**Beltane 2008-Connecting to Gaia**

Close your eyes and prepare your body and mind to think and feel in details, close to earth like a mouse and then of the big picture soaring and seeing as the eagle does, close to the divine. The mysteries of our existence torture and tantalize us on a daily basis, forever nudging us to discover ourselves as we discover the universe. We understand very well that life is precious and we must also remember life goes wherever our mind and heart direct it.

Let’s think about the details for a moment, as in a living cell of our bodies. The cell is the basic structure and functional unit of all living things. Living as characterized by the ability to reproduce and grow, to transform or produce and consume energy, and to adapt to internal and external environments. The activities of cells constitute the life process-ingestion, assimilation and digestion of nutrients and the excretion of the residues, respiration, movement and excitability or response to stimuli.

As we go out into the garden let’s entertain thoughts of the connectedness of the details of our cells, and how we are connected to greater earth, Gaia, whom we celebrate today as earth goddesses.

For thousands of years and in cultures all around the world, the earth was personified as a mysterious goddess named Gaia. A cosmic, procreative womb who emerged out of the primeval void called Chaos. It was believed Gaia existed before all other life. It was also believed she created all life. Right now, Gaia reminds us of the interconnectedness of the world; the importance of living in harmony with its resources as well as our fellow humans. To experience this harmony in our lives is the greatest gift we can hope to receive.

As you go out into the garden, connecting on a cellular level with Gaia, think about your intention for the year you formed at Candlemas or if you have a new intention, bring that back with you to the maypole. We will help each other solidify our goals and bring them to fruition. Harvests are quickly forth-coming. Have fun and feel the exuberance of spring!