**1999 Vernal Equinox Celebration**

1:00: Anointing with oil: Entrance and welcome

1:30: Intro-Sharing of a childhood toy

Then: Birth Tunnel and naming ceremony: All women stand in a row, creating a tunnel with legs. One woman is the drummer who sets the beat for the heartbeat. One or more women (facilitators) await the baby at the end of the tunnel as midwives. The baby (participant) crawls through the tunnel; then is birthed and caught by the midwife. Heartbeat stops. The baby states her name. the baby is adorned with flowers while all the other women chant back the baby’s name 3 times creating a sound harmony while including healing or powerful qualities and words of welcome. Finish by the midwife saying “We welcome you.” Then the baby joins to welcome the next baby.

Name empowerment chant: After all the women are birthed, they gather in a circle and sing together creating a sound tapestry. Each woman sings her own name 3 times including any power phrases, such as “I am here.” “I am strong.” “I am rebirthed.” Etc.

2:15: Games: Spaghetti, Pass the ball or balloon, Coop chair, Coop juggle, Dragon’s tail, Web (sit, refocus

2:45: Crafts: Flower garlands & modeling wax

3:15: Sharing / Closure

3:30: Eating