



Hearthstone Community Church, Inc.



"The Full Moon Folk"

GREETINGS

I've finally gotten a chance to do some work in the yard this summer – last weekend we actually had a Saturday when it wasn't raining and I didn't have to be somewhere. It's the end of July and the summer seems to have sped past. We're already approaching the time of the first harvest.

In Colorado, this means that the summer heat is at its greatest so that the grain can ripen to be harvested. We're celebrating the sun, yet we can see the fall and winter coming soon. The Wheel is turning – we can't stop it. Why would we want to?

—Catherine

THANKS AND A TIP OF THE HAT

"If you control your breathing, you can control everything." This bit of wisdom was shared by the Martin half of our team of officiants this night: Carrie Brennan and Martin Anthony, of the Alexandrian Temple of Universal Metaphysics. Yes, the fact that it spells ATUM is significant. Atum was a creator god and a sun god; he was also one of the oldest gods in the Egyptian pantheon.

The control of breathing ties in to ATUM's outreach. Carrie and Martin spend much of their time and money ministering to Wiccans, pagans, and other non-Christians who are or have been incarcerated. This ministering received a round of applause from us. Then they reminded us that jails and prisons are highly stressful environments.

Martin pointed out that improving control reduces stress. A powerful method of improving control is to focus on one's breathing:

Slowly and completely in...

Slowly and completely out...

He took us through several breath cycles, which many of us found helpful.

Then he encouraged us to think on:

Peace

Calm

Safety

Relaxation.

After we had those ideas solidly in mind, he had us build more and more... several times.

Blocks of anger and negativity were noted as possibilities, but not ones important enough to continue to interfere with our healing and growth.

Once we were all in a place of energy and ability, Carrie pointed out that the weekend of July 3 combined:

The Blessing Moon and

The Anniversary of the birth of our nation.

Many of us have, indeed, been blessed. How often and how well do we remember this?

An extremely impressive representation of America's Goddess -- whom some call Libertas -- stands between New York and New Jersey, holding a torch. (The Statue of Liberty was gifted to the people of the USA by the people of the Republic of France, who have their own Goddess of Freedom.)

A representation of Her Consort has wings, feathers, and two claws that hold both arrows and olive branches. (The reverse of a US dollar bill shows a view of said consort and his claws.)

And Someone seemed to say, "Within You There is Joy and Within Joy There is You."

Thank you, Carrie, Martin, and company.

If you wish to reach Carrie and Martin, you can do so at aaum@nilenet.com.

—Southwynde

JULY 31 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 31, 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*

The July 31st Open Full Moon will be presented by Catherine and Alia. Since the OFM and Lammas fall on the same weekend, we'll be celebrating both with modern music. With meditation and rock, we'll also explore the dualities in our lives.

—*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.

ALCHEMY AND MAGIC

“Turn and face the strange.” – David Bowie

Change is the only constant. We are asked to integrate the new and release the outdated with every breath. Alchemy is the art of transformation and the study of movement from one state of being to another. We can access maps from other times and be guided by healers, artists, magicians and seekers who have walked this path before us.

What do you want more than anything?
What do you want to be free of?

Does your life support your deepest longings?

In this experiential workshop we will use our minds, hearts, voices and bodies to remember why we are here and begin to embrace the changes for which our lives have been asking. We explore ancient alchemical scripts and delve into our own inner alchemy—revealing the golden truth of the divine self in the laboratory of our souls.

Ravyn Stanfield is a healer, writer, lover and aspiring alchemist dedicated to bringing more of the extraordinary into the world through the cracks of Western civilization. She practices acupuncture in Portland, Oregon. She teaches magical workshops internationally and in the Oregon prison system. Ravyn is an initiate in the Reclaiming and Feri traditions. She will never stop creating erotic revolution that restores our wild and strange humanity, and ultimately, our collective health.

Dates: Saturday October 10 & Sunday October 11, 2009 10 AM – 4 PM Potluck lunch

Location: Spirit Wise Gifts 6590 S. Broadway Centennial, CO 80121

Tuition: \$165 to \$105 sliding scale (limited partial scholarships available) Class size is limited and a \$45 deposit is required to reserve a space in the class

To register, contact: Misty 720-429-8782 astarrymist@gmail.com or Kath 303-618-7702

Make checks payable to Reclaiming Spirit Colorado Pay pal available at morgansinsight@yahoo.com

Reclaiming is a community of women and men working to unify spirit and politics. Our vision is rooted in the religion and magic of the Goddess, the Immanent Life Force. We see our work as teaching and making magic; the art of empowering ourselves and each other. In our classes, workshops, and public rituals, we train our voices, bodies, energy, intuition, and minds. We use the skills we learn to deepen our strength, both as individuals and as community, to voice our concerns about the world in which we live, and bring to birth a vision of a new culture.

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 31th - 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 31, 2009

September 4, 2009

October 2, 2009

November 6, 2009

November 27, 2009

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Hearthstone Community Church, Inc.
3071 S. Dexter Way
Denver, CO 80222
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