**Candlemas 2018**

**Calling in Directions**: (Nancy will tell a little drum history and give instruction on holding the drum.

Nancy instructs all to stand and move behind their chair. We will be instructed on each stroke for each direction before we call that direction. We will walk one rotation around the outside of circle playing the stroke for that direction. After that, we will read the invocation for that direction. Then receive the drum lesson for next direction.)

**(Nancy):**

***Touch your drum quietly and welcome this sacred instrument to our celebration. Goddesses from centuries ago were often depicted holding drums. For thousands of years, the frame drum or tambourine was always in the hands of women doing sacred dance, drumming in processions, or playing in front of Goddesses. An ancient statue from Iraq of a woman holding her frame drum dates to 2000 BCE. -Drumming was used in nature-based ceremonies. The rising Roman Catholic church forbade women from drumming. Women refused to stop, particularly for birth and death ceremonies. In current times, Music Therapists are using drumming with a focused intent. Music generated as healing, devotional, or spiritual communing is thought to transform the musician and the listener.***

***I am going to give you a short lesson on the frame drum before our first use of it in the ceremony.*** (Show three positions: hand held; resting on shoulder; between knees.)

***Resting the drum on your shoulder or upright is especially nice for our purposes because the vibration goes to the body.***

***We'll start with East, I'll show you the stroke. We'll all play it and walk around the outside of the circle one rotation. Lynn will read the invocation for East. And then I'll show you the stroke for South, and so on.***

* **Nancy Instruction-East:** *Brush Air Movement- ‘fresh start’:* Nancy will instruct on holding drum and the brush/air beat that goes with East- All will do the brushing motion on their drum and walk around the circle once, while Lynn reads “East”.

***(Lynn): We beckon to the East, bringer of fresh air and new beginnings in the emerging spring. Send your driving winds to carry away from this circle what does not belong here. Open this space for the communion of heart, mind and soul that as a group we can support each individual member in uncovering the next stepping stone in her unique path.***

* **Nancy Instruction-South**—Tek or Teka-- Fire, sparking passion: (Double tap by rim of the drum) All do the Teka beat as they walk around the circle.

**(Diane):** ***And to the South, whose power is the sun, high in the mid-day sky. Cleansing fire, burn away what has no place here. Make way for the circle’s heart to become its hearth so our passions are free to grow and glow bright here within it.***

* **Nancy Instruction-West** - Doum — Water, healing, powerful ocean- Beat: (finger tips hit drum off center and come to rest on drum bouncing) All do Doum beat on drums and walk around the circle as Abbie reads “West”.

**(Abbie):** ***And to the West, governor of the all-encompassing sea. Wash clean this circle to make way for our dreams and feelings to flow freely, so we may recognize the seeds we need to now sow and guide us to create rich and fertile soil in which they will germinate.***

* **Nancy Instruction-North**: Kah-Earth, resounding strength, grounding-Beat: (finger tips hit the drum off center and bounce on drum head) Nan will read North. All will do Kah beat and walk around circle.

**(Nan): *And to the North, provider of quiet rejuvenating space. Release what hold us back from becoming vessels for your winter-white purity and make this circle a firm foundation upon which we are grounded for opening our hearts, minds and souls to the sacred***