Dearest CNTC Community,

Many of you already know that in August I *tender*ed my resignation. It had become very clear to me that it was time. Spirit was nudging me to pay attention to what I had been teaching all year—about passion and purpose. Intuitively, I knew that in order to *grow*, (for me as well as for the Center) I had to *go*. I was being called to practice what I preach and step out in faith and trust that I would be guided, supported and sourced.

When I first announced my leaving, I had intended to stay through all of November. At that point, Kristen and Kathryn lovingly began planning a farewell party for us all to celebrate (and yes, dance) together, I had only one request: the party had to be on an evening when Don could be by my side. With his rehearsal and performance schedule for "Big Fish: The Musical" the only open Friday was Oct. 30th. That is how the date was chosen and the plans moved forward.

It was then that I realized that to stick around through till the end of November seemed awkward for everyone. I notified the Council of my desire to leave sooner so they would have more time to get plans in place for handling the operations of the Center.

That is why I announced at last week's Town Hall meeting, my farewell Sunday is to be Nov. 1st and my last official work day here will be Nov. 11th. (That gap allows me to help train and transfer the work to those stalwart stewards stepping in to serve). It seemed anti-climatic to have the party and then not leave for a month. To stay longer, for me, would just be too hard to say goodbye *twice*.

My regrets to anyone who cannot attend on the 30^{th} however, I am setting an intention that there will be time enough to connect with everyone. There is always an option to meet for coffee along the way. (You saw that coming didn't you?)

Blessings In Joy,

Rev. Duchess

"Don't be dismayed at good-byes. A farewell is necessary before we can meet again and meeting again, after moments or a lifetime, is certain for those who are friends."

- Richard Bach