



# EARTH HEALER



The Official Newsletter of Gaia Community,

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

JUNE 2010

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## God Auction 2010!

It's almost time to choose our new Patron for 2010-2011! The God Auction is coming on July 11<sup>th</sup>, and we have four fabulous candidates who want your support: Will Artemis, the Greek huntress extraordinaire, bring us closer to the wild? Will Cai-Shen, the Daoist Treasurer of Heaven, bring us unrivaled prosperity? Will Grandmother Spider, the Navajo patroness of weaving and transformation, tie us closer together? Will Quetzalcoatl, the Mesoamerican winged serpent, bring us a new age of wonder? You will have a chance to help us decide.

Our God Auction is a fund-raiser for Gaia Community and a food-raiser for Harvesters Food Bank. Inspired by Egyptian practice, we will hear the words of the four powers and have an opportunity to support the one(s) we like best by donating food and money. The deity who collects the most support from the community, both members and non-members, will be our new patron and influence our direction over the next year.

To give your support, bring money and/or non-perishable food items on July 11<sup>th</sup>. Each dollar contributed counts as one point, and each individually labeled food item also counts as one point. The person making the greatest overall contribution in points will receive a lovely basket of gifts from Gaia Community. The most fervent supporters of the individual deities also walk away with thank-you gifts from their deity of choice.

The God Auction is usually our largest and most theatrical ritual all year long, and requires a fair amount of set-up. If you are available and want to help us get our space in shape for the God Auction (or repair it afterward), please contact Kit at [popefelix@gmail.com](mailto:popefelix@gmail.com) to volunteer your chair- and table-wrangling services. Questions about the Auction process or this year's deities can be sent to me, Kimberly, at [featherynscale@gmail.com](mailto:featherynscale@gmail.com).

Thank you, and we hope to see you on July 11<sup>th</sup>!

- *Kimberly, for Ritual Teams*

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.

## Budget Process Continues

According to our bylaws, we must approve an annual budget before the July 1<sup>st</sup> start of our fiscal year. In May at the Ritual for Business, Finance and Stewardship presented a preliminary budget with somewhat incomplete numbers. Those numbers have been updated this month (see pages 5 and 6). Final approval is expected to happen at the June 12<sup>th</sup> Ritual for Business, which starts at 9:30AM. Anyone may give input, though only Full Active Members may participate in the formal consensus process.

If you have suggestions or questions, please contact our Treasurer, John Boyce, in person or via his contact information on page 2.

- *Finance/Stewardship Committees*

## Welcoming Allies Group Will Continue to Meet

The 'Welcoming' Allies Discussion Group, which started in February and March, will meet again this month, this time at Jamie & Kit's house in midtown. We'll need a specific focus for this month, since last month's meeting didn't draw any attendance, so contact Jamie at [hlynna@gmail.com](mailto:hlynna@gmail.com) or in person if you have any ideas, or just need directions. For those who don't know, the WA group is an informal discussion group centering around GLBTQIAA concerns, questions, and activism.

- *Welcoming Allies*

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## Gaia About Town

*Voices of Gaia and Sacred Rhythms are on hiatus.*

- Ritual Teams Meeting** (6/2, 7:00 PM, at SMUUCH): All active ritualists must attend at least one meeting a quarter; please contact Jamie, the Ritual Teams Coordinator, at [rtc@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:rtc@gaiacommunity.org) or in person if you have questions or wish to provide feedback about how a Sunday service went. As always, any member of the congregation may help with any particular ritual, so if you have an interest, let any ritualist know (they have blue ribbons on their nametags)!
- Craft Circle** (6/5, 1-5 PM): Craft Circle will be held at David and Kimberly's house again this month, 1306 E. 118th St. in KCMO. Any project you have or craft you'd like to share with the group is welcome! This is an excellent time to work on God Auction projects!
- Social Justice Committee Meeting** (6/8, 7 PM, at Andrew's): We will meet this month at Andrew's apartment: 8334 W. 108th, Apt. E, Overland Park, KS. If you have questions about this committee, you can e-mail us at [sj@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:sj@gaiacommunity.org).
- Storytelling Group** (6/11, 7 PM, at Andrew's): The Storytelling Group will meet this month at Andrew's apartment (see address above, under Social Justice). For more information about the meeting, or if you're interested in what they'll be practicing and working on, get in touch with Andrew (in person or at [andrew@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:andrew@gaiacommunity.org)) or Amanda.
- Ritual for Business** (6/12, 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 formal consensus process or elections. 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 (see pages 5, 6, and 7) should be sent to a board member, as shown to the right.
- New Member Class** (6/13, 2 PM, at SMUUCH): The next iteration of the New Member Class will be this Sunday before ritual; this session will focus on the History of the UUA and Gaia Community. Prospective members must take all three parts of the class and sign a pledge card. If you have questions, please contact Jamie in person or at [membership@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:membership@gaiacommunity.org).
- Welcoming Allies Discussion** (6/15, 7 PM, at Jamie's): This will be an open discussion in a similar vein to the Trans/Genderqueer discussions of recent months. This month we will focus on what we would like to accomplish over the next few months. Jamie's place is at 3228 Campbell St., Kansas City, MO.
- Games Night** (6/18, 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 the Barn Chapel or downstairs in the Jefferson room, depending on weather and/or what games are available.
- KidSpace Coordinating Committee** (6/20, 2 PM, at SMUUCH): The KidSpace committee is for everyone; you do not have to be a parent to attend. Get in touch with Kelley (the new Committee Chair) or Linda (the KidSpace Coordinator) at [kidspace@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:kidspace@gaiacommunity.org) or in person to find out more about what is on the agenda.
- Friday Night Supper Club** (6/25, 7PM) will be at a location to be determined. Check the weekly announcements in June for more information. If you are attending and wish to RSVP, please contact Amanda at [supperclub@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:supperclub@gaiacommunity.org) or in person.

### Board of Trustees 09-10

**President** — Erin Scrogum  
[president@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:president@gaiacommunity.org)  
 or 913-904-2459

**Vice-President** — Amanda Pence  
[vicepresident@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:vicepresident@gaiacommunity.org)  
 or 816-694-2585

**Treasurer** — John Boyce  
[treasurer@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:treasurer@gaiacommunity.org)  
 or 816-419-9448

**Secretary** — Rosemary Harris  
[secretary@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:secretary@gaiacommunity.org)

#### Members at Large —

Cheryl Stice  
[phoenixrose0707@yahoo.com](mailto:phoenixrose0707@yahoo.com)  
 or 913-530-9976

Linda Boyce  
[lboyce@mindspring.com](mailto:lboyce@mindspring.com)  
 or 816-419-9447

Cynthia Cole  
[cynthia@cynthiaweb.net](mailto:cynthia@cynthiaweb.net)  
 or 913-433-8038

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

## Caring Connections Corner

Birthdays for this month include Jennifer Gadd on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, Dani on the 4<sup>th</sup>, Matt on the 7<sup>th</sup>, Erin Scrogum and James Ennis on the 9<sup>th</sup>, Amanda and Barbara on the 12<sup>th</sup>, Kelley on the 13<sup>th</sup>, Elizabeth on the 20<sup>th</sup>, Nicole on the 26<sup>th</sup>, and Tony on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Please let the Caring Committee know of any others that we're missing, and congratulations and blessings to all those folks for another trip around the sun.



The Caring Committee has a new chair; contact Leo if you're interested in what the committee will do next. If you have concerns or blessings you wish to share with the community, they can be sent to [caring@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:caring@gaiacommunity.org) and will be passed on.

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

*Voices of Gaia and Sacred Rhythms are on hiatus.*

### Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup>

#### Ritual — Threes!

*Ritualists: David, Jamie, Kitty, and the Excellence in Ritual students*

The Ancient Celts valued the number three highly. Much of their lore, laws, and traditions are grouped in threes or 'three threes'. Join as we use the significance of threes to help illuminate new and different ways of looking at things in your life. Expect to use your intellect, intuition, and creativity in an [ADF](#)-style ritual.

### Sunday, June 13<sup>th</sup>

#### Class — Healing Arts

*Facilitators: Aubry and Gerri Lynn*

Please join us for a class covering topics about shamanism, including shamanic sorcery, core vs. classic vs. tribal shamanism, and soul retrieval. We'll also discuss when a soul retrieval is appropriate. Feel free to bring a token for your totem animal, deity, and/or guardian spirit.

### Sunday, June 20<sup>th</sup>

#### Ritual — High Holiday: Summer Solstice

*Ritualists: Cheryl, Devin, and Eric*

Come celebrate the season of sunlight, a time to enjoy friends and family. Bring a cup, a drink, and a boast - and be prepared to prove that boast! We will be indoors for the entire ritual, and all ages are welcome. Most of our children will not be present however, as they will be on a field trip starting at 3:30 (see page 4).

As always with our high holidays, there will be a potluck meal following the ritual. Please bring a food, drink, or dessert item sufficient to feed 8 hungry people, and remember to label your ingredients! For the Earth's sake, we also ask that you not bring disposable dishes if at all possible.

### Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup>

#### Ritual — Let's Be UU's!

*Ritualists: Amanda, Erin, Kit, and the Excellence in Ritual Students*

Every Sunday, we introduce ourselves as a "Pagan, Unitarian Universalist congregation." We are a fair share congregation, paying our dues per member to the UUA. Everyone agrees to affirm and promote the UU Principles when they sign the book and become members of this community. At the Town Hall meeting in September 2009, the people in attendance decided that we definitely should remain UU. But do you feel UU? What does it mean to be UU? Let's explore being UUs this day!

### Currently Active Ritualists

Amanda Pence	Aubry Gabbard
Barbara	Cheryl Stice
David Reynolds	Devin S.
Eric Simpson	Erin Scrogum
Jamie Peters	Kit Peters
Kitty Degler	Linda Boyce

*Please see Jamie, the Ritual Teams Coordinator, if you are a former ritualist who would like to rejoin teams, or a newly trained ritualist looking to join for the first time.*

### A Look Ahead...

July 4<sup>th</sup> - Sharing Our Spirits: Independence Day

July 11<sup>th</sup> - God Auction

July 18<sup>th</sup> - Farewell to Thoth

*(New Member Sunday)*

July 25<sup>th</sup> - Excellence in Ritual Final Ritual

Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> - High Holiday: Lammass/Lughnassadh

## KidSpace Information

The KidSpace Committee met on May 16th and worked on scheduling and such for the coming months. Next meeting will be June 20<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm at SMUUCH. We will be discussing the scheduling during the Kansas City Renaissance Festival, as it impacts several of our teachers. All with an interest in Gaia's children's programming are invited to join us. Questions or concerns can be directed to Linda Boyce, Coordinator, at [llboyce@mindspring.com](mailto:llboyce@mindspring.com) (816-419-9447) or Kelley Montford, Committee Head, at [kelly\\_montford@hotmail.com](mailto:kelly_montford@hotmail.com) (913-568-5091).

The students took part in Beltane. They also enjoyed a trip to the new Egyptian gallery at the the Nelson. They did Thoth proud. They also did a Social Justice trip to South Lake. It was a busy month.

It was also busy for our teachers, too. The O.W.L.S. training took place in Des Moines. We now have 4 teachers trained to present the curriculum at the 7-9 grade levels and also the 10-12 grade levels. We are investigating the adult curriculum. KidSpace expects to be able to present the curriculum within the year.

We will miss the Rutledge family, both as teachers and student. We wish them well on their upcoming move. Welcome to our new members and teachers! We have exciting things coming up in June. Please mark your calendars!

Thanks as always to all of our teachers and to all those who volunteer their time and donations.

### **KidSpace schedule:**

- **June 6<sup>th</sup>: God Auction** – KidSpace will begin learning about our God Auction Nominees. This week we will learn about Grandmother Spider and Artemis. Nursery care will be provided.
- **June 13<sup>th</sup>: Fieldtrip to the Nelson-Atkins Gallery.** EARLY LEAVING.\* In order for our students to be able to see the new Native American gallery and return in time, we plan to leave at \*3:30PM.\* 3:30 pm. We are leaving early so our students can enjoy the newly reopened gallery. Permission forms must be signed before boarding the vans, please. Interested in going with the students? Please let Linda know for planning purposes. Nursery care to be provided.
- **June 20<sup>th</sup>: Summer Solstice – Social Justice**
- **June 27<sup>th</sup>: God Auction** – KidSpace will begin learning about our God Auction Nominees. This week we will learn about Cai-Shen and Quetzalcoatl. Nursery care will be provided.
- **July 4<sup>th</sup>: God Auction** – KidSpace will review information about all of the God Auction Nominees. Nursery care will be provided.
- **July 11<sup>th</sup>: God Auction!!** – Kelley Montford will be doing KidSpace/Nursery duty starting at 2:00pm. She welcomes any assistants/assistance.

### **Trees schedule:**

- **June 6<sup>th</sup>: God Auction** – Patron Gods. In preparation for the upcoming God Auction, trees class will cover two of the four finalists in the debate, to be announced.
- **June 13<sup>th</sup>: God Auction** – Patron Gods. In preparation for the upcoming God Auction, trees class will cover the other two of the four finalists in the debate, to be announced.
- **June 20<sup>th</sup>: Summer Solstice** – In all likelihood, Trees will be celebrating Solstice with the rest of Gaia. If the rite is non-intergenerational, then yoga will be studies further.
- **June 27<sup>th</sup>: Let's Be UUs** – As one of the purposes of Trees class is to prepare teens for possible membership in the Unitarian Church, the Trees class will be participating in this rite upstairs.
- **July 4<sup>th</sup>: Review** – Trees class will review the Folk considered as possible patrons by Gaia Community, and the God Auction as a whole. Time allowing, there will also be continuation of the yoga chapter.
- **July 11<sup>th</sup>: God Auction!!** – Something interesting will happen here, I am certain.

*- KidSpace Committee and Teachers*

## 2010 Budget Information

As mentioned last month, the budget is close to being finalized. Please review the information presented below if you have an interest in contributing to the budget approval process, and send comments to John, our Treasurer, in person or by email at [treasurer@gaiacommunity.org](mailto:treasurer@gaiacommunity.org). You can also join us at the Ritual for Business on June 12<sup>th</sup> to give final input and participate in consensus (if you are a Full Active Member).

Income Type	Proposed
<b>DONATIONS</b>	
Member Pledges	\$18,705.00
Friends of Gaia	\$220.00
Greening the Basket	\$1,000.00
Social Justice/Charitable Giving	\$200.00
<i>Total Donations</i>	\$20,125.00
<b>FUNDRAISERS</b>	
God Auction	\$2,500.00
Longest Night Ball	\$1,500.00
Longest Day Party	\$1,500.00
Garage Sale	\$1,000.00
Goods (T-shirts, Bumper Stickers, etc.)	\$10.00
<i>Total Fundraisers</i>	\$6,510.00
<b>FEES</b>	
Excellence in Ritual Class Fees	\$140.00
<i>Total Fees</i>	\$140.00
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>	
Kidspace Cookie Money	\$200.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$26,975.00</b>

Expense Type	Proposed Funding
<b>STAFF</b>	
KidSpace Teachers	\$4,160.00
KidSpace Coordinator	\$2,400.00
Non-Sunday childcare	\$100.00
<i>Total Staff</i>	\$6,660.00
<b>RELIGIOUS EDUCATION</b>	
Kidspace supplies	\$300.00
Kidspace misc.	\$200.00
Kidspace Discretionary Fund	\$200.00
<i>Total RE</i>	\$700.00
<b>DUES</b>	
UUA Annual Program Fund	\$2,128.00
Prairie Star District	\$893.00
<i>Total Dues</i>	\$3,021.00
<b>SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE</b>	
Charitable Giving	\$200.00
<i>Total Social Justice</i>	\$200.00

<b>COMMUNICATIONS</b>	
Newsletter-Printing/Postage	\$604.00
Website & Domain name	\$120.00
Telephone	\$250.00
Postage (non-newsletter)	\$50.00
Post Office Box	\$70.00
Copying/printing	\$200.00
<i>Total Communications</i>	\$1,294.00
<b>MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE</b>	
Attendance Sheets	\$15.00
Brochures	\$15.00
Membership Packets	\$20.00
Name Tag Supplies & Organization	\$20.00
New Member Gifts	\$50.00
Pledge Sunday Gifts	\$150.00
<i>Total Membership</i>	\$270.00
<b>SITE COMMITTEE</b>	
<i>Total Site</i>	\$0.00
<b>WELCOMING CONGREGATIONS</b>	
Membership in KCCWM	\$50.00
<i>Total Welcoming Congregations</i>	\$50.00
<b>RITUAL TEAMS</b>	
Ritual Supplies	\$750.00
Conferences	\$1,000.00
Storage Space	\$840.00
Sunday Speakers	\$500.00
<i>Total Ritual Teams</i>	\$3,090.00
<b>STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE</b>	
Fundraiser expenses	\$1,000.00
<i>Total Stewardship</i>	\$1,000.00
<b>FACILITIES</b>	
Ritual Space	\$9,000.00
New Home Fund	\$1,500.00
Insurance	\$410.00
<i>Total Facilities</i>	\$10,910.00
<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>	
Office supplies	\$50.00
Bank Fees	\$25.00
Incorporation Paperwork	\$75.00
Misc.	\$30.00
<i>Total Admin.</i>	\$180.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$27,375.00</b>

## Ritual for Business Minutes for May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010

*In attendance:* Rosemary, Jamie, Kit, Cheryl, Kelley, Devin, Erin, Amanda, Cynthia, Mike, Kimberly, David, John

*Started at 9:45 AM*

I. **Approval of Agenda** – Approved.

II. **Roles** – Devin on Non Sequitur, Amanda on Red Tape, Kelley (and Dryhten) on Vibes Watcher, Kit on Devil's Advocate

III. **Minutes** – Approved.

IV. **Treasurer's Report** – General @ 12, 271.82, KidSpace @ 1172.73, New Home @ 24,075.52

V. **Committee Reports:**

A. **KidSpace** – Met April 25; will send 4 members to Des Moines to be certified for the OWLS curriculum on 21-23 of May. New nursery person has started. Another field trip is May 16, to the Nelson to see the Egyptian exhibit. They will also go to South Lake Park for social justice on May 23. May 30 SOS will be intergenerational. Next meeting is May 16 at 2PM @ SMUUCH.

B. **Social Justice** – Have not met since before last RFB, so they meet this week. UUA is asking for donations for flood relief in KY.

C. **Communications** – EH has not gone out yet this month. It will go out, promise.

D. **Membership** – New Member class has new people. Next class is tomorrow. Greeter's Table is a nice table, and is going just fine. Hoping to get a new binder to rearrange nametags, and this summer there will be an effort to update member list.

1. **Library** – It's being used! Yay!

E. **Site** – Had a meeting, but was missing the person who knew what the meeting was about. Will have another meeting soon.

F. **Welcoming** – Allies group continues to meet. Via has been having trouble working out KC Coalition for Welcoming Ministries meetings with her work schedule. Other people are encouraged to try and go.

G. **Ritual Teams** – Working on 2010B schedule. Discussing about making a book of rituals. Total Penny Auction money is \$551.27. Top four are Grandmother Spider, Cai-Shen, Quetzalcoatl, and Artemis. Kimberly is short people for God Auction, and is looking for folks. It will be on July 11; childcare will be available from the beginning of setup time throughout the ritual. Kimberly PROMISES that God Auction will end no later than 6:15.

H. **Caring** – Still cares!

I. **Nominating Committee** – Nothing needs filling at this time. Except maybe doughnuts. Mmmm, doughnuts.

J. **Stewardship** – Kimberly brought a preliminary budget workup. It is not yet balanced, but it is very close to balanced, and we still have some potential pledgers floating loose. Questions about the budget should be directed to Kimberly.

VI. **Old Business:**

A. **Full Moon Covenant Group** – Gave their report, questions were asked, and a written report is going up on the website.

VII. **New Business:**

A. **Photos for GA** – UA is gathering photos of congregations doing fun stuff. We have plenty of such things, so we can submit.

– *Rosemary, Secretary*

*Agenda for the June 12<sup>th</sup> Ritual for Business:*

- Final approval of budget (see page )
- Regular business (committee reports, etc.)
- Proposal re: Gender Neutral Restrooms



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 (816-508-9086) no later than the  
 24th of each month.

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 if you prefer to receive the  
 newsletter by e-mail.

— *David, Editor*

JUNE 2010						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 4-6 PM: SOS: Memorial Day	31	1	2 7-9 PM: Ritual Teams Meeting @ SMUUCH	3	4 ☾	5 1-5PM: Craft Circle @ Kimberly's
6 4-6 PM: Ritual: Threes!	7	8 7-8 PM: Social Justice Committee Meeting @ Andrew's	9	10	11 7-9 PM: Storytelling Group @ Andrew's	12 ● 9:30-11:30 AM: Ritual for Business @ SMUUCH
13 2-3:30 PM: New Member Class @ SMUUCH 4-6 PM: Class: Healing Arts	14	15 7-9 PM: Welcoming Allies Group @ Jamie's house	16	17	18 ☾ 7-9 PM: Games Night @ SMUUCH	19
20 2-3 PM: KidSpace Meeting 3:30 PM: KidSpace Field Trip to the Nelson-Atkins 4-6 PM: High Holiday: Summer Solstice	21	22	23	24	25 7-9 PM: FNCS @ TBD	26 ○
27 4-6 PM: Ritual: Let's Be UU's!	28	29	30	1 7-9 PM: Ritual Teams Meeting @ SMUUCH	2	3 1-5PM: Craft Circle @ Kimberly's