**Here is the Llamas 2016 opening and closing of the circle, written by Ellie Galena. I (Carol) changed the singular to plural for group participation. At the end of the celebration, the words were changed to "We close this circle." (After each line was read, the group repeated it.)**

**Opening and Closing the Circle**

**With our gathered intention,**

**And through my voice,**

**I call in this circle.**

**With our mothers' gathered love and wisdom,**

**And through my voice,**

**I call in this circle.**

**With the earth's gathered bounty,**

**Sun- ripened and rich,**

**And through my voice,**

**I call in this circle.**

**In love,**

**Safety,**

**Growth,**

**And beauty,**

**And through my voice,**

**I call in this circle.**