



SAMHAIN 2023

October 27 - 29, 2023

IN PERSON at
Circle Sanctuary
Nature Preserve
near Barneveld, WI
*Coordinated by
Aviel & Raven*

**The Three Deaths:
Childhood, Body,
Memory**

Please join us for Samhain 2023 as we explore the Three Deaths we all face – ways to prolong or reverse the ones we can, and ways to honor the ones we cannot. Though we all grow up, we can keep or reclaim our youth by connecting to our inner child and helping the next generation to prosper. Our

bodies may die, but we can live on by providing nourishment to the earth and leaving a legacy for those we leave behind. While our ancestors are not here physically, they are with us in spirit, and by sharing their stories, we can keep their memories alive.



Many view these deaths as ends, but they are just the beginning of something new.

What is Remembered, Lives.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, October 27

Noon **Gate Opens for Arrivals**

Opening Welcome and Opening Ritual *with Rev. Minerva*

2 PM Join us as we set our intentions for the Samhain festival. We will be honoring the Third Harvest and the 3 deaths; Childhood, Body, and Memory. Bring your thoughts of these three and we will share during the rite.

Gateways to the Other World *with Rev. Selena Fox*

3 PM Communing with Ancestors, Beloved Dead, and Nature Spirits at Sacred Sites at Samhain time. Learn about some experiences and ways of working with OtherWorld portals, also known as "Thin Places," at Circle Sanctuary Nature Preserve. This workshop will be livestreamed to Circle's YouTube channel.

Samhain Nature Walk *with Dr. Dennis Carpenter*

4 PM Nature Mindfulness walk to some of the Ceremonial Sites at Circle Sanctuary Nature Preserve. Dress for weather conditions and wear comfortable shoes for walking Nature trails.

6 PM **Dinner** served behind the Farmhouse

Witches' Ball *with The Toolies*

9 PM Built from the wreckage of several other bands, [The Toolies](#) have created their own fiery brand of Irish pub music. Combining traditional tunes with powerful originals and a few favorite pub songs, Amy, Peter, and Kurt bring together influences from Dublin to Nashville, with a bit of Midwestern grit thrown in.

Saturday, October 28

8 AM **Continental Breakfast** served in the Summer Kitchen

- Newcomer's Meet & Greet** in the Big Tent *with Rev. Minerva*
 9 AM Join us if you are new to Circle land; if you haven't been here in a while; and if you have insights that you'd like to share. We will be discussing the land, the space, and the festival.
- 40th Anniversary of Circle Land** *with Robin Umber & Rev. Selena Fox* in the Temple Room
 9:30 AM Come enjoy a slideshow of wonderful memories, as we honor the 40th anniversary of Circle Land!
- Annual Meeting** in the Temple Room
 10 AM Participate in a review of Circle Sanctuary's activities over the past year, recognition of the contributions of volunteers and staff, and presentation of the Annual Report.
- Noon **Lunch** served behind the Farmhouse
- Witch Crafting - Connecting with your Inner Child - Yarn Poppets** *with Aviel*
 1:30 PM What did you want to be when you grew up? Who was your best friend? Your favorite subject in school? Think back on your youth and remember what it was like to be a kid as we create a physical representation of your inner child. Using the yard provided, we will make a poppet to help us connect to a part of ourselves we may have lost. Bring beads, charms, ribbon, and/or any other accessories you want to incorporate into your doll.
- The Ritual of Caring for Our Loved Ones Nearing Death** *with Death Midwife Rev. Sharon Stewart and others*
 3 PM Rituals help people mark, make sense of, and deal with big life changes like when a loved one is dying. Join Rev. Sharon and others as they demonstrate how to ritually honor the dying and care for their body. By using familiar words and actions, families and loved ones can find their way through unfamiliar situations.
- Raffle and Silent Auction Ends**
 4:30 PM Meet at the Raffle Tent for the always exciting awarding of prizes! You must be present (or send a proxy) to win!
- 6 PM **Dinner** served behind the Farmhouse
- Ancestor Altar Building and Honoring**
 7 PM Bring your ancestor photos, mementos, and flowers to help build the community Ancestor Altar in the Temple Room. All candles must be in a jar or bring a battery-operated candle.
- Main Ritual: Be Born, Live and Die** *with Rev. Sharon & others*
 8 PM This ritual will be your personal journey through The Three Deaths: Childhood, Body, Memory. It will offer a time to reflect and remember your ancestors and loved ones who have died, but it will also offer you the opportunity to look inside yourself and move forward with your life as we move into the Witch's New Year. This will be a moving ritual as some parts are inside, some are outside, some are in the heated tent, and some by the fire! And most of it is done in absolute silence...join us!

Spiral Labyrinth *with Kristol Mist*

The Spiral Labyrinth is an ancient universal symbol of transformation, and creates a sacred space where time slows and the potential for inner growth and spiritual development manifests. It is a powerful meditation tool, helping to quiet the mind, and allowing time for personal reflection. As your feet follow the path toward the center, you are drawn deeper into yourself, toward your own center. When you reach the center, you will find a cauldron with tokens inside, please take one. This token will aid you on your continued Journey. As you trace the path back out, emerge with clarity, gratitude, and connection to your inner self.

Sunday, October 29

8 AM **Continental breakfast** served in the Summer Kitchen

9:30 AM **Ordination of James Jufer** in the Temple Room
Join us for the public ordination of Rev. James Jufer.

10:30 AM **Cemetery Ritual** with Rev. Selena Fox
Join in this ritual at Circle's Green Cemetery as we honor our Beloved Dead.

Noon **Lunch** served behind the Farmhouse

Ancestors: They're Not Just for Samhain *with Tereesa*

1:30 PM How deep of a bond can you have with someone you only talk to for a few minutes one day a year? Just like all relationships, those with our ancestors require practice, patience, time, and commitment. Come learn about enforcing those bonds so we may keep their memories alive and receive their guidance all year. I'll discuss some examples of ancestor veneration throughout time and across cultures and give some ideas for you to take home to incorporate into your own relationship with your Beloved Dead.

2:30 PM **Carry the Ancestors Home Closing Ritual** *with Rev. Minerva*
We will celebrate the end of Harvest Season and set our intentions as we move into the Quiet Times. We will reflect on the magick of the festival and of the 3 Deaths.

4 PM **Clean-up and Departures**

ITEMS TO BRING

- An item or two to donate for the Raffle and/or Silent Auction
- Ritual garb as appropriate for the time of year
- Mementos, candles *in jars* or battery-operated candles for the Ancestor Altar
- Journal and writing implements
- Offering of small stones, crystals, rocks, flowers for the Stone Circle

- Your own refillable water bottle and coffee cup to use for drinks at meals and other times.
- Camping Gear: tent, sleeping bag, pillow, air mattress, flashlight, water jug, towel, biodegradable soap and shampoo, personal toiletries, sun gear, raingear, cold weather gear, insect and tick repellent. Please note that temperatures at Samhain can reach 70 in the day, and below freezing at night. Frost is likely.
- A lawn chair, mat, or blanket for outdoor seating. Many activities will be outside.
- Drum, rattle, or other rhythm instrument.

REGISTRATION

All registrations must be in advance, and before **10/26**. No registrations will be accepted at the gate.

ADULT registration fees: \$75 for Saturday only, \$100 for Saturday + Sunday, \$125 for the full event, \$20 for the Witches' Ball ONLY.

YOUTH (aged 5-17) registration fees: \$35 for Saturday only, \$45 for Saturday + Sunday, \$55 for the full event.

CHILDREN under 5 are free.

Register Now!

Cancellations received before 10/20 will be refunded minus 50% processing fee. Cancellations received on or after 10/20 will not be refunded. Please refer to [Circle's event cancellation policy](#) if you should need to cancel your event registration.

QUESTIONS?

For any questions, please [contact the Circle office](#).

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