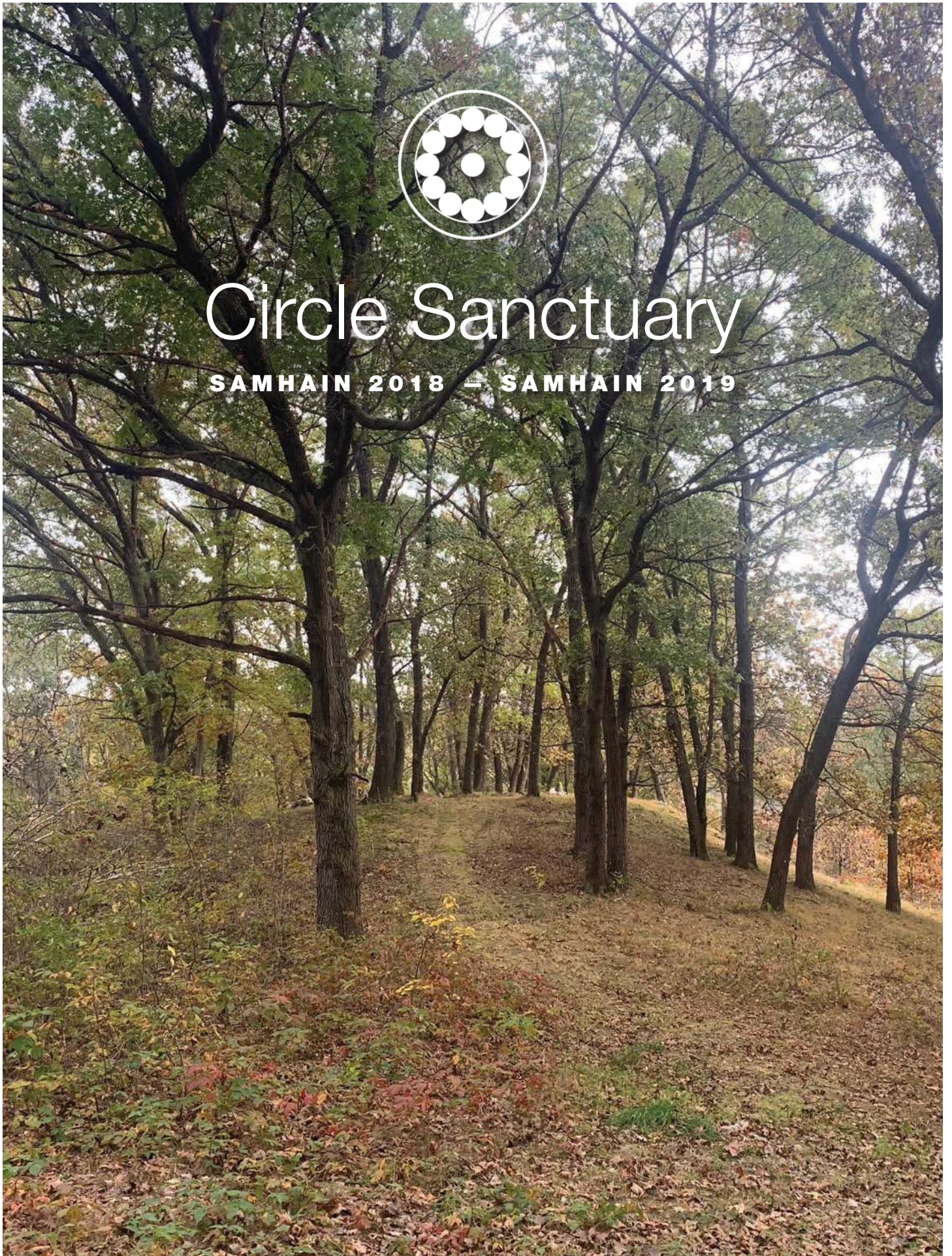




Circle Sanctuary

SAMHAIN 2018 – SAMHAIN 2019



Circle Reflections by Selena Fox

Samhain 2019 marks the 45th Birthday of Circle, now also known as Circle Sanctuary. This Samhain is not only a time to look back on the past year as the new Spiritual year arrives, but it also is an opportunity to reflect on Circle and its work over the years since it began.

In our first decade, we changed locations from a rented townhouse in South Madison, Wisconsin where Circle was born (1974) to a rented farmstead near Sun Prairie (1975) to a large rented house near Ashton (1979) to a small rented house near Black Earth (1980) plus rented office in Mount Horeb (1982) and finally to our present home, Circle Sanctuary Nature Preserve near Barneveld (since 1983).



Selena photographed by Dennis Carpenter.

Over the years, we have grown in the types and scope of services we provide. In the 1970s, we began our work with spiritual networking, publishing, public media relations, audio and video broadcasting, creating and sharing music and rituals, and sponsoring classes and celebrations. In 1978, we incorporated as a non-profit religious organization and in 1980 received federal tax-exempt status, becoming one of the first Nature Spirituality, Wiccan and Pagan communities to do so.

In the 1980s, we expanded the scope of our events work with the creation of a weeklong, community-focused national Summer Solstice celebration, Pagan Spirit Gathering, to serve our growing Circle Network and the larger Pagan movement. We also expanded our networking through development of several publications, including the quarterly *Circle Network News* in newspaper format and the source book directory, *Circle Guide to Pagan Resources*. We deepened our work with sacred land, evolved Sabbat festival traditions, and developed leadership training.

Our Wiccan/Pagan religious freedom work intensified locally, nationally, and globally. And, we developed military, campus, prison, hospice, and healthcare ministries, and began being part of international interfaith conferences and projects.

In the 1990s, we expanded our international work for peace, social justice, and planetary eco-sustainability with participation in the multicultural indigenous Peace and Dignity Journeys and interreligious Parliament of the World's Religions. We became the first Nature Spirituality church to do diversity contract consulting work with the US Department of Justice and the first to apply for Ecclesiastical Endorsing Organization

status with the US Department of Defense. We helped defeat federal legislation which would have taken away the rights of Wiccan soldiers to practice their religion at US military installations.

The 1990s were also the decade in which we paid off our land debt, began our cemetery as one of the first Green cemeteries in North America, changed our quarterly from newspaper to magazine format, expanded our networking ministries in cyberspace with the creation of our first website, and helped develop the emerging academic field of Pagan Studies with the founding of the Pagan Academic Network (now known as Pagan Academic Circle), and the Nature Religions Scholars Network which has become the Contemporary Pagan Studies Unit of the American Academy of Religion.

In the 2000s, we developed the Circle Sanctuary website as an educational resource and evolved the speed and scope of our networking services through

Circle Reflections by Selena Fox continued

email and social media. We expanded our leadership training services with the creation of the Pagan Leadership Institute at the Pagan Spirit Gathering. We successfully completed the decade-long quest to get the US Department of Veterans Affairs to add the Pentacle to its list of emblems of belief that can be included on the grave markers it issues to honor deceased veterans. Some of the first pentacle-inscribed VA issued veteran gravestones are part of Veterans Ridge at our cemetery.

In the 2010s, we have continued to grow and develop as a Nature Spirituality church. We developed a membership program, changed our quarterly to a membership newsletter, and began publishing Annual Reports digitally as well as in print. We did strategic planning, developed an eco-management plan, and expanded ecological restoration endeavors. We enlarged our church cemetery to 20 acres, began doing full body green burials, became part of the national Wreaths Across America program, and expanded greening the end of life education and networking locally, nationally, and globally.

Also, during this decade, we expanded our chaplaincy training, endorsement, and networking services and in 2018 became the first Nature Spirituality church to be approved as a recognized faith group endorser by the Association of Professional Chaplains. Throughout this decade, we have developed our social media networking ministries through Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

We began teaching and facilitating audio ceremonies on internet radio in 2011 and in 2019 launched our podcasting network, Circle Sanctuary Network Podcast (CSNP).

When the name Circle, its logo of twelve circles around a circle encircled, and the idea of creating community with spiritual Nature people came to me at Samhain 1974, I had just turned 25 years old. There were only a few of us in community as Circle began.

As Circle turns 45 years old, although our staff and board continue to remain small,

our community has grown to over 250 members and we now are providing services for thousands of Wiccan, Druid, Pagan, Heathen, Animist, and other Nature Spirituality practitioners across the USA and in many other countries around the world.

What is the future for Circle? Samhain is a powerful time for reflecting on this as well as our past. May we join together in this visioning and find effective ways to collaborate with each other to support Circle as it continues the many facets of its work as a church, sacred place, and community. So Mote it Be.

Blessings,

Selena Fox

Senior Minister & Executive Director, Circle Sanctuary
Samhaintide 2019



Rev. Selena Fox & Professor Elizabeth Wiley of the Circle Sanctuary Community guided a multicultural EcoRite in the Sunken Garden at the College of William & Mary in March 2019.

Circle Sanctuary Year in Review

Circle Sanctuary Office & Membership

Circle Sanctuary's office is at Circle Sanctuary Nature Preserve. Emily Brammerson is our Office Administrator. She now works most Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, plus Sanctuary Days. Our office work is also now being done by some longtime volunteers, including Betty Pound, Brianne Ravenwolf, Robin

Umber, Rev. Joey Bunbury, and others. Some of our office work is done at our monthly Sanctuary Days. In June 2019, we replaced our copier, which also serves as a full color printing press for this *Annual Report*, *Circle Sanctuary News*, brochures, and other publications. As part of her office duties, Emily also is our Membership Coordinator. Circle Sanctuary currently has 254 members.



Volunteers at Circle's work weekend, October 2019.

Circle Sanctuary Volunteers

Over 150 volunteers from near and far have contributed to Circle Sanctuary's work this year. Circle volunteers help with projects on Circle Land, staff events, work on publications and online education, do ministry work on military bases, on campuses, and in prisons, and so much more. Circle hosted its first Volunteer Appreciation Weekend in August 2019 and several dozen volunteers attended the appreciation dinner and award ceremony.

Circle Publications

Circle Sanctuary produces brochures, reports, newsletters, e-bulletins, calendars, program guides, and other publications. In 2019, Emily Brammerson took on the editorship of our quarterly membership newsletter, *Circle Sanctuary News* as well as our monthly bulletin, *Circle Times*. Judith Seizys, student

in Circle Sanctuary's Ministers Training Program (MTP), is our graphic designer and works on most of publications, including our yearly *Circle Sanctuary Calendar*, and festival programs. Rev. Sharon (Moonfeather) Stewart and Rev. Naomi (Messina) Duggan put together the text for the annual *Pagan Spirit Gathering Program Guide*. Photographers for our various publications include Rev. Bob

Paxton, Rev. Casey Pope, Dr. Dennis Carpenter, Rev. Selena Fox, and others.

Circle Resource Shop

Circle Sanctuary operates its Resource Shop at events and online as a service making

available spiritual books, recordings, ritual items, and other things and as a way of helping to fund our church and the many facets of our work. We have received donations of books, sacred stones, jewelry, statuary, and other items over the past year from several community members. We are thankful for donations as well as for those who support our work by patronizing our shop.

Circle Sanctuary Website

The Circle Sanctuary website contains information about the many aspects of Circle Sanctuary and its services. Rev. Bob Paxton, who created the website, keeps it current. Other community members assist with some of the content for the site, including Rev. David Ewing and Marshall (Raven) Lyons. Rev. Paxton just completed the 15th year of running the circlesanctuary.org website and Circle's mail services, with an unbroken record of effective security. This website continues to be an excellent resource not only for the Circle Sanctuary Community but for people of many paths and places the world over.

Circle Sanctuary Year in Review continued

Social Media

In addition to the Circle Sanctuary website, we have a strong social media presence. We use these media outlets to promote Circle events, to provide information, and to comment and answer questions. This year, Rev. Casey Pope led the effort in posting and tracking Circle events, posts, and comments. She oversaw getting information on to social media in a cogent and consistent manner. Some of our ministers and ministers in training

(MTP) students also help moderate our Facebook pages and groups. MTP student James Jufer is now working with the Pagan Military Association Facebook group. Rev. Bob Paxton continues to moderate the Circle Sanctuary Community and Pagan Spirit Gathering Facebook groups. Rev. Tiffany Andes manages the Circle Sanctuary DFGLs Facebook groups. Rev. Selena Fox and Dr. Dennis Carpenter have been active in creating and posting photos and videos of some workshops and rituals as part of Circle Sanctuary's social media work

Circle Sanctuary Network Podcasts

In March 2019, Circle Sanctuary expanded its spiritual education offerings through the launch of its own internet radio podcasting network, Circle Sanctuary Network Podcasts (CSNP). CSNP includes six podcasts each hosted by Circle Sanctuary Ministers and Ministers in Training. These include Circle Talk with Rev. Debra Rose, Divining Dreams

with Rev. Selena Fox, Moon Magic with Rev. Jeanet and David Ewing, Paganos del Mundo (Pagans of the World) with Laura González and others, Nature Mystic encore podcasts with Selena Fox, and Lunatic Mondays/Lunes Lunaticos with Laura González.

Thank you to these hosts and all other contributors to CSNP.

Circle Sanctuary Nature Preserve

Circle Sanctuary is headquartered on the 200-acre Circle Sanctuary Nature Preserve in the Driftless bioregion of Southwestern Wisconsin, USA. This place is graced with

amazing land, wetlands, rock outcroppings, springs, beautiful vistas, and abundant wildlife. Circle land boasts many sacred spaces such as the Stone Circle, Spirit Rock, Festival Circle, Brigid's Spring, Sacred Fire Circle area, Spiral Labyrinth, Bonfire Circle, Mugwort Circle and Maypole. There are also several shrines and meditation spaces, plus our cemetery at Circle land. Care of our sacred land takes many people and much time. Our land benefits from efforts done at the Sanctuary Days and Weekends.

Circle Sanctuary hosts our annual Earth Day celebration every year and our 2019 Earth Day was coordinated by Rev. Jake Bradley. They offered many environmental education opportunities and developed a Nature Quest activity that offers a multitude of ways for community members to engage with the land.

Over the years, Dr. Dennis Carpenter and Rev. Bob Paxton have been actively involved in groundskeeping including mowing trails and guiding



A view of the prairie from Circle Cemetery in Autumn 2019.

Circle Sanctuary Year in Review continued

projects. They have been assisted by Community volunteers including Brad Allen, Mary Bobiak, Reed Cockrell, Beckie and Robbi Hoppenrath, Meredith Beckman, Robin UMBER, and many others. Driveway improvements over the past year have included new culvert installations to improve drainage and road graveling and grading.

Circle Cemetery

Circle Sanctuary's church cemetery, Circle Cemetery, is a national Pagan cemetery and, established in 1995, is one of the first Green cemeteries in North America. Our cemetery includes a forested ridgetop for cremains burial and memorial markers, wooded burying ground for full body burials, restored prairie for cremains scattering, and the Stone Circle for ceremonies and meditations.

Over the past year, our ministers, ministers in training, and community members have assisted in a variety of funerals, burials, and memorials at the cemetery as well as supported the families and friends of the deceased whose remains are at our cemetery. Our ministers and community also shared information about greening the end of life and the work of Circle

Cemetery through personal conversations, education opportunities, and social media.

In the past year, there have been burials for several longtime Circle Sanctuary Community members,

including Kathryn Ann Fernquist Hinds of Georgia, Teri Gurnell of Vermont, and Edain McCoy of Indiana. Burials of ashes for Circle Sanctuary Minister Nora Cedarwind Young of Washington State and longtime Circle Sanctuary member Robin Beket Arnhold of Wisconsin will take place at Samhain 2019.

Festivals & Other Events at Circle Sanctuary Nature Preserve

Circle Sanctuary events continue to be well

attended bringing Pagans together from the local area in southwestern Wisconsin, as well as from surrounding states and other parts of the country and sometimes internationally. Our event coordinators this year were: Revs. Georgette & Bob Paxton for Samhain 2018; Jennifer Butterfield for Yule 2018; Rev. Shel Skau for Imbolc 2019; Rev. Ana Blechschmidt for Welcome Spring 2019; Rev. Jake Bradley for Earth Day 2019; Revs. Georgette & Bob for Beltane 2019; Paul Herrick for Welcome Summer 2019; Amanda Bahnson, Rev. Jake Bradley, & Rev. Minerva Duggan



Memorial for Katheryn Hinds at Circle Cemetery, Samhain 2018.



Wreaths across America on Circle Cemetery Veteran gravestones, Yule 2018.

Circle Sanctuary Year in Review continued

for Green Spirit 2019; and Grace Kilpatrick for Welcome Fall 2019. Family programming, led by Rev. Florence Edwards Miller and others, continues to gain in popularity, and we are seeing a growing number of youth attending festivals with their parents. Sacred Fire Circle was held during Labor Day weekend. Each month, there are Full Moon Circles facilitated by Rev. Selena Fox and others and Sanctuary Days coordinated by Emily Brammerson.

Pagan Spirit Gathering

Pagan Spirit Gathering (PSG) 2019 relocated this year to Hannon's Camp America (HCA) in Western Ohio. HCA is a small family-owned campground and a limited number of cabins were available for rent, plus there was a dining hall from which participants could purchase

a meal plan. Hannon's Camp America welcomed PSG warmly, and despite the very wet weather and soggy grounds, spirits were high. Our PSG Community overcame these challenges and had a wonderful week spent learning, laughing, drumming, dancing, singing, and joining in ritual together. Featured authors were Kristopher Hughes from Wales, Lady Tamara Von Forslun from Australia, Jason Mankey from California, Selena Fox from Wisconsin, and Oberon Zell from California. This

year's musicians were Arthur Hinds and the Round Table, Mama Gina, Louis Garou, Spiral Rhythm, and Thundersirens.

Rev. Sharon (Moonfeather) Stewart once again served as the PSG coordinator. Revs. Bob Paxton and Naomi (Messina) Duggan assisted her in planning as well as on site. Many community members volunteered their time in various capacities – serving on set-up and take down, on layout, and coordinating various centers and activities. Some of the PSG 2019 ritualists were Revs. Selena Fox, Casey Pope, Georgette Paxton, Jake Bradley, Eric Eldritch, and MTP student Tina Horton.



Pagan Spirit Gathering 2019 featured authors and other presenters.



Pagan Spirit Gathering 2019 Solstice Morning Ritual.

Rituals

This past year has been rich in ritual and ceremony for

the Circle Sanctuary Community. We celebrated each Sabbat with a main ritual, and we honored changes in our community with ceremonies. We've had some losses with the deaths of community members, and we've gained new members through births and newcomers to Circle and we have held a variety of life passages ceremonies. We welcomed Gavin Brammerson and Rowan Zopp during their baby blessings. We've had several weddings in various locations. Rev. Selena Fox assisted by Chip Brown

Circle Sanctuary Year in Review continued

conducted a multicultural Pagan & Native American handfasting at Pagan Spirit Gathering 2019. Rev. Christina (Bella Mahri) Dare of Ohio performed a legal handfasting that included a transgender participant. The Circle Community also had various rites of passage at Pagan Spirit Gathering 2019, which also included a Women's Ritual, Men's Ritual and All-Gender Ritual.

Liturgical Creations

Teachings, articles, prayers, songs, and chants are integral parts of our practice and celebrations. This

past year, Rev. Selena Fox wrote and guided many new chants for Circle celebrations, and shared some of them via social media. Rev. Naomi (Messina) Duggan sang a song, that she wrote, during a festival gathering. Liturgical work also included creation of sacred spaces.

Rev. Christina (Bella Mahri) Dare created several outdoor spaces for meditation and contemplation. Rev. Georgette Paxton created liturgical prayers and chants for the various rituals that she performed. By creating sacred space for ritual, many were able to honor deities and enjoy Sabbat celebrations. Rev. Wayne (River) Higginbotham, with Sean-Thomas Gunnell (MTP student) and community member Lisa (Jasmine) Bruce, created and performed a musical celebration of chanting with the UU Church of Bloomington Normal. Rev. Florence Edwards-Miller adapted standard Pagan liturgy to suit the attention and interests of families with small children; for example, incorporating the elements

into a greeting song where each child's name was sung. Rev. Jake Bradley wrote and performed Land Acknowledgments and reflections in Circle rituals and gatherings.

Pagan Spiritual Teaching

In 2018-2019, members of the Circle community taught in a variety of ways. These included teaching Pagan ritual, history, and practices within our events and teaching understanding of Paganism outside of Circle Sanctuary. Teaching within our community aids us all in common practice, and in learning and

growing in our faith. Teaching outside of Circle helps non-Pagans to understand Paganism and, hopefully, helps us move toward more acceptance.

Every Circle festival included classes taught by attendees. Rev. Selena Fox taught focused workshops at our Seasonal Festivals at Circle Sanctuary

land. This year, Rev. Dianne (Minerva) Duggan taught classes about The Goddess Hecate and Threshold Magick. Laura González, MTP student, offered teaching on "Divination and Psychic Abilities." Circle Sanctuary's Pagan Leadership Institute (PLI) offers classes each year at the Pagan Spirit Gathering (PSG). This year, examples of PLI offerings are classes in leadership, communications, group dynamics, and ritual creation. Selena presented a new intensive on EcoRites.

Rev. Debra (Debra Rose) Gilbert taught classes at the local Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) in Kentucky about meditation,



Circle Flower Full Moon Altar, May 2019.

Circle Sanctuary Year in Review continued

daily spiritual practice, energy work, the Elements, and candle magick. Rev. Jake Bradley offered a workshop entitled “How to Make Your Congregation or Community Safe and Welcoming for LGBTQQIA-GNC People” at the 2018 Parliament of the World’s Religions (PWR).

Still others taught informally such as when Rev. Sharon

(Moonfeather) Stewart took the opportunity to educate people on Pagan religion in a personal situation she had with a local Catholic Hospital and Hospice.

Minister Training and Development

Circle Sanctuary offers a three-phase Minister

Training Program (MTP). Ministers, MTP students, and community members furnished training and development opportunities through the MTP. Training includes class sessions by Zoom video conferencing, supervised practicum work, face-to-face teaching at Circle Sanctuary festivals and the Pagan Spirit Gathering, and social media group work.

MTP students were mentored by Circle Ministers in various stages of their training. Revs. Casey Pope, Tiffany (Denora) Andes, Sharon Stewart, Selena Fox and others served as mentors to students during the year. Ministers, MTP students, and community members taught students about Circle and Pagan history, Pastoral Care, Pagan Leadership, and other subjects.

In September 2019, Rev. Michelle Boshears, who served as MTP Director for the past seven years,

stepped back from daily management duties but is continuing to serve as a member of our Ministers Credentialing Committee (MCC). Rev. Jerrie Hildebrand, who is part of MCC, has begun taking on Michelle’s work with admissions, and Rev. River Higginbotham and Rev. Eric Eldritch are taking on program administration and teaching session facilitation.



Circle Earth Day ritual at the Stone Circle, 2019.

In Summer 2019, our Ministers Training Program also expanded to include Chaplaincy Branches for training and endorsing professional Hospital Chaplains and Military Chaplains.

On Summer Solstice Day, June 21, 2019 during Pagan

Spirit Gathering, five new ministers were ordained in Circle Sanctuary: Revs. Dianne (Minerva) Duggan, Eric Eldritch, Florence Edwards-Miller, Jake Bradley, and Naomi (Messina) Duggan. There currently are 34 Circle Sanctuary Ministers in twelve states.

Pagan Studies & Professional Education

MTP student, Juliana Russell of Indiana has deepened her work in the emerging academic field of Pagan Studies and is being mentored by Rev. Eric Eldritch. She is evolving the Pagan Academic Circle, an on-line group and resource of the Pagan Academic Network founded by Rev. Selena Fox and Dr. Dennis Carpenter more than twenty five years ago and which meets yearly at Pagan Spirit Gathering. Juliana wrote and facilitated a “Pagans: Who We Are and Who We Aren’t” class.

Circle Sanctuary Year in Review continued

James Jufer, a new MTP student in Chaplaincy, is presently enrolled at the Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School. James performed Pagan rituals and conducted independent Pagan studies as a part of his curriculum. Another MTP student, Steve Rogers, conducted discussion groups to further his Pagan studies, and is completing his academic degree work later this year.

Alison Cline taught at her Special Programs in Religious Education weekly meetings and educated folks about how she serves and balances her faith. Another MTP student, Judith Seizys, completed “Thriving Congregations Facilitator Training” in 2019.

Campus Ministries

Circle Sanctuary continues to do Campus Ministry work in various university settings as well as at its headquarters. Rev. Shel Skau helped the Northern Illinois University (NIU) Student Pagan Group, which Circle Sanctuary sponsors. MTP student Alison Cline has served as the Religious Affairs liaison for the U. S. Air Force Academy.

Juliana Russell, MTP student, is engaged in Campus Ministries. She is serving as the president of her local Spiritual Pagan Student Alliance for the 2019-2020 academic year and has taught for that group. She continues to foster the growth of the group through attending various functions at Purdue University Fort Wayne, promoting the group to not only students but also faculty.

In March, 2019, Rev. Selena Fox was the featured scholar in the COLL 300 program at the College of William and Mary (W&M). Her visit to campus was also sponsored by W&M’s 100 Years of Women

program and she did a video interview for the university archives in connection with that program held in connection with the centennial of women being admitted to W&M. Selena was guest teacher in government, environmental studies, storytelling, psychology, wellness, theater, and religious studies classes as well as did a campus-wide presentation in a campus auditorium filled to capacity. Selena also has interfaced with students working on projects who visited Circle Sanctuary Nature Preserve.

Military Ministries

Circle Sanctuary has eight ministers, plus several members of the Ministry Training Program (MTP) who are actively working in military ministries. Rev. Tiffany Andes coordinates Circle Sanctuary’s Military Circles and DRGL Program. Circle Sanctuary sponsors

three dozen Pagan/Earth-centered/Nature Spirituality groups at US military installations in the USA, overseas, and on ships.

For several years, Rev. Paul (Chiron) Larson, Judith Seizys (MTP student) and John Markey have been facilitating monthly rituals at the Naval Station Great Lakes (NAVSTA GTLK) in Chicago. In Summer 2019, Chiron retired and his service was honored in a ceremony by Judith and John who are continuing the work.

Another MTP student, Alison Cline, has done some military ministry work through her Religious Affairs job for the U.S. Air Force and assisting Tiffany with DRGL (Distinctive Religious Group Leader) training and support. Rev. Dave Sassman works with veterans through his local (Indiana) Veterans Affairs (VA) facility.



Some of the Circle Sanctuary’s delegates at the 2018 Parliament of the World’s Religions, Toronto, Canada.

Circle Sanctuary Year in Review continued

Rev. Debby (Tristan) Morris also works with veterans and serves on our Military Ministers Team. James Jufer, a MTP student, has begun his military ministry training with Revs. Selena and Tiffany. Selena is the DRGL endorser for leaders of groups we sponsor at US military installations in the USA, overseas, and on ships. Other ministers assisting with military ministries include Rev. Michelle Boshears, Rev. David Ewing, and Rev. Jeanet Ewing.

Prison Ministries

Prison ministries are another important aspect of Circle Sanctuary's far-reaching work. Grace Kilpatrick, MTP student, has been conducting monthly services at two Wisconsin prisons. She helps incarcerated Pagans celebrate the major festivals, moon cycles, various deities, intentions and pathworking.

Rev. Harry Dorman of Michigan continues his prison ministry work with the Federal Correctional Institution at Milan,

Michigan. Rev. Debra Rose created a Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans (CUUPS) newsletter for incarcerated UU members. Rev. Dave Sassman continues to teach beginning Wicca classes in three Indiana Department of Corrections institutions as well as managing a prisoners' postal mail ministry.

We express appreciation to Circle Sanctuary ministers who have served in prison ministries for many years who have recently retired: Rev. Paul (Chiron) Larson of Chicago who taught classes and facilitated ceremonies at Racine Correctional Institution in Wisconsin and Rev. Jerrie Hildebrand

of Massachusetts who facilitated Wheel of the Year holiday celebrations at the Massachusetts Correctional Institution in Framingham.

Rev. Selena Fox and Rev. Minerva Duggan continue their advising work on religious accommodation on the Religious Practices Advisory Committee to the Wisconsin Department of Corrections. Selena also continues her consulting work with the U. S. Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Prisons.

Spiritual Counseling

Spiritual counseling is an important aspect of Circle Sanctuary's ministry. Many ministers, MTP students and community members have provided spiritual guidance, presence, comfort and other forms of spiritual care.

In the past year, Rev. Selena Fox has expanded her part-time spiritual counseling, psychotherapy, and consultation practice to include sessions by Zoom video conferencing.

She works with

clients across the USA and in other countries.

Rev. Harry (PathWalker) Dorman has begun his Life Challenges Counseling practice in Traverse City, Michigan. Rev. Mari Powers also provides spiritual counseling as a professional service, supporting Pagans and those of other faiths.

Rev. Paul (Chiron) Larson, Paul (Truly) Herrick, and Tonya Winingar are among those providing spiritual care and support to the PSG community through Psyche's Grotto. Rev. Jake Bradley assisted some within the Circle community working through



Circle Sanctuary Ministers and Ministers in training, attending Samhain 2018.

Circle Sanctuary Year in Review continued

stressful life events and circumstances, and with their struggles to be at peace with their identity and relationships and to feel seen. Andrea (Dree Amandi) Pike, a Circle MTP student, has provided support to members in her area working through complications and conflicts surrounding a conference and its participants.

Hospital Chaplaincy & Healthcare Ministries

Circle Sanctuary ministers and community members are often called to give spiritual support to Pagan friends, families, and community members who are hospitalized, home-bound, or otherwise restricted due to physical and mental health issues.

Rev. Tim (Cern) Staker is employed as a professional hospital chaplain. He offered emotional and spiritual support, in the hospital setting, to patients and their families. James Jufer, MTP student, is in Clinical Pastoral Education and is presently doing a 12-hour per week chaplaincy internship. Andrew Bear, also an MTP student, is a full-time chaplain in a medical center where he is part of the Inpatient Palliative Care Team, and he serves the hospital as critical care chaplain.

Rev. Jake Bradley supported incarcerated Pagans who were experiencing physical or mental health crises. They worked to enhance interfaith competence and promote awareness of Paganism among a wide array of ministers, chaplains, and human services professionals in the health care settings.

Healthcare ministries also extend to group homes, recovery facilities, and other facilities. Rev. Debra Rose ministered through pastoral care and hospital visitations at local hospitals and nursing homes.

Rev. Vic (Mama Vic) Wright is a visiting chaplain at facilities in Kentucky, Oklahoma, and Tennessee. Revs. Dave Sassman of Indiana and Debby (Tristan) Morris of Maryland are both on call with their Veterans Administration hospitals. Rev. Selena Fox's work over the past year also included healthcare

ministries in home, hospice, and hospital settings.

End-Of-Life Support Ministries

Many of our ministers, ministers in training students, and community members are involved in end-of-life ministries. Circle Sanctuary has several Death Midwives and death midwifery students among its members.

Rev. Sharon Stewart is a Certified Death Midwife with extensive training and experience in the

field. In addition to her direct work with the dying and their families, Sharon offers Death Midwife training to those who are called to the work and to those who wanted more information. Among those who are trained or have such experience are Rev. Georgette Paxton, Rev. Dianne (Minerva) Duggan, and Rev. Debby Morris.

Preparation for death, bereavement counseling and on-going family support are important parts of this end-of-life work. This year, Rev. Sharon Stewart spent many months helping the family after a long-time community member died without leaving any final wishes. Some ministers and community members provided a lot of support for several hospices. Char Bear, a professional hospice chaplain in California, has begun working with Circle Sanctuary's ministers training program.

Rev. Karen (Ladyhawke) Yerby of Missouri has served in end-of-life support for a dying Pagan by conducted



Circle Maypole, October 2019.

Circle Sanctuary Year in Review continued

the crossing over rite and a memorial. Rev. Ana Blechschmidt celebrated funeral rites for an interfaith family and the burial service for a community member's companion animal. Rev. Jerrie Hildebrand was instrumental in coaching and celebrating three end-of-life celebrations.

Rev. Selena Fox has provided end of life planning and support for long time Circle Sanctuary community members and others in need.

She did a crossing over ceremony at Agrace Hospice in Madison, Wisconsin in September 2019 and conducted the funeral at the American Legion in Stoughton, Wisconsin. In October 2019, Selena also assisted a Madison-area family with counseling and ceremonies following a sudden death. In addition, Selena continues her work as director of Circle Cemetery.

Pagan Pride Days

Circle Sanctuary ministers, MTP students, and community members participated in many Pagan Pride events across the country. These events are an opportunity to meet other Pagans, to share our points of view, and to celebrate our faiths.

Circle Sanctuary had large representation at Madison Pagan Pride Day (PPD) and the Greater Chicagoland PPD. We also had great participation at the Central Illinois PPD. Rev. Selena Fox presented the keynote and led the main ritual at the Rhode Island PPD. Some of our community, such as Revs.

Bo Nelson, Tiffany Andes, and MTP student, Sean-Thomas Gunnell also presented workshops at Pagan Pride events. MTP student, Juliana Russell was a coordinator for the Fort Wayne PPD. Laura González, MTP student, was a presenter at the Fort Wayne PPD. Rev. Michelle Boshears took part in the PPD in Jacksonville, Florida. In addition, Circle Sanctuary had representation at Pagan Pride Days in Denver, Colorado; Grand Rapids, Michigan, St

Louis, Missouri; Indianapolis, Indiana; Frederick, Maryland; and elsewhere.

Interfaith Ministries

The past year has been filled with a variety of interfaith endeavors. We have sponsored interfaith ceremonies, including Transgender Day of Remembrance

at the Circle Sanctuary Temple on November 20, Wreaths Across America ceremony in December at Circle Cemetery, Longest Night celebration at the Gates of Heaven building in Madison, Wisconsin in December 2018, and our annual Earth Day Ceremony in the Stone Circle of Circle Sanctuary Nature Preserve in April 2019. We have hosted visitors from a variety of religious and spiritual backgrounds, including a Building Bridges Sunday School Class of sixth graders from First Unitarian Society in Madison, Wisconsin.

In November 2018, the Parliament of the World's Religions (PWR) convened in Toronto, Canada. This event is every four or five years at various locations around the world. It brings representatives of many faiths and nationalities together to discuss common concerns and to learn from each other. Revs. Selena



Samhain bonfire shown through the entrance gateway, 2018.

Circle Sanctuary Year in Review continued

Fox, Dennis Carpenter, Jerrie Hildebrand, Wayne (River) Higginbotham, Naomi (Messina) Duggan, Jake Bradley, and Eric Eldritch attended. These ministers were joined by Sandy Foo, Genise White (MTP student), Nate Metrick, and Lisa Bruce. In addition to attending, Revs. Carpenter and Fox offered workshops and speeches as part of the program. Rev. Hildebrand was among the PWR Ambassadors.

In January 2019, Rev. Selena Fox and Rev. Tim (Cern) Staker represented Circle Sanctuary at Council On Ministry In Specialized Settings (COMISS), founded in

1979. It is a national organization of chaplaincy, pastoral care, and pastoral counseling stakeholders which meets yearly at its national convention in the Washington, DC area. Selena also attended the national meeting of Association of Religious Endorsing Bodies held just prior to the COMISS conference, and also has been part of the interfaith Coalition of the Religiously Engaged (CORE).

Selena and some other Circle Sanctuary ministers have taken part in interfaith webinars over the past year, including those sponsored by the Chaplaincy Innovation Lab of Brandeis University, by the Parliament of the World's Religions, and by Green Faith. In April, Selena spoke on a Women in Interfaith panel that was the culmination of the Intersections Youth Interfaith Conference at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

Circle Sanctuary ministers, ministers in training, and other members have taken part in a variety of other events. Rev. Selena Fox spoke at Pantheacon in

San Jose, California, Genise White, MTP student, took part in Mystic South in Atlanta, and Rev. Debby (Tristan) Morris took part in the Sacred Space Gathering in Maryland.

Rev. Florence Edwards-Miller and Rev. Selena Fox represented Circle Sanctuary and Paganism

as speakers at Interfaith Gatherings that began Global Climate Strike events in Madison, Wisconsin on September 20, 2019. Florence spoke of Pagan beliefs and led a chant at the Bethel Lutheran Church. At First United Methodist Church a few blocks away,

Selena spoke, presented prayers, and guided her Bring Human Change to Climate Change chant that she wrote for the occasion.

Char Bear and Andrew Bear, representing Circle Sanctuary, took part in a series of Global Climate Strike week activities in California.

Rev. Casey Pope took part in a Sufi Leader retreat where she interacted with people of many faith traditions and shared information about Circle Sanctuary. Rev. Jake Bradley talked about Paganism with those of other faith traditions, including Jewish, Islam, and Zoroastrian, in the Chicagoland region. Some of our community did interfaith work as part of their employment. Rand McGee (MTP student) worked for a Lutheran Church in his area and interacted with members of that church daily. Charlotte Bear worked with the Silicon Valley Interreligious Council (SIVIC).

Rev. Harry (Pathwalker) Dorman and Anji Wieserman



Selena on the panel of Women in Interfaith, University of Wisconsin, April 2019.

Circle Sanctuary Year in Review continued

(MTP student) are involved with the Area Council on Religious Diversity (ACORD) in Michigan. Andrew Bear (MTP student) organized and led the annual Homeless Person's Interfaith Memorial Service, on the Winter Solstice 2018, in San Jose, California. This event, which focused attention to the homelessness crisis, included Wiccan, Buddhist, Jain, Hindu, Sikh, Jewish, and Christian clergy attending.

In October 2019, Rev. Selena Fox was invited and joined a new interfaith endeavor, the Multi-Faith Coalition of Southwestern Wisconsin. This interfaith clergy council includes leaders of Christian, Jewish, Bahai, Buddhist, and other communities.

Lady Liberty League

Lady Liberty League (LLL) of Circle Sanctuary offers support for religious freedom and civil rights issues of Pagans and other Nature Spirituality practitioners. Though not a legal aid organization, LLL provides assistance through networking, education, counseling, and referral.

Just prior to Samhain 2018, Lady Liberty League (LLL) Executive Director Rev. Selena Fox provided networking, counseling, and other consultation support to Archdruid Angela Wilson of the Wayist Druidic Order. Wilson and her group sought to hold a public Samhain ritual in a public park in Athens, Tennessee. A variety of churches and religious

groups have rented and used that space in the past. Athens city staff rented the pavilion to the Wayist Druidic Order for the ritual. Shortly after plans for the public Samhain rite were announced, however, Wilson and her group faced threats of

violence, including some coming from a group called "McMinn County Christians." The McMinn County Christians along with several local churches organized a "spiritual battle" protest on the courthouse steps of Athens at the time of the Druid rite.

Rev. Fox held a series of phone meetings with Wilson discussing approaches for protection, media interference, and other dynamics. Representing LLL, Rev. Fox met with staff at the Athens City Manager's office to ensure there would be adequate security measures in place for the ritual. Extra barriers were erected as well as additional law enforcement officers provided. In addition, Rev. Fox engaged the Religious Freedom Center of the Freedom Forum Institute, headquartered near the US Capitol in Washington, DC, to provide consultation help for Wilson.

On the day of the ritual, Rev. Fox facilitated a Circle Sanctuary Samhain ritual of community support for Wilson and the Wayist Druids. The Wayist Druid Samhain ritual was held in the pavilion, with more than 250 people of diverse



Lady Liberty gets Her name and imagery from Libertas, ancient Pagan Roman Goddess of Freedom.



Lady Liberty Altar.

Circle Sanctuary Year in Review continued

religious backgrounds in attendance. A few dozen protestors were present, but were kept at a safe distance and did not disrupt the ceremony. We have continued to see positive effects from this work. Wilson reported that our support in her quest for a peaceful public Samhain ritual last year resulted in a theology student who attended the ritual sharing about the experience in front of a group of ministers from across the nation.

Also prior to the November 2018 elections, LLL stepped in to educate Green Bay, Wisconsin mayoral candidate and Brown County Supervisor Patrick Evans about Wicca when he made public disparaging remarks about the Wiccan religion. Evans had sought to introduce an ordinance requiring Christian prayer, and specifically excluding Wiccan prayer, before County Supervisor meetings. LLL Assistant Director Rev. Minerva Duggan contacted both Evans and local news source WBAY, Channel 2, ABC television network affiliate, explaining the difference between Wicca and Satanism as well as speaking about the US Constitutional issues regarding Separation of Church and State. Evans issued an apology, removed his proposal for Christian prayer, and a revised story was issued by WBAY.

Interfaith outreach, networking, and education continue to be important aspects of LLL's work. In March, 2019, LLL Executive Director Rev. Selena Fox spoke about Pagan religious rights and the work of LLL as part of her campus-wide presentation at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia. Her talk was well attended and well received. Additionally, Rev. Fox and Rev. Duggan continue their work with the Religious Practices Advisory

Committee which assists the Wisconsin Secretary of the Department of Corrections and staff with religious accommodation support and diversity education. LLL's work was well represented at Pagan Pride Festivals throughout the U.S. this year. Circle Sanctuary members and ministers shared information about LLL in Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Colorado, Rhode Island, and other places.

From October 2018 – October 2019, LLL managed 67 new cases. Of these, 31 cases dealt with inmate or prison-related issues, 10 dealt with direct threats or harassment, 10 were related to government issues, 8 were informational, 3 dealt with employment issues, 2 dealt with custody or divorce proceedings, 1 with school-related issues, and the remainder were uncategorized.



Lady Liberty League Administrative Team and Advisors at the 2019 Annual LLL Meeting at Pagan Spirit Gathering.

Lady Liberty League's Annual Meeting was held at Pagan Spirit Gathering 2019. Rev. Fox invoked Libertas, the Goddess of Liberty, then discussed the history of LLL and shared Liberty imagery with attendees. Rev. Pope shared statistics and trends in cases

over the past year. Rev. Duggan shared information about key cases from 2018-2019. The meeting concluded with a question and answer session.

LLL's 35th birthday will happen at Samhain 2020 and we are already making plans for this historic event! Please plan to join us at Circle Sanctuary Nature Preserve for a celebration of 35 years of Pagan rights activism. For more information about LLL and our work, see us on the web at www.ladylibertyleague.org, follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/LadyLibertyLeague/notifications/> and Twitter @ladylibertyleag. Email can be directed to:

LLL@circlesanctuary.org

Circle Facilities & Operations Committee

What's all the talk about inspections, a new committee, fundraising, more inspections, facility upgrades, and these signs? What is going on? Well, please let us explain!

For quite some time now, Circle has been the target of anonymous individual(s) filing complaints about Circle to many local, county, state, and federal agencies.

Because of the amount of complaints received, the Health Department was required in October of 2018 to make a visit/inspection and in so doing, determined that the complaints were unfounded.

However, more complaints continued to be filed which again prompted more visits during Summer 2019 by a warden from the Wisconsin Department of Nature Resource (DNR), local fire department, OSHA of US Department of Labor, and again the Wisconsin Health Department. The result of these visits was that complaints again were mostly unfounded — our porta-potties weren't overflowing and we didn't dump shingles in the wetland. We were advised to add some handrails in places and to replace our paper exits signs with lighted ones. But the big items that came out of these inspections were that our septic needed to be replaced with a larger and more up to date system, and the direction to remove the bats that had been living in the unremodeled part of our barn. We also learned that because we have over 3 overnight camping "units" at a festival and serve more than 3 meals per year at our festivals, we needed to become a licensed temporary restaurant and a licensed campground.

The result of all these complaints, visits, and inspections has led to some changes we are making



Sharon with the new Circle Sanctuary kitchen sink which is specifically for hand washing.

even though currently it is unclear how some of these laws may or may not relate to us since we are a legal church. We believe it's important for Circle to follow through with the recommendations of these agencies so we can stop complaints harassment.

Realizing the incredible scope of these projects, Selena and Dennis reached out to Rev.

Sharon Stewart to head a committee of people to tackle these projects. The committee of Sharon, Board Member Bob Paxton, and Circle Members Brad Allen, John Markey, and Evelyn Henn was formed in early August, 2019. This committee has been meeting regularly and have been feet to the floor moving forward on these projects.

These projects, some completed and some a work in progress, are:

- Circle has now become a licensed campground in the State of Wisconsin.
- Circle now has a temporary restaurant license.
- Bat removal and massive clean-up in the barn has been completed.
- Local fire inspection completed.
- In the works is a new septic system per a plan drawn up by the septic engineer hired by Circle. The plan has been approved by the State of Wisconsin and is out for bids for installation next year.
- Road repair and upgrade to the start of the prairie was completed at the October work weekend.
- Bid has been received for the installation yet this Fall of a new furnace and air conditioner that was donated by a member.
- Research is happening for flush toilets and showers to be installed on Circle land.

Circle Facilities & Operations Committee continued

As you can imagine, none of this has come without significant cost to an already stressed budget. Therefore, we are in the process of forming a committee and formulating a plan for a major fundraising campaign to begin soon. As you can see, we have been busy in the last few months with a major amount of work done in a short time!

So, how does this impact you and how does it impact Circle? How much money do we need to raise? Well, come to our Annual meeting at our Samhain Festival and listen to the Committee's report and feel free to reach out to any of the Committee members for more information, concerns and suggestions!



Dennis guiding a new culvert into place.



New culverts were installed and the road leveled with added gravel.



Circle is now a licensed campground in the State of Wisconsin.



Circle Sanctuary Celebrates 45 Years!



*45th
Anniversary*

Circle Sanctuary
1974 - 2019

This Samhain Circle Sanctuary celebrates 45 years of serving the Pagan Community! Our staff and volunteers do so much for our local Pagan community and beyond on a very limited budget, and we need your continued support to make all this possible. As we near our first half-century, show your commitment to the work we do in networking, community celebrations, spiritual healing and education by becoming an official card-carrying Member of Circle Sanctuary. There are so many benefits to becoming a Circle Member, beyond getting to say that you helped make Circle possible, Membership entitles you to a quarterly newsletter available in print and through email, a yearly member patch and card, and discounts on events and in-person purchases. To sign up for membership go online to circlesanctuary.org/membership, visit the Circle Sanctuary Resource Shop during one of our events, or contact Emily at 608-924-2216.



Circle Community Connections 2019-2020

Festivals & Gatherings

2019

Samhain: October 25-27
Yule: Saturday, December 21

2020

Imbolc: Saturday, February 1
Welcome Spring:
Saturday, March 21
Earth Day: Saturday, April 18
Beltane: Weekend of May 1-3
Welcome Summer:
Saturday, June 6
PSG: Week of June 14-21
Green Spirit: Weekend of
July 31-August 2
Welcome Fall:
Saturday, September 19
Samhain: Weekend of
October 30-November 1
Yule: Saturday, December 19

Full Moon Circle Evenings

2019

Tuesday, November 12
Wednesday, December 11

2020

Friday, January 10
Saturday, February 8
Monday, March 9
Monday, April 6
Thursday, May 7
Thursday, June 4
Friday, July 3
Monday, August 3
Tuesday, September 1
Thursday, October 1
Saturday, October 31
Monday, November 30
Tuesday, December 29

Sanctuary Days

2019

Saturday, November 9
Saturday, December 21

2020

Saturday, January 11
Saturday, February 8
Saturday, March 14
Saturday - Sunday, April 11-12
Saturday, May 9
Saturday, June 6
(with Welcome Summer)
Saturday, July 11
Saturday, August 8
Saturday, September 12
Saturday - Sunday,
October 10-11
Saturday, November 14
Saturday, December 12

Other Events

We also have a variety of classes and workshops and other special events throughout the year. And we do rituals, discussions, and workshops via podcasts on our CSNP internet radio network.

More details are in our monthly Circle Times e-bulletin and online at the Circle Sanctuary website: www.circlesanctuary.org

Periodicals

Circle Times – monthly e-bulletin with news & events updates.

Circle Sanctuary News – in print & digital quarterly newsletter for members.

Circle Sanctuary Calendar

– yearly in print wall calendar available each October.

Pagan Spirit Gathering Program

Guide – yearly in print guide available in June to PSG participants.

Circle Sanctuary Annual Report

– yearly in print & online summary of our work, released at our Annual Meeting on the Saturday of our Samhain Festival.

Social Media

Facebook Pages

Circle Sanctuary Community
Lady Liberty League
Circle Healing Circle
Circle Cemetery
Pagan Military association
CSNPodcasts
Selena Fox Updates

Facebook Groups

Circle Sanctuary Community
Pagan Spirit Gathering
Circle Sanctuary Volunteers
Sacred Fire Circles Order of
the Pentacle
Young Professionals Network
Pagan Academic Circle

Twitter

@CircleSanctuary
@Pagan_Spirit
@LadyLibertyLeag
@Selena_Fox

Instagram

Circle Sanctuary
Pagan Spirit Gathering
Selena Fox

Our Circle Sanctuary Members 2018-2019

Leadership Circle

Dennis Carpenter
 Lisa Chavez-Markey
 Selena Fox
 John Markey
 Richard Wachenheim

Benefactor

Brad Allen
 Rhianna Allen
 Blake Allen
 Amanda Bahnson
 Meredith Beckman
 Jim Blechschmidt
 Ana Blechschmidt
 Mary Bobiak
 Michelle Boshears
 Steven Boshears
 Jake Bradley
 Chip Brown
 Messina Duggan
 Minerva Duggan
 Eric Eldritch
 Katrina Galle
 Beckie Hoppenrath
 Robbi Hoppenrath
 Suzanne Krall
 Laurie Larson
 Paul McHardy
 Nancy McHardy
 Nate Metrick
 Debby Morris
 Heather Ockler
 Robert Paxton
 Georgette Paxton
 Judith Quittner Seizys
 David Sassman
 Gail Sassman
 Cern Green Staker
 Anaan Sapphira Staker
 Sharon Stewart
 Dan Stewart
 Jesse Wilson
 The Herrick Family

Sustainer

Lee Allen
 Krista Beck
 Kathleen A. Dale
 Linda Daly
 Tereesa Daul
 Terrill Dent
 Harry & Sheri Dorman
 Stephanie Edwards
 Guy Frost
 Debra Rose Gilbert
 Jerrie Hildebrand
 Betty Pound
 Amy Randall
 Carol Rivermoon
 Patrick Slavens
 David Steingass
 Bruce White
 Anji Wieserman
 Derek Wieserman
 Ron Zorn

Supporter

Robert & Xochitl Barnes
 Eric Bolden
 Michelle Cassella
 Beverly Evans
 David Ewing
 Jeanet Ewing
 Kyri Fitzsimmons
 Julie Foxhoven
 Jan Gerstner
 Rachel Gordon
 Kenneth Goze
 Trish Heywood
 Lance Hoagland
 Kim Huffaker
 Grace Kilpatrick
 Bryan Lankford
 Kirk Leach
 Rebecca Lingenfelter
 Eric Lingenfelter
 Mac Aodha McGee
 David Mueller
 Jonathan Norcross
 Moonowl Pellegrino
 John Peterson
 Mari Powers
 Kim Price
 Bree Ravenwolf
 Natasha Ruiz

Jewels Russell
 Dana Russell-Lankford
 Lucy Sanel
 Rebecca Shawley
 Daniel Shawley
 Christopher Shawley
 Cassandra Shawley
 Adalia Shchurovsky
 Steven Swanson
 Meg Versteeg
 Bill Wheaton
 Brynmor Wixom
 Daniel Wixom
 Journey Wixom
 Julie Wixom
 Kheon Wixom
 Michael Wixom
 Piper Wixom
 Karen Yerby
 AuRoRa Light

Member

Beket Arnhold
 John Beasley
 Tia Bivens
 Amber Bloedow
 Cait Bodenbender
 Sherry Bohlen
 Alan Bowser
 Emily Brammerson
 Annette Breaux
 Joey Bunbury
 Jeffrey Burklow
 Martha Capo
 Angel Casanova-Torres
 Nora Cedarwind Young
 Sandra Costa
 Kim Covell Campbell
 Bella Dare
 Sky Cat Dare
 Carol Demaio
 Elspeth Depledge-Braleay
 Stephen Dillard-Carroll
 Francis Doucet
 Florence Edwards-Miller
 Shelli H. English
 Jennifer Enright-Ford
 Tanya Evans
 Pepper Fahr
 Royal Freeman
 Ginna Galliher

Laura González
 Niki Grattan
 Anne Grau
 Howard Greene
 Sean-Thomas Gunnell
 Valeriana Hahn
 Paula Hamelik
 Laura Harding
 Rich Harrington
 Puck Harris
 John Harrison
 Lucy Hartlove
 Pat Hippert
 Adrienne Hirt
 Gregory Hoose
 Pandora Horton
 Michael Houle
 Jeremy Jaehnke
 Anne Jameson
 Tamara Jarosch
 Donna Johnston
 James Jones
 Kathy Keehn
 Diana Kenney
 Meren King
 Arrhiannon Kirkpatrick
 Cathy Koch
 Jane Kurtz
 Ron Lahti
 Catherine Lander
 David Linton
 Sylvia Linton
 Jim Lord
 Lorraine Luebben
 Amy Lutzke
 Marshall Lyons
 Zenobia Martin
 Shannon Mayfield
 Randy Merrick
 Judith Michels
 Oriana Miller
 Susan Missett-King
 Ellyenne Moran
 Bo Nelson
 Wendy Nichols
 Bonnie Nolden
 Michael O'Leary
 Sandra Peters
 Casey Pope
 Ceora Powers Hull
 River Ramamurthy

Viniko Richmond
 Jeff Rodman
 Deborah Root-White
 Deb Runyon
 Jana Russell
 Alison Saichek
 Molly Sawyer
 Nicholas Sea
 Peter Silverman
 Michael B. Smith
 Paul Stackpole
 Krystina Stark
 Kate Stocks
 Regina Stovall
 Patricia Sudbeck
 P.A. Tanner
 Amie Tolomeo
 Winter Tredinnick
 Kristol Mist Unterseher
 Cindy Urick
 Ant Walach
 Dale Weaver
 Leigh Weidner
 Reenie Wesner
 Lady Amber Dawn White
 Starsib Woolard
 McKenzie Zeiss
 Mandie Zopp
 Bran th' Blessed

DRGL

Morning Star Helms
 Chris Renfroe

Student

Ali Cline
 Daryl Daniels
 Daniella Echeverria
 Michael Faircloth
 Stevie McCullough
 John O'Neill
 Spark Rohret
 Corinne Tumpson

Circle Sanctuary, Inc. 2018 Financial Summary

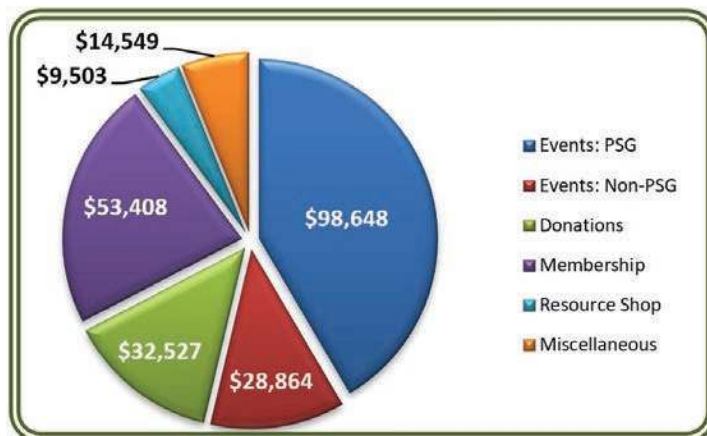
INCOME

Most of Circle Sanctuary's revenue in 2018 came from **Event Registrations** (54%), from **Donations** (14%), and from **Membership Dues** (23%).

In its first three years, the Membership program grew to provide over **\$53,000** to support Circle's ongoing work. As hoped, the Membership program has become a very important part of Circle Sanctuary's financial stability.

Income from PSG 2018 was flat compared to PSG 2017, and was down **51%** compared to the peak year at Stonehouse (PSG 2014). The net gain to Circle by putting on PSG 2018 was **\$23,813** which is roughly **20%** of the gain from PSG 2014.

In 2018, Circle Sanctuary brought in a total of **\$237,499** which is an increase of **15%** over 2017. While event revenue was flat, donations and memberships increased significantly.

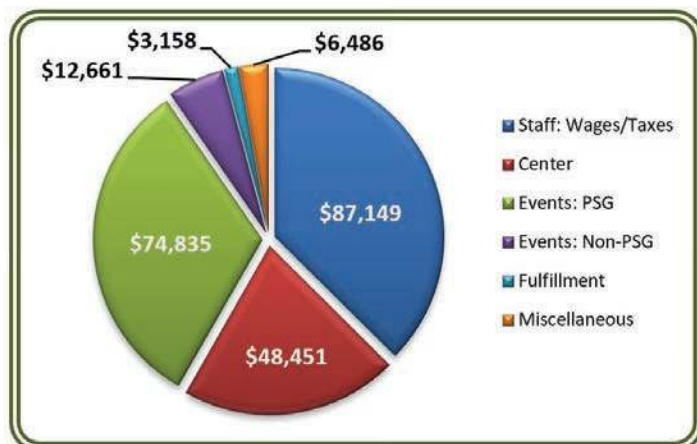


EXPENSES

In 2018, Circle spent a total of **\$232,739**, which is an increase of **1.6%** over 2017 -- leaving a surplus of **\$4,759**. Note that after the deficit years of 2015 and 2017, Circle ended 2018 with very small cash reserves.

Most of Circle's expenses went into three areas:

- **Center** (21%): Day-to-day operation of Circle Sanctuary's office and facilities. Center costs increased by 9% over 2017, led by higher propane costs and expenses for road maintenance.
- **Events** (38%): expenses of running festivals and other events organized by Circle Sanctuary, including PSG. Event costs increased by 6% compared to 2017, but remained lower than the five prior years.
- **Staff** (37%): Wages, taxes and benefits for the staff members employed in 2018. This declined by **4.4%** from 2017, as Circle further reduced paid staff hours.



NOTEWORTHY FIGURES

- **Pagan Spirit Gathering** (PSG) remains Circle Sanctuary's largest single source of revenue, providing **41%** of all money taken in. However, PSG income continues to decline, and the profit margin is down to 24% - less than half of what we saw in the years prior to 2015. The cost of putting on PSG doesn't really scale down with fewer attendees.
- The real bright spot in Circle's finances is the continued growth in **Unrestricted Donations** and **Membership Dues**: these increased by 42% over last year, and now provide nearly triple the income of PSG.
- If one considers only Staff and Center expenses, Circle requires **\$371/day** to finance operations at current levels. By contrast, **Unrestricted Donations** and **Membership Dues** came in at a rate of **\$209/day**. By way of contrast, in 2009 Circle received **\$46/day** in Unrestricted Donations. While Circle still depends on events like this one and PSG to help fund what we do year-round, we are trending the right way.

Circle Sanctuary

Circle Sanctuary is a nonprofit international Nature Spirituality resource center and legally recognized Nature Spirituality church. Founded in 1974, Circle helps people from many spiritual orientations connect with each other as well as with the spiritual dimensions of Nature.

Our Mission

Circle Sanctuary is a church rooted in Sacred Land, serving people of Pagan and other Nature-centered spiritual paths. We honor the Divine through nature preservation and fostering community through celebrations, ceremonies, education, outreach and other ministries.

Our Vision

As a result of our sacred work, our vision is of a sustainable organization with strong connects to our local, national and international community, living in a world where our religious traditions and spiritual diversity are respected and honored, and walking in harmony with each other and the greater Circle of Nature of which we all are part.



Circle Sanctuary 2018-2019 Annual Report

Circle Sanctuary: circle@circlesanctuary.org | circle@circlesanctuary.org

Executive Director & Senior Minister: Rev. Selena Fox

Board of Directors: Rev. Selena Fox, Dr. Dennis Carpenter, Rev. S. L. Edwards, Rev. Bob Paxton

Festivals Manager, PSG Manager & Facilities Upgrade Committee Coordinator: Rev. Sharon Stewart

Office Administrator, Newsletter Editor & Membership Coordinator: Emily Brammerson

Annual Report Editors: Rev. Minerva Duggan & Rev. Selena Fox

Annual Report Writers: Circle Reflections by Rev. Selena Fox,

Year in Review by Rev. Minerva Duggan & others, Lady Liberty League Report by Rev. Casey Pope,

Circle Sanctuary Facilities & Operations Committee Report by Rev. Sharon Stewart,

Circle Sanctuary Financial Summary for 2018 by Rev. Bob Paxton

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