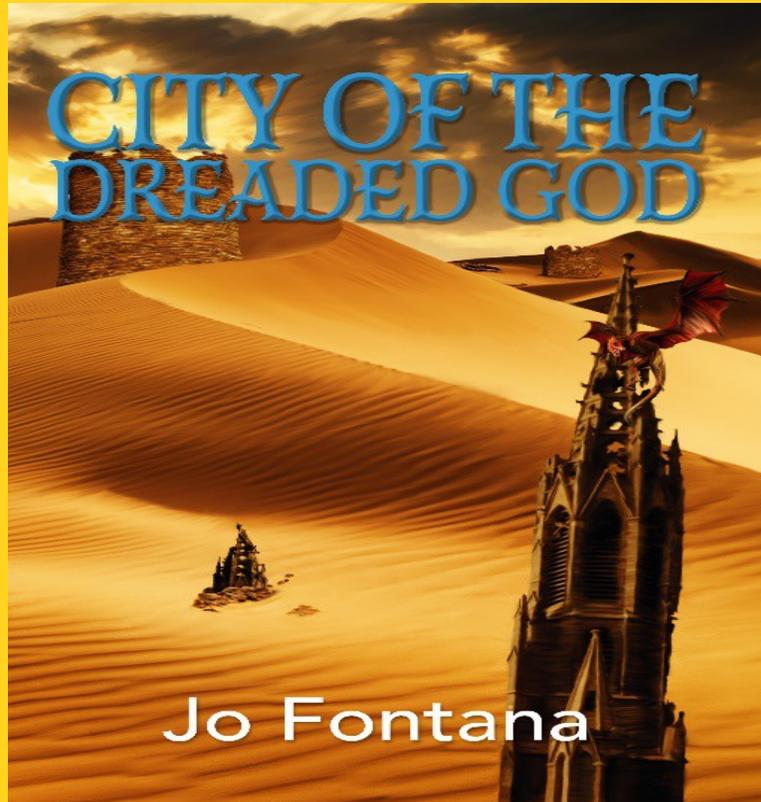
December 8

[Earth Temple Facebook Page](#)

Community Vendors and Artists

AVAILABLE NOW!

City of the Dreaded God From Jo Fontana



It's almost been a full turn of the seasons since Jericho Brightbrook and his companions separated, each hoping to find clues that would lead to the downfall of their dreaded former master. After the companions reunite, they are compelled to travel into the heart of the desert where the elves of legend once ruled and magic flourished.

Meanwhile, the Brotherhood have not forgotten Jericho and are determined to force his return to the temple to take his rightful place. Though Jericho would rather die than accept his fate, problems continue to arise in the form of the mercurial guardian of the library, demands from the green lady, his emerging powers, and growing tensions with Balan. It will take every ounce of focus Jericho has to stay one step ahead of the Brotherhood.

For more information visit www.jofontana.com

General Community Information



Low-Cost Pet Cat Spay/Neuter & Vaccines &
Free Spay/Neuter & Vaccines for Feral Cats
[Spay/Neuter | Denver, CO | Dumb Friends League \(ddfl.org\)](http://ddfl.org)

The Dumb Friends League offers affordable spay/neuter services to all owned pet cats and feral/community cats. The details, locations, and qualifications are at their web site above. They are able to offer these services thanks to the generosity of donors. They recommend that tame, friendly cats without owners be taken to an animal shelter for adoption.

At this time DDFL is not able to provide spay/neuter services to dogs, for-profit breeders, or rescue groups.

It takes ALL of us to reduce the overpopulation problem and move toward a world where all pets are loved and cared for. Thank you!



Priestess Support, Services, and Potential Presenters

For Pagan or Wiccan clergy or for any other Hearthstone business, email us at

hearthstonecommunitychurch@gmail.com

If you would like to lead a future Open Full Moon, please contact Arynne at ArynneD@aol.com

At this point we have ritual leaders scheduled for all of 2023.

Thank you for volunteering your talents!

Donations ---

in person or through Zelle!

Thank you for supporting the work and service of Hearthstone Community Church.

We meet our expenses through the generosity of our participants and supporters. We accept donations at our in-person rituals, or if you prefer, you may contribute through **Zelle** instead. Zelle is a direct funds transfer method offered by most banks. It is super easy to use online and no fees are charged or withheld. Hearthstone is registered in Zelle by our **email address:** hearthstonecommunitychurch@gmail.com

We suggest a donation of \$5-15/OFM. If you can't afford it, you are still welcome to participate. If you can afford more, we'll be delighted to accept it.

Hearthstone's primary expense is the rent for the room at the Althea Center. We appreciate any and all support from our community to help meet our obligations. Thank you!



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UPCOMING 2023 OPEN FULL MOON RITUALS

February 3

March 3

March 31

May 5

June 2

June 30

July 28

August 25

September 29

October 27

November 24

December 22

BLESSINGS from HEARTHSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH!

Subscribe to receive our Newsletter



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