



# Hearthstone Community Church, Inc.



## "The Full Moon Folk"

### GREETINGS

Wow! The year has turned again. Samhain has come (and gone, unless you're going by the astrological Samhain – in which it's still to come). In any case, we almost had a typical Colorado Halloween in Denver – a blizzard two days before the 31<sup>st</sup>.

It's been quite a year. I think we've all had many changes in our lives – endings, beginnings, losses and gains. We had people move out of our lives and we will miss them. As I write this, I remember those that moved on to the Summerland this year from my personal life and those from the community.

This is the time of the year when we finally let go of the things that will not serve us through the long winter. I think I've managed to let go of a lot of things this year. I know I've been able to move on.

Are you letting go of the things that are keeping you from taking action?

—Catherine

### THANKS AND A TIP OF THE HAT

#### For September

Beware the first ten minutes of the Simpsons Movie! – at least according to Amy/Nightshade, the chief officiant on September 4<sup>th</sup>. Amy was assisted by: her daughter Alora, 9; her son Mars, 11, and Mary, 8.

The ritual was one of grounding and meditation.

She spoke of the courage we would need to embrace change and reminded us that the Harvest Moon is an exceptionally colorful and pretty time of year. It is also a time of challenge; we need to remove blocks to progress.

We were guided in a meditation using a tree as a metaphor for letting go of the things that we do not need.

Thank you, Amy, Alora, Mars, and Mary.

#### For October

For October 2<sup>nd</sup>, Joy and her friends at the Jefferson (County) Unitarian Church pagan group led us in a grounding ritual.

They then led a meditation on the Celtic tree month of Ivy as a time to take stock of our lives: Are we on target for the most important parts? What else needs to be done? What is close to fruition? What is unhealthy? The meditation was, in a way, a harvest of the soul.

Thank you, Joy and friends.

—Southwynde

### NOVEMBER 6 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, November 6, 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

Please join the members of our Reclaiming community as we journey into the Underworld with the Goddess Inanna. In this ritual, we will witness the story of Inanna's Descent, make our own journey through the Gates.

Visit with our Beloved Dead, and Dance our way Back to Life.

This will be a high-energy and intense ritual which will include a walking meditation and a Spiral Dance. All ages are welcome.

As the Veils between the Worlds are at their thinnest, we ask our ancestors and spirit allies to help guide us through the darkness of the Underworld. Please bring pictures, mementos or offerings to add to the Ancestor and Allies altar.

—*Catherine*

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## 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.

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## PASSINGS

At this time of the year, we'd like to remember some of the people in our community that we've lost recently:

Paula Sperry, Priestess, Professor, Actor  
Pat Wilson, Priest, Father, Teacher  
Sean Bullock, Drummer Extraordinaire  
Ted Andrews, Author

And all the others we've lost this past year: may they be dancing in the Summerland until they are born again.

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## EARTH TEMPLE OPEN SAMHAIN

Les and Michelle and Sapphire Circle will be presenting our Samhain ritual this year, as they have done for us for the past few years. Les will draw down the God and provide an opportunity for each person to speak with Him.

Typically, we spend approximately 3+ hours in ritual to allow all who wish to speak with the God to do so. This is a wonderful opportunity for extended meditation time and for personal divination work. You are invited to bring tarot cards, runes, scrying crystals and the like to do quiet work, or perhaps to help other attendees in their own quests for guidance. You may also bring ritual items that you would like to have blessed by the God. We will have chairs available, but you may want to bring floor pillows or mats if you prefer to do meditations on the floor. We do request that all who attend stay for the entire ritual if at all possible. We will have food and drink available after the ritual, to help everybody ground enough to get home safely.

Due to the length of the ritual and the need for a quiet space, we ask that attendees be at least 18 years old. However, if you have teens (14+) who have been studying Wicca and are ready to participate in a drawing down, please contact Michelle at [sofiamichelle5@comcast.net](mailto:sofiamichelle5@comcast.net) to discuss the possibility of your child attending ritual with us. Use that email address also if you have any other questions about the ritual.

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Carl Park Rec Center is located at 5401 Meade Street, Denver, CO, 80021. From I-70 and Federal, take Federal north to 50th St. Go left (west) on 50<sup>th</sup> St., past Regis University, to Meade St. Meade is one block past Lowell Blvd. Go right on Meade St. and drive 4 blocks north to 5401 Meade St. We'll start announcements at 6:30 pm, and ritual will start when announcements conclude.

Hope you can join us!

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## 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

Samhain - Carl Park Rec Center, 5401 Meade Street, Denver, CO, 80021.  
November 13th - New Moon  
December 18th - New Moon/Yule

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## 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](mailto:alia@fnorky.com); Southwynde's is [Southwynde@yahoo.com](mailto:Southwynde@yahoo.com); (it is not frequently checked). Catherine's e-mail address is [catherine@fnorky.com](mailto:catherine@fnorky.com)

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## 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](mailto: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

**November 6, 2009**

**November 27, 2009**

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