



# Hearthstone Community Church, Inc.

## "The Full Moon Folk"



### **OCTOBER 31 OPEN FULL MOON**

Hearthstone meets the Friday before or the Friday of the Full Moon, in the upstairs chapel 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. This month's ritual is FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2014.

The October 31<sup>st</sup> ritual will be led by Lady Nightshade and the Coven of the Golden Condors, Sacred Order of Black Forest who will devote the altar, cast circle and call quarters in the Black Forest Tradition of Wicca. The ritual will consist of rituals to usher any lingering spirits in the building or the area who wish to cross over into the Summerlands. There will be time for personal work bringing forth your intention for the new year. We look forward to bringing in the New Year and letting go of the old energies that no longer serve us.

—Catherine

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### **GREETINGS**

I've spent the weekend in space. Okay, okay, I was at a science fiction convention. Of course, this means I'm tired and have probably spent too much on art (why should this year be different than any other year?) This is the season when we have many gatherings – secular and religious. But for me, it is most especially late autumn.

I love late autumn – temperatures are just right: I don't necessarily need a coat, but wouldn't be upset if I had one. The world is painted in greens, golds and browns – with a touch of red. I have a picture of the last of the yarrow poking up bravely – a spot of bright yellow in the brown of the fading sage.

The world is slowing down a little, in preparation for the long night. The summer has faded, but we do have enough for the winter.

—Catherine

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### **THANKS AND A TIP OF THE HAT**

Hearthstone thanks the Circle of Light and Shadow for leading our early Oct. Open Full Moon ritual. The intent of the rite was to release words that are burdening us, and invoke healing words in their place to free and empower us as we head into the dark time of the year. Amethyst served as lead priestess, assisted by her HPS Wellyssa, fellow coveners, and students.

After Circle was cast, each participant received a small bag containing small papers, a pencil, and a bead of rose quartz on a safety pin. We were guided into silent meditation time to write on one paper the words, self-criticisms, and self-doubts that hinder us. When all were complete, we were invited to share those words aloud, then we raised energy through chant to reject and release those words, and we burned our papers in a flaming cauldron.

We meditated a second time to choose and empower healing, positive words, and raised energy through chant and movement to charge them. The rose quartz on the safety pin can be worn on our clothing to remind ourselves of our new positive powerful concepts.

Thank you, Circle of Light and Shadow, for offering this thoughtful ceremony to our community. We go forward freer, and with a rose quartz bead to reinforce our magick. As We Will, So Mote It Be!

–*Arymne*

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## HEARTHSTONE RITUALS

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*

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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.

–*Alia*

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## ABOUT OUR ANIMAL COMPANIONS

Our Hearthstone community includes many pet-lovers, and we strongly encourage spaying and neutering to reduce the tragedy of excess, uncared-for animals. Many beautiful, sweet animals are euthanized due to excess births, and many others sadly try to fend for themselves without needed food and veterinary care.

People with lower incomes can get spay/neuter services for their cats and dogs at reduced fees, subsidized by Dumb Friends League donors, when one of their mobile spay/neuter clinics visits their neighborhood. DDFL also partners with local animal welfare organizations in a trap-neuter-return (TNR) program for community (un-owned) cats to help reduce the number of unwanted litters born and the number of kittens and cats brought to shelters. Please call DDFL's

mobile spay/neuter help line at (720) 241-7098 for questions and information, or find details, schedules, and locations at: <http://www.ddfl.org/content/mobile-spay-neuter-clinics>

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## SEEKING THE PRESENT THROUGH THE PAST

I have sought for years to find the connection between my modern Pagan existence and the shadows of history from which I have inherited my sacred days.

I cannot fail to notice that this is the same impulse which leads us to set out our harvest altars, graced with pictures of the loved ones we have lost, and to stand in our sacred circles and call out their names that they may hear us, that they may be remembered here in this time.

Out of this seeking I have traveled this year to the land of my predecessors, the land of the lives that led to mine.

I have now visited the Boyne Valley: Newgrange and Knowth. I have stood in the ancient chamber where rays of sunlight slide up a narrow passage to mark the Winter Solstice morn and I have touched the millions-of-hands-smoothed stone that has marked each equinox sunset with its shadow crossing the opening in the sacred hillside for thousands of years.

These are the places where my most remote ancestors gathered to celebrate sacred days even before the Celts gave them names like “Samhain,” which, in modern Irish, denotes the month that follows our contemporary costumed and candied celebrations.

I wanted the rocks to speak to me, to give up, in words, some clear cut message about those days and those practices; some way to link them to my own.

But, words or no, I am changed and I am the same. The longing that drove me across the ocean will bring my hands to lovingly place photos of my departed loved ones on a harvest altar again this year. I will raise a toast to those who traveled many miles to stand where I much later stood, driven by some passion that must be like my own, perhaps to remember ancestors that are too deep in the mists of time for my understanding.

For them I am grateful. They made my existence possible. I am grateful also for the many opportunities of this year, for the many people who make my life possible and who share their lives with me. Perhaps one day you will raise a glass to me, or I to you, and we will be united again by a practice that spans across time, language and lands.

Blessed Samhain to you and yours.

--Paulie Rainbow

*The Denver Celtic Women's Circle*

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## TURTLE MONKEY CHILDREN'S EBOOKS

Hi all, this is Jo. I recently completed the 14th book of my new Turtle Monkey series! This is a pagan friendly children's eBook series. The only difference with this next book is that it will soon be available in print through Crystal Publishing.

Here is the link for Crystal Publishing: <http://www.crystalpublishingllc.com/>

The first 13 books are still available online at Apple, Amazon, and Barnes & Noble.

Here is the link to our books at Apple: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/artist/jo-fontana/id677705293?mt=11&ign-mpt=uo%3D4>

This is the link for our books on Amazon:

[http://www.amazon.com/gp/search/ref=sr\\_nr\\_seall\\_1?rh=k%3AJo+Fontana%2C%3Astri\\_pbooks&keywords=Jo+Fontana&ie=UTF8&qid=1397343482](http://www.amazon.com/gp/search/ref=sr_nr_seall_1?rh=k%3AJo+Fontana%2C%3Astri_pbooks&keywords=Jo+Fontana&ie=UTF8&qid=1397343482)

This is the link to our books at Barnes & Noble:

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/s/Jo-Fontana?store=allproducts&keyword=Jo+Fontana>

Also, please check out our new and improved website @ <http://www.turtlemonkeybooks.com>

Thank you for all your support!

—Jo

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## EARTH TEMPLE

Earth Temple meets at Full Moon Books and Event Center, at 9106 W. 6th Ave. in Lakewood. All of our dates are Saturday evenings. Please arrive at the store before 7:30 pm, since the store closes and the doors lock right at 7:30. Please check out our Witchvox page for more info about us: [http://www.witchvox.com/vn/vn\\_detail/dt\\_gr.html?a=usco&id=35084](http://www.witchvox.com/vn/vn_detail/dt_gr.html?a=usco&id=35084). Thank you, Hearthstone, for sharing information about our circle!

Nov 1

Nov 22

Dec 20

—Chris, Dara, and Michelle

*the Earth Temple steering committee*

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## WHOM TO CONTACT

Alia's phone number is 303-680-1741. Catherine's is 303-886-7067. 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 [teal.cuttlefish@gmail.com](mailto:teal.cuttlefish@gmail.com); 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 is simply a fanatic) 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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2014 Open Full Moon Dates

October 31  
December 5

2015 Open Full Moon Dates

January 2  
January 30  
February 27  
April 3  
May 1  
May 29  
June 26  
July 31  
August 28  
September 25  
October 23  
November 20

December 25—we will not meet, as it would be the 13th OFM  
of the year and a US holiday.