



# EARTH HEALER



The Official Newsletter of Gaia Community,

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

JUNE 2007

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## Community Garage Sale this month

For the third year in a row, you can help clear out your garage/living room/studio/closet/basement and participate in an easy fundraiser for Gaia Community! Our annual Community Garage Sale will be held on Friday June 15<sup>th</sup> and Saturday June 16<sup>th</sup> at the Boyces' house, **8303 W 80th St. in Overland Park** (just a few blocks north and west of Shawnee Mission UU Church). There are lots of ways you can help out:

- People! Devin is helping wrangle volunteers; anyone who is available Thursday evening to help set up, or to staff the garage sale on Friday or Saturday (especially Saturday morning, the busiest time), should contact him as soon as possible; his phone and e-mail are on page 5. Or just show up Friday and Saturday to help and shop!
- Stuff! We can't sell what we don't have, and the Boyces not only have space at their house, but a storage unit not far away. They have said they are willing to accept items *immediately*, so contact them on their cell phones (816-419-9447 for Linda and 816-419-9448 for John) to arrange a time to drop things off.
- Publicity! Garage sales are big deals this time of year, and getting ours noticed will be key to making this a profitable event for the community. Anyone who would like make or put up flyers should contact David, Linda, or Devin, and anyone at all can help spread news of the event by word-of-mouth!

- Linda and Devin

## God Auction on July 8<sup>th</sup>!

Our fifth annual God Auction (inspired by the ancient practices of the Egyptians) will be next month, and the final four candidates have been winnowed down from the Penny Auction! It was a pitched battle, but the actual contenders are:

- **Apollo**, the Greek god of music, medicine and oracular divination;
- **Brigid**, Celtic goddess of smithcraft, poetry, and healing;
- the **Flying Spaghetti Monster**, modern antagonist of the Kansas Board of Education;
- and **Freya**, Norse warrior Goddess of love, sex, and magic.

A more complete biography for each candidate and "campaign statement" will be available in the July Earth Healer and on the Greeter's Table in coming weeks.

More information will also be available as time goes on at <http://gaiacommunity.org/godauction.shtml>.

- Ritual Teams

## TeenSPACE Schedule

- June 3 – TEENS IN RITUAL
- June 10 – Four Levels of Communication; Michelle will be discussing how to apply the "four levels of reality" concept to communication, especially important in high school!
- June 17 – TEENS IN RITUAL (SABBAT)
- June 24 – TEENS IN RITUAL

- Carey and Kitty

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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.

## *Gaia About Town*

**Ritual Teams Meeting** (6/6, 6:45 PM, Debbie's house): Part-time slots to help with Sunday rituals are now available to formerly active ritualists; if you are interested, please contact Devin in person or at [rtc@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:rtc@gaiacommunity.org). As always, any member of the congregation may help with a particular ritual, so if you have an interest let someone know!

**Tuesday Night Classes:** The Adult Education classes for June will be a session on Santería on the 12<sup>th</sup>, and a Mythology Story Hour on the 26<sup>th</sup>, centered around the God Auction candidates (see page 1). All classes start at 7 PM; childcare is available *on request* by contacting Kris Ennis in person or at [adulded@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:adulded@gaiacommunity.org) by no later than the Sunday before each class.

**Ritual for Business** (6/9, 9:30 AM): This is our monthly “church business” meeting. Anyone, member or not, is welcome to come and provide input or ask questions, although only Full Active Members can participate in the consensus process. If you've ever had an official question or concern, this would be the place to bring it. Remember that June is when we finalize and approve the budget for the coming fiscal year, which will start July 1<sup>st</sup>!

**Games Night** (6/15, 7 PM): Kick back and relax; NO OFFICIAL BUSINESS IS ALLOWED! Bring a game, bring a friend, bring some munchies, or just bring yourself! Usually held in either the Barn Chapel or downstairs in the Jefferson room, depending on weather/games available. We've invited some new board game players from the Kansas City area to join us through <http://meetup.com>, so bring your new toys and your game face!

**KidSPACE Committee Meeting** (6/17, 2 PM): **Parents, volunteers, and anybody with ideas or an interest in our kids are welcome!** Meetings are held in the Childrens' Classroom section of SMUUCH before ritual on the 3rd Sunday of the month; contact Jennifer or Linda (the KidSPACE Co-Chairs), or Anissa (our Director of Religious Education) for more information. E-mail [gaiakidspace@yahoo.com](mailto:gaiakidspace@yahoo.com) or catch them on Sundays!

**Social Justice Committee Meeting:** Andrew and Cynthia have rebuilt the Social Justice committee in response to some concerns and ideas raised among the community recently. If you're interested in helping out or want to help plan the upcoming Wayside Waifs volunteer day, e-mail them at [sj@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:sj@gaiacommunity.org) or by finding them in person! The date for this month's meeting has not been set, yet.

**Friday Night Supper Club** (6/22, 7 PM): The June Supper Club will be at One Bite, an affordable and family-friendly Japanese Grill at 8602 W. 133rd St in Overland Park (between Antioch & US 69). Please RSVP to Kris Ennis at [supperclub@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:supperclub@gaiacommunity.org) or in person to save your spot!

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## **Caring Connections Corner**

Birthday blessings go out this month to Jennifer G. on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, Dani on the 4<sup>th</sup>, Amanda on the 12<sup>th</sup>, Barbara on the 16<sup>th</sup>, Susie on the 18<sup>th</sup>, Nicole on the 26<sup>th</sup> and Tony B. on the 27<sup>th</sup>. If there are other people around with June birthdays, we may not know who you are!

In addition, our thoughts go out to Heather and Joe, the parents of Trinity Divine Helm, who left this world in late May 2007 and would have been one year old on June 18<sup>th</sup>. Any donations in his name or on behalf of his parents can go to Children's Mercy Hospital.

*If you or another attendee of Gaia Community are hospitalized or going through a difficult time, please contact the Caring Committee by emailing us at [caring@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:caring@gaiacommunity.org), leaving a message on the Gaia Community voicemail at 816-931-9900, or by contacting one of the Caring Committee members in person: Cynthia Mathis, Terry Ross, or Debbie Dozier.*



# Sunday Schedule *(held at 4pm unless otherwise noted)*

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

## Sunday, June 3rd

### Ritual — Boom, Boom, Boom *(ritual in rhythm)*

*Ritualists: Jeff, Eric, Devin and Yale*

From the dawn of humanity until today, from our mothers' wombs until the grave, we experience rhythms everyday. Come explore the spiritual oneness of the tribe using the mystical rhythms of Gaia. Bring your drums, shakers, and other music-makers. Come early from 3:30 to 4:00 to learn basic drumming.

## Sunday, June 10th

### Forum/Debate — Soapbox Sunday

*Facilitators: Kimberly and Lizzy*

This year, the UUA is revisiting its vision for the future. At General Assembly, delegates from member congregations will be speaking out on issues that concern them, and asking the denomination to take action. This Sunday, we'll be giving our delegates an idea of what we'd like them to take to GA for discussion. We'll be using a modified forum structure in which several members and friends will have an opportunity to speak on issues close to their hearts and the rest of the congregation will have a chance to discuss these issues. Please join us for the discussion and if you would like to bring up an issue please contact Kimberly as soon as possible.

#### Current Ritualists

Andrew Turner	Carey Oxler
Eric Simpson	Kimberly
Kitty Degler	Kris Ennis
Linda Boyce	Yale Giffin
Devin Scrogum	Barbara
Lizzy Ticer	Cynthia Mathis
David Reynolds	Jeff Park
Debbie Dozier	Nicole Turner

*Please see Devin, the current Ritual Teams Coordinator, if you are a former ritualist who would like to rejoin teams.*

*The Excellence in Ritual students will be assisting with rituals through much of May, June, and July. Therefore you will often see additional ritualists not specified above.*

## Sunday, June 17th

### SABBAT — Sovereignty: The Emperor *(Summer Solstice)*

*Ritualists: Debbie, Kimberly, Andrew and Carey*

At Midsummer, the sun is at the peak of its power. We celebrate the holiday this year by working with the Emperor card, the tarot trump that represents our peak power, our personal sovereignty. How do we give away our power? How can we win it back? Join us as we work towards answers. Part of this ritual will take place outside, so please dress appropriately. The ritual will include an opportunity for divination and for drumming, so if you have divination tools or rhythm instruments, feel free to bring them.

As with all our Sabbat celebrations, this ritual will be followed by a potluck meal. Please bring a dish, drink or dessert to share among eight people; remember to care for the earth by bringing reusable containers and dishes, and to care for others by labeling your ingredients for those with dietary requirements.

## Sunday, June 24th

### Class — The Contenders *(God Auction candidates)*

*Facilitators: Kris and Andrew*

Our "Final Four" have been chosen for the fifth annual God Auction, and this class will provide an opportunity to get to know more about Apollo, Brigid, Freya, and the Flying Spaghetti Monster! Bring your questions, your own information, and help us get ready for this year's event!

### *Ritual Teams*

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

- July 1st — Picnic in the Park
- July 8th — GOD AUCTION!
- July 15th — Ritual: Blessing of the Rivers
- July 22nd — Ritual by Excellence in Ritual graduates
- July 29th — Class on new Community Patron

## *Proposed 2007-2008 Gaia Community Budget*

This budget is proposed for the coming fiscal year. Items zeroed out compared to previous years are not listed here, for simplicity. A more complete document may be found on the Greeter's Table on Sundays, or on our website at <http://gaiacommunity.org/budget.shtml>. At present, predicted income exceeds expenses, so the balance is scheduled to be placed in the New Home Fund at the end of the fiscal year. If budgetary matters change, that last line item may be significantly more or less compared to the budget proposed here.

Members and friends of Gaia Community should make any comments and feedback available to Nola Cavanaugh, our new community Treasurer, or any other member of the Finance Committee (John C., David R., or Kimberly). Final approval of this budget will take place at the June Ritual for Business, 6/9 at 9:30 AM.

*- Finance Committee*

### INCOME

Member Pledges	\$21561 ( <i>up 5.8%</i> )
God Auction	\$1200 ( <i>up 20%</i> )
Winter Bazaar	\$1100 ( <i>down 26.7%</i> )
Greening the Basket	\$1000 ( <i>down 4%</i> )
Friends of Gaia	\$500
Garage Sale	\$400
Excellence in Ritual Fees	\$210
Goods	\$10
Other	\$50
KidSPACE Registration Fee	\$250 ( <i>new item</i> )
KidSPACE Cookie Money	\$200 ( <i>separate account</i> )
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$26,481.00</b>

### EXPENSES

Ritual Space	\$9000
Director of KidSPACE	\$8000
UUA Annual Program Fund	\$1890 ( <i>down 13%</i> )
Sunday Childcare	\$1000
Prairie Star District	\$717 ( <i>down 12.6%</i> )
Employee taxes	\$612
Conferences	\$600
Insurance	\$396
Pledge Sunday Gifts	\$325

Newsletter Postage	\$304 ( <i>up 52%</i> )
Telephone	\$235 ( <i>down 27%</i> )
Copying/printing	\$200
Winter Bazaar Rental	\$150
Staff Bonuses	\$150
Non-Sunday Childcare	\$100
Charitable Giving	\$100
Brochures	\$100
Advertising	\$100
Website & Domain name	\$100
New Member Gifts	\$100
Postage (non-newsletter)	\$100
Incorporation Paperwork	\$75
Post Office Box	\$65 ( <i>up 8%</i> )
KidSPACE supplies	\$60
Newsletter Printing	\$50
Membership Packets	\$50
Office supplies	\$50
KidSPACE miscellaneous	\$40
Miscellaneous/Other	\$30
Bank Fees	\$25
New Home Fund	\$1557 ( <i>balance</i> )
KidSPACE Discretionary Fund	\$200 ( <i>sep. acct.</i> )
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$26,481.00</b>

## Mooings from the CoW (Committee of the Whole)

### Summary of May's Ritual for Business (RfB)

- I. **Meeting called to order at 10:00.** Attending: Jennifer, Lizzy, Devin, Erin, David, Kris, Lisa, Yale, Brian
- II. **Agenda** ~ agreed
- III. **Secretary:** minutes, agreed with amendments
- IV. **Treasurer:** no report available. Budget will be available for review before the June RfB.
- V. **Standing Committees** ~
  - A. **Ritual Teams:** Modifications were made to firm up the dates for this next year's Sabbats.
  - B. **Membership:** Devin is waiting for a few visitors to become more regular before approaching then about classes.
- VI. **Unfinished Business** ~
  - A. **Closing procedures for emergencies:** Proposal was presented and agreed to. Yale agreed to be at the church if needed, to tell people of cancelled events.
  - B. **Strategic Planning:** Lizzy proposes a board retreat for long-range strategic planning. Agreed.
  - C. **Garage Sale:** It will be the third weekend of June, at the Boyce's. It will be a kid-friendly event; Devin will form an *ad hoc* committee to conduct the garage sale.
  - D. **Lease Negotiations:** As an FYI, the new president at SMUUCH (who was outside

before the meeting) says no increase in rent is planned for this year. Lizzy requested Fellowship Hall for all potlucks, which will not all follow the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday pattern of this year.

Other ideas for the ad hoc committee: Yale wonders is we could the closet back if no one is using it. David suggests we keep all Tuesdays available for possible covenant groups. Lizzy wants to keep Sunday hours at 2-7 p.m. on Sundays.

### VII. New Business ~

*(n.b.: Needs to include big-ticket items for future RfBs for community info of agenda)*

- A. **Committee Minutes:** FYI to committees: Please remember to submit committee reports to the vice president prior to RfBs. The Communications Committee also welcomes this information for submission to the *Earth Healer*. David will create an email link called [reports@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:reports@gaiacommunity.org) that will submit your information to all interested parties with one easy click.
- B. **Facilitator Schedule:** A facilitator schedule for Rituals for Business has two purposes: 1. It reminds facilitators of their duties, and 2. It enables us to get information to the wider community prior to RfBs. Proposal: *We will have a tentative rotating schedule for RfB facilitators.* Agreed.

### VIII. Meeting adjourned at 11:55 by mob consensus.

*- Jennifer, Secretary*

### Gaia Community Board of Trustees 2007-2008

**President** — Lizzy Ticer  
[president@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:president@gaiacommunity.org)  
 or 913-636-4924

**Vice-President** — Terry Ross  
[vicepresident@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:vicepresident@gaiacommunity.org)  
 or 816-966-9186

**Treasurer** — Nola Cavanaugh  
[treasurer@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:treasurer@gaiacommunity.org)  
 or 816-966-9186

**Secretary** — Jennifer Gadd  
[secretary@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:secretary@gaiacommunity.org)  
 or 913-299-4587

**Members at Large** —  
 Carey Oxler  
[gaia-kat@kc.rr.com](mailto:gaia-kat@kc.rr.com)  
 or 816-401-1963  
 Yale Giffin  
[niveustigris@hotmail.com](mailto:niveustigris@hotmail.com)  
 or 816-797-8032  
 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)!

### Agenda for June Ritual for Business

In addition to the standard agenda items such as Committee Reports, the special item on the agenda for June is the approval of the community's 2007-2008 budget. Please review the proposal on pages 4-5 and forward any changes to a member of the Finance Committee before June 9<sup>th</sup>.

There may also be one or more covenant group proposals brought to the meeting for approval.

Any additions or changes to the agenda should be communicated to Terry Ross, who will moderate June's business meeting.



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

CARING FOR  
 THE EARTH AND  
 EACH OTHER  
 BECAUSE OUR  
 LIVES DEPEND  
 ON IT.

*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 (816-941-7626) no later than the 22nd 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.

– *David, Editor*

JUNE 2007						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 2-3:30: VOG 3:30-4: SR 4 PM: SOS Ritual	28 <i>Memorial Day</i>	29 7 PM: Mythology Story Hour	30	31	1	2
3 2-3:30: VOG 3:30-4: SR 4 PM: Ritual: Boom, Boom, Boom! (drumming)	4	5	6 6:45 PM: Ritual Teams Meeting @ Debbie's	7	8	9 9:30-11:30 AM: Ritual for Business
10 2-3:30: VOG 3:30-4: SR 4 PM: Forum/Debate: Soapbox Sunday	11	12 7 PM: Tues. Night Class on Santeria	13	14 <i>Flag Day</i> Evening: Garage Sale Setup	15 8 AM – 6 PM: Garage Sale 7 PM: Games Night	16 8 AM – 6 PM: Garage Sale
17 <i>Father's Day</i> 2:00-3:00: KidSPACE Meeting 2-3:30: VOG 3:30-4: SR 4 PM: The Emperor (Summer Solstice)	18	19 <i>Juneteenth</i>	20	21 <i>Summer Solstice</i>	22 7 PM: Friday Night Supper Club @ One Bite, 8602 W. 133 <sup>rd</sup> St., Overland Park	23
24 2-3:30: VOG 3:30-4: SR 4 PM: Class on God Auction candidates	25	26 7 PM: Mythology Story Hour	27	28	29	30
<b>GOD AUCTION – JULY 8TH!</b>						