



Hearthstone Community Church, Inc.



"The Full Moon Folk"

GREETINGS

I just heard that this has been the second wettest June on record. By a tenth of an inch. Somehow by the wild growth in my yard, I believe it. I've watered only a couple of times (and that only after I planted things), but the plants are springing up to the sky. I've put a small fire bowl in the front yard and can sit out there in the evening, watch the fire and enjoy the cool – when it's not actually raining.

I took a "staycation" this month, which really gave me a chance to enjoy my home, as well as treat myself to things I haven't done in ages. I went to the theatre, went to lunch with a friend and slept late. All in all, I had a renewing vacation and was able to go back to work with a new attitude. Which is perfect for the new season.

—Catherine

THANKS AND A TIP OF THE HAT

When was the last time you used crayons to color a paper representation of an ancient Egyptian deity? Just about everyone at June's OFM did just that.

Said ritual started with a surprise, had a hiccup, and finished with fun.

The surprise: as part of introduction to the ritual for June, the main officiant (Morgan) admitted that there was a planned point of loss of control of said ritual. How often does one hear an officiant admit that (especially beforehand)?

The hiccup: The Temple of Bast branch of the Order of the Golden Dawn presented the ritual, so a little kittenish mischief during the casting of the circle gave us a smile.

Ancient Egypt went through thirty centuries of religious development and evolution! (We were reminded and/or informed of that during the ritual.) So, naturally, there were many, many takes on many, many deities during those centuries. Each of us was gifted with a "god-form" called a shapti or shabti or ushabti (from the

Egyptian for answerer), which were used by the ancient Egyptians as magical workers (answering the call of duty). Our "answerers" were in the form of copies of a drawing of one of the following deities: Anubis, Bast, Horus, Isis, Nephthys, Osiris, or Set. (Note that these deities are in alphabetical order -- no favoritism here!)

Mary (age 6) picked out a shapti for each of us, and I was impressed with the appropriateness of mine. (Morgan kept telling us we should trust her choices, and I think he was correct.) Then we got the chance to play with the crayons (Morgan and Toni brought several boxes -- which were donated to Toni's school afterward, hip hip hooray!) to decorate our shapti as we wanted. It was fun, even for those of us who haven't officially been kids for a long time. Or maybe it was especially fun for we crones/sages.

Thank you, Morgan, Toni, and Mary.
Thank you, Maelyn.

—Southwynde

JULY 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, JULY 3, 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*

Carri and Martin of ATUM-ATC (and CDOC Wicca Chaplains) will be working with the tutelary Goddess of the United States, Libertas. She encourages us to understand and appreciate our Freedoms. We will also be accepting Wiccan and Pagan topic books (unmarked and in good condition) for donation to prison/jail libraries.

—*Martin*

Hearthstone will continue to accept books for ATUM at any Open Full Moon and will make sure that they get to Carri and Martin.

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

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

July 3, 2009

July 31, 2009

September 4, 2009

October 2, 2009

November 6, 2009

November 27, 2009

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