



# EARTH HEALER



The Official Newsletter of Gaia Community,

An Earth-Based, Pagan-Themed, Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Kansas City

JUNE 2006

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## Special Adult Education Class

On Saturday, June 17th, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., our Adult Education program presents a Special Event! Dr. Kathy Scheiern, a certified Systemic Constellation therapist, is coming in to lead a workshop at SMUUCH.

### ABOUT SYSTEMIC CONSTELLATION WORK:

Kathy's description of the process is that SCW is that it is an "experiential process involving the use of facilitation and gentle movements of the soul in a safe setting to bring to light and resolve entanglements that keep the flow of love from moving through the generations to reach us in the present."

More about SCW can be found at the website <http://www.livingartsfoundation.com/constellation.html>

Because of the profound nature of the work being performed, we are asking that all participants register in advance and plan to be present throughout the entire workshop so as not to disrupt the flow of the work. If you would like to attend, please email me as soon as possible at [jwncrow@hotmail.com](mailto:jwncrow@hotmail.com), or catch me on Sundays! Workshop fees are \$35 for Gaia Community members, and \$50 for non-members. Childcare will be available upon request for an additional fee. There will be a break for lunch during the day.

If you have any questions about the event, come talk to me, or email me and I will be happy to answer them to the best of my ability. Thanks, and I hope to see you there!

— Kimberly

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## Budget Proposal for 2006-2007

If you have an interest in where your pledge check goes, please join us at the June 10th Ritual for Business, where the Finance Committee will be presenting the budget for Fiscal Year 2006-2007 for the approval of the Committee of the Whole. (In case you were wondering, the Committee of the Whole includes you, if you are a member and you show up to Ritual for Business).

Due to the amazing level of support from all the members and friends, and the gracious offer of a reduction in rent from Shawnee Mission UU Church, we are able to budget not only for all of our basic operating expenses this year, but also for some of the non-essentials that we've been hoping to add in.

So, what's in the budget right now? \$20,380 in pledged dollars from current members, plus a reasonable level of income from Greening the Basket donations, fundraisers, and other sources, giving us a total anticipated income of \$25,790. This figure is well within the realm of what our income should be, based on our current membership levels, so that's good!

What does that \$25,790 buy us? Well, it pays our rent and our KidSpace staff. It pays for our dues to the UUA and to Prairie Star District. It keeps our phone on, our website up, our post office box open, and our newsletter coming in the mail each month. It pays our taxes and paperwork fees, ensuring our survival as a legal entity. It also covers expenses like brochures, gifts for new members, class materials for KidSpace and adult RE. It will also allow us to help cover the costs to send our delegates to General Assembly, make small gifts to other organizations, and even put away some money into the New Home Fund.

Want more detail? Have a way to save on our expenses, or an expense you think we should add in to our budget? Come to the Ritual for Business and share your ideas!

— Finance Committee

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

*Voices of Gaia at 2:00 PM, Sacred Rhythm Group at 3:30 PM*

### Sunday, June 4th

#### Forum — "How're We Doing?"

*Facilitator: Andrew*

We'd like to hear from you about what we do every Sunday; what rituals, classes, and other events really touched you! Which didn't work so well? What would you like to see more of? What do you have questions, or suggestions, about? Andrew will be facilitating this discussion, but if you can't be there, e-mail them to the Ritual Teams Coordinator (Liz Ticer) at [rtc@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:rtc@gaiacommunity.org), or get in touch with one of them in person to share your opinion. We want to know!

### Sunday, June 11th

#### Ritual — "Get Bent!"

*Ritualists: Nicole, Cynthia, Eric, Yale, & EIR*

How flexible do you think you are? Together, we seek a greater understanding and acceptance of gender diversity. Join us in an exploration of our sacred sexual identities. Teens are welcome to attend!

#### A Look Ahead to Next Month...

July 2nd – Picnic in the Park  
 July 9th – God Auction!  
 July 16th – Ritual by the EIR graduates!  
 July 23rd – Forum on Religion in Politics  
 July 30th – Sabbat (Lammas/Lughnassadh)

#### Gaia Community Board of Directors 2006-2007

**President** — Jeff Park  
[president@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:president@gaiacommunity.org)  
 or 816-361-0465

**Vice-President** — Liz Ticer  
[vicepresident@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:vicepresident@gaiacommunity.org)  
 or 913-636-4924

**Treasurer** — John Carroll  
[treasurer@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:treasurer@gaiacommunity.org)  
 or 913-334-2834

**Secretary** — Jennifer Gadd  
[secretary@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:secretary@gaiacommunity.org)  
 or 913-894-8131

**Members at Large** —  
 Carey Reynolds  
[gaia-kat@kc.rr.com](mailto:gaia-kat@kc.rr.com)  
 or 816-941-7626

Yale Giffin  
[niveustigris@hotmail.com](mailto:niveustigris@hotmail.com)  
 or 913-894-8131

Devin Scrogum  
[dscrogum@gmail.com](mailto:dscrogum@gmail.com)  
 or 913-708-5667

... or contact them all at  
[board@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:board@gaiacommunity.org)!

### Sunday, June 18th

#### Ritual — "Circle of Stones"

*Ritualists: Brian, Andrew, Nicole, & EIR*

A Circle of Stones is a powerful American Indian tradition of healing and mystical work; we've adapted the idea to our purposes and methods at Gaia Community, and invite you to come walk the circle and experience the power of the earth's bones. This ritual will be outdoors, weather permitting of course.

### Sunday, June 25th

#### SABBAT — "Midsummer" (w/potluck!)

*Ritualists: Andrew, Brian, Cynthia, & EIR*

Join us for Summer Solstice as we celebrate the sun reaching its full power. We will also look for the parts of our lives where we have reached our full power. The ritual is intergenerational, so bring the kids; that makes them yours, not KidSpace's!

As with all high holidays, there will be a potluck meal afterward, so bring enough of a dish/ drink/ dessert to feed eight hungry people, and your own tableware - plates, cups, silverware, and for the Earth's sake, no disposables. Please remember to label the ingredients for those w/dietary concerns.

#### Current Ritualists

*Kitty Degler  
 Barbara Griggs  
 Devin Scrogum  
 Andrew Turner  
 Nicole Turner  
 Brian Butler  
 Linda Boyce  
 Cynthia Mathis  
 Kimberly  
 Liz Ticer  
 Via  
 Carey Reynolds  
 Debbie Giffin  
 Jeff Park  
 Eric Simpson  
 Yale Giffin*

## Splinters from the Board

### Summary of the May Ritual for Business (RfB)

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes were reviewed informally; Jennifer will bring the printed minutes to the next RfB.

**Treasurer's Report:** John was not present and communication difficulties meant the current budget was not available for review this month. Informal news was that Gaia's financial crisis continues. The budget report will be at the next meeting.

#### Committee Reports:

- 1) **Site:** Rainbow Mennonite Church approached Gaia at Earth Day about sharing space. The congregation is a gay and lesbian welcoming community that has recently done a \$2 million renovation on their facility. Some members had concerns about sharing the space with a pagan church, and partnership with this congregation may be limited. Further investigation will take place.
- 2) **Stewardship:** The Krispy Kreme doughnut sale didn't go well due to communication problems. It is currently on hiatus. Other future ideas include a spaghetti rave and corporate programs run by restaurants that return 10% of dollars spent to the congregations. Possibilities are CiCi's Pizza, Fudruckers, and Sweet Tomatoes. Susie will make a flier to get to John for copies. The group encouraged Susie and the committee to keep up their enthusiasm.
- 3) **Ritual Teams:** The schedule for the rest of year is done, and there will be graduates from the current Excellence in Ritual class soon.
- 4) **Membership:** Only one person came to the class, so all the information was covered in one sitting; this person is now ready to become a new member. It was pointed out that new members who have completed the class can sign the book and fill out a pledge card prior to a scheduled New Member Ritual and be able to vote at an RfB. The committee's procedures will be updated. We currently have 41 certified members as a UUA congregation, but many more than that attend. Anyone wanting membership information can ask the treasurer or another finance committee member. The finance committee will audit the membership list for an official list of "voters" for the upcoming Special Ritual for Business.
- 5) **Adult Education:** The Constellation Workshop currently has five people who have RSVP'd, but not paid. There must be 15 paid members to hold the event. People need to sign up now. Kimberly will make a flier to get to the usual suspects for advertising.

**Unfinished Business:** The Garage Sale is making money; the Boyces might be able to take the unsold merchandise and continue selling for a week at their home. This garage sale falls within this fiscal year and will serve as a windfall to help balance this year's budget. Another sale will be planned for the next fiscal year.

## Other Events About Town

**Tuesday Night Classes:** June's classes will include the Pagan Parenting series (6/6), a Kitchen Witchery class (6/13), one about Midsummer right before the high holiday (6/20), and a trance/meditation (6/27). All classes are at 7 PM; childcare is available by contacting Kris in person or at [adulthood@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:adulthood@gaiacommunity.org). Don't forget the Systemic Constellation special workshop on Saturday, June 17th!

**Ritual Teams Meeting** (6/7, 6:45 PM): At Barbara's, we will be assigning rituals for the second half of the year. Contact Liz at [rte@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:rte@gaiacommunity.org) to join/rejoin teams.

#### New Business:

- 1) **Broadway Church:** They are willing to accept \$800/month for all the things on our needs list and most on the wants list. They are currently starting a capital funds campaign for roof repair, and waiting on what they hope is good news from us. All available space has been offered, and they have opened up the sanctuary for Voices of Gaia rehearsals. They might also be able to move a keyboard in the fellowship room for Voices. They seem very excited about partnership possibilities with us. The things we won't get are things they do not have: green space and additional handicap access. Gaia could look into providing ramps if possible as a gift to that congregation.
- 2) **Special RfB:** A Special Ritual for Business will be held on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup> from 4-6 PM in place of the regular ritual, to determine the intent of the community as to relocating to Broadway Church. Every effort will be made to contact members who do not usually come, such as mailers and phone calls. Jeff will chair the meeting.
- 3) **Lease:** Barbara has received tentative information that SMUUCH intends to raise the rent and move us to an area other than Barn Chapel; she will have more specific information in time for the Special RfB.
- 4) **2006-2007 Budget:** In summation: we're broke. Pledges expected at the time were \$19,955, and expenses were limited to the bare-bones categories. More specifics were given, but have been superceded by the budget analysis given on Page 1 of this newsletter.

## Summary of the Special Ritual for Business, 5/21

Meeting was called to order and a quorum was determined to be present. Consensus was explained to those present who have not been to a RfB before. A brief report was given on the unsuitability of the Rainbow Mennonite site and the current and projected budget numbers, and then a report on the lease negotiations with SMUUCH was given by Barbara. They want the lockable closet that is currently used by Ritual Teams and Kid Space. They also want to use the children's rooms we are currently using and move us to the south wing where the Drama room is, but will lower our rent to \$750/month.

Yale then gave a presentation of information on the Broadway Church site, including what needs/wants it satisfied and what it could not provide (see above). A temperature reading was taken of those present, which was mixed. Objections were heard from those leaning toward opposing, and then consensus was asked for, due to time constraints. Consensus was not reached; therefore the decision is to stay at SMUUCH.

*– Jennifer, Secretary*

**Games Night** (6/16, 7 PM): Kick back and relax; NO OFFICIAL BUSINESS IS ALLOWED! Bring a game, bring a friend, bring some munchies, or just bring yourself!

**Friday Night Supper Club** (6/23, 7 PM): This month's supper club will be held at Blue Nile in the City Market area of KCMO, 20 E. 5th Street (a little west of where the Farmer's Market is held). Vegetarian and/or kid-friendly fare should be available; please RSVP to David, Carey, or Kimberly at [E3@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:E3@gaiacommunity.org) or in person!

*All events are held at SMUUCH  
unless otherwise noted on this list!*



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*Address Correction Requested*

MAY YOU  
 NEVER  
 HUNGER.  
 MAY YOU  
 NEVER  
 THIRST.

*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 19th of each month.

Please tell us if you are receiving duplicate copies of *Earth Healer*, if we're getting your name or address wrong, or if you prefer to receive the newsletter by e-mail. Let us hear from you before the next *Earth Healer*.

*- David, Editor*

June 2006						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 2-3:30: VOG 3:30-4: SR 4 PM: Sharing Our Spirits Ritual	29	30 7 PM: Tuesday Night Classes, Mythology Story Hour	31	1	2	3 ☾
4 2-3:30: VOG 3:30-4: SR 4 PM: Forum for Ritual Feedback	5	6 7 PM: Tuesday Night Classes, Pagan Parenting	7 6:45 PM: Ritual Teams Meeting @ Barbara's	8	9	10 9:30-11:30 AM: Ritual for Business
11 ☉ 2-3:30: VOG 3:30-4: SR 4 PM: Ritual: Get Bent!	12	13 7 PM: Tuesday Night Classes, Kitchen Witchery	14	15	16 7 PM: Games Night	17 8 AM - 5 PM: Systemic Constellation Workshop
18 ☽ 3:30-4: Sacred Rhythms 4 PM: Ritual: Circle of Stones	19	20 7 PM: Tuesday Night Classes, Midsummer	21 Summer Solstice @ 7:26 AM	22	23 7 PM: Supper Club @ Blue Nile, 20 E. 5 <sup>th</sup> , KCMO	24 Noon: KidSpace Meeting @ Linda's
25 ☀ 3:30-4: Sacred Rhythms 4 PM: Summer Solstice Ritual w/Potluck	26	27 7 PM: Tuesday Night Classes, Trance/ Meditation	28	29	30	1