SHEPHERDS DANCE

This is an adaptation of a traditional dance from Provence in France. The name refers to shepherds in the sense of the Christmas story, and the dance is traditionally done at that time of year, each dancer carrying a lighted candle. It can be done in a circle but works particularly well as a long line / processional dance. The adaptation is simply that the B part of the dance (and the music) is not repeated in this version, allowing the line of dancers to travel more than in the original. It makes an excellent greeting dance if the leader doubles the line of dancers back on itself to bring people face to face. The dance was introduced by Fritz Eberl at the Findhorn Sacred Dance Festival, midsummer 1985.

Face. ↑ throughout.   W-hold with little fingers linked.
Movements slow but bouncy.

A) 1. Side-step L ←
   2. Close R to L.
Repeat. (4 times in all)
B) With weight on R,
   3. Point L ↑
   4. Point L ←
   5. Point L ↓
   6. Close L to R.
Repeat with weight on L, pointing R.

D minor : open 5th (D,A) accompaniment

SHEPHERD'S DANCE

(W-hold with pinkies, candles in left hand
  wait for one verse of music to start

						x2	↑	←	↓		↑	‾	↓
←	L	R	L	R			L	L	L	L	R	R	R R
	S	cl	S	cl			pt	pt	pt	cl	pt	pt	pt cl

(learned from Shirley Cawthorn,
   Cobourg, April 1997)