



EARTH HEALER



The Official Newsletter of Gaia Community,

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

Winter Bazaar 2007 is Coming!

Letters to vendors went out this past week with registration information for the Winter Bazaar, Gaia Community's annual craft show and fund raiser. If you are a returning vendor and have not received a registration form by now, please contact us *immediately* at bazaar@gaiacommunity.org or call 816-931-9900. Registration is also possible through our website at <http://gaiacommunity.org/vendors.shtml>.

This year's Bazaar will be at the **Boone Elementary School, located at 89th and Wornall in Kansas City, Missouri. The Bazaar's hours will be from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 15th, 2007.** Building access will start at 8:00 a.m. The space will be open for breakdown and cleanup until 8:00 p.m. Vendor's fees and setup options will be outlined in the registration packets.

- *Winter Bazaar Committee*

Thanksgiving Dinner?

Our community has traditionally opened its doors to those without a place to go over the Thanksgiving holiday; perhaps your family does not make you feel comfortable because of your religious or lifestyle choices, or perhaps they live too far away for you to travel to see them. Whatever the reason, it's a sign of hospitality that fits very well with Brigid's patronage for the community this year. But thus far, we lack a place to hold the communal/potluck meal.

If you're able to open your doors and can coordinate such an event, please let someone from Caring Committee or the Board of Trustees know, or bring your offer to the Ritual for Business on November 10th. This is *not* the sort of thing where you should expect the entire community to show up at your house; most years past have numbered between six and twelve people total.

- *Caring Committee*

W.B. Volunteers Needed!

Looking for a way to give back to Gaia Community this Solstice season? The Winter Bazaar, one of our community's largest fundraisers, is run by volunteers just like you! The Bazaar committee is seeking friendly and outgoing Gaians to staff the Welcome/Information, Kitchen Witch, raffle, and Gaia Community tables. Prefer hands-on service? We need your help too! Parking, set up, tear down, and vendor assistance crews all need volunteers ready to roll up their sleeves and pull on their gloves.

Youth volunteers and families wishing to volunteer together are welcome. Want more info? Please see the flyers on the Greeter's Table on Sundays or contact Via Baker at viator753@hailmail.net. Let's make this the best Winter Bazaar ever!

- *Via, Volunteer Coordinator*

Agenda for November's Ritual for Business

In addition to the usual items, the agenda for this month include the upcoming Winter Bazaar and filling vacant positions on our Board of Trustees.

Any additions or changes to the agenda should be communicated to the board in person, by e-mail at board@gaiacommunity.org, or calling 816-931-9900.

- *Terry, Ombudsman*

Sacred Crafting Group forming?

A potential covenant group for "making stuff" (any sort) as a spiritual pursuit will be meeting at Debbie's house on Saturday, November 3rd, from 1-5 pm. In addition to actually working on those projects you've had lying around, attendees will have the opportunity to discuss what a covenant group oriented around crafts and art would look like for the community.

For more information or for directions, contact Debbie at debbie.dozier@gmail.com or in person.

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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

Voices of Gaia (every week): Voices of Gaia, Gaia Community's choir, has started meeting again after a very long summer break. You'll find us in the Theater Room below Barn Chapel on Sundays at 2 pm. New members are always welcome. We prefer that you have some experience singing, particularly with choirs, can match pitch and can follow a musical score. Our current incarnation is as a women's choir, but if you're a tenor or bass and really want to sing with us, contact Kitty in person or at songbird@kc.rr.com and we'll figure something out.

Ritual Teams Meeting (11/5, 6:45 PM, E3's house): Part-time slots to help with Sunday rituals are now available to formerly active ritualists; if you are interested, please contact Debbie in person or at 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!

Ritual for Business (11/10, 9:30 AM, at SMUUCH): 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. Any questions or items for the agenda can be communicated to the board at board@gaiacommunity.org or in person.

Social Justice Committee Meeting: Andrew needs to reschedule this committee meeting, as Mondays are no longer good for him. If you have suggestions for when/where the group could meet, or if you're interested in helping out with the upcoming effort to provide gifts this winter holiday season to kids in the Jackson County C.A.S.A. program, find him or e-mail him at sj@gaiacommunity.org!

Games Night (11/16, 7 PM, at SMUUCH): 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 gotten some new board game players from the Kansas City area to join us through <http://meetup.com>, so come join the fun!

Satyr's Feast (11/17, 6:30 PM): Gaia Community's Men's Covenant Group will meet at Jeff Park's house this evening for a testosterone-filled evening of food, conversation, and fellowship. The theme is seasonal, about giving thanks. All those who see themselves as male and can agree to the group's covenant are welcome. Bring a fellow Satyr, share the gas, share the fun. For directions or more information you can call Jeff at home at 816-361-0465.

Religions of Kansas City Study Group (11/20, 7 PM, at SMUUCH): A new study group has formed to explore and learn about the variety of religions present in Kansas City. Several Gaians put together a proposal for a covenant group that could study and visit with other religious groups in the area, and it was approved at the October Ritual for Business. If this is a subject that interests you, please email Lizzy at president@gaiacommunity.org, find her in person, or just join them on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 PM!

Friday Night Supper Club (11/23?): The November Supper Club often gets pre-empted by the post-Thanksgiving glut of food and/or shopping; stay tuned to the weekly announcements to learn more of what's in store for this month. Also, Kris is looking for someone else to take over running Supper Club in the future, if you're interested.

Caring Connections Corner

Birthday blessings go out this month to David Reynolds on the 29th, and...there must be other people around with November birthdays, but we don't know who you are! Let Caring Committee know!

In addition, our energies and thoughts go to John Carroll as he recovers from surgery, Andrew & Nicole Turner as they look to sell their house, and Pat & Cynthia Mathis who are dealing with the effects of a layoff. And congratulations are in order for Scot & Carol Banes who have moved into a new house, and to Devin & Erin for getting engaged, with lovely pendants instead of rings!

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, leaving a message on the Gaia Community voicemail at 816-931-9900, or by contacting one of the Committee members in person: Cynthia Mathis, Terry Ross, or Debbie Dozier.

Board of Trustees 07-08

President — Lizzy Ticer
president@gaiacommunity.org
or 913-636-4924

Vice-President — Terry Ross
vicepresident@gaiacommunity.org
or 816-966-9186

Treasurer — Nola Cavanaugh
treasurer@gaiacommunity.org
or 816-966-9186

Secretary — Jennifer Gadd
secretary@gaiacommunity.org
or 913-299-4587

Members at Large —
Carey Oxler
gaia-kat@kc.rr.com
or 816-401-1963

Yale Giffin
niveustigris@hotmail.com
or 816-797-8032

Vacant

... or contact them all at
board@gaiacommunity.org!

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

Voices of Gaia meets at 2:00 PM, Sacred Rhythms at 3:30 PM

Sunday, November 4th

Ritual — TeenSPACE

Ritualists: Kitty, Carey, the TeenSPACE youth

Our Gaia Community teens will present a Hellenic flavored ritual as we release those things we no longer need and give to Persephone those things we'd like her to hold in the dark earth for us that they may blossom forth in the spring.

Sunday, November 11th

Ritual — Healing

Ritualists: Jeff, Linda, Kimberly, David

Huna is a Hawaiian philosophy which deals with the interconnectedness of all beings. Through our connections to all parts of ourselves and all other beings, we can move energy to heal and create wholeness. In this ritual, we will use Huna concepts to heal ourselves, each other, and the world.

Sunday, November 18th

Class — Our UU Identity

Facilitator: Rev. Thom Belote

Many of our congregation's members were pagan before they ever came to a Unitarian Universalist congregation, and so may not know some of the things that characterize the denomination. Shawnee Mission UU Church's minister, Reverend Thom Belote, has agreed to come and speak to our congregation on some of his experiences and knowledge of UUism.

A Look Ahead to Next Month...

- Dec. 2nd – Forum: Pagan Assumptions**
- Dec. 9th – Ritual: Sharing Our Spirits**
- Dec. 16th – Ritual: Baby Blessing**
- Dec. 23rd – SABBAT: Yule (w/potluck)**
- Dec. 30th – Ritual: New Year's Formal**

Sunday, November 25th

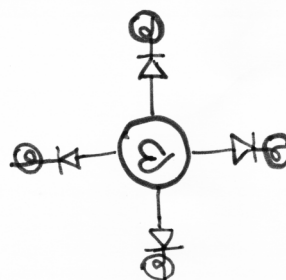
Ritual — Thanksgiving

Ritualists: Kitty, Jacki, Lizzy, Kimberly

Full Moon of Gratitude -- It's Gaia Community's first Esbat! Voices of Gaia will lead a ritual honoring the moon in all its phases - waning, new, waxing and full with appropriate activities for each phase.

- Ritual Teams

A note: Ritual Teams are always looking for input on rituals, classes, and workshops that you've attended and liked, attended and didn't like, heard about but missed, or would like to see us present at Gaia Community. If you have any feedback, let someone with a blue ribbon on their nametag know, or you can email us at rituals@gaiacommunity.org to provide written ideas or links.



Current Ritualists

Andrew Turner	Amanda Pence
Barbara	Carey Oxler
David Reynolds	Devin Scrogum
Eric Simpson	Jacki Kelley
Jeff Park	Kimberly
Kitty Degler	Linda Boyce
Lizzy Ticer	Via
Yale Giffin	

Please see Debbie Dozier, the Ritual Teams Coordinator, if you have are a former ritualist who would like to rejoin teams.



P.O. Box 45307
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 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 or by phone (816-941-7626) no later than the 24th 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*

NOVEMBER 2007						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 2-3:30: Voices of Gaia 3:30-4: Sacred Rhythm 4 PM: SABBAT: Druidic Samhain	29	30	31 <i>Samhain</i>	1 ☾	2 <i>Día de los Muertos</i>	3 1-5 PM: Crafting Group @ Debbie's
4 2-3:30: Voices of Gaia 3:30-4: Sacred Rhythm 4 PM: Ritual: TeenSPACE	5 6:45 PM: Ritual Teams Meeting	6	7	8	9 ●	10 9:30-11:30 AM: Ritual for Business
11 <i>Veterans Day</i> 2-3:30: Voices of Gaia 3:30-4: Sacred Rhythm 4 PM: Ritual: Healing	12	13	14	15 <i>America Recycles Day</i>	16 7 PM: Games Night	17 ☾ 6:30 PM: Satyr's Feast (by the Men's Covenant Group)
18 2-3:30: Voices of Gaia 3:30-4: Sacred Rhythm 4 PM: Class: Our UU Identity, w/ Rev. Thom Belote	19	20 <i>Transgender Day of Remembrance</i>	21	22 <i>Thanksgiving</i>	23 7 PM: Friday Night Supper Club @ TBD	24 ☉
25 2-3:30: Voices of Gaia 3:30-4: Sacred Rhythm 4 PM: Ritual: Thanksgiving	26	27	28	29	30	1 ☾