



# Earth Healer



*A Unitarian Universalist Congregation*



**The Official Newsletter of the friends and members of Gaia Community** **April 2005**

## ELECTION TIME

The Nominating Committee has put together this year's slate of candidates for Gaia Community's Board of Trustees. The description of each office from the by-laws is included for your information. Elections will be at the April Ritual of Business, April 9, 2005. If you are unable to attend the RfB, an absentee ballot is inclosed or you can pick one up from the greeter's table and must be in the hands of one of the NomComm's hand prior to April 9.

### Candidates for the office of President: Jeff Park

VII-D-1: The President

The President shall: be the executive officer of the Community, serve as a member of the Board, and have authority to sign on behalf of the congregation any deeds, mortgages, bonds, contracts or other legal instruments which the Committee of the Whole has authorized to be executed except in those instances where the signing and other execution of such instruments shall have been expressly delegated by the Committee of the Whole or by these bylaws or by statute to some other officer or agent of the Community. The President shall be responsible for organizing the agenda for all Regular and Special Rituals for Business.

### Candidates for the office of Vice President: Kris Ennis, Judi McCannon, Liz Ticer

VII-D-2: The Vice-president

The Vice-president shall: assume the duties of the President in the absence of the President, coordinate the working committees designated by the Committee of the Whole, maintain the Community's calendar, and shall perform such functions and duties as may be specified by the Committee of the Whole.

### Candidates for the office of Secretary: Debbie Dozier

VII-D-3: The Secretary

The Secretary shall: have general charge of and responsibility for all non-financial records of the Community and shall keep accurate minutes of all Committee of the Whole Rituals for Business and Executive Sessions of the Board of Trustees, including names of those in attendance and make such minutes available to active members, and keep and preserve the Community's membership book.

### Candidates for the office of Treasurer: Devin Scrogum

VII-D-4: The Treasurer

The Treasurer shall: receive, safely keep and account for all money and other property of the Community entrusted to her or his care, and shall disburse the same under the direction and to the satisfaction of the Committee of the Whole. S/he shall maintain:

A current roster of the Pledging Units and the Pledges;

A complete accounting of the financial records of the Community, which shall remain the property of the Community, and which shall be open for inspection by any active member;

The annual financial report of the Community, which shall be audited by a person, not a member of the Board, who is designated by the Committee of the Whole;

Render a current statement at each regular Ritual for Business of the Committee of the Whole;

Shall pay all bills and sign all checks as authorized by the Board of Trustees or the Committee of the Whole;

Ensure that all federal, state or local returns, reports or other items required by law are properly prepared and filed with the appropriate authorities in a timely manner;

Perform the duties of the President in the event of simultaneous absence or incapacity of both the President and Vice President; and may be bonded at the expense of the Community.

### Candidates for Trustee positions: John Carroll, Jennifer Gadd, Eric Simpson (choose one or two, as needed)

VII-E. Trustees at Large

The Trustees at Large shall: keep abreast of the business and programs of the Community, participate in Rituals for Business, and perform such other functions as assigned by the Committee of the Whole.

### Candidates for Nominating Committee: Victor Castillo, Kris Ennis (if available), Barbara Griggs, Judi McCannon (if available).

IX-B. Duties & Responsibilities

The Nominating Committee shall be responsible for contacting and recommending qualified candidates to stand for election for open Board of Trustees seats, Nominating Committee seats, and to be delegates to UUA General Assembly. The slate of nominees shall be prepared in time for inclusion in the Notice of the Annual Election. The Nominating Committee shall work throughout the year to gather information on the interests, abilities and talents of all Gaia Community members and friends and make this information available to help other non-elected committees fill open positions throughout the year.

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All Sunday activities take place at Shawnee Mission UU Church; 7725 W. 87th St.; Overland Park, KS (near 87th & Metcalf) and begin at 4 P.M. unless otherwise noted.

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

### Sunday, April 3

#### Ritual—"Lady of Silver Web"

April Fools! The ritual on April 3rd has been changed from All Fools Day to a ritual in honor of our patron-for-the-year, Arianrhod. An opportunity will be provided for individuals to make offerings to her if they so choose, so if you have a song, dance, craft, or other offering that you feel moved to make, please bring it with you. Come join us in honoring this goddess of magic and mystery!

### Sunday, April 10

#### Forum—"Gods of the 241/2 Century" facilitated by Via

Have you ever wondered who the patron god of the Internet is, or whether a cordless drill would be an acceptable substitute for a wand? This forum will focus on the issue of how modern symbol sets interact with ancient symbol sets, with an emphasis on how that interaction affects our own practices.

### Sunday, April 17

#### Ritual—"The Gift"—Pledge Sunday

The rune Gebo symbolizes the giving of gifts, and the connections forged by the exchange of blessing, kindness, and hospitality. This Sunday we will join with our family and friends, in the presence of the powers, to examine the interlocking web of gifting, getting, and gratitude expressed in the rune. We'll celebrate our blessings and raise a toast to the prosperity and abundance we share.

### Sunday, April 24

#### Workshop—"Dig It"... facilitated by Linda

Since Earth Day is April 22, a workshop on ways you can help the great mother with regards to environmental problems can start right in your own backyard. Come learn and discuss ways we all can use to help be a contributing factor for a cleaner environment and restoring the health and vitality of Mother Earth.

### Sunday, May 1

#### Ritual (Beltane)—"Bee's Do It"

Ritual starts at 3:00 p.m. at SMUUch with potluck following.

### Ritual Teams and Members:



Kitty Degler  
Barbara Griggs  
Brian Butler  
Linda Boyce



Nicole Turner  
Eric Simpson  
Liz Ticer  
Via Baker



Kimberly  
Carey Reynolds  
David Reynolds  
Daniel Ticer



Jacki Kelly  
Debbie Dozier  
Jeff Park

### Gaia Community Board Members

**President**—Barbara Griggs  
president@gaiacommunity.org or  
816-587-2350

**VP**—Jeff Park  
jpark2@kc.rr.com or  
816-361-0465

**Treasurer**—David Reynolds  
treasurer@gaiacommunity.org or  
816-941-7626

**Secretary**—Debbie Dozier  
secretary@gaiacommunity.org or  
913-894-8131

#### Members at Large

Carey Reynolds  
gaia-kat@kc.rr.com or  
816-941-7626

Liz Ticer  
femainoregon@excite.com or  
913-636-4924

John Carroll  
IBRCandS792@yahoo.com or  
913-334-2834

## COMMUNITY CARES

### Joy and Concerns

Peace & strength to . . .

- Friends who are rolling with the punches of unemployment and job searches.
- Those struggling with substance abuse and addiction.
- Those in our community experiencing the pain of divorce or separation.



- Healing wishes to those fighting illnesses and hurts.

Happy Solar Return to people celebrating their birthday this month.

*If we've missed you, clue us in again! Let Earth Healer know—earthhealer@gaiacommunity.org or 816-361-0465 or just sort of let the people at the greeter's table know.*

**And a special welcome to the folks who visited us for the first time recently!**

## GAIA EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

### Ritual Teams Meeting

Thursday, April 7th at 6:45 P.M.

All current ritual team members are welcome to come critique and plan rituals past, present, and future. Attendance at one meeting per quarter is required to stay active. Comments from anyone in the general community about rituals are welcome as well; please communicate them to the Ritual Team Coordinator, currently Jacki. Please contact the Coordinator to find out more about this month's meeting, or if you are a graduate of the Excellence in Ritual class and wish to start working with Ritual Teams again.

### Voices of Gaia

Mondays at 7 P.M. AT KITTY'S HOME.

New singers are always welcome. If you have questions, or want more information, please contact Kitty Degler, [songbird@kc.rr.com](mailto:songbird@kc.rr.com) or 913-469-8779.

### KidSpace Committee Meeting

Thursday, April 21st, 7:00 P.M.

The KidSpace Committee Meeting is a place for all parents, kids at heart, and KidSpace volunteers to come together and discuss the future of our children. Plans for future activities, volunteer opportunities, dinner, and the direction of the future of KidSpace could all be on the agenda.

Come to the meeting or contact Andrew Turner, our Director of KidSpace Programming, for more information at [kidspace@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:kidspace@gaiacommunity.org) or (913) 706-9167.

### Games Night

Friday, April 15th, 7:00-10:00 P.M. at SMUUCH

Games Night is a chance for gaians to get together for fun, frivolity, and food, and NO OFFICIAL BUSINESS allowed! (We're not kidding—the Games Guru has spoken on this.) Bring a game (or ten), bring a friend (or ten), or just bring yourself and a willingness to play and visit. Snacks are welcomed but not required, to help the gaming crowds keep up their strength!

### Friday Night Supper Club

Friday, April. 22th, 7:00 P.M.

Join your fellow Gaians for food, friendship, and frivolity. Kick back and stuff yourself silly! El Maguey Mexican Restaurant; (816) 348-0866; 404 Pine St.; Belton, MO 64012 this month. For more information contact Jeff Park at [jpark2@kc.rr.com](mailto:jpark2@kc.rr.com) or 816-361-0465.

### A look ahead at next month

- May 1 Ritual – “Bee’s Do It” Beltane-potluck
- May 8 Ritual – “Gathering of the Goddesses”
- May 15 Ritual – “Take Me Home”
- May 22 Ritual – “Pet Blessing”
- May 29 SOS- “Memorial Day”

## WEAVE AND SPIN Splinters from the Board

Here's the minutes summary

Summary of Meeting minutes for Ritual for Business on March 12.

The Treasurer's report shows that we are still a not-for-profit organization. In Old Business, we didn't achieve 40% of the membership attending on 3/12 to vote on the by-laws changes. So we decided to hold a special RfB on 3/20 between ritual and potluck. The membership directory is getting closer. We're getting the info for the last couple of new member classes put in, then it will be printed. We hope to have it out by 4/3.

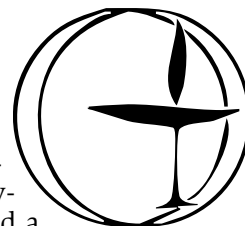
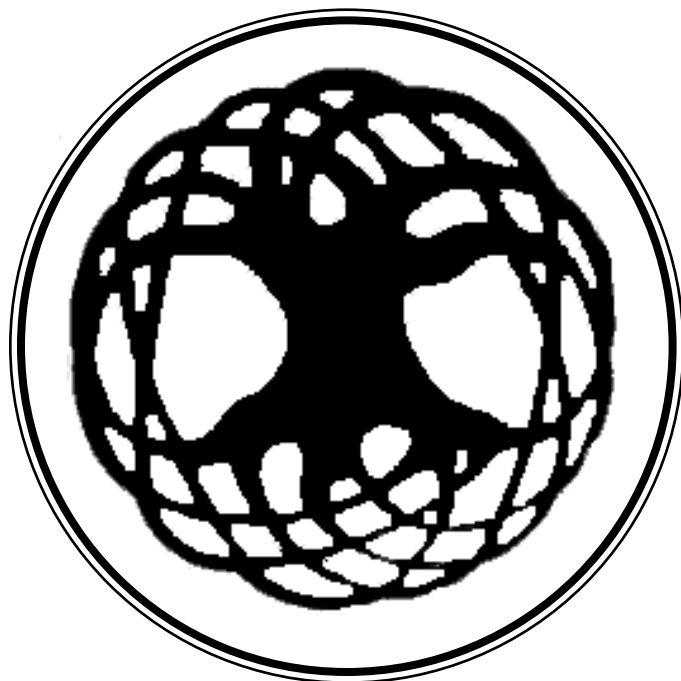
In New Business, it was decided to put Craft circle on hiatus due to lack on interest from the community. If anyone wants to start this up again, please contact a Board member. We were approached by All Souls and asked to assist with their ordination. In addition, Jim Ellers from All Souls is starting a local cluster of UU congregations in hopes that we can start working more closely with each other. The Prairie Star District conference happens in April. If anyone is interested in attending as a representative of Gaia, please see a Board member for more info.

Committee reports were brief. The nominating committee is still looking for people interested in helping Gaia in any capacity. Elections are next month for both the Board of Trustees and the nominating committee for next year.

At the Special Ritual for Business on 3/20, the changes to the by-laws were approved by the membership.

Ritual for Business in April will be on 4/9. Please join us to elect our new Board of Trustees. John Carroll will be facilitating the meeting, please contact him or any member of the Board if you have an item for the agenda.

*Debbie*





P.O. Box 45307  
 Kansas City, MO 64171-8303





*Address Correction Requested*

**Special  
 Beltane  
 Ritual time  
 3:00 pm  
 May 1st,  
 Potluck  
 will follow**

**Contact Earth Healer**

Send letters, articles, poetry or prose, borrowed wisdom, comments and suggestions to: earthhealer@gaiacommunity.org or by phone (number inside) no later than the 17th of each month. Please tell us if you are receiving duplicate copies of *Earth Healer*, if we're getting your name/address wrong or if you prefer to receive the newsletter by email. Let us hear from you before the next *Earth Healer*.

**MAY YOU  
 NEVER  
 HUNGER,  
 MAY YOU  
 NEVER  
 THIRST.**

April 2005						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					 1	2
SR 3pm 3 Ritual: Lady of the Silver Web 4 pm	4 Voices of Gaia 7 pm	5 Adult RE 7 pm Build Your Own Theology	6	7 Ritual Teams Meeting 6:45 pm	8 	9 Ritual of Business 9:30 am
SR 3pm 10 Forum: Gods of the 24 1/2 century 4 pm	11	12 Adult RE 7 pm Sacred Rhythms	13	14	15 Games Night 7 pm	16 
SR 3pm 17 Ritual: The Gift Pledge Sunday 4 pm	18 Voices of Gaia 7 pm	19 Adult RE 7 pm Druid Study Group	20 Site Committee Meeting 7-9 pm	21 KidSpace 7 pm	22 Earth Day FNCS 7 pm	23
SR 3pm  24 Workshop: Dig It 4 pm	25 Voices of Gaia 7 pm	26 Adult RE 7 pm Intro to Paganism	27	28	29	30 Beltane is tomorrow at 3:00 pm!

Absentee Ballot for Gaia Community April 9, 2005  
You must be a current full active member to vote.

### Officers of the Board of Trustees

Vote for one:

President:

Jeff Park \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-President:

Liz Ticer \_\_\_\_\_

Kris Ennis \_\_\_\_\_

Judy McCannon \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary:

Debbie Dozier \_\_\_\_\_

Treasurer:

Devin Scrogum \_\_\_\_\_

### Members of the Board of Trustees

Vote for one or two as needed:

Trustee, 2 year term:

Jennifer Gadd \_\_\_\_\_

Eric Simpson \_\_\_\_\_

John Carroll \_\_\_\_\_

### Nominating Committee

Vote for three:

Victor Castillo \_\_\_\_\_

Kris Ennis \_\_\_\_\_

Barbara Griggs \_\_\_\_\_

Judi McCannon \_\_\_\_\_

### Delegates to 2005 UUA General Assembly

Vote for two:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### Write-in candidates

(you must have that person's permission to nominate)

position: \_\_\_\_\_

position: \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign and date on the line below:

\_\_\_\_\_

Please give this ballot to either Jacki Kelly,  
Kimberly, Collene or Linda, before April 9, 2005

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