



Hearthstone Community Church, Inc.



"The Full Moon Folk"

GREETINGS

March came in like a lamb this year and went out like a lion. Our April showers started as snow. Apparently, we still live in Colorado. The snow of the last two weeks hasn't quite made up for the snow we missed this winter, but it certainly has helped.

I got out into the yard on Ostara and trimmed the old growth from the plants. It's great trimming things down and seeing the new growth under the old. Even with the snow, I see the green peeking out all over the yard.

April showers are promising wonderful things this year.

—Catherine

THANKS AND A TIP OF THE HAT

Hearthstone welcomed back Carrie and Martin of ATUM, this time to lead our celebration of the March Full Moon and Ostara. It was a pleasure for all participants to meet one another, and to learn from Carrie and Martin about the prison ministry program. ATUM collects new and used books to donate to prison libraries, and to sell to raise money for the ministry's expenses. If you would like to donate books to a good cause, you can bring them to any Hearthstone OFM and we will collect them for this program.

Volunteers called the Quarters. After invocations, Martin lead a guided deep-breathing meditation, each of us working up and down the body, breathing in peace, calmness, serenity and safety. (If you ever seek an exceptionally deep, quiet, peaceful state of relaxation, go to Martin!) Carrie then led us to turn our attention to the Vernal Equinox, the dynamic balance of opposites, the qualities of masculine and feminine, Sun and Moon. We reached out in turn to the Sun and to the Moon, to touch, drink, absorb and soak in their energies. We then turned inward toward our own masculine and feminine qualities, our inner Sun and Moon, and considered what we need to be in inner balance.

Thank you, Martin and Carrie! Your rituals always bring us into such peaceful attunement! Thank you for all you offer to Hearthstone and our local community, as well as to pagan prisoners throughout the state!

—Arynn

APRIL 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, APRIL 10, 2009.

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*

In the spirit of the new beginnings of Spring, this month's ritual will be a Wiccanning presented by Amy Harper / Nytshade for the older children in our community - it is geared toward 4 - 11 year olds.

The children participating will be formally introduced to our quarters, elements, Lord and Lady, and the community. They will each receive a Wiccaning keepsake as well.

Amy will be requesting volunteers to BE quarters and elements as well as volunteers for the aspects of Father God, a Wise Man God, Mother Goddess and Crone. Two of the children who went through the ritual last year will be our Youth and Maiden this year. If you would care to volunteer, please call or text Amy @ 720-621-8933 so she can give you a better idea of what to expect. Also if you have children, or know anyone who does, that would like to be included, please let her know.

—*Catherine*

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.

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. Also with a few exceptions, 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 2009 schedule with the exceptions and locations listed.

Earth Temple 2009 dates

April 24th - New Moon
Beltane - May 2 (Saturday) 5:30 pm at Wheat Ridge Senior Center
May 22nd - New Moon
New Moon/Litha – June 20 (Saturday); start time TBA but will be a mid-day ritual; location TBA but will probably start at The Firehouse
July 17th - New Moon
July 31st - Lammas
August 21st - New Moon
September 18th - New Moon/Mabon
October 16th - New Moon
Samhain - date and location TBA
November 13th - New Moon
December 18th - New Moon/Yule

WHOM 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>.

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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2009 Open Full Moon Dates

April 10, 2009

May 8, 2009

June 5, 2009

July 3, 2009

July 31, 2009

September 4, 2009

October 2, 2009

November 6, 2009

November 27, 2009

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