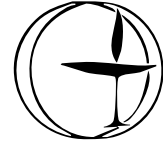




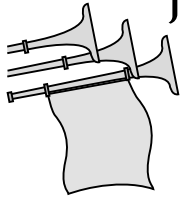
# Earth Healer



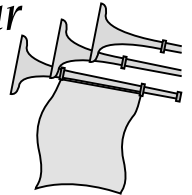
A Unitarian Universalist Congregation



The Official Newsletter of the friends and members of Gaia Community December 2003



Join us at Gaia Community's 5th Annual Winter Bazaar on Sunday, December 14th, 3-7 P.M.



You'll find gifts like nowhere else, music and art, clothes, jewelry, books, baubles . . . and much more!

## WINTER BAZAAR

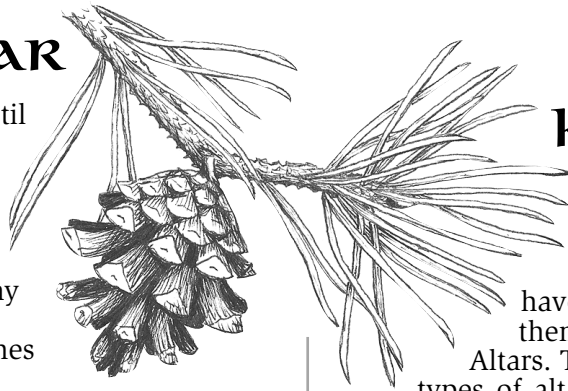
There's less than a month until Gaia Community's annual Winter Bazaar and things are really coming together.

You won't want to miss some of the great selections from Vulcan's Forge, PrairieWise and many others. Our vendors generously pledge to give 20% (and sometimes even more!) of their proceeds back to Gaia Community—so plan to do some righteous spending.

The raffle will feature many nifty items . . . including the handcrafted Ashiko that Eric Simpson offered in praise at the Samhain ritual.

Finally, the Gaia Community table will include wondrous things from our Craft Circle, suncatchers from the kids and a few ogham sets (painstakingly created by Real Druids™). And we've even heard that Caroline will be making Jack Daniels Balls for the Kitchen Witch selections again!

So show up, shop, eat and play with us! We'll look forward to seeing you there!



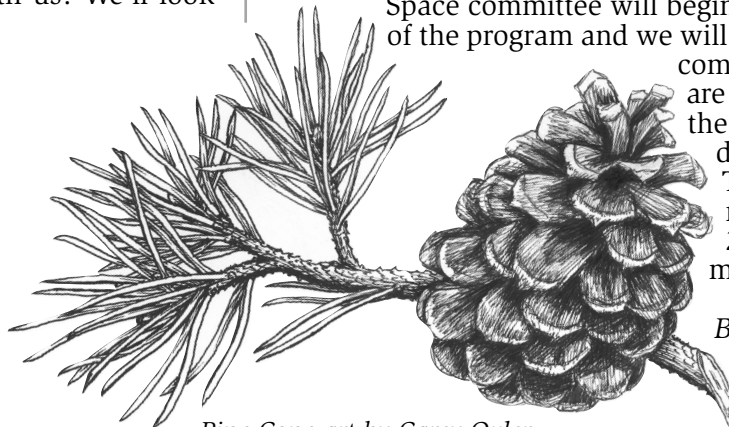
## KIDSPACE

The new year approaches with new ideas to fill the minds and hearts of our future. We will follow the idea of the ritual team and have a variety of sections with different themes. We start the year with All about Altars. This section we will talk about different types of altars and the tools that make them up, clothes, candles, cauldrons, wands, and scrying tools. Other sections will be "The Environment," "UU principle: That all persons should have a vote about the things that concern them," "Ancestors," "Music," "UU Principle: That all people should be treated fairly and equally"

In January I invite you all to bring a favorite Altar item to Show and Tell (yes, you can show the adults too). Just let me know and I will be happy to give as much or as little time as you would like. This will be a year of great transition. At the end of the year we will be ushering me out and a new KidSpace director in. This year the KidSpace committee will begin to take more control of the program and we will have a new KidSpace committee chair. If you are interested in shaping the future, controlling destiny, etc etc join us. The KidSpace committee meets every 2nd Friday of the month at SMUUCH.

*Raucous and Joyful Blessings*

*Andrew*



Pine Cone art by Carey Oxler

### WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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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, December 7th

#### Ritual—Children's Dedication (Date Change)

This annual Gaia Community tradition has become a favorite, both for the Baby Blessing and the rite of passage for the children.

### Sunday, December 14th

#### Gaia Community Annual Winter Bazaar (Date Change)

This is our annual shopping extravaganza and showcase for our Craft Circle, Kitchen Witches, and lots of local and regional Pagan and Pagan-friendly vendors! Food, crafts, massage, gifts, jewelry, books, a fabulous raffle... and it gets better every year! If you know someone who wants to be a vendor, let us know as there may still be space!

### Sunday, December 21st

#### Sabbat—Winter Solstice Ritual

Join us for a heathen-themed celebration of Yuletide, with feasting, storytelling and song for the whole community—young and old! We'll be doing some things differently than most Winter Solstices and High Holidays in recent history.

Please note:

- \* Voices of Gaia will weave their holiday caroling into our ritual, rather than stage a separate performance.
- \* Potluck will begin at 3 P.M., and serves as the beginning of the ritual itself.

And don't forget to bring layers for the weather—we may go outside for a little while! We'll look forward to seeing you there!

*As with all Sabbats, there will be a potluck meal following the ritual. Please bring enough to feed eight hungry people and remember to label your ingredients for those with dietary restrictions. Also, for the Earth's sake and in pursuit of our Green Sanctuary pledge, we ask that you not bring disposable dishes. There will be some few extra dishes for those who forget theirs; we could always use more to have in reserve, though!*

### Sunday, December 28th

#### Ritual—Discordian New Year's Party! Everbody's a Pope!

Gorillas on roller skates optional. Come in costume.

#### Gaia Community Board Members

President—Barbara Griggs  
bpmg@earthlink.net or  
816-587-2350

VP—Caroline Baughman  
carolineo@earthlink.net or  
816-729-7112

Treasurer—David Reynolds  
naeblis@kc.rr.com or  
816-941-7626

Secretary—Nicole Turner  
saffronhare@kc.rr.com or  
913-706-9159

#### Members at Large

Collene Newby  
oedipus\_the\_doomed@yahoo.com  
or 913-221-3278

Jacki Kelley  
opaljax@aol.com or  
816-228-0018

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

MAY YOU NEVER  
HUNGER.  
MAY YOU NEVER  
THIRST.

Many community members requested that we publish the “We are Gaians” chant/song in the newsletter, so everyone would have the music and words to all the verses that were created during last months “Coming Home” ritual. The chant and 1st verse were written by JL Park with the other verses co-created by the congregation in split groups during the working period of the ritual. The song is to commemorate the different traditions we experienced this last year.

# We are Gaians

JL Park

2

Chant 

Ma - a - na en - dor ni ist ve gai - a Ma - a - na en - dor ni ist ve gai - a

Voice 

*Quenya-elvish translation: Blessed Earth, I know as Gaia*

3

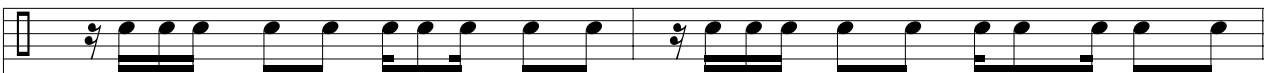
Ch 

Ma-a-na en-dor ni ist ve gai-a Ma-a-na en-dor ni ist ve gai - a Ma-a-na en-dor ni ist ve gai - a


V 

We are the flame We are the  
 We eat some food We kiss the  
 We chant the Rune We are the  
 A - lo - ha oi That ka - pu  
 We thank O - siris For mak-ing  
 We keep the fire We are the  
 Land, Sky, and Sea. Come join us

6

Ch 

Ma - a - na en - dor ni ist ve gai - a Ma - a - na en - dor ni ist ve gai - a

V 

drop - lets in the rain We are the stones a - gainst the seas We are the  
 Bab - ka and it's good We set the table for more food And then there is  
 Child - ren of the Moon We are the Chal - ice and the Blade From Mother Earth  
 did so an - noy. Ha - il Pe - le of the Fire Our breath sends ma -  
 our plants begin to grow And for mak - ing the Ni - le flow You are the  
 Mae - nads of de - sire We bring the bar - ley to the hearth We bring the  
 here a - mong the trees. Hon - or the sac - red kin - dred three, Re - mem - ber

8

Ch 

Ma - a - na en - dor ni ist ve gai - a Ma - a - na en - dor ni ist ve gai - a

V 

cur - rents in the breeze We are the kin Of all the  
 John Dres - sed in drag. We drink some too And then we  
 we are all made In time we feel the turn - ing  
 na ev - er high - er O - ha - na As fam - i -  
 God we came to know We are so glad That Isis brought  
 wine that warms the heart We sing the praise Of all the  
 rec - i - proc - i - ty. Dru - ids are we. Come share the

10

Ch

Ma - a - na en - dor ni ist ve gai - a Ma - a - na en - dor ni ist ve gai - a

V

life that has ever been We are the stew - ards of this world We are \_\_\_\_  
 Drink and Drink some more, We won't break ground until she is due We are \_\_\_\_  
 wheel of the sea - sons Blest by the La - dy and the Lord We are \_\_\_\_  
 ly we are \_\_\_\_ one. We are like Mau - i in the sun We are \_\_\_\_  
 you back from the dead You are the ste - ward of this land We are \_\_\_\_  
 gods of Hell - enic days Kha - ire Gai - a Me - la - i - na We are \_\_\_\_  
 bless - ing cup with me. We are the keep - ers of the grove. We are \_\_\_\_

12

Ch

Ma - a - na en - dor ni ist ve gai - a

V

Gai - ans!  
 Gai - ans!  
 Gai - ans!  
 Gai - ans!  
 Gai - ans!  
 Gai - ans!  
 Gai - ans!

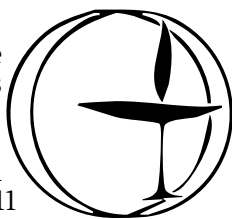
## WEAVE AND SPIN



### Splinters from the Board

From Nicole Turner, Secretary

Items of general interest from the November Ritual for Business included:



- *Treasurers' Report*—David had the actuals up to November 11 and showed that we are on target with most areas. We did make some money with the Thorn Coyle workshop.
- *Definition of Priest/esses*—As request by Barbara last RfB that the Ritual Teams come up with Gaia Community definitions for some words and phrases that we use here that may have other meanings to other people, so we and visitors are all working from the same book. Caroline presented the Ritual Teams definition for *Priest/esses*.
- Update on the Prairie Star District Conference and our participation within it. The PSD committee approved the logo design by Jeff Park with minor alterations.
- Nomination Committee was charged with finding

candidates for the following: Vice-president, Secretary, Board member, Kids Space Director and Kids Space Committee Chair.

Rituals for Business are not simply board meetings. They're open to all members and friends—the more, the merrier. Although actual voting is restricted to active membership, everyone's voice is important. Please join us at SMUUCH, downstairs in the Franklin/Jefferson Room for our next meeting: 9:30–11:30 A.M., Saturday, December 13th. Caroline Baughman will be facilitating, so get in touch (contact information on page 2) if you want to add an item to the agenda. *Minutes from any Ritual for Business are available upon request.*

### Childcare Position:

We are looking for someone who likes kids. Quiet kids, rowdy kids all types of kids up to 4-years-old to provide childcare every Sunday and some Tuesdays evenings and Saturday Mornings as needed and as you are available. Experience with infants and toddlers is highly desired, as is infant/toddler CPR. A background check will be made. The pay is \$10/hr. contact Andrew Turner at agrnmn@kc.rr.com or 913-7069167.

## GAIA AROUND TOWN—EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

### Voices of Gaia

Thursday, December 11th, 7:00 P.M.

We meet downstairs at SMUUCH in the classroom with the keyboard. Our primary focus will be preparation for our December 21st Winter Solstice carol sing, with some Samhain related music thrown in for good measure. If you have music selections for either of those holidays, please bring copies to share. We'll also continue to create sacred space in song.

Everyone who likes to sing is welcome to come to Voices of Gaia. We always welcome instrumentalists and drummers as well. If you have questions or comments, please contact me, Kitty Degler, at (913)469-8779 or [songbird@kc.rr.com](mailto:songbird@kc.rr.com) for more information.

### KidSpace Committee Meeting

Friday, December 12th, 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 [agrmn@kc.rr.com](mailto:agrmn@kc.rr.com) or (913) 706-9167.

### Games Night/Sacred Dance

Friday, December 19th, 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!

Games Night now alternates with Sacred Dance on the 3rd Friday of the month. Sacred Dance is generally held downstairs and/or in the Barn Chapel, weather and activities permitting.

### Friday Night Supper Club

Friday, December 26th, 7:00 P.M.

Join your fellow Gaians for food, friendship, and frivolity. Kick back and stuff yourself silly! December's FNSC will be taking Miki's suggestion and going to "Max's Noodles and More; 1728 Main, KCMO, 64108; 816-221-4567. For more information contact Jeff Park at [jpark2@kc.rr.com](mailto:jpark2@kc.rr.com) or 816-361-0465.

### Caring Committee Connection Circle

We will meet every Sunday before Ritual. We will start at 2:30 P.M. This is a place to meet and talk. If you've had a bad week, and you need to talk about it, come on by. If you've had a good week, and need to shout it from the rooftops, come on by. If you just need to be with people, or whatever, come on by. We'll have coffee and tea, and if you'd like bring some food. Bring enough to share!

### Tuesday Night Adult Education

Join us this month on Tuesday nights from 7:00 to 8:30 for classes and trances! Our schedule for the month is:

#### WILL

- 11/25 Kindling the Vision Trance
- 12/02 The Smith and the Warrior Class
- 12/09 Forging the Will Trance
- 12/16 Yule Class
- 12/23 Attaining the Crown Trance

#### EARTH

- 12/30 Sacred Sovereign; Queen Madb Class

Please RSVP to Caroline or Kimberly ([adulterd@gaiacommunity.com](mailto:adulterd@gaiacommunity.com)) if you are planning on attending any of these sessions—There is a requested fee of \$5 per week for non-members, \$3 for members to cover supplies and handouts.

Child care is available with advance notice—the fee for childcare is \$3 per child.

## COMMUNITY CARES

### Joys and Concerns

*Compiled with YOUR input.*



Congratulations to . . .

- Congratulations to Eric Simpson on his contract renewal, promotion and raise.
- Mercedes MacDonald made principal's honor roll!

Heart felt wishes and healing to . . .

- Nick (beam boy) Holt; send him some positive energy.

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.
- All of those people who are just running into some bad luck—have some good, positive energy.

Happy Solar Return to people celebrating their birthday this month: ♪

- 12–10: Caroline Baughman
- 12–12: Judi McCannon
- 12–17: Kira Turner

*Thanks Miki for providing birthdays. If we've missed you, clue us in again! Let Earth Healer know—[earthhealer@gaiacommunity.org](mailto: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:

Carol Clark; Jerry Pezcher; Peggy Foster; Teresa Ryan; Annee Ryan; Susann Ryan; Travis Marshall; Christy Rogers.



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

*Address Correction Requested*

## CONNECTION CIRCLE

Sundays 2:30 pm

Sponsored by the Caring Committee

Coffee, tea and a compassionate ear

## SACRED RHYTHMS

Sundays 3 pm

Bring your drums; Bring your shakers

Bring your heart, your feet and your hands

No previous experience needed

### Contact Earth Healer

Send letters, articles, poetry or prose, borrowed wisdom, comments and suggestions to: [earthhealer@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:earthhealer@gaiacommunity.org) or by phone (number inside) no later than the 15th 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 January *Earth Healer*.



December 2003						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Adult RE— 7-8:30	3	4 Ritual Teams Meeting 6:45 pm	5	6 Ritual of Business 9:30 am
CCCC 2:30 SR 3pm 7 Ritual Children's Dedication 4 pm	8	9 Trance— 7-8:30 p.m.	10	11	12 KidSpace 7 pm	13
14 Winter Bazaar 3 pm-7 pm	15 Deadline for EH submissions	16 Adult RE— 7-8:30	17	18 Voices of Gaia 7 pm	19 Games Night 7 pm	20
CCCC 2:30 SR 3pm 21 Ritual Winter Solstice PotLuck 4 pm	22 Winter Solstice	23 Trance— 7-8:30 p.m.	24	25 Christmas	26 FNSC 7 pm	27
CCCC 2:30 SR 3pm 28 Ritual Discordian New Year's Party-4 pm	29	30 Adult RE— 7-8:30	31 New Years Eve			