



June Newsletter · Litha 2026

Growing Together: A Season of Connection with Sacred Oaks CUUPS

Sacred Oaks CUUPS is a chapter of the Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans, and we share a covenantal bond with the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Gainesville. We are a community that is rooted in earth-centered spirituality, open to all, and meet monthly at UUFG's fire circle or sanctuary.

As we move toward Litha, the height of the sun's power and the turning point of the Wheel, we find ourselves reflecting on the energy of May, a full month for Sacred Oaks CUUPS.

Twenty-three of you came to the fire circle for Beltane on a warm Sunday afternoon. People brought what was heavy on their hearts into the circle, and together we met those burdens with the fire and passion inherent in the season, giving all of it somewhere to go: toward truth, toward balance. We grounded the ritual with affirmations of who we choose to be, for ourselves and for each other. We are grateful to everyone who showed up and trusted us with what they brought that day.

A week later, a quieter kind of gathering. Cards and Community is disarming by design. The cards do part of the work for you, and what's left is two people sitting across from each other, talking honestly. The swap table filled and emptied through the afternoon as well-loved supplies found their way to new hands.

Together, these gatherings reminded us that spiritual community is not built only in ritual moments, but also in the simple act of gathering.

Which brings us to June, the beginning of summer. We hope you've found something meaningful in what we've offered so far, and that you'll join us for what's ahead.

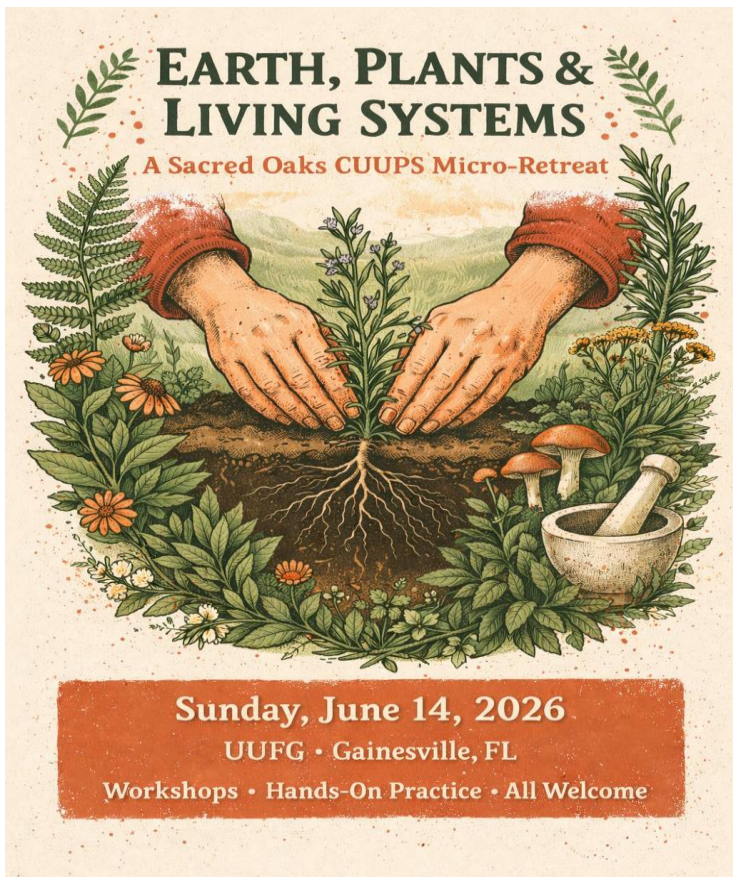


From Spring Fire to Summer Sun: June & July at Sacred Oaks

A quick look at what's on the calendar over the next two months. Full event details will follow in upcoming announcements.

June 14 — *Workshops* — *Litha Micro-Retreat: Earth, Plants & Living Systems* · *Workshops on herbalism, permaculture, plant magic and more*

July 19 — *Community Discussion* — *Pagan Living in the Modern World* · *Guided conversation, listening welcome*



Litha Micro-Retreat: Earth, Plants & Living Systems

Sunday, June 14, 2026 | 10 AM –2:00 PM | UUGF

Litha is a Pagan celebration of the solstice, marking both the longest day of the year and the first day of summer. In Florida that means storms, serious heat, and a green world with a lot going on.

On June 14, Sacred Oak CUUPS is offering a micro-retreat: a low-key day of workshops built around plants, folk medicine, and living seasonally in the place we actually live. Sessions cover houseplants as spiritual practice, permaculture rooted in Florida's actual seasons, fire cider making, plant magic for protection and cleansing, and herbal tea tasting.

No experience needed with plants, with magic, or with us.

The day runs in two blocks with the UUGF worship service and a coffee social in between. Each block offers two or three workshops at the same time. Pick the one that calls to you, then choose again for the afternoon.



A Parting Reflection

The Sun in Me: A Summer Solstice Poem by Priya Tandon

The Sun will be still, quietly burning for the longest time.
 Litha, the magic of Solstice, kindles the passion for a thousand suns to burn inside me.
 A fire seared in me for the longest time.
 Now, I burn like the Sun to ignite the source in me.
 With a smolder and a flicker, I shall transmit my light.
 Calmly, I glide through the sky.
 Sun is benevolent and giving to Earth.
 Every grain of Earth will receive.
 Reap graciously. Give generously.
 Earth, you, me refreshed, revitalized.
 My soul rejuvenated; I dance on this sacred day.
 Abundance lies in the awakening of power to create my life.
 The past is revered; the future is open for giving birth to new.
 I conclude to keep the Sun blazing inside me with Litha's magic alive.
 Let us open our hearts to healing and growth with Summer Solstice and rejoice in the new beginnings. Let us also welcome the Solstice and align with the sun's plethora.

 Sacred Oaks CUUPS 

Chapter of the Covenant of Unitarian Universalist Pagans

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