

A Joyous Evening

Turkey dinner at the Native Friendship Centre

Wednesday, September 28, was the regular weekly Open House at the Montreal Native Friendship Centre. Maybe not so regular, because the Twinning sub-committee of Mission & Outreach was delighted to serve dinner, an encore performance of the February evening that Rev. Jack Archibald described as the highlight of his time with us.

It began with Monday shopping, carefully selecting three turkeys to offer as Thanksgiving drew near. Tuesday and Wednesday in the kitchen under the leadership of Maurene White, salad was prepped, sweet potatoes diced and roasted, and rice dressing prepared. Wednesday, sharing the kitchen with reception caterers and Fall Fair preparations, the turkeys went in the ovens.

The Friendship Centre's van arrived at 4:00 p.m. Turkeys and trimmings aboard, we headed off to the Centre at St-Laurent and Ontario. We carved turkeys and assembled the salad as a ceremony was held to bless the drum and Eric Côté and friends you'll remember from past Healing & Reconciliation Sundays performed native songs. With a blessing of the food, we began serving to seventy-plus very appreciative diners who finished the turkey and dressing and left a very few bits of sweet potato. The NFC staff presented us with a beautiful card and, in return, we expressed our gratitude for the opportunity of meeting old friends (including throat singer Nina Segalowitz) and making new ones. Everyone agreed that we'll do it again and you can join the fun. Just talk to any member of the Twinning sub-committee.



Maurene White, Wylma Cobb and Ghassan el Koreh and friends



A view of the Native Friendship Centre during the blessing of the drum (in the circle of observers at the right side in the photo)

Leading with Care

It is the policy of the Presbyterian Church in Canada that all persons, in particular all children, youth and vulnerable adults, who participate in the denomination's programs and ministries and/or use the denomination's facilities will be cared for with Christian compassion and will be safe.

The Church of St Andrew and St Paul subscribes to this policy and maintains it throughout the various programs and ministries of the congregation. Leading with Care has been instituted and will continue to be monitored through a series of church committees, and the Leading with Care Committee which has duties of oversight.