



# Religious Support to Pagan Soldiers

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# Handouts!



**PAGANS ON THE ROK**







DO YOU PRACTICE OR ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING ABOUT  
WICCA, DRUIDISM, HEATHENISM,  
NORSE, GERMANIC, GREEK, ROMAN, OR OTHER POLYTHEISM,  
THE Gnostic OR MYSTIC ARTS,  
OR OTHER TYPES OF PAGANISM?

CONNECT WITH US







Join us @ PAGANS ON THE ROK

**Pagan  
Religious  
Support**



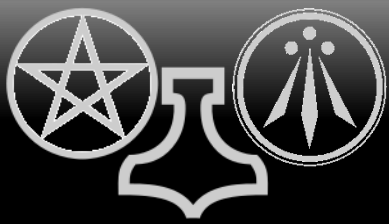
Providing Religious  
Support to  
**Pagans?**  
Earth Based Faiths



Post these anywhere  
you put flyers about  
Bible study

Put these  
with your  
religious pamphlets

Share this with  
fellow leaders.



# What is “Pagan”?



## Abrahamic Faiths

### Judaism

- Orthodox
- Reform

### Christian

- Catholic
- Orthodox
- Protestant

### Islam

- Sunni
- Shia
- Sufi

## Pagan Faiths

### Wicca

- Gardinerian
- Seax
- Church of the Spiral Tree

### Druid

- OBOD

### Heathen

- Norse
- Germanic
- Asatru

Eclectic and Others...



# What is “Pagan”?



- Pagan does not mean “Not Christian.”
- “Earth Based Religions”
- Generally European in origin.
  - Not Eastern religions (Buddhism, Hindu, Shinto)
  - Not Native religions (Native American)

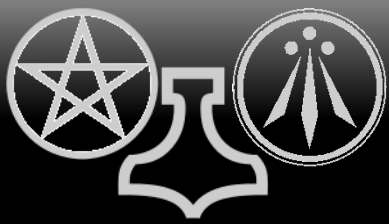
Pagan religions have similarities with  
and have borrowed from  
many of these religions...



# Pagan Beliefs



- The specifics of Pagan belief systems vary wildly.
- Paths and Traditions
  - Every individual has a Path
  - Some Paths become Traditions by being passed on.
- Most Paths borrow heavily from one or more Traditions.
- Most Traditions don't have formal, organizational structures.



# Pagan Beliefs

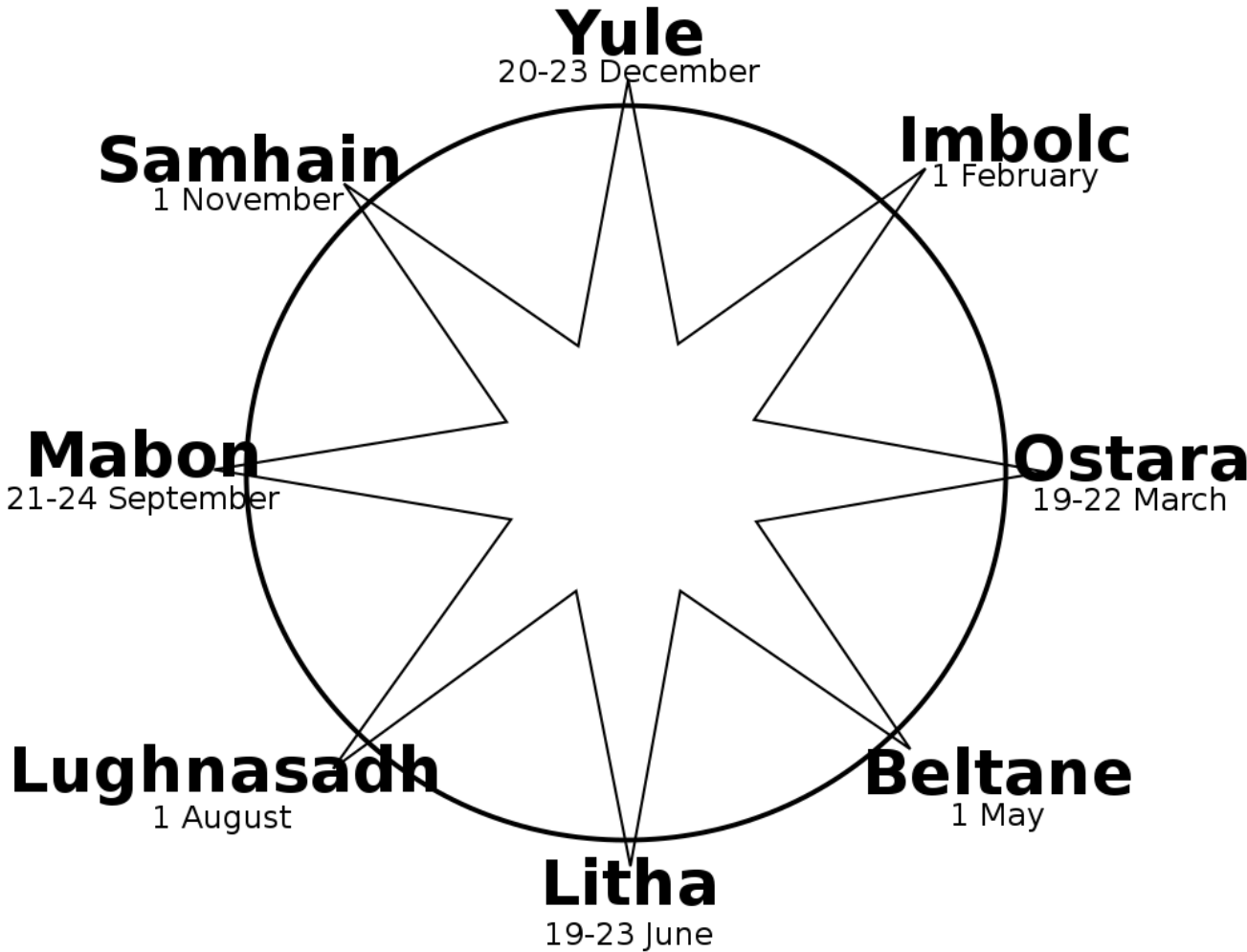


Some General statements:

- Nature is important
  - Individual relationship / place in the world is significant.
- Self-development is required.
  - Questioning and research are encouraged.
- Community is important.
- Pagan belief systems can be Polytheist, Pantheist, Animist, Agnostic, or Atheist.
- May believe in an afterlife, but it's less important.
- Often believe in intercessory or non-intercessory miracles ("Magic")



# Wheel of the Year



- Most common calendar of Pagan holidays.
- Some Pagans, and many Heathens, celebrate on different calendars.
- This version is for the Northern Hemisphere; the dates switch south of the equator.



# Pagan Beliefs



- Do not believe in Original Sin.
  - The world isn't sinful, it's beautiful.
  - Disconnection is what causes problems.
  - Don't need to "save" people.
- Do not believe others need to convert.
  - Those who belong will find it.
  - Teach anyone, recruit no one.
  - Generational learning.
  - The "Call."
- Do not see the world through dualistic good vs evil.
- Little, no, or negative emphasis on "Faith."





# How NOT to Provide Support



- Understand the cross on your chest works against you.
- If you don't know about the individual's personal Path, don't assume.
- Most Pagans have learned to be intensely private about their religion.
- They're unlikely to be asking you about religion – they need something else.
- If you do talk about beliefs some Pagans will take it as proselytizing and disengage.
  - “Can I pray for you?” is a loaded question.



# How Provide Support



- Stay secular.
- Be a friend.
- Listen.
- Let them lead.
- Ask for help.

*You have one chance to convince this Soldier that you're there to help them, not judge them.*



Questions?

