



Hearthstone Community Church, Inc.

"The Full Moon Folk"



MAY 29 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, MAY 29, 2015.

The Denver Celtic Women's Circle will celebrate the May 29th ritual with a ritual blessing of the Oak tree and an invocation to the Welsh deities Lleu Llaw Gyffes and Blodeuwedd!

The Oak has long been held sacred by many European traditions symbolizing protection and power, the rule of the land and the wielding of authority. But the mystery of the Oak tree is more complex than simple authority as we find in the mythological cycle of Llew and Blodeuwedd the magical power of transformation.

We hope you will leave the ritual filled with the magic of the early summer and the power of the blossoming of life.

—Catherine

<http://hearthstone.fnorky.com>

GREETINGS

So April showers have become May showers, in addition to the flowers. It seems that we have had rain for the entire month. Every joint I've ever damaged seems to ache – and I've led a remarkably clumsy life. I am ready for the sun.

These gray days seem to become grey moods. The difference in spelling is important. "Gray" spelled with an "a" means grim, dark, gloomy, somber, etc. "Grey" spelled with an "e" means older, aged, ancient, etc. I've felt very gray and grey this last month. To combat the gray-greys, I've turned to music from the late 60s, early 70s. Particularly folk-songs and the off-Broadway "psychedelic" musicals. While they were serious in their message, the music was light-hearted. And very colorful. What better way to combat the g-g's than by singing a rainbow?

—Catherine

THANKS AND A TIP OF THE HAT

Hearthstone Tips our Hat to Cynthia, Bonnie, Lisa, and Clyde for the lovely ritual they shared with us at the May Open Full Moon! After Circle was cast their friend Deb read a Beltane poem, and the intention was set that we all be good stewards of our Land and our Selves. The Three Graces of Pleasure, Love, and Beauty were called, each correlated to a chakra. Each Grace (priestess) taught us about her specialty, gave symbolic gifts to each participant, and we sang a chant-song related to each aspect.

Toward the end of ritual we each had a candle, and passed a flame person to person around the circle.

After Circle was opened, all were invited to enjoy chocolate-dipped strawberries (which clearly exude pleasure, love, and beauty all at once!)

Thank you, Lisa, Bonnie, and Cynthia for bringing Pleasure, Love, and Beauty to share with our lovely Hearthstone Community! Blessed Be, All!

–*Arynn*

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*

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*

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>

WICCA BASICS CLASS

Hello to all Hearthstone Wiccan Church friends!

Chrysalis Circle, an eclectic Wiccan teaching coven, has openings in our 8-week Wicca Basics class beginning [June 21st](#). Class starts at Noon and goes until [4 p.m.](#) For further details, please go to www.chrysaliscircle.org.

Please come to the 4th Annual Drumming Down the Sun, [Friday, 06/19/2015](#), Addenbrooke Park, Kipling and Exposition, Lakewood - [6 p.m.](#) until just after sunset. Free and open to the public; Wheelchair accessible and kid-friendly.

Cordially,

Sage (HPS), HavenWood (HP), Rainah, and Trent, Chrysalis Circle

Sage and HavenWood

HPS/HP of Chrysalis Circle

POLAR ENERGIES DURING HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

On most holiday celebrations, I feel aligned with the energy of the season. However, I must admit, Beltane never resonated strongly within me, until I realized that we can experience the energy of the polar holiday. It's why October has ALWAYS been a happy time for me, and it has always felt like a time of new beginnings and hope. However, during Beltane, the energy that reverberates most strongly to me, is Samhain energy. It seemed strange to me that this was what I needed to meditate on for the season. It's even stranger due to the fact that I now work exclusively in pediatrics.

Then I had an important realization. I was raised Catholic and spring was the season of death. There was so much death and heaviness in those rituals, that the moral of the story (everything is eventually reborn in some way) was lost. The entire season leading up to Easter was about sacrifice and abstaining from your favorite things. It explains why, for me anyway, that the energy also lasts for a few weeks after the initial holiday (I needed time to recuperate from the harshness of the holiday). I would not have come to these revelations if I had not started working with the pediatric population. They are fragile, just like our elders, and that reinforces the cyclical nature of life and my beliefs.

Just before Beltane, I heard a story that absolutely terrified me. I was working with another nurse one day and she decided, in her wisdom, (The Crone can be cruel) to enlighten me on practices that still remain in place. Some children, when they are born with certain disabilities qualify for Medicaid and private duty nursing so that they can be taken care of at home and school if they are well enough to go. This is a good thing. However, hospitals (at least one in the Denver area that I know of) apparently are still in the practice of informing these mothers that they don't even need to see their children, the hospital will make arrangements for the care of the child elsewhere. I was so upset by this story I kept thinking about it for days after I heard it. Now that I have this knowledge, why do I have it and what do I do with it?

I finally decided that if this is a true account, more research needs to be done. I am contemplating doing a research project on medically fragile children in the local community in hopes of improving quality of care, quality of life, and better outcomes for these kids. I can think of

nothing better that I can do with the harsh information I was given. It seems like I am finally planting seeds that will eventually become fruitful and I can reap a meaningful harvest.

—*Bluedreamer*

WHO IS SAFEGUARDING OUR RECENT HISTORY?

Recently, a friend of mine bequeathed a laundry basket full of three ring binders containing lessons that she taught, along with ritual scripts that were performed during the 1990s (or at least, the couple of binders that I have went through were from the 90s—I still have a few more to go though). The reason for this gifting was the fact that she was downsizing her house, and the fact that she was no longer teaching. I became the recipient because I still on occasion help the occasional student out.

Back in 1994, the Golden Dawn lodge I was in, made me an Archive Officer. The lodge was disbanding and the members of the lodge wanted to ensure that their unique knowledge was not lost. So by oath, I am sworn to protect information. It is just ironic that I ended up with far more Wiccan and pagan material than unique Golden Dawn information.

One of the things that I have learned dealing with the larger Golden Dawn community is that no one in GD, or at least no one that is in a position to oversee the publication of such material, is actually interested in what a small, non-lineaged Golden Dawn lodge did or thought. The general impression I have come to hold is that unless it was written by one of the “famous” Adepts or leaders of GD, and then only from select time periods and lines, no one gives a damn. As a result, outside of a few minor pieces of my own work, I have succeeded in preserving nothing—and let’s be honest, no one ever actually plays any attention to anything that I have done, so one could argue that I have preserved less than nothing.

I am not sure if the same attitude towards esoteric history prevails in Wicca...mainly because I have never been in a position where it would matter one way or another in my own personal world. But going through this cache of old ritual scripts and notes, I find myself wondering exactly where the lines of acceptable Wiccan history fall.

Part of this curiosity lies in the fact that a couple of years ago, I finished up a couple of Bachelor degrees—one of which was in history, the other in literature. During my history capstone, I was forced to deal with primary documents in the form of several boxes of government documents. As a result of this, I am acutely aware of the fact that a ritual script with a performance date and the first names of the officiants listed make some of these papers primary documents. And with my companion degree being in literature, with several of my classes dealing with the surviving literature of the early Christian sects, I am acutely aware that in a couple thousand years, such a set of scripts and lessons would be the equivalent in value to the Dead Sea Scrolls.

The fact that this cache ended up in my possession makes me wonder how many more such Wiccan history treasure hoards exist out there, and how they are being preserved and safe-guarded, if at all. The documents of history are fragile, and easily lost if those in possession of them are unaware of their potential value to future historians. Our local history could disappear in a blink of an eye, with us leaving no trace, and I am not sure that such an outcome is actually desirable.

Morgan Drake Eckstein

Morgan Drake Eckstein writes about Golden Dawn, Wicca and other mystery traditions on his blog at: <http://gleamingsfromthedawn.blogspot.com/>

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. All of the series is transitioning thanks to Crystal Publishing.

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

The new editions of the first book and the holiday book are now available on Amazon.

Here is the link: http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=Jo+Fontana

The hard copies will be coming out shortly. Also, please check out our new and improved website @ <http://www.turtlemonkeybooks.com>

Coming soon: My new Young Adult Novel: **The Egg Quest!** More information should be available soon.

Thank you for all your support!

-Jo

ORPHEUS: GODS AND MONSTERS! SAT., MAY 30!!!

Get your tix now for Gods and Monsters! www.orpheuspcc.org

Orpheus celebrates deity and some of your favorite monsters with tunes from around the world that range from the sublime to some inspired silliness, from classics like Brahms and Ravel to Sondheim and music from India.

That's Saturday, May 30 at 7:30 PM in the Wash Park Center for Music and the Arts: 400 S. Williams (at Dakota Avenue) in Denver. Tix are \$20 per person/\$15 seniors and students/Under 12 free!

Check out our website for complete info: www.orpheuspcc.org



EARTH TEMPLE

Earth Temple meets at Full Moon Books and Event Center, at 9106 W. 6th Ave. in Lakewood, for New/Dark Moon ritual work. All of our dates are Saturday evenings, and we normally begin our rituals right on the dot at 7:30 PM. Join our Meetup Group for reminders and information about specific rituals: www.meetup.com/EarthTemple. And, check out our Witchvox page for more info about us:

http://www.witchvox.com/vn/vn_detail/dt_gr.html?a=usco&id=35084

Our 2015 dates:

Jun 20

Jul 11

Aug 15

Sep 12

Oct 10

Nov 7

Dec 12

*—Chris, Dara, and Michelle
the Earth Temple steering committee*

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 real.cuttlefish@gmail.com; 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 is simply a fanatic) 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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2015 Open Full Moon Dates

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