**1999 Candlemas Notes and Partial Outline**

**Notes**

Hidden heat of life-unquenched spirit / In the womb- divine spark of creation / Dedication, Intent, initiation, illumination, purification, untouched newness, unborn..

Throw away your past-letting go of any dark energy within us that don not serve us anymore. Negativity and the past, the dead of winter are dispelled. What is keeping you from moving forward. / Go into the darknessof your soul. / Gestation: Remember what we have learned this year, what we have experiencd. Time to shed / Imbolg-in the belly / Original spring cleaning-winter and death are cleansed away. / Feast of poets, nine muses / Cleansing away of winter by salt water, cedar smoke or incense myrrh, rosemary or frankincense / Small poem on light, being the light/ Costco-white lunch bags, tea candles/Wear white and/or red-Intent/dedication of the next year

Outline

Enter at front door-One facilitator takes dessert, potluck around to kitchen, 2nd facilitator smudges or cleanses outside of the front door. Women enter door. 3rd facilitator takes their shoes and coat.

“Welcome to Candlemas. Enter the womb. Realize the potential awakenings stirring within you. You are where you need to be.

Women sip herbal tea.

4th facilitator leads them to nest

*Nest=nest of blankets. All women will be tucked into nest and covered with their own blanket they brought with them.*

**Meditation** into internal womb, darkness, introspection; call upon any energy, any women friends, any goddesses. Say goodbye to Hecate, Crone of winter, shedding old skin-the last skins of the past year or any old skins of many psts not yet shed. Now is the time to let go of anything we don’t want to hold on to anymore. As we shed all these skins, we germinate.

Sing:

Air, air we are calling (2X) come, come, come, and blow it all away

Fire, fire we are calling (2X,) come, come, come and burn it all away

Water, water we are calling (2X) come, come, come and wash it all away.

Earth, earth we are calling (2x) come, come, come and carry it away

Light, light we are calling (2x) come, come, come and be with us light.

Wendy lights the candle.

(That’s all we have for this celebration.)