

## FIRE RELEASING CEREMONY

What is it?

At the time of the full moon, we can utilize the extra influx of energy to clear our personal space, release limitations & outworn concepts, free ourselves from burdens, make plans & personal commitments, and give thanks for our progress & growth. We can do this by offering our statements, tokens or physical items to the purifying energy of fire. These offerings to the fire take place in 3 stages or “circles” around the fire. In the first circle around the fire, each person is invited, in turn clockwise, to rid themselves of things or ideas that they wish to release out of their lives. We return them to their essential atomic form with the energy of the fire, releasing them forever to the Universe. The second circle around the fire is to offer our plans and commitments to the energy of the flames to take those ideas and lift them to the higher planes for assistance on our journey. The third round is for us to give thanks for the great gifts we have been given. It is strongly suggested that you look within and have something to give to the fire, and a statement to share, for each round. Participation builds energy and power.

How is this done?

The circle of friends becomes our sacred space. The space is cleansed with smudge and all participants are smudged as well as they enter the circle. Drumming is welcomed and encouraged during this preparatory stage. Once everyone is standing in the circle, the drumming stops. The circle is sanctified and established. Banishing Pentagrams and Hexagrams are done and the Four Quarters are called. Then the fire in the center is sanctified, as is the fire guardian. A prayer of intent is then offered. Then each person, in order in a clockwise direction, offers their concise statement pertaining to that round and places their offering in the fire. A closing prayer is then offered to Spirit and thanks given to the fire. Its energy is then released to the Universe. The Quarters are then released and Banishings are again done. The circle then stands opened.

Preparation:

1. Have statements and items for each round of the fire ceremony; bring them with you into the circle.
2. You will be standing on uneven earth throughout the ceremony, wear comfortable supportive shoes.
3. Bring your drum, rattle or other creative instrument to lend energy to the circle-building process.
4. Do not eat a big meal before circle, it is too grounding.
5. Go to the bathroom before entering circle.
6. You are all encouraged to bring some wood to share for building and keeping the fire.
7. Bring a flashlight and a folding chair for sitting around the fire afterwards.

Note: Rev. Deborah Ann Bourbon, R.N., wrote the Fire Releasing Ceremony for Circle of Light Independent Spiritualist Church several years ago. Since that time several other groups have requested to use it for their gatherings. Please feel free to use the Ceremony however, please give credit to Rev. Bourbon and Circle of Light, thank you.