

# FOCUS

SUMMER 2020  
Vol 56 No 3

THE ANDREWS UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

PG 8—Andrews Bible Commentary  
PG 18—Stories to Tell  
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REFLECTION AWARENESS  
DIVERSITY TRUTH BRAVERY  
LOVE RACIAL PROGRESS  
EQUALITY HEALING LISTEN  
TRANSFORMATION  
PAIN OPPORTUNITY  
PEACE LEARN FREEDOM

## Where pain is worth it

**Andrea Luxton, president**

WHEN THE FOCUS EDITORIAL TEAM called me and said they thought this was the right time to feature an edition on race, I was pleased with that plan. And before I wrote this editorial, I had the opportunity to read what others have written in this edition. These are my colleagues and friends, and I want to thank them for their openness and vulnerability in what they have shared. Their words give me a context to share what I would like to say to all of you, friends and partners of Andrews University.

It was more than three years ago now that Andrews was rocked with the "It is Time" video. I had been president for less than a year. We made some corporate responses to the claims of systemic racism in this community, and we have tried to be true to the promises made at that time. Of course, some voiced that we were forced into action by extremists. I want you to know that yes, we were catapulted into a rapid response. But I also want you to know that we were not pushed; we didn't close our eyes and jump. We went into the fray willingly because at the heart of all that happened over a few months of time, the single thread was a cry that said, "We love Andrews, but really for me, there were some hurtful experiences that you all need to hear about, because you can (and should) be even better." Many of those who have written in this FOCUS are in their own reflections sending that same message.

Some over the past few years have also suggested that addressing issues of race only "racializes" a campus or community. I would put it another way. It is rather like having on clothes that are dirty. So you put clean ones on top. Those get dirty and you put on more clean clothes. What happens when eventually you stop that game? You stop covering up the dirty clothes and take an honest look. You aren't suddenly wearing dirty clothes; you are finally admitting that you already had dirty clothes—in fact a number of layers of those clothes. You are better for the honesty, but getting off each layer gets harder and harder the older the dirt is

caked on the clothes. Your flesh underneath feels raw, and it is more painful as each layer gets stripped away. But at the end? You feel lighter, cleaner and, dare I say, smile more...

We do not need to be fearful of admitting the reality of racism. By recognizing the wrongs done to one individual or group of individuals, we are not diminishing ourselves or the challenges that we or others may experience. It is not an either-or. In this world, this country, there is a lot of hurt, a lot of pain, a lot of injustice. Many of us have experienced that in ways that are hard to forget. But surely that understanding should make us even more open to the injustices that are promulgated in systemic and individual ways to those around us?

At Andrews University, as with the Seventh-day Adventist Church and the United States, we are on a journey. One that starts and continues with valuing our Black colleagues, students and alumni and listening honestly to their stories. Not to shelve those stories away but to inform our future. I want you to know that at Andrews we will continue with the journey we have started, and we will not turn back. My Black friends, colleagues, alumni—thank you for your loyalty to this University despite our failings. Please continue to help us to understand more, to do more and do better. Please know that we are better because of you.



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The “New Normal”



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Get a glimpse of this year’s New Student Orientation Week and the first week of school.

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Learn about race and Andrews, specifically the Black experience on campus, through some voices of those in our Andrews family.

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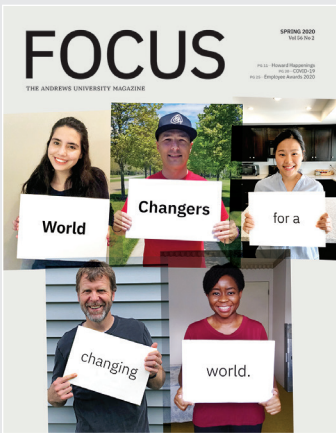


**COVER:** Original illustration by O’livia Woodard

O’livia Woodard received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in design, *magna cum laude*, from Andrews University in May 2020. She has a passion for print, editorial design and typography.

She is currently serving as the design editor for the Southern Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. She previously served as a junior designer for Adventist Learning Community. She also represented the Andrews University Student Association as social vice-president and art director.





FOCUS | Spring 2020



Visit Andrews University's YouTube channel to view reopening webinars, summer virtual graduation services, Convocation and more.

## Campus Update

# Virtual Early College 2020

Story and photo by  
Aaron Moushon

*Allowed participants from five time zones to enjoy the experience*

THE EARLY COLLEGE EXPERIENCE CELEBRATED its fifth year this summer with a special virtual edition. This program for high school students usually brings participants in grades 10–12 from all over the country to the main campus in Berrien Springs to experience everything the University has to offer. Unable to host students on the main campus due to the ongoing pandemic, program director Aaron Moushon quickly transitioned the program to an interactive online format.

Students from all over the U.S., three different countries and five time zones convened each day to take an Honors course in Scripture from Amanda McGuire-Moushon, project manager and special assistant to the CEIS/Graduate dean.

In spite of the fact that everything was done remotely, students got to know each other, made friends and learned together. Andrea Stanko, a freshman engineering major who Zoomed in each day from Guam, says, "Going to the Early College has been an amazing experience. The time difference is 14 hours, so I had to adjust to Eastern time for class. The extremely interesting course that I'm taking and the friends that I've made make it worth it, and I'd recommend this to anyone."

The transition to online instruction proved challenging for a program that revolves around activity and exploration. This summer, the Explore Andrews

student team put in extra effort to make the virtual experience as close to the "real thing" as possible. Students Adoniah Simon, Daesy Galeas and Abigail Harcombe Zoomed in from around the country to lead out activities. Weekly game nights, virtual tours and Friday vespers were just some of the highlights from this summer.

Kavya Mohanram, a freshman biology major, had the unique perspective of participating in person last summer and remotely this summer. "I did the Early College Program two years in a row, and even though one was in person and the other online, they were both an amazing experience," she says. "Last year I learned about the history of the Silk Road while enjoying the campus, and this year I delved deep in to Scripture while making new friends from around the world online. I am so grateful to have had this opportunity!"

With summer drawing to an end, Early College wrapped up, and the students began to prepare for orientation week. Some students will remain at home for the fall semester as part of a special remote freshman cohort, and others will join the main campus in Berrien Springs. Regardless of where they are during the fall, they all look forward to meeting in person one day soon.

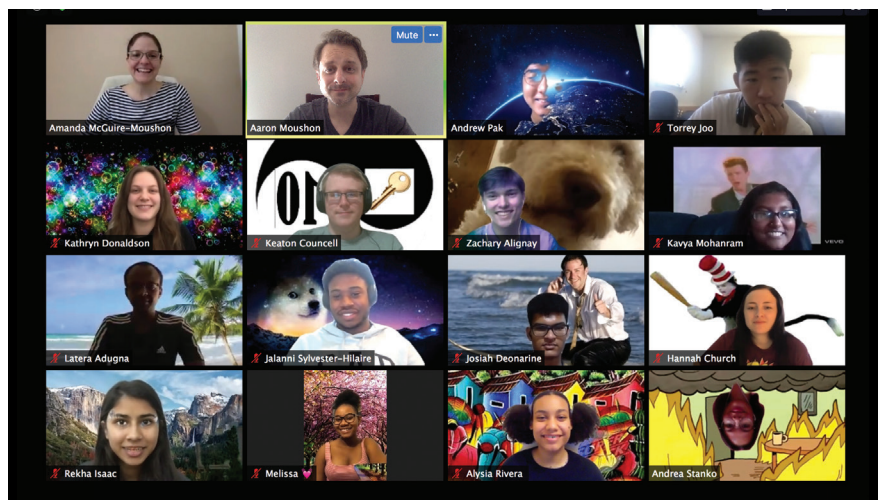
For more information about past and future Early College events, visit [andrews.edu/exploreandrews](https://andrews.edu/exploreandrews)

## Don't forget to write

**Letters are always welcome.** To ensure a range of viewpoints, we encourage letters of fewer than 300 words. Letters may be edited for content, style and space.

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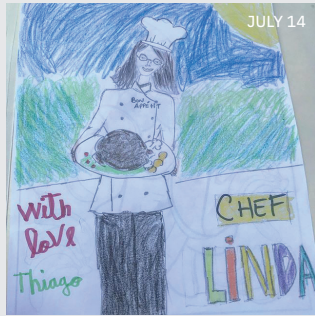


*Various themes were used to make Zoom classes fun, including this "silly background day."*



AUGUST 4

**soli\_asuega** Such an emotional ride these past few days! Saying goodbye to our son as he heads back early to College for work and studies. #BlessYouSon #LiveToBlessOthers



JULY 14

**andrews\_university** ...beautiful kid's artwork like this, along with heartfelt thank you notes from grown-ups, are a powerful reminder of how God is at work right here.



AUGUST 25

**Andrews University Department of Sustainable Agriculture**

*We had our first Department Assembly today at the Agriculture Education Center. Although it was raining, we are grateful for the time together as a department (and for the awning that covered us!)*



AUGUST 5

**Andrews University Aviation**  
Congratulations **Nick Ashman** on passing your Instrument Check Ride!



AUGUST 20

**au\_mathematics** We're gearing up for the new semester: our remote students will be front-and-center right alongside our in-person students!



JUNE 7

**andrews\_university** Peace Walk, Berrien Springs. #runstandbreathe4justice



JUNE 19

**Andrews University Alumni**

*The new workshop addition to the School of Architecture, which has been under construction for the past year and half. The workshop will provide architecture students with a place to build tiny houses, mobile clinics and other projects!*



JUNE 23

**Andrews University Biology**  
*There are a number of plants in our greenhouse that haven't bloomed in at least 3 years. This leathery, almost lifeless, urn plant (Achmea fasciata, I believe) just revealed its flowering beauty! Amazing!*

INSTAGRAM  
andrews\_university



TWITTER  
@AndrewsUniv



**Andrews University, Aug. 21**  
We are a community, a family. We strive to keep each other safe. To care for each other, this year we choose to wear face coverings consistently.



FACEBOOK  
@andrewsuniversity

**Spectrum Health Lakeland, July 17**  
In honor of frontline health care workers at Spectrum Health Lakeland @AndrewsUniv has commissioned an art installation which was recently unveiled within the Lakeland Medical Center Pavilion.



**Adventist World Official, Aug. 27**  
Lamson Hall, Andrews University, the 1960s. Four freshmen, all named Deborah Harris, try to get their messages and mail figured out. #tbt #adventisthistory #andrewsuniversity #adventists



YOUTUBE



Danielle Pilgrim  
Associate Chaplain

**Andrews University** (Published on August 17, 2020)  
Danielle Pilgrim, José Bourget and Teela Ruehle from the Center for Faith Engagement (formerly Campus Ministries) unveil plans for the new school year.



# Renaissance Kids Architecture Camp 2020

*Involving students in 18 states and four countries in its first-ever virtual format*

THIS PAST SUMMER, THE ANDREWS University School of Architecture & Interior Design held their 14th annual Renaissance Kids architecture camp. The theme, “Kids Making a Stand,” referred to the main project of designing and building lemonade stands and was inspired by Heather Shelby, director of Kidpreneur Camp.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, this year’s Renaissance Kids took a new form—the “Household Edition,” a remote learning but hands-on experience for kids ages 5–16 to learn about architecture, art and design. The program ran as an online monthly subscription for June, July and August. Participants had the option to sign up for any or all of the months and joined from 18 total states in the U.S. and four other countries: Canada, Greece, Mexico and South Africa.

Participants had online access to creative challenges, educational tutorials and resources, and live Zoom engagements with Mark Moreno, founder/director of Renaissance Kids and associate professor of architecture. Moreno was joined by a variety of professional guests and his team of Andrews University architecture students: Dorcas Hakiza, Maryza Eguiluz, Jenalee Holst and Isaac Wood (Isaac’s wife, Emony Wood, assisted as well).

Moreno and his team met with the kids every Monday, Wednesday and Friday in Zoom to review their works in live critiques to promote creative development of project activities. They also provided live tutorials to support ongoing projects.

“In some ways, the program has been deeply enhanced by being online for the fact that we can call up guests from all over the world. The guest series became a reality when my architect colleague, Tom Lowing, inspired us by a Zoom visit on our first day,” explains Moreno. “He critiqued the floating slabs projects, the students liked it, and we made it a goal to expose them to more real world projects and professionals.”

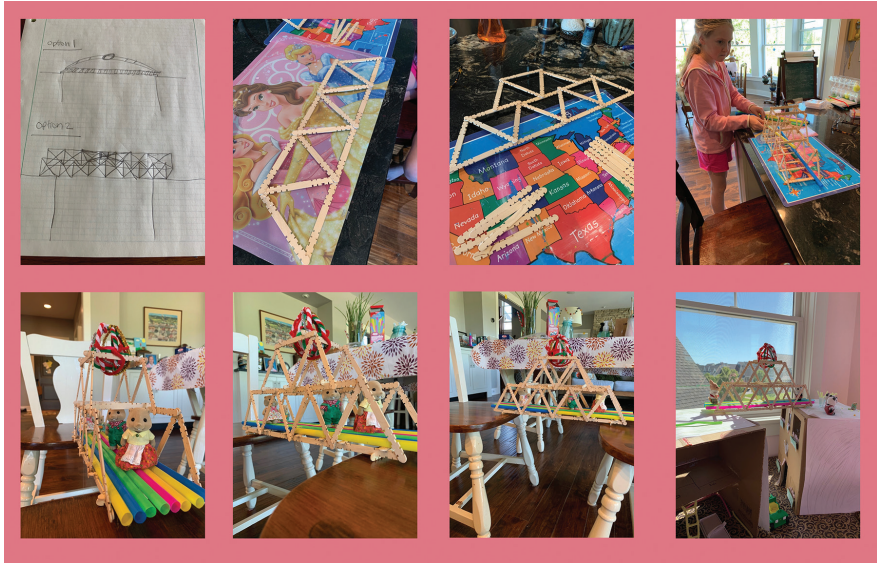


Photo provided by Mark Moreno

Over the course of the summer, the kids had live tours of architects’ private homes and landscapes in Fort Worth, the new Disney Star Wars Hotel in Orlando, and mixed-use urban buildings in Washington D.C. and Pittsburgh. They even had an architect in Rome give them a bike tour of the streets and a quick walk-through of the Pantheon. Moreno and his team wrapped up the camp by “broadcasting” from a local Frank Lloyd Wright house in St. Joseph, Michigan.

In addition to these virtual tours, the kids completed a variety of building and design projects.

“Renaissance Kids’ projects generally attempt to instill empathy for, and an understanding of, how people relate with one another and with buildings and places. With social distancing and sheltering in our homes, we have been intentionally very flexible with expectations. This is about enrichment, not rigor—creativity, not pressure. Some families are more burdened by the pandemic than others and so we wish not to add any kind of stress to households,” says Moreno.

Collaboratively, the kids also designed lemonade stands with logos and menus. As part of this process they discussed various accessories they could sell with their lemonade including T-shirts,

bumper stickers and even a bucket of golf balls for a lemonade stand located near a golf course. Javier Britton, a recent Andrews architecture graduate, worked to interpret Moreno and the kids’ drawings into computer-aided design (CAD) drawings—detailed 2D and 3D illustrations. While the kids were not able to build the stands together due to COVID-19, Moreno is planning to build at least one stand.

“This program is a Godsend for our family. Thank you,” said Jay Aitken, father of Axel Aitken, a Renaissance Kids participant from Montana. “I know Axel will look back on it as a highlight for sure.”

Moreno and his team plan to keep this program going in some capacity all year long. If possible, next summer they will also have face-to-face sessions.

“The camp, in person and online, has been a blessing, and I believe I could not be doing anything better at this time in my life,” says Moreno. “I know we haven’t solved the world’s problems, but if we teach our kids that they can make a positive difference in the world then they will be better equipped to move forward in confidence.”

For additional photos and details, visit [andrews.edu/renkids](https://andrews.edu/renkids) and [facebook.com/renaissancekids.architecture](https://facebook.com/renaissancekids.architecture)



# Trauma awareness and intervention training

*Providing participants with skills to help the communities they serve*

FROM JULY 21–25, 90 REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS attended a virtual Trauma Awareness and Intervention training provided by the International Center for Trauma Education & Care. Training participants represented eight different countries in addition to the U.S. Individuals attended from the Bangkok Adventist International School and the Ekamai International School in Thailand and the Cambodia Vietnamese Adventist School in Cambodia. Participants also attended from Myanmar, Laos, Canada, Argentina, the Philippines and Australia.

This training was led by three collaborators: Ingrid Slikkers, assistant professor of social work and director, International Center for Trauma Education & Care, and Charity Garcia, assistant professor of curriculum & instruction, both from Andrews University; and Bill Wells, refugee ministry coordinator, ASAP Ministries (Advocates for Southeast Asians and the Persecuted).

Participants explored a variety of topics including how to identify the effects of trauma, ways to better understand those affected by trauma, practical skills for teachers and community leaders, and strategies to promote healing in themselves and others.

“Working together across departments with all of our unique strengths joining together to make a positive impact on

teachers and community leaders from multiple countries was an absolute privilege,” says Garcia.

Throughout the training, Slikkers, Garcia and Wells were assisted by Jasmin Wilson and Mary Gayen, recent Andrews alums, and current students from the School of Social Work and the Department of Teaching, Learning & Curriculum: Erick Pena, Sarah Riedel, David Springer, Jennifer Pena and Stephanie Wilczynski.

“In this time of COVID-19, so many people have emotional and mental burdens that they carry. Yet still, many of them work in professions in which they have to take care of others. The training empowered them to help take care of themselves, their charges and even shared a ray of hope with them. This to me was an extremely impactful and rewarding experience,” says Springer.

Participants who completed 10 hours of training by attending each of the five days received a certificate of completion in the first step of certification that will be possible through this new Center.

Though the training was not in-person as expected, the leaders and participants felt it made an impact. “The depth of vulnerability they were willing to express, even though we were only meeting by Zoom, was really a surprise to me,” says Wells. “What that depth of

vulnerability showed was that these were teachers and ministry leaders who recognized this was a safe place to talk about real things in their own lives and situations in their churches and schools that we could discuss openly with them and give them encouragement, insight or help.”

“God blessed in a way beyond anything I could have

imagined! Initially I was frustrated that because of COVID we had to do this work via Zoom rather than in person. However, the connections that were created were clearly orchestrated by the Holy Spirit. We had participants state that after this training they would like to have trauma-informed schools, churches, church boards and leadership,” adds Slikkers.

In order to facilitate more participation and model the importance of community in the Zoom training, presenters limited PowerPoint use and encouraged participants to turn on their videos so they could see each speaker and make as much eye contact as possible.

“We prayed we would find community among our participants, despite being on the Zoom platform, and that the sincerity of our message and the beauty of Christ’s healing would shine through,” says Wilson. “Watching God work through our imperfections, our limitations, the technology mishaps and a decent language barrier was absolute life-changing and continues to be a driving force through which we serve.”

Prior to the training, participants completed a survey regarding what they knew and understood about trauma. After the event they filled out another survey which evaluated what was done well and what they found the most helpful. This will provide knowledge of how best to facilitate this kind of training in the future.

“Despite being a remote platform, the presentations were very interactive and fostered a sense of community amongst the participants that was as rich as those that I’ve experienced in on-site courses—in many ways richer,” describes Lorraine Hexstall, a training attendee. “The fact is, we were doing more than gaining tools to use in our individual spheres. We perceived that through your training God is building a global community of wounded healers uniquely equipped to meet today’s social and spiritual needs. We entered as students and left reveling anew about being granted the grace and privilege of being part of the family of God. What a mighty God we serve!”



*Faculty, student and alumni presenters participated in the virtual training provided by the International Center for Trauma Education & Care from July 21–25.*

## Landmark release from Andrews University Press

*Old Testament volume of new “Andrews Bible Commentary” now available*

A MAJOR NEW BIBLE STUDY RESOURCE sponsored by the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and Andrews University was released in June, according to Andrews University President Andrea Luxton.

“I am delighted to announce the long-awaited release of the first volume of the ‘Andrews Bible Commentary,’ one of the most important books in recent Adventist publishing history,” Luxton said in an email to University employees. Luxton is also chair of the board of Andrews University Press, the primary academic publishing house to serve the worldwide Adventist Church.

Ronald Knott, director of the Press, said the Commentary project will appear in two volumes. The Old Testament volume is available now, and the New Testament will be released “sometime in 2021.” He said the Commentary project was organized by former Andrews president, Niels-Erik Andreasen, to be a complement to the highly regarded “Andrews Study Bible” which has blessed the Adventist world since its release exactly 10 years ago.

In originally announcing the project eight years ago at the 2012 General Conference Annual Council, Andreasen said, “This Commentary is aimed to help the person in the pew. It is written in plain language.” He told the delegates that the writers had been instructed to write at the same reading level that they would write an article for the Adventist Review, the general church paper of the Adventist Church. “In some parts of the world, these two volumes—the ‘Andrews Study Bible’ and the ‘Andrews Bible Commentary’—will comprise the entire theological library members will have, so we are taking this assignment very seriously,” he said. Knott affirms that has been a guiding principle of the project.

The Commentary was produced under the leadership of Ángel Manuel Rodríguez, highly regarded biblical scholar and former director of the General Conference Biblical Research Institute. As the general

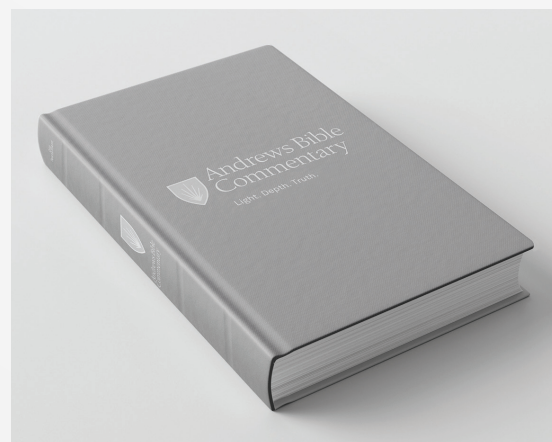
editor, he led a team of more than 60 Adventist scholars from around the world in producing this landmark work.

Rodríguez said, “I am incredibly proud and grateful for the work of these scholars of the church in this first-of-a-kind Commentary. They placed themselves in the hands of the Lord and they have made an outstanding contribution that will bless the church for years to come. I have been honored and privileged to be part of the team.”

Rodríguez said that the Commentary content has been organized around the general theme of hope. He noted that while many different themes could have been chosen, this was the most appropriate for an Adventist commentary because the plan of salvation, as outlined in Scripture, is the ultimate expression of God’s gift of hope in Jesus, our living Hope.

Assisting Rodríguez as editors of the Commentary are three well-known Seventh-day Adventist biblical scholars: Daniel Kwame Bediako, vice chancellor and an associate professor of Old Testament at Valley View University in Oyibi, Ghana; Carl P. Cosaert, dean of the School of Theology and professor of biblical studies at Walla Walla University in College Place, Washington; and Gerald A. Klingbeil, associate editor of Adventist Review and Adventist World magazines, as well as research professor of Old Testament and Ancient Near Eastern Studies at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University.

Working with Ronald Knott at Andrews University Press to bring the first volume to completion were L.S. Baker Jr., associate director of the Press and managing editor of the project, and Deborah Everhart, editor of the Press and project editorial director. Knott said that the Old Testament volume contains approximately 1,200 pages, with general articles on important topics of how to approach and understand the Bible, introductory articles to the major sections of the Old Testament, introductions to



each book of the Bible, and the passage-by-passage commentary on each of the 39 books.

Strong endorsement for the Old Testament volume is coming from many sources. “The ‘Andrews Bible Commentary’ is a monumental work produced by outstanding theologians and scholars,” said world evangelist Mark Finley. “It’s presented in a readable, inspirational style that is understandable for the average person. It reveals hidden gems of inspiration as well as deep theological insights. My preaching, teaching and writing will be much richer because of this valuable tool. I will certainly refer to it often and consider it a treasured volume in my library that I would not want to be without.”

Richard Hart, president of Loma Linda University, said, “The ‘Andrews Bible Commentary’ has provided our unique Adventist interpretation of scripture with a greater clarity and depth. This is a major contribution to the religious discourse of today.”

Derek Morris, president of Hope Channel International, said, “As a communicator of the Word of God, I highly recommend the ‘Andrews Bible Commentary.’ This concise study resource will be extremely useful for every pastor and lay leader who desires to preach and teach sound doctrine from the Old Testament Scriptures.”

The “Andrews Bible Commentary,” Old Testament volume, is available now from Adventist Book Centers, online retailers, the Andrews University Press website ([universitypress.andrews.edu](http://universitypress.andrews.edu)) or by calling the Press at 800-467-6369 or 269-471-6134.

## Summer 2020 Virtual Commencement

*Accomplishments of graduates celebrated in online programming*

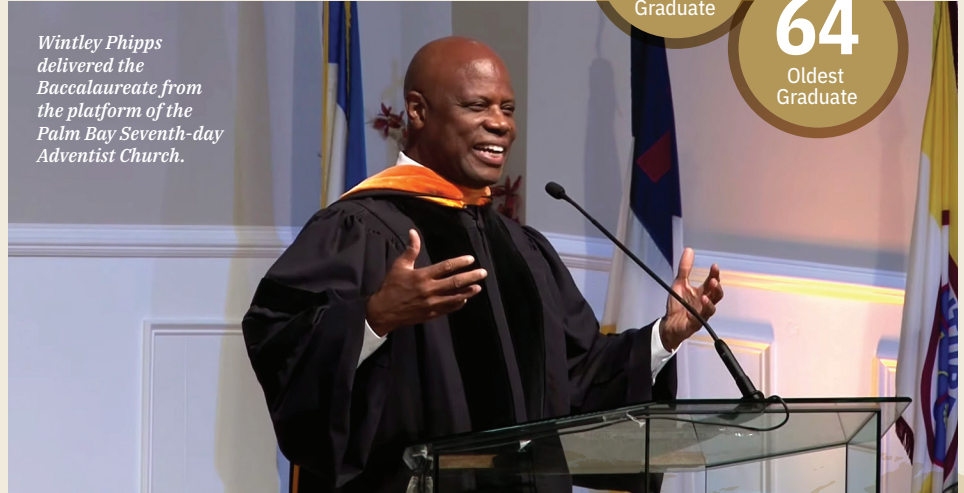
FROM JULY 31–AUGUST 2, 2020, the Andrews University community celebrated the achievements of 359 students through Virtual Commencement and Celebration of Graduates services. These virtual services were held instead of the postponed traditional summer graduation services as a response to COVID-19 related restrictions on large group gatherings.

The weekend's central events began Friday, July 31, at 7 p.m. EDT with the Cultural Graduation Stoles Celebration. Celebrations continued on Saturday morning with the Baccalaureate service. Wintley Phipps, senior pastor of the Palm Bay Seventh-day Adventist Church and founder/CEO of U.S. Dream Academy, delivered the address, titled "The Greatest Change."

Phipps is an education activist, motivational speaker, author, pastor and world-renowned vocal artist. For more than 38 years he has delivered messages of hope, advocacy and equality to thousands during his travels around the world.

In his dedicated work with the U.S. Dream Academy, Inc., a non-profit organization that provides mentoring and tutoring to children of incarcerated parents and children falling behind in school who are living in high-risk environments, Phipps has raised the nation's consciousness to the needs of these children. He has also brought his considerable skills to a number of organizations where he has served including Miss America's Outstanding

*Wintley Phipps delivered the Baccalaureate from the platform of the Palm Bay Seventh-day Adventist Church.*



**21**  
Youngest Graduate

**64**  
Oldest Graduate

Teen, the Scholarship America Board of Trustees, the Council for Religious Freedom and Prison Fellowship Ministries.

Phipps has been the featured keynote speaker and performer for many notable occasions around the world, including the inaugural swearing-in ceremony of President George W. Bush and the opening of the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls in South Africa. He has also performed for four different presidents at annual National Presidential Prayer Breakfast events and other distinguished celebrations.

On Saturday afternoon, various colleges, schools and departments held their own celebratory services.

The weekend's events concluded with Virtual Commencement services on Sunday, Aug. 2. Each service began with a greeting and invocation from the dean of the College/Seminary and

**49** COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

remarks from President Luxton. They also included a slideshow of graduates, a special selection from the Department of Music, an alumni welcome, a dedicatory prayer and a benediction.

Archived videos of the Virtual Commencement services and many of the Celebration of Graduates services can be found on the Andrews Facebook page and at [andrews.edu/go/youtube](http://andrews.edu/go/youtube).

**HOWARD**  
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER  
ON THE CAMPUS OF ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

**PLEASE NOTE:** As of publication date, fall 2020 Howard Center programming will take place virtually. Andrews University Department of Music events will be available at [facebook.com/AndrewsUniversityMusic](https://facebook.com/AndrewsUniversityMusic).

If COVID-19 restrictions for live audiences are lifted, this policy will be

reassessed based on decisions made by Andrews University. At this point, the Howard Center is planning for spring 2021 events to be in-person unless COVID-19 restrictions are still mandated by the state of Michigan and the University. Visit [howard.andrews.edu](http://howard.andrews.edu) for updates and further information.



Campus Update



Mentoring groups for new students



Welcoming parents and freshmen at FIRST STOP

The "New Normal"

New Student Orientation Week and the first week of school gave our campus community a taste of this semester's "new normal." We are happy to welcome students back to campus—with masks on!



COVID-19 testing



FIRST STOP



Outdoor movie night



J.N. Andrews Honors Program orientation



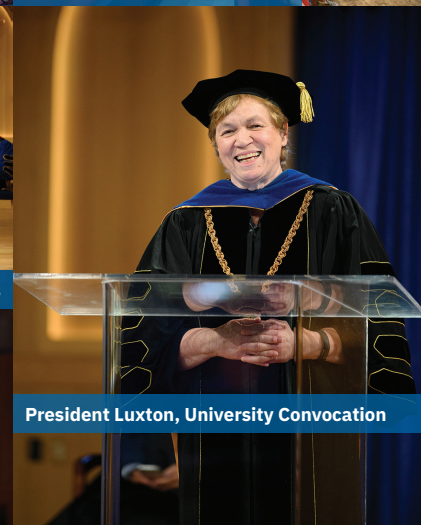
Move-in



Meet-up for Hispanic students



University Vespers



President Luxton, University Convocation



# Time flies when you're having fun

*Bonnie Beres retires after 46 years of service*

**“WHEN I FIRST STARTED WORKING AT THE Seminary at age 25 I never would have guessed that I would be there 46 years later...it just happened. As the saying goes, ‘Time flies when you’re having fun,’”** says Bonnie.

Bonnie graduated from Andrews with a bachelor’s degree in English and a minor in speech in 1970. She then taught four years at Cleveland Junior Academy. After moving with her family to Berrien Springs, she applied for and was hired as the administrative assistant for the Christian Ministry department.

“The thing I most appreciated about working at Andrews has been the interaction with students throughout the years. I made many good friends and know many pastors, conference officials and GC officials. Some of us still keep in touch through social media. It has also been fun seeing the children of former students follow in their parents’ footsteps and enroll in the MDiv program,” Bonnie says.

In particular, Bonnie enjoyed meeting students from all over the world. She remembers befriending a student from Africa named Ebenezer Sackey.

“At one point I hired him to do some work at my house. He did a great job! Then, when he graduated, he returned to Africa and went back to being a conference president! So here was this humble man who didn’t think it beneath him to do some gardening,” she recalls.

Bonnie has fond memories of her years in the Seminary. Throughout that time she sang in the Seminary Chorus and University Chorale. She also had a variety of great bosses including W.G.C. Murdoch, Steven Vitrano, Ben Schoun, Don Jacobsen, Steve Case, George Knight, Peter Swanson and

Hyveth Williams. Additionally she enjoyed working with and developing friendships with other administrative assistants throughout the years.

“It has been great working with the various secretaries through the years,” Bonnie says. “We have become friends who even do things together outside of work. The atmosphere of working in the Seminary has been great.”

**“What has driven my life is to do the best I can at whatever I do and strive to serve the Lord and the church.”**

At work, and in her daily life, Bonnie consistently tries to follow the Golden Rule—to treat others as she would want them to treat her. “What has driven my life is to do the best I can at whatever I do and strive to serve the Lord and the church,” she says.

During her years at the Seminary, Bonnie worked under eight deans and 11 department chairs. She also witnessed many changes on campus: additions to the James White Library and the Seminary; the demolition of Griggs Hall and the remodeling of Nethery Hall; and the construction of Harrigan Hall, Buller Hall, Chan Shun Hall, the Howard Performing Arts Center and the Andreasen Center for Wellness.

In retirement, Bonnie will miss interacting with students, but she is looking forward to seeing her family and friends more often, reading, relaxing, crocheting and volunteering at Neighbor 2 Neighbor.



**Top:** Bonnie Beres in 1975, shortly after beginning work at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary **Bottom:** Recent bio photo of Bonnie

## The joy of knowing and witnessing

*Cynthia Helms retires after 35 years of service*

“ANDREWS IS A MISSION FIELD,” SAYS Cynthia Helms, “a little United Nations.”

In fact, Cynthia was a missionary teacher in Ethiopia before she began working at Andrews University. Prior to that, she served as a librarian in the Philippines.

When her husband began his graduate degree at Andrews, Cynthia came with him and began working as a reference assistant at the James White Library (JWL). Now, 35 years later, she has held a variety of positions at the library as an associate reference librarian, interlibrary loan librarian, interlibrary loan consultant, and most recently head of the Information Services Department—a role that she has had for the past 26 years.

**“One of my favorite parts of working at Andrews was the joy of knowing and witnessing how the student employees I’ve coached through the years achieve success in life...”**

“During all the years that I worked, I witnessed and participated in the transition from print to electronic; and in the move from IBM PCs with dot matrix printers, to the use of CD-ROMS to search databases, and finally to web-based online databases,” she recalls. With each of these shifts, Cynthia helped train the reference personnel to meet the changes.

She also played an integral part in creating open library workshops for international students, creating library pathfinders and setting up the instruction lab. In each of these roles, Cynthia always gave her best. She remembers



one phrase in particular that helped to guide her. “None of self and all of Thee. I am here to serve the Lord,” she says.

One of the things that Cynthia appreciated the most as a JWL employee was the opportunity to attend conferences and other training sessions. “Conference attendance broadened my professional life because it allowed me to be an active participant especially in the Association of Seventh-day Adventist Librarians where I held various positions.”

She also enjoyed collaborating with faculty from other departments as a member in various committees and councils.

“With Andrews’ high profile in the Seventh-day Adventist church, many people come in and go out of the portals of this University. I am able to meet new and old friends/colleagues, former students and Andrews alums who come back to enroll their kids in schools,” Cynthia says. “One of my favorite parts of working at Andrews was the joy of knowing and witnessing how the student employees I’ve coached through

the years achieve success in life and occupy various positions of responsibility in God’s work.”

Indeed, Cynthia has noticed numerous qualities about students over the years, particularly their spirituality, helpfulness and willingness to say thank you. She has seen students pray with each other throughout the library and offer spare coins to other students who did not have enough cash to pay for their printouts.

In one incident Cynthia was waiting for the opening session to begin at a librarian’s conference in another country when a man approached her and told her how much he appreciated the help that she had given him when he was a student at Andrews.

“I tried to ask his name but he just smiled. When it was time for the college president to welcome the attendees to the conference, the man who approached me earlier stood up to give the speech. What a surprise—the man that I helped many years ago was now the president of the college! And he did not forget what I had done for him,” she says.

Cynthia was also involved in The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. She was a founding member of the Andrews chapter and served as its first vice president. She later served as a public relations officer and as president.

“During my term as president, Andrews University’s candidate received a fellowship. That was the first time that Andrews had received such an honor,” she says.

Cynthia also enjoyed attending Pioneer Memorial Church and numerous programs, concerts and cultural activities on the Andrews campus. In retirement she plans to stay in the area, travel to visit family and friends and work on her hobbies—reading, organizing her recipes and trying them out.



## Showing the strength of our faith

*Celebrating Duane McBride's legacy of research and service at Andrews University*

“WHEN I WAS IN THIRD GRADE I decided that I wanted to be a university professor,” says Duane McBride. “That objective really has guided my life and I am very grateful to Andrews for allowing me to fulfill that goal.”

Duane, his wife Amy and two children moved to Andrews in 1986 and he began working as a professor of sociology. Before arriving at Andrews, Duane was a professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Miami, School of Medicine. He had also attended Andrews as a student from 1964–68.

Duane served as chair of the Andrews University Department of Behavioral Sciences for 22 years and executive director of the Institute for the Prevention of Addictions. While he retired as chair a few years ago, Duane will continue in his role as executive director.

“Working here has strengthened my faith,” says Duane. “I most appreciate the genuine and successful effort to integrate faith, learning and scholarship. Unlike most universities, we have the freedom to do this.”

In addition to being a professor, Duane had also wanted to conduct research—a goal that he fulfilled at Andrews.

“I am very pleased to see how the culture of Andrews has grown in its commitment to scholarly research and creative activities and integrating scholarship with teaching. The School of Social & Behavioral Sciences has the second highest scholarly productivity at Andrews and the highest in the College of Arts & Sciences,” he explains.

Duane has furthered scholarship by bringing funding for Andrews research efforts from the National Institute of Health, the National Institute of Justice and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. He also led a research group that brought a large amount of research for the General Conference of Seventh-day

Adventists to Andrews and helped to create a research team here that will be conducting the next global church member survey. Additionally, he chaired the local county public health board when Berrien County became the first West Michigan county to go smoke-free in all public places.

“I have had the pleasure of working with some of the best students in the world. I have very much enjoyed mentoring so many over the decades,” says

**“I think as Christians, we are called to be the best we can be, to work hard and show the strength of our faith by our successful work.”**

Duane. “The ones that most stand out in my mind are the young scholars who have won awards for their research and even published in scientific/professional journals as undergraduate students.”

Duane noted that he was very fortunate to have the strong support of his family in his career. He has also enjoyed working with his colleagues and University administrators. He cites their support and continuous encouragement as a motivating force throughout his career.

He finds support and inspiration in the stories of Moses and Daniel. “They witnessed for God by being outstanding in all that they did; as leaders in foreign lands. I think as Christians, we are called to be the best we can be, to work hard and show the strength of our faith by our successful work,” Duane says.

Though retired from teaching, Duane is eager to continue his research through his position of senior research professor of sociology.

“I appreciate the commitment of Andrews faculty to advance their scholarly fields; to be content-based leaders in their fields of study,” he says. “My research has shown the basic strength of core tenants of our faith in promoting resilience as we face the vicissitudes of life.”



## Loving unconditionally

*Kathleen Demsky serves as the ARC librarian for over 30 years*

NEVER IN A MILLION YEARS DID KATHLEEN Demsky imagine she would be a librarian. In her era, librarians were grouchy, intimidating and did not dress nicely.

However, when her husband, Conrad, was invited to teach at Andrews University, Kathleen was also asked to work as the assistant to the director at the Architecture Resource Center (ARC), a branch of the James White Library (JWL). While working there she took classes at Andrews and Bethel College to complete her bachelor's degree. Kathleen then went on to study for her master's in

**“I have had the joy and privilege of working with students from every walk of life, every nation and every culture.”**

library science, graduating from Indiana University in Bloomington.

“Only God brought me through both working in ARC 40 hours per week while attending classes full-time simultaneously,” she says.

Now, Kathleen is retired as an associate professor and director of the ARC—a position she has held for over 30 years.

“When I first began my employment in the ARC I made a pact with God that whomever came through the library doors, no matter what they looked like or how they acted, I would love them unconditionally. Once in a while that has been put to the test, but then I am reminded of what I promised God and that turned my heart,” she says.

Because of her prior experiences with librarians, Kathleen did everything she could to make the ARC an especially welcoming place for all who came to study. She created a handout for all incoming students to the School of Architecture & Interior Design (SAID) which began with, “The ARC is a place to read, sleep, study, eat, philosophize, dream, design and theorize.”

Her efforts paid off—the ARC is known

as a place where SAID students spend hours studying, resting and collaborating with their colleagues and faculty. Receptions, Friday night vespers, classes and other functions are also regularly held in the ARC.

“I have had the joy and privilege of working with students from every walk of life, every nation and every culture,” says Kathleen. “If you walk into the ARC you will see flags hanging from the ceiling, which represent students from all parts of the world. Two years ago an idea came to me to find out what countries and parts of the world our architecture students were coming to us from. I began to purchase the flags that represented their home countries. We now have over 45 flags representing various countries showing their beautiful colors.”

Engaging with these students has been Kathleen's favorite part of her work. She enjoys watching them come as freshmen and leave with their various degrees.

“Students become family as the years go by—I have been privileged with receiving many cards and letters of appreciation. God receives the credit for this; it is His school and His library and His young people,” she explains.

For her commitment and care toward each student, Kathleen was awarded the Faith Development Leadership Award in 2005 from Andrews.

She has also been recognized for her extensive dedication as the publication display coordinator for the Environmental Design Research Association (EDRA)—she was the recipient of an EDRA Service Award in 1996. As described by EDRA, the purpose of this collection is “to advance the art and science of environmental design, to improve understanding of the interrelationships between people and the built environment and to create environments responsive to human needs.”

Kathleen, along with her husband, attended 28 consecutive EDRA conferences where they organized the annual book display and continually worked to curate and add to the collection. As a result of



her dedication, the ARC is the official repository for the EDRA archive collections.

“I appreciate the support I have had to develop my philosophy of a special library—to make it a place that supports the curriculum of SAID. It has been said that the ARC is the jewel in the crown of James White Library. We have been told by the National Architecture Accrediting Board that our library collection is cutting edge and outstanding,” Kathleen says.

In each of her pursuits, Kathleen cites her faith in God's leading as a driving force in her life. She fondly recalls a card in her father's handwriting which had been tucked into his Bible. When he passed away the Bible became hers and she frequently refers to that card: “One must accept the fact that there are things and people over which we have no control. Therefore, these things are not our responsibility and must be left with an all knowing and all wise God.” She enjoys passing these words onto her students as well.

Kathleen is retiring as director of ARC, however she is staying on part-time as an adjunct faculty for JWL and SAID. She is looking forward to continuing work with students and colleagues in this position.

“I would make the choice to be here at Andrews Architecture Resource Center over again,” she says. “It was the best decision of my life.”



## In between the lines

*A literary mission—Dan Drazen retires as editor of the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index*

IN 1992 THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST Periodical Index moved from La Sierra University to Andrews University, and Dan Drazen came with it. As editor of the Index, Dan's job was to unpack the resources and rebuild it.

This was not Dan's first time at Andrews. He had earned a bachelor's in theology in 1974 and met his wife, Nancy Noble, on the Andrews campus. They were married for a little over 34 years before she passed away in 2011.

"At Andrews I appreciated the sense of belonging, and not just because I was working at an Adventist institution. Between graduating from Rosary College in River Forest, Illinois, and coming to Andrews, I worked for a number of companies large and small, and none had the same feel that I experienced at Andrews, and not just because I was an alumnus," Dan explains. "As the flagship institution of higher education for the Seventh-day Adventist Church, it became clear to me what the overall purpose was of indexing and making accessible published articles in the Seventh-day Adventist press. The job was as much of a mission as classroom teaching or serving overseas."

Throughout his years in the field of

library science, Dan has seen the role of technology grow immensely. When he was younger he loved going to the library and had fond memories of its wood floors, shelves and furniture.

"When I worked on getting my Master of Arts in library science in the mid-1970s, however, library automation was one class, and electronic database searching was one day of that class. Now, there is no aspect of library science that does not involve automation or computerization in some way, and the Index is no different; what began as an annual printed index is now an online database in the process of being incorporated into the Adventist Digital Library," he says.

**"For some people, it would be as interesting as watching paint dry, but I can now say that it was my dream job."**

Despite the changes in the field, Dan has stayed committed to his guiding principle: service. "On the last day of the Library Administration class in graduate school, the professor passed out a simple cardboard sign to each student with one word printed on it: 'SERVICE.' I keep coming back to that because it's a reminder of what

working in a library, no matter the department, is all about," he says.

While Dan's job was mostly a solitary activity, he still viewed it as an act of service and enjoyed developing new skills and having the freedom to create a helpful routine from nothing.

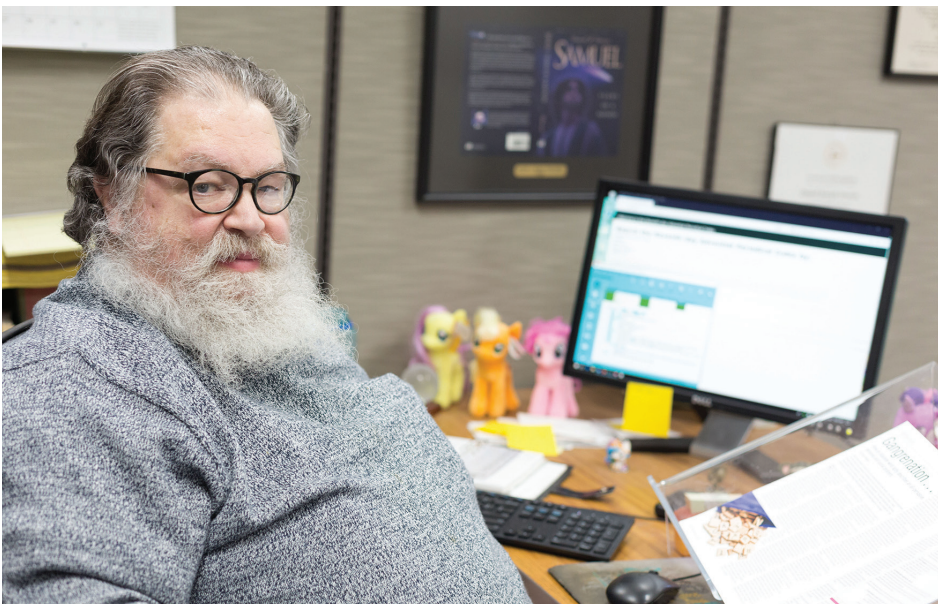
"I had gotten so used to getting blank looks from people when I told them I edit a periodical index that I changed the answer to 'I read magazines for a living.' People usually pause for a second trying to process what they just heard, then break into a smile. I then tell them about the work part...but that's still the heart of the job: reading magazines for a living," Dan explains.

"For some people, it would be as interesting as watching paint dry, but I can now say that it was my dream job."

In retirement, Dan will miss the constant access to the wide variety of articles from church management to church design, from missions to nutrition, from church celebrations to controversies. "Though confined to a single religious denomination, there was a wonderful eclecticism about the content," he says.

Dan plans to stay in the Berrien Springs area, spend time with his twin brother and get back into writing. "I also feel I can continue being of service as a retiree: being a church usher, volunteering at the Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen and helping to stock the food shelves at Neighbor 2 Neighbor."

*Dan Drazen enjoyed reading magazines for a living while he served as editor of the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index.*



## Doing good, seeking justice and defending the oppressed

*Dawn Dulhunty retires after 20 years of service at Andrews*

DAWN DULHUNTY BEGAN WORKING for the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) in 1975, firstly in Zambia, followed by Nepal and Kosovo, where she and her husband Paul worked tirelessly to defend the oppressed and inspire change for a better life.

In 1996, Dawn was part of the first cohort to undertake the Master of Science Administration (MSA) program at Andrews University designed for ADRA employees, which combined theory with practical humanitarian management skills. “It was such a rewarding experience,” she says.

In 2000, Dawn became program director for the off-campus International Development Program (IDP) through Andrews, the successor to the MSA degree. In this role she has worked with over 1,000 students and 100 instructors representing numerous countries, organizations and language groups.

“The personal stories of what these students have experienced in a complex and challenging world is humbling, and their achievements

with the help of Andrews University higher-degree education is truly amazing,” Dawn says. “I have an enormous sense of pride to see the enthusiasm these mature-age students dedicate to their learning and the value they place in their association with Andrews University.”

**“My desire is that our Andrews University students always succeed and make this world a better place.”**

While obtaining the Master of International Development Administration (MIDA) degree, these students have attended teaching intensives in sites around the world including Chile, Dominican Republic, Togo, Ghana, Kenya, Italy, Ukraine, Rwanda and South Africa.

“It has also been extremely rewarding to work behind the scenes with Andrews University faculty and staff to develop a high-quality program

delivered by a talented group of academics and mentors,” she says. “The humanitarian and outreach focus of Andrews University to provide scholarships and support for students from some of the most disadvantaged countries around the world also makes me proud.”

Some of the Andrews faculty and staff have had a particularly lasting and positive impact on Dawn. Øystein LaBianca, professor of anthropology and associate director, Institute of Archaeology, played a strategic role in designing the IDP and encouraged Dawn to apply to be the first program director. She is humbly grateful to LaBianca and others at Andrews for the acknowledgement that she and her husband, Paul, received as recipients of the J.N. Andrews Medallion for their work with the IDP. Dawn is also thankful for the dedication and friendship of Rodrick Snow, program manager.

As the IDP winds down in its current format, Dawn intends to continue advising the last cohort of students who are completing their requirements to graduate in the 2020–2021 school year. In retirement she plans to spend more time with her family including her husband Paul and her children, Joel and Mechelle, who live with their families in and around Brisbane, Australia.

“From my early years of growing up in a missionary family in India until now, my life’s journey has been inspired by the verse: ‘Learn to do right; seek justice; defend the oppressed’ (Isaiah 1:17),” Dawn explains. “God has blessed me in so many ways. The Andrews University song says: ‘A lofty purpose you inspire, you help us reach our hearts desire, our dear AU.’ My desire is that our Andrews University students always succeed and make this world a better place.”





# Brought for a purpose

*Celebrating Xiaoming Xu's years of service at the JWL*

IN 1988, XIAOMING XU SERVED AS a national guide for a group from Berrien Springs, Michigan, that visited Beijing, Xian, Guilin, Hang Zhou and Shanghai, China.

She had been working in the travel business for more than 13 years as a tour guide for the China International Travel Services, Shanghai branch.

“We got to know each other quite well. This group impressed me deeply and they were impressed by my service,” describes Xiaoming. “They asked me what my plan for my future was and I told them I wished to be able to improve myself and go to school to study. They told me about Andrews University and sponsored me to come to Andrews to study.”

Xiaoming was hired to work at the James White Library (JWL) as a staff member in the bibliographic services department in 1993 after graduating with her MBA from Andrews. From staff to faculty, she has worked at Andrews for 27 years.

“I have learned a lot. It changed my life goal. At the beginning my goal was to get a degree and to land a good job with a higher income. By and by I was influenced by the Christians around me and I thought more of giving and contributing than getting. And I have been enjoying



**“At the beginning my goal was to get a degree and to land a good job with a higher income. By and by I was influenced by the Christians around me and I thought more of giving and contributing than getting.”**

working as a cataloguer in the library,” Xiaoming says.

Over the years Xiaoming has enjoyed working with numerous hard working, humble and honest colleagues including Lauren Matacio, Eva Visani, Terry Robertson, Judy Nelson and many others.

Throughout her experiences, she has been inspired and guided by two Bible verses in particular: Jeremiah 29:11 and Ecclesiastes 9:10.

“I trust the Lord brought me here with a purpose, for my benefit and good. I should do my best in whatever I do in my work and life,” she says.

In addition to working with her library colleagues, Xiaoming also enjoyed working with Jerry Chi, assistant dean, professor of management and graduate program director for the College of Professions, and his wife, Grace, professor of nursing and curriculum committee chair, to nurture, care for and help the Chinese students at Andrews.

Though retired, Xiaoming and her family are planning to stay in the area. She will continue to do the things that she enjoys—gardening, photography, scrapbooking and fine arts.

## World Changers Made Here.

CHANGE UNITY HONESTY  
UNDERSTANDING  
COMMUNITY JUSTICE GROWTH  
REFLECTION AWARENESS  
DIVERSITY TRUTH BRAVERY  
LOVE RACIAL PROGRESS  
EQUALITY HEALING LISTEN  
TRANSFORMATION  
PAIN OPPORTUNITY  
PEACE LEARN FREEDOM



# Stories to Tell

## PREFACE

by Meredith Jones Gray

**THE HISTORICAL RECORD OF BLACK STUDENTS** at Battle Creek College, Emmanuel Missionary College, and early 1960s Andrews University is meager at best. We glimpse the Black experience in the earliest years mostly through the incidental anecdotes of white students or the occasional revealing record of a faculty meeting. By the middle of the 20th century we begin to hear the oral histories that make the picture of student life at EMC and Andrews University more complete and inclusive but also bear witness to the institutional policies that set aside and disadvantaged the Black students.

Students of color attended Battle Creek College (1874–1901) quite likely from its very inception if we pay attention to the clues embedded in personal reminiscences such as that of Drury Reavis, son of a plantation owner and former slaveholder, who arrived in Battle Creek in January of 1875, halfway through the first school year. Drury himself was the subject of considerable harassment because of his “Missouri drawl” and unusual “frontier” appearance. He recorded an incident in which he was rescued from the taunts of schoolmates by an African American student with whom he had made friends. Interracial relations, however, were not always so friendly. Faculty minutes from the 1890s document that the gym teachers had excused Black student Minnie Davis from a gymnastic demonstration “on account of a dislike for her color.” They claimed that the other students had complained about having to perform with Minnie. The college faculty voted to cancel the “exhibit” entirely.

After the school’s move to Berrien Springs in 1901, the record of minority students at the newly established Emmanuel Missionary College remains very limited for at least the first 40 years. Black student voices recounting their own experiences emerge mostly in oral histories. One of the earliest comes from Ruth Blackburn North, who took the teacher training course at EMC from 1919–1921. Ruth remembered both

kindness from the girls in the dormitory as well as mean comments about “a little black storm cloud” that she was supposed to overhear.

As campus life became more and more thoroughly documented, a record began to emerge of discriminatory institutional policies—segregated seating in the dining room, for example, where all the Black students were assigned to the same tables. When, in the 1930s, the students asked that the segregation stop, the board reaffirmed its policy—twice. Upon a third request, supported by an African American administrator from the Negro Department of the Lake Union, the board granted the Black students “the coveted pleasure of segregating themselves.”

Some policies began to change in the late 1940s, especially when the veterans, Black and white—who had served together—descended on campus after World War II. But change came slowly, racism was entrenched in official procedures such as admissions, and information was suppressed, even as the portentous decade of the 60s arrived and the college became Andrews University. In 1965, when Karl Anatol, a student from Trinidad, became the first Black student to run for Student Association president, the Student Movement editorial declared: “Such things as the color of a man’s face, ... should not be the determining factors in the selection of the next Student Association president” (25 Feb. 2). But the paper only alluded to and did not report on the unrest that apparently accompanied the election, during which campaign posters were “defaced.” Anatol won the election.

These and many more stories like them must be sought out, uncovered, requested, listened to, and fully heard and acknowledged. Only then will the true history of Andrews University be complete. Only then will our history help us confront the burdens of our past. ■

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Meredith Jones Gray (BA '78, MA '77), professor of English, is the author of “As We Set Forth,” the history of Andrews University from 1874–1960.



PAIN  
PEACE

### I CAME TO ANDREWS AS A FRESHMAN

and left Andrews three weeks after I retired. (Not a smart thing to do, by the way. Wait a couple of months before leaving.)

My first registration process, which took place in Johnson Gym, was probably my worst day at Andrews. I watched my friends come and go along with their parents. Mine had already gone home. I began the process at 8 a.m. and finished at 5 p.m., during which time I watched class after class close while I stayed with my inadequate advisor trying to complete a class schedule that worked with my non-negotiable work schedule. In my tenure at Andrews, I had only one adequate advisor—Shirley Freed.

Finances were always a struggle. The Financial Aid office was the worst place on campus. No Christ-filled love there, with only one exception. I still can't believe I actually completed three degrees from Andrews.

What got me through Andrews was singing in choirs, supportive friends, Collegiate Action for Christ (lifesaving), and finally claiming Philippians 4:13. I can name the professors who were supportive on less than two hands.

One of my departments said I wasn't a serious student but didn't reach out to help me. They just discussed me in their departmental meetings.

I had a supervisor who said, "You don't work like the rest of them," referring to my being Black with a serious work ethic. It was supposed to be a compliment but I considered it very racist.

As a freshman, I had three jobs on campus. My studies suffered because I worked so much. When I went back to school for my second degree, I still worked a lot, only two jobs this time. But I was determined to succeed without debt. I even made the Deans List!

Then there was the time when a friend and I just happened to compare our test results. Our answers were virtually identical; however, as a white girl, she received an A, but as a Black girl, I received a B.

I had one teacher who told me, "You

don't have to worry about this class, you're only taking secretarial studies." Which only made me more determined to work for the A that I received.

When I started graduate school, the dean was ready to kick me out after only one class, which wasn't even a graduate course but a prerequisite to entering the program. During this class I was dealing with the serious illness of my grandmother with many out-of-town trips.

There were cross burnings during my freshman year, meetings with the president of Andrews, and an eventual charge of Institutional Racism which led to the formation of the Black Student Christian Forum (BSCF).

There was always a divide between African Americans, Africans and Caribbean students. The non-American students were offered far more privileges, including invitations to the homes of faculty members.

For two separate jobs the white person who replaced me received a higher wage even though they had much less experience.

I learned a lot at Andrews. I started out as an introverted, shy, never-look-anyone-in-the-eye girl and left an educated, independent and confident woman. I learned that you are judged by the company you keep. That who you know makes a difference. That a good work ethic follows you throughout life. That your friends help to keep you grounded and on the right path. That one word of kindness is like a flat stone that skips across the water. That if you look for Christ at Andrews you will find Him (thank you, James Hanson). And most importantly, that "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." ■

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**Wanda Lovice Cantrell** (BA '73, AS '85, MAT '93) worked at Andrews University for all of her career, both as a student employee and staff. She worked for Dining Services, Custodial Services, the Department of Music, the Press and Apple Valley (when it was owned by Andrews). She worked 12 years at Adventist Information Ministry (10 as the office manager) and 27 at James White Library (23 years and 9 months as the office manager).



### WHAT A DIFFERENCE CAN BE MADE IF WE

reach out to persons who have been previously marginalized and excluded from mainstream opportunities and experiences on the Andrews University campus? The progressing relationship between the members of the BSCF '70s Friends Alumni group and the University illustrates the possibilities.

To date, this '70s group has met approximately nine times since its initial meeting in 1980. Recently, two of the early event coordinators, Jeanne Potter-Brathwaite (Silver Spring, Maryland) and Terri Dallas-Prunskis (Barrington Hills, Illinois), shared the motivation behind the group's reconnecting:

"We missed each other and had experienced...a close bond after attending school together in the early to mid-70s during a time of heightened racial tensions. We did everything together while at school, ate together, worshiped together, played together and we were a family. The BSCF reunions [are] like a family reunion and give [us all] a sense of belonging. We have a strong bond that has spanned over the decades and [we] always pick up from where we left off."

In 2014, I transitioned from Conference level church leadership to fundraising work at Andrews University. Shortly after I began fundraising, I received word that a group of Black Andrews alums from the 1970s were having a reunion in the metropolitan Chicago area. After conversing with my immediate supervisor, we felt that it would be advantageous for Andrews to show its support for the organization's activities by sending me and my wife (who is also an employee of Andrews) to the reunion. Elynda and I made the trek to Chicago on that Friday in August and attended the Sabbath morning service at one of their local churches. When we entered the church, I introduced myself to one of the leaders of the group and assured her that we had no intention of attempting to "fundraise" or even request support from the group during the weekend; rather, we were there to



*Members of the BSCF '70s Friends Alumni group on a return visit to Andrews University in July 2019*

connect and hopefully acknowledge the value of and re-establish a relationship with the group members.

Throughout the weekend, we had opportunity for individual conversations and to listen to testimonies from group members as they shared their positive and negative experiences as college students at Andrews. Some stories were painful. Some were uplifting. But in the final analysis, each story was memorable because it was a heartfelt experience felt by a Black student on Andrews' campus.

We closed the weekend with a brunch at a local Claim Jumper restaurant. Classmates again had the opportunity to fellowship and reminisce about life at Andrews. With a scrumptious meal at hand, the Black alums were able to experience the joy of reconnecting with friends and reflecting on the positive experiences that helped overshadow the negative racial experiences few had avoided while attending Andrews.

As we wound up the meal and the weekend, Elynda and I began passing out small Andrews tokens of appreciation to the group members. Elynda later relayed to me that when she handed an Andrews bumper sticker to one of the

alums, he said to her, "Two weeks ago, I would not have accepted this from you... but I will take one now!"

Several events and meetings have followed that initial contact; the most recent being an on-campus meeting of the BSCF '70s Friends group here on the campus of Andrews in July 2019. After this most recent event the renewed state of the relationship between individuals in the group and the University was best summarized by the sentiments of several Black alums who voiced that for the first time they felt "at home" on the campus.

There is still significant work to be done to attempt to rectify past wrongs; but the growth in the relationship with this single group of BSCF alums from the 70s is a testimony to what God can do to bring about reconciliation when we employ intentional engagement, listening and love. ■

**Donald Bedney** (MDiv '90, MSA '91) and his wife **Elynda** (MSA '98) have been part of the Andrews University community for many years. Donald is a senior development officer for the Office of Development, and Elynda is currently assistant vice president for Student Financial Services.

COMMUNITY JUSTICE GROWTH

# A Path to Healing

*“Jesus said to the people who believed in him, ‘You are truly my disciples if you remain faithful to my teachings. And you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.’” John 8:31–32 (NLT)*

Over the past few months, our country has been dealing with the implications of at least two pandemics. We have been challenged in so many different ways by the global COVID-19 pandemic that has seemed to touch and alter every aspect of our lives. As we continue to live out our “new normal,” it is hard to imagine ever getting back to life as we used to know it. Our country has also been reminded of the never-ending pandemic of racism. The current moment of heightened focus on racial equity and Black Lives Matter has reminded us of the plethora of unresolved issues and avoided conversations that lie beneath the surface of our contrived American version of comfort.

On Sunday, June 7, 2020, a group of local high school students coordinated a peace walk which began and ended on our campus. These young people were inspired to speak up and raise awareness here in Berrien Springs regarding the issue of systemic racism that the United States is facing at this critical moment. Their passion, bravery and boldness were truly inspiring, and it reminded me of

where I was at their age. I had a similar awakening in high school while I was a student at Andrews Academy.

During my junior year, my father was invited by the academy to speak on Black presence in the Bible for a Black History Month Chapel. When he was asked to do this, his first response was, “Are you sure you want me to do that?” Ultimately, he obliged and he came to speak to us on the requested topic. He shared a lot of biblical and historical insight into the topic, but the nugget of information that he shared that ended up being most provocative was the biblical and historical fact that Jesus was not a white man and that evidence suggests that Jesus was dark-skinned.

This sparked a series of events that awakened my classmates and me to the current effects of racism that often lie just beneath the surface of our conversations, behaviors and interactions. During a subsequent heated discussion in a history class, one of my Black classmates was told by another classmate that if he didn’t like it here, he could “go back to Africa.” Another friend of mine was called the “N” word in the gym locker room. All of this in response to the reality that Jesus was not white.

I have often thought back on that critical moment and the conversations that ensued after the fact. It was clear that there were some unsolved

issues and uncomfortable truths that had not been addressed within what we had presumed to be our diverse, inclusive, Christ-centered community. As I have experienced more of life since that moment and especially now that I am doing the work that I am on our Andrews University campus, I can’t help but wonder how differently things may have gone if we had a better framework for hearing, seeing and understanding one another. What if truth-telling had not been something foreign to us but rather a part of our everyday, lived experience within our educational environment? As much as I wish that I could go back in time and share with my younger self what I have learned and discovered now, I am fortunate to have the privilege of sharing a framework that I believe will empower the Andrews family to create a new narrative which is built upon the foundational bedrock of truth-telling that is rooted in the sharing of our lived experiences with one another.

Our administration believes it is providential that this current moment in our country and church’s history has intersected with the culmination of a two and a half year journey that our campus has been on in order to prioritize the work of addressing the pandemic of racism head-on. I am excited to announce that this fall semester we are launch-



ing the Andrews University Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT) Campus Center. The TRHT enterprise was developed by the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and its mission is to help communities embrace racial healing and uproot conscious and unconscious beliefs in the hierarchy of human value.

The AAC&U, of which Andrews University is a member, has the goal of establishing 150 Campus Centers across the country. Andrews University was selected as a part of AAC&U's second cohort of Campus Centers at their annual meeting this past January, and our campus is currently

“What if truth-telling had not been something foreign to us but rather a part of our everyday, lived experience within our educational environment?”

the only Christian campus to have established a TRHT center. Other institutions include Duke University, Brown University, Spelman College, Rutgers University, The Military College of South Carolina and the University of Hawaii. We believe that this collaborative work will position Andrews University to not only impact and engage our campus with the TRHT enterprise but also empower other Adventist (and other Christian) institutions to commit to the long-term work of truth-telling, racial healing and transformation.

The vision of our Campus Center is to “[reclaim] our spiritual narrative to foster truth-telling, healing, and global transformation.” We will focus on locating and amplifying non-dominant narratives within the Adventist story that dismantle the belief in a hierarchy of human value. We will examine the ways in which American Christianity has promoted dominant narratives both domesti-

cally and internationally that have contributed to racism. We will acknowledge and highlight how racism has severed our ability to connect spiritually and to promote healing through the sharing of and critical reflection upon our personal narratives. We will identify ways in which our denomination and institution have perpetuated systemic racism. Lastly, we will restore the narrative about the value of all human life and reconnect with our Creator, ourselves and each other within our campus, local and global communities.

We are excited to partner with Spectrum Health Lakeland and the Lake Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in these efforts. Those partnerships will help us to expand our work beyond our campus and into our surrounding community. Our action steps will also include facilitating “Story Circles” on our campus and in our community both virtually and in-person (when it is safe to do so) which are framed after the TRHT Rx Racial Healing Circle methodology. We also intend to examine artifacts and record historical accounts that we will be able to compile in various multimedia formats. We hope to create a virtual exhibit of what we compile and create in order to highlight some of the powerful and painful unspoken truths that have yet to be told.

We hope that our new TRHT Campus Center will be a hub for truth-telling, racial healing, and global transformation work for years to come. We are not afraid to tell the truth because we know the truth has the power to set us free. In this context, we believe telling the truth has the power to begin the process of dismantling any vestiges that are left within Andrews University, Adventism and Christianity at large of a belief in a hierarchy of human value. We know that belief to be one of the most long-standing and destructive lies that has ever been crafted by the enemy. We also know that telling the truth about how that lie has shaped and infected us personally, as well as the systems that we are a part of, is the first step in the necessary process to eradicate it.

It is often said that the conversation about race in America (and sometimes even globally) is seen in “black-and-white.” In America this is largely due to the particular legacy of anti-Black racism and white supremacy that lies at the fabric of this country's foundation. Our campus center team also recognizes that there are countless individuals that fall somewhere “in-between” that Black/white narrative. We believe that a critical component of our work lies in amplifying the non-dominant narratives that exist among people whose stories are often left out due to being stuck “in the middle.” We seek to hear from and amplify stories shared by people from all across our ethnically and globally diverse Andrews family. Our TRHT Campus Center truly is here for **everyone**, because we all indeed have a story to tell.

One of my moments of healing occurred during that peace walk I mentioned earlier. The students only expected a few hundred people to show up. We ended up having well over 1,000 participants (that's a pretty big deal for Berrien Springs!). During one of the stops along the way, my father, in a moment that I can only describe as inspired by the Spirit of God, asked to share a few words. Among all of the powerful things that he said, these words stuck out to me the most: “The greatest day in this [movement] will not be this day...the greatest day will be tomorrow.” He was reminding all of us in attendance that the path to equity and justice is a long one. It is a marathon, not a sprint. Having that understanding will propel us to commit to the long-term work necessary to chart a new and better path forward built on better promises.

We prayerfully invite you to join us as we engage fully in that process. If you would like to contribute to this project, please feel free to reach out to us via email ([diversity@andrews.edu](mailto:diversity@andrews.edu)), and we will be in touch with you as time and resources permit. ■

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**Michael Nixon** (BS '09) is the first vice president for Diversity & Inclusion at Andrews University.

## WHAT IS THE TRUTH ABOUT RACISM?

For me, it became clear one summer evening in a suburban area of Detroit.

I was an undergraduate student working for Sears as a loss prevention officer. On this particular evening, my friend and co-worker (who was white) and I went to the movies after work. Later, as we were walking home in a dark but well-lit residential neighborhood, a car drove up next to us. I heard the passenger yell out to me, “N\*\*\*\*r, what the f\*\*k are you doing here?” My friend and I ignored him and continued walking.

The passenger, who happened to be white and was in his mid-20s, got out of the car, ran up to me and grabbed my shirt. I quickly grabbed hold of his arms to lock them in place to stop any assaults from occurring. I told my friend, Tom, to remove my Detroit Police Reserve Officer badge out of my back pocket and take it to a house next to us and ask them to call the police.

I could hear Tom tell this person to stop and that I was the police, but he continued to wrestle with me. I clearly remember looking into his face and, more specifically, his eyes. Of course I could smell the alcohol on his breath and determine that he was intoxicated, but what stuck out the most to me at that moment was an intense fear in his eyes and facial expression. It was almost like a look of horror.

As the police sirens neared, he released me and jumped back into the car with his friend. They tried driving away but were quickly apprehended by the police at the end of the block. However, from that moment on, I have come to understand racism to be, at its core, not just about hatred but about the emotion of fear that is fueled by deliberate ignorance.

Now juxtapose that event from over 30 years ago with my professional, personal and academic experience at Andrews University. From the time I was a graduate student in the Seminary to the time I was a doctoral student in the School of Education, I did not directly experience racial discrimination on campus or from faculty and fellow students. Furthermore, from the time I was a staff psychologist in the Counseling & Testing Center to my present position as a faculty member in the School of Social & Behavioral Sciences, I have not directly

experienced obvious racial bigotry from students, faculty and staff.

Have there been institutional concerns? Yes, I believe so. One example is how we have engaged with the Benton Harbor community (which is predominantly Black). Some of the outreach efforts seem to perpetuate the systemic view and mindset that it is a “broken” community. Another example is the minuscule number of African American males in faculty leadership positions on campus.

Although my negative racial encounters on campus are negligible, there are students, staff and faculty who have disclosed to me personal experiences of racial prejudice, biased thinking regarding race and ethnicity, gender unfairness

and poor treatment as a member of the LGBTQ community by fellow students and faculty on campus.

It was hurtful to hear such stories occurring on an Adventist Christian campus, but not unexpected. Based on this, as well as my other personal and professional experiences, I have been and remain committed to making a difference in creating a campus atmosphere and culture that is respectful and open to learning from others who are racially and ethnically different from oneself.

This has included serving on a subcommittee concerning race and diversity that was instrumental in advocating for the current vice president for Diversity & Inclusion executive office. I also show students in my Introduction to Psychology courses a brief documentary on the Tuskegee Airmen “Red Tails” Project in order to expand their understanding, along with providing the opportunity to discuss racial prejudice, discrimination and stereotyping in major U.S. institutions.

Compared to years past, issues of diversity have improved on campus, but we still must continue to press forward. Therefore, in the same mindset as one Tuskegee Airmen said regarding America, “I will continue to hold the hand of [Andrews University] as we get better.” ■

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**Harvey Burnett** (MDiv '94, PhD '01) is a professor of psychology and chair of the School of Social & Behavioral Sciences (formerly Department of Behavioral Sciences). He has been a member of the Andrews University faculty since 2010.



**THIS IS A QUICK BIOPSY OF MY LIVED** experiences in relation to Andrews University. It is a temporal abstract of living tissue—connective and collective—of a third-generation Seventh-day Adventist from the isles of the Southern Caribbean.

My sojourn at Andrews began in the dreams and sacrifices of my parents/home school teachers, Hartwell and Auldith Murray. These were first manifested at Andrews in 1981 when I became an

undergraduate chemistry student and continue in an ongoing chapter begun in 1995 as the first Black professor of chemistry since the department was founded in 1940. I studied and now teach and research in the building dedicated on Oct. 27, 1974, by the late Prime Minister Eric E. Williams of my country of birth. Williams is internationally known for his seminal historical thesis and classic book “Capitalism and Slavery.”

As an undergrad, my recollections are good. I did well. I was treated well. We did well, all three siblings who came to Andrews from the early 80s to the early 90s. We made our parents and family proud. Our transition was made easier by our uncle, Professor Emeritus Walter Douglas and family, who served at Andrews for 35 years from 1969 to 2004. Douglas was the first Black professor in the Seminary. For me, another important memory and positive influence was Professor Dwain Ford. I was in his organic chemistry class, graded for him and did at least two research projects under his guidance. He would later on be instrumental in bringing me back to Andrews.

Interestingly, it is only during my tenure as a teacher at Andrews that I've personally experienced and come to know the ugliness, toxicity and evil of its racism. Some instances at the hands of students, others by colleagues, most resolved, but one still remaining an unresolved open wound for 15 years. Collectively, they have cast a dark shadow and left a bitter taste. But, I am still here with undaunted joy and self-determination in pursuit of excellence, childhood dreams and God's will. What has kept me here is multiple, including my students—high school and college; service in and absorption into the community and lives of the people of Benton Harbor; and continuing opportunities to pioneer early research on- and off-campus.

While progress in the racial climate on campus has been made structurally and personally, especially under our current administration, much work of redemption remains to be done. This includes fostering greater success of our Black students and faculty; visibly recognizing the historic contributions, even against the odds, of its Black employees, and more broadly, Black contributors to global Adventism; and providing all faculty with professional mentoring in teaching effectively and working compassionately at a multicultural global institution. I pray that all at Andrews will come to see, as stated in “Education,” page 80, “infinite possibilities” in every human being—every student and every colleague.

In the end we must all, as Tennyson's words envisioned, be “strong in will to strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield” from a shared, faith-informed vision of and commitment to a beloved learning community, where everybody matters, feels affirmed and inspired, at peace, at home and loved beyond earthly measure. ■

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**Desmond Murray** (BS '85) is an associate professor of chemistry in the Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry. He has been a member of the Andrews University faculty since 1994.





## Journey: A Caring Musical Ministry

In 2003, two music students, Jewel Scott and Marguerite Brennen (now Samuel), had a discussion with Baron Sovory and Martin Lister, two Seminary students, about getting a group together to sing the good old African American spirituals, something that was becoming a lost art. So they invited their friends to come together and sing. The first rehearsal was in the Lamson Hall Chapel and the official start date was Oct. 26, 2003.

Journey started out as just having fun singing together. But after singing special music at a church, they found their music touched people in a special way so they decided to be more intentional about their music ministry.

Non-music ministry was always included as well, such as cleaning yards for the elderly or interacting with developmentally disabled students at Blossomland in Berrien Springs.

Journey also wanted to have more of a presence on campus, so in 2015 Operation Dorm/Campus Care was created. Through a survey that Marguerite conducted with the residence hall deans and Campus Ministries, they found that many students felt neglected and uncared for. They wanted to provide hurting students (which later expanded to faculty and staff) with a custom-made package, including a personally written note, that addressed their special needs while providing comfort and caring. These circumstances included the death of a loved one, depression, undecided major, being overwhelmed, etc. These care packages had a profound impact on campus.

From 2003–2018, Journey's music ministry touched lives with over 120 members through its years of operation. Their final reunion concert was held in April 2018 (shown above) because Marguerite and Wanda were planning to move away from Berrien Springs, Michigan. Wanda Cantrell, a charter member who later became a co-sponsor, then sponsor/manager, says, "We were blessed as much or more than the blessings we gave."

## The Legacy of New Life Fellowship

For the past 29 years New Life Fellowship has thrived and grown on the Andrews campus. The idea for this church began in 1990 when Newton Hoilette, then vice president for Student Services, noticed that a percentage of students were not attending church. After initiating a three-year assessment of numerous individuals across the Andrews campus, Hoilette determined that there was a need for worship options on campus that could meet the diverse spiritual needs of Andrews students.

In response, the Black Worship Committee was formed in 1990 to create an ethnically inclusive worship service whose target audience was the African American population on campus.

Out of this committee, New Life Fellowship was created and held its first service on Oct. 5, 1991, with more than 200 attendees in the Seminary Chapel. Since then they have doubled their membership. New Life regularly hosts approximately 250–300 worshippers each Sabbath in the Howard Performing Arts Center.

New Life Fellowship continues to be a venue for students to get involved in a meaningful worship experience. Numerous spiritual leaders began ministering in New Life as student leaders, and current students still organize, plan and participate in the church service, whether in music or preaching.



# FREEDOM



**THE BLACK STUDENT CHRISTIAN FORUM (BSCF)** officially began in 1972, as documented by the Student Movement. Conversations began in the late 60s after two cross burnings and meetings with President Hammill concerning institutional racism. After attempts at brotherhood week, BSCF was a much-needed outlet for the voices of the Black students. BSCF has always been open to anyone who wanted to join.

Many best remember BSCF for the Friday night Sing-ins, currently called Impact, a time for fellowship and spiritual renewal after the week's activities. In 1980, Derek Logan and Jeanne Potter-Brathwaite sought to bring this experience back for the BSCF Alumni. Thus BSCF Alumni was formed.

Opportunities to get together during the annual Alumni Homecoming were enjoyable, but BSCF Alumni decided they needed to give back to current students and make the organization more than planning for this annual social event.

During the tenure of Baldwin Barnes as president and Wanda Cantrell as treasurer, the committee worked diligently to create a BSCF Alumni Endowment. Wanda says, "I remembered how much I could have used a scholarship that was based on financial need versus academic standing. I continue to receive thank yous from scholarship recipients. I believe this endowment is one of BSCF Alumni's greatest contributions to Andrews University."

### CHALLENGE YOUR WORLDVIEW

A comprehensive collection of resources, including links to lectures, sermons, podcasts, articles, web pages and documentaries, is available at the following location: [andrews.edu/diversity/trht\\_campus\\_center/anti\\_racist\\_resources](https://andrews.edu/diversity/trht_campus_center/anti_racist_resources). Both biblical and non-religious responses to anti-Black racism are presented.

## George Floyd Scholar Program

ON JUNE 4, 2020, DURING THE MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR GEORGE FLOYD, Scott Hagan, president of North Central University in Minneapolis, Minnesota, challenged "every university president in the United States of America to establish your own George Floyd Memorial Scholarship Fund" in honor of Floyd, a Black man killed by police in Minneapolis.

Andrews University took up the challenge and instituted a George Floyd Scholar Program. The program gives a full scholarship to an African American student each year (valid for up to five years of study for each Scholar). Recipients are Pell eligible and show active engagement in creating hope and positive change in the community. Andrea Luxton, president, says, "At Andrews University, we want to use this investment in our students as a way to honor, seek and support future World Changers."



The recipient of the 2020–2021 George Floyd Scholarship is **Jennifer Jean**, a freshman biology major. The following is an excerpt from an essay Jennifer submitted in applying for the Scholar program.

"The day I received the notification for the George Floyd Scholar opportunity, someone from my church family had been working with me to figure out finances for university. I was devastated at the realization that financial clearance for my first semester of college might not be possible, yet it was her support that encouraged me to keep on trying.

I know all too well the ups and downs of living below what the federal government would call the poverty line...This required me to begin working at an early age...From semester to semester, year to year, I never knew how my schooling would be paid for or what to expect next. Yet, the people in my community have never failed to support and care for me.

The community's continued support is why I am committed to mentoring others once I have graduated and am financially stable. It is also one of the many things that motivate me to become financially literate so that I can give back...."

Jennifer's essay then details her current community work. She ministers each month through music at a nursing home. She and her peers started "Girl We Need to Talk," an annual event focusing primarily on educating female peers about care for their physical, emotional/mental and spiritual health.

She is also a mentee—and aims to be a mentor—in "We Ready," a young adult preparatory program. She writes, "Being a part of this group has helped me verbalize how I'd like to merge my career goals with my passion for community. After obtaining my degree in dentistry, I plan on giving back by doing free oral cleaning/check-ups for people who cannot afford dental care."

As she begins college, she would like to start a monthly outreach involving encouragement, reading material, prayer and food for unserved and underserved communities. "I believe one way to truly serve a community is to spread the gospel and to do the work of God."

To donate to the George Floyd Scholar program, contact the Office of Development at 269-471-3124 or [andrews.edu/go/give/GFScholar](https://andrews.edu/go/give/GFScholar).

EQUALITY HEALING LISTEN



September 25–27, 2020 | [alumni.andrews.edu/celebrateAU](http://alumni.andrews.edu/celebrateAU)

# A Global Celebration of Andrews



Join us virtually from wherever you are around the world to participate in a Global Celebration of Andrews (it's free) with programming straight from the campus of Andrews University throughout the weekend. Join in Sabbath School discussions, Q&A sessions and webinars; enjoy musical features; share your stories and greetings from across the globe; show your Andrews' school spirit through social media; join us for a Virtual 5k; watch a special program about Andrews University; and more!

## SHARE YOUR STORY

### We want to hear from you!

We would love for you to share a greeting, story or memory through video, photo or writing that we can include as part of the Global Celebration of Andrews. Consider taking a video of yourself (it doesn't have to be professional, a selfie on your phone is fine!) talking about where and what you're doing now or recalling a memory from your time at Andrews, or share some old photos from when you studied at Andrews.

If you would like to share, please visit [alumni.andrews.edu/celebrateAU](http://alumni.andrews.edu/celebrateAU) to sign up for the weekend and receive more info or to submit your content directly.

## SCHEDULE

### Friday, Sept. 25

- Welcome
- Download virtual goodie bag
- #andrewsalumni photo contest
- Virtual 5k begins (you have until 5 p.m. on Sunday to walk/run the 5k and submit your results)
- University Vespers

### Saturday, Sept. 26

- Sabbath School
- Livestreamed church services
- Campus tour (tentative: tune in for a livestreamed walk-through tour of campus)
- Musical and departmental programming
- Main feature: Andrews University program

### Sunday, Sept. 27

- Online workout class
- "Tea with the President" Q&A (tentative)
- Webinars
- 5 p.m. | Virtual 5k results submission deadline
- Virtual 5k leaderboard results and participants digital photoboard

Stay tuned to see the final schedule coming soon at [alumni.andrews.edu/celebrateAU](http://alumni.andrews.edu/celebrateAU)

## Highlights

### Virtual 5k

Join us in running or walking a 5k from wherever you are! Starting Friday, Sept. 25, simply run or walk 3.1 miles/5 kilometers, track it on your device (Garmin Connect, Strava, Nike App, whatever works) and send us the results before 5 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 27. Bonus points if you send us a selfie during/after your run/walk, and double bonus points if you're wearing Andrews gear or colors (blue/gold). We'll set up a leaderboard and pictures of participants from around the globe afterward.

### Andrews University Program

Don't miss this special filmed feature about Andrews University, showcasing campus footage, alumni and updates about the University.

### Special Edition

#### Andrews T-shirt

As part of the upcoming Global Celebration of Andrews festivities, alums had the opportunity to purchase a special edition Andrews University T-shirt, featuring the Andrews Globe, to proudly show off their alma mater.



And much more! Learn more and register at [alumni.andrews.edu/celebrateAU](http://alumni.andrews.edu/celebrateAU)



# Andrews Legacy

2020 has been a unique year to say the least, and New Student Orientation reflected some of the changes that the University has implemented. Incoming freshmen maintained social distancing with one to two family members as they walked through FIRST STOP, held this year in Buller Hall and Johnson Gymnasium. The Alumni Association greeted our new Legacy students—those with a sibling, parent and/or grandparent who attended Andrews—and took photos of the students and family members to celebrate their legacy connection.









# Andrews Network

## WHAT IT IS

The Andrews Network, recently launched by the Office of Alumni Services, is an online networking, mentoring and jobs board platform exclusive to the Andrews community. The platform provides a place where alumni can connect with each other and with current students.

“We began enrollment by inviting alumni to join the platform,” says Andriy Kharkovyy, director of Alumni Services. “We already have nearly 500 alumni who have joined the platform, and nearly 60 percent of them have indicated a willingness to help a current Andrews student through conversation or mentorship.”

The next step is a student launch this fall. The Office of Alumni Services is working with Campus & Student Life, the Andrews University Student Association (AUSA), and the Andrews University Graduate Student Association (AUGSA) to spread the word among students. Several departments have already gotten on board such as mathematics and physical therapy, which have both started groups on the Andrews Network.

“We look forward to seeing the Andrews Network become a community where alumni can easily

connect with each other and even give back by helping each other as well as our current students through answering questions and mentorship,” says Kharkovyy.

## NETWORKING/ALUMNI DIRECTORY

The Andrews Network features an alumni directory of those who have joined the platform. This is a great place to expand your network and connect with former classmates and other alumni. The filter feature allows you to narrow your search to find those with similar degrees, nearby locations, class years and other criteria. It’s a great tool for growing your network!

## MENTORING

Do you remember when you were a college student and you wished you could ask someone questions about different career paths for your major, grad school, starting a business, how to successfully transition from a student to a professional, or similar questions? Or perhaps you have experienced a mentor who impacted your life through his/her

guidance and interest in you. Consider becoming that mentor, that person who is willing to take some time to converse and share with one of our current Andrews students.

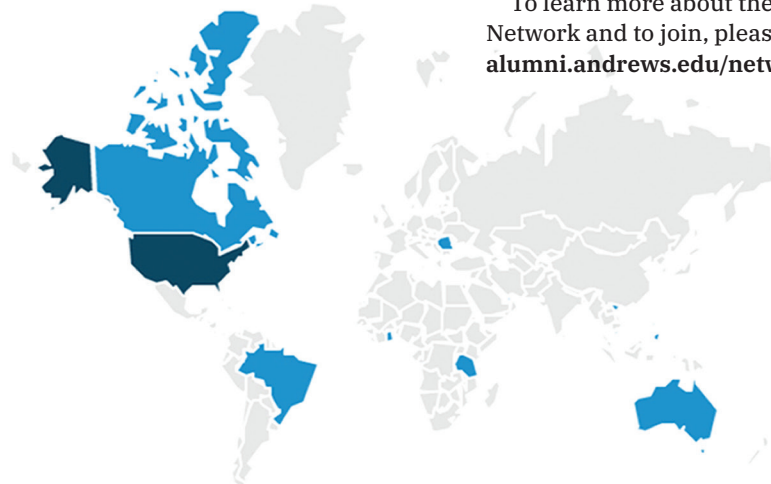
The Andrews Network automatically suggests “mentoring matches” based on experience/interest similarities. Students can also search through the directory to find mentors. If you select “Willing to Help” when signing up, you can select which ways you’re willing to offer help by phone/video conversations, answering questions by email, mentoring about industry advice, skill building, professional growth or an assortment of other options.

And if you’re worried about time constraints, you can easily set limits on the number of people you’re willing to help at a time. It’s a great way to help guide future alumni on a path for success.

## JOB BOARD

The Andrews Network also features an online job posting board. Gone are the days of printing an internship opening and putting it up on a bulletin board! Employers can create profiles on the Andrews Network, too, giving students easy access to recruiters (employers have limited access). The job board provides an accessible, central location where Andrews students (and alums) can view open internships and jobs. Alums can also post jobs! Is your company or organization looking for a top-notch intern or candidate? Post it on the Andrews Network to draw in applicants from the Andrews student and alumni community.

To learn more about the Andrews Network and to join, please visit [alumni.andrews.edu/network](http://alumni.andrews.edu/network).



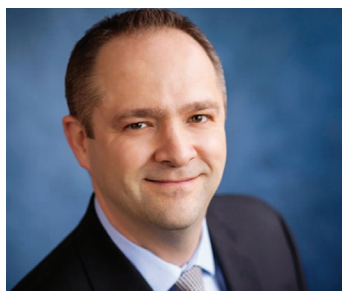


## Webinars



**Dr. Samara Sterling** (MS '13) gave an excellent talk during July's webinar, "Plant-Based Nutrition for Disease Prevention." Sterling currently serves as the research director for The Peanut Institute and has worked as a researcher and nutrition consultant on a variety of health and nutrition-related initiatives.

During the course of the conversation, she discussed building the immune system as a defense against COVID-19, disease prevention and treatment through nutrition, diet trends and more.



**Vladimir Radivojevic** (BS '95, MSPT '96) presented "The COVID-19 Crisis" for August's webinar. As the vice president and chief operating officer at AMITA Health Adventist Bolingbrook & GlenOaks Hospitals, Vladimir has unique insights into the challenges that hospitals have faced during this

crisis. He gave a dynamic presentation discussing the trends that occurred and how the hospitals adapted to new challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. Vladimir mentioned prominent indicators, progression and recovery timing that he's noticed as a healthcare executive and answered questions live from viewers.

The recordings are available to view at [alumni.andrews.edu/webinar](https://alumni.andrews.edu/webinar). To learn about upcoming webinars, please visit [alumni.andrews.edu/webinar](https://alumni.andrews.edu/webinar) or sign up for the webinar notifications email list.

## New endowment

**Harold** (DIP2YR '26, BS '30) and **Jean** (DIP2YR '26, BS '30) **Boyd**, both 1926 graduates of Emmanuel Missionary College, had deep roots in Adventism. Harold was the son of Clarence J. Boyd (BA '26) and Marie Buhalts Boyd. Clarence interrupted his collegiate education to become a teacher, then principal at Oakwood Manual Training School, now Oakwood University. He later established the University of the Southern Caribbean. Jean was the daughter of Charles E. Stewart, a physician and partner of John Harvey Kellogg. Both Harold and Jean went on to study medicine at the College of Medical Evangelists, now Loma Linda University.



*Jean and Harold Boyd*

Harold became a widely known orthopedic surgeon and the third chief of staff at the Campbell Clinic in Memphis, Tennessee. Harold was an honored

alumnus during Andrews' centennial year. Jean entered medical research briefly and worked in the Pavlov Lab at Battle Creek. Following her marriage she retired to raise three daughters, Heather, Julia and Jean.

The Harold Buhalts and Jean Stewart Boyd Endowed Scholarship was established by their late daughter, Jean Boyd Lowry, and her husband **H. Maynard Lowry** (BA '68) to honor their parents and their commitment to education. The scholarship aims to assist students studying science or mathematics who demonstrate academic ability and financial need. It is intended for students who plan careers in science or mathematics outside medicine, dentistry and their allied fields.

Now active and growing with ongoing gifts from the family, the scholarship will continue to grow in the future with promised gifts from the estate of the family.

## Homecoming 2020 POSTPONED to Sept. 23–26, 2021

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Andrews University's leaders have set social distancing and travel guidelines in place for fall 2020. In order to protect the health and safety of our Andrews on-campus student population, visitor and guest access to campus as well as large group gatherings will be affected. We have therefore made the difficult decision to postpone Homecoming 2020 to Sept. 23–26, 2021. We look forward to joyfully celebrating with you in 2021 when we can gather together fully as an Andrews family once more.

## Homecoming 2021 Honor Classes:

1950, 1951, 1960, 1961, 1970, 1971, 1980, 1981, 1990, 1991, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2010, 2011, 2015, 2016, 2020, 2021

If you have questions, please contact the Office of Alumni Services at [alumni@andrews.edu](mailto:alumni@andrews.edu) or 269-471-3591. Please visit [alumni.andrews.edu/homecoming](https://alumni.andrews.edu/homecoming) for Homecoming 2021 updates over the coming year.

## 1970s

**Irene** (BMus '70) and **Gary** (BA '70) **Herr** now live in Texas. They celebrated several 50th anniversaries this year—50 years ago they were married in the Village Seventh-day Adventist Church, graduated from Andrews and flew to Japan to be student missionaries at San'Iku Gakuin, in Naraha, Japan. This year they also celebrated their grandson's graduation from elementary school and their granddaughter's graduation from Fletcher Academy.

**Marilynn Hession** (att.) is very thankful for the experience she had at Andrews and the friends she made. She has worked for the past 28 years as a family childcare provider in her home and has utilized the knowledge she learned in art classes at Andrews.

## 1980s



**Benjamin Uko Kalu** (BA '84) graduated in May with his doctoral degree in health education from Michigan State University. Daughter Nnenna, 18, is attending Morgan State University in Baltimore, Maryland, and son Micah, 15, is in high school. Benjamin writes, "God has been amazing to me and my family. I am currently an elder in the Adventist church."

**Anthony C. Spence** (att.) has published his manuscript "Apocalypse: the Book of Revelation." It is a text-by-text analysis of Revelation and is available for purchase on Amazon.

## 1990s

In the fall of 2019, **Brad Fisher** (BSIT '95) and Rob Howell, owners of College Press in Collegedale, Tennessee, acquired another small print company which included a fairly new printing press. After much discussion

and prayer, it was decided to donate the older press, which College Press had owned for over 20 years, to the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. The press found a home at the Source of Life Publishing House in the Tula Region just a couple hours south of Moscow, Russia. Source of Life Publishing House serves the Euro-Asian Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, which consists of 11 time zones and 13 countries.

Fisher and Howell, along with their wives, attended a dedication at Source of Life Publishing House in late February. "You can easily see how much this piece of equipment means to the people here," said Fisher. "We're honored to be a part of it and are excited to see what they're going to be able to accomplish with it."

Importing religious material into Russia is a significant challenge, but printing and distributing within the country is more achievable. "We're grateful for the generosity of donors like Brad and Rob," said Almir Marroni, publishing director for the General Conference. "The gift they gave today will have ripples of impact for many years to come."



**Wendell Glenn Gaa** (BS '98) is working as a desk assistant at the Socio-Cultural Division of the Office of United Nations and International Organizations (UNIO) Affairs at the Philippine Department of Foreign Affairs. He is also studying for his Master of Law (LLM) in International Migration and Refugee Law and Policy at the National University of Ireland (NUI) in Galway.

**Saskia Walden** (BBA '99) became the first Seventh-day Adventist in Suriname to be appointed as a cabinet official to the new chief of state and head of government, President Chandrikapersad Santokhi. Walden was sworn in as the Minister of Economic Affairs, Entrepreneurship, and Technological Innovation during a special ceremony of the National Assembly in Paramaribo on July 16, 2020.

Walden, a native of Suriname and a member of the Central Seventh-day Adventist Church in Paramaribo, has served the church in the Caribbean Union and Europe for several years. She is an accounting expert with more

than 15 years of international work experience and has led her consulting firm in Suriname for more than 15 years.

Her church service experience also includes two years as senior teacher responsible for business curriculum at the St. Lucia Adventist Academy in Castries, Saint Lucia, as well as many years as a student literature evangelist throughout Trinidad and Tobago.

## 2010s



John Edmund James Burton was born on March 21, 2020, to **Kevin Burton** (MA '15) and **Sarah Gane Burton** (BA/BS '13, MA '15). Kevin, Sarah, daughter Adelia, and son John Edmund live in Collegedale, Tennessee, where Kevin teaches history at Southern Adventist University.

**Alison Down** (MAPM '18) is working as a part-time Bible instructor and leading two small congregations. She and the church members have prepped, printed and mailed leaflets related to COVID-19 and an introduction to the ten commandments to approximately 72,000 homes in Northern Ontario as well as Northern Saskatchewan. The leaflets have resulted in some positive responses.

**Carlos Lozano Sanchez** (BMus '18) was unanimously awarded the 2020 Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools Excellence in Teaching award, competing against schools like Northwestern, University of Chicago and Michigan State (175 member institutions are in MAGS). He is currently pursuing a graduate degree at Western Michigan University.

## 2020s

**Shikha Sharma** (DPT '20) graduated in May and accepted a physical therapy job in New York City. She says, "It has given me the opportunity to apply my knowledge, not only in terms of physical therapy but also spiritually and the love and kindness that Michigan has to offer."



**George Allen Yancer** (BS '80) was born on March 9, 1931, to Clarence and Grace (Hardy) Yancer in Saginaw, Michigan. He died on August 15, 2020, at home in Buchanan, Michigan.

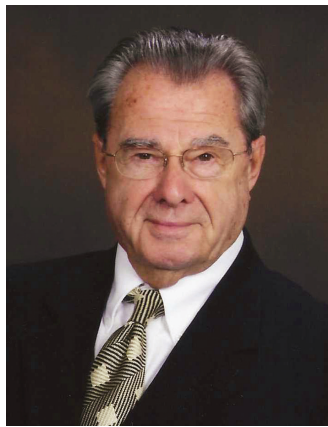
While working for Saginaw Transfer truck line in 1950, George met Janet Fae Weir. They were married on Jan. 30, 1954.

While living in Saginaw, Janet and George had three children: **George Allen** (BS '80) and his wife **Debi** (BS '75) Yancer of Lincoln, Nebraska, **Ruth Ann** (former staff) and her husband **Dean** (CERT '74, former staff) **Snow** of Berrien Center, and Susan Kay Yancer-Fletcher (Larry Fletcher) of Ferrysburg, Michigan.

An employment opportunity with Battle Creek Academy moved the family to Battle Creek, Michigan, in 1964.

Then in 1973 the family moved to Berrien Springs when George accepted a job with the custodial department at Andrews University. George also started his own business in the Berrien Springs area, and for many years people recognized a black pickup pulling a black trailer as his calling card.

George is survived by his wife of 66 years, two daughters, one daughter-in-law, two sons-in-law, eight grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his son, George Jr., and a granddaughter.



**Frederick George Schaller** (BS '56), 86, of Sarasota, Florida, passed to his rest on August 12, 2020, in Niles, Michigan.

He was born in Chicago, Illinois, on March 31, 1934, to Katherine and John Schaller, both German speaking immigrants from Hungary.

The family moved from Chicago to a farm in Baroda, Michigan, to live a simpler life when Fred was 7 years old. He worked hard on his family's fruit farm, picking grapes to be processed by Welch's.

His life was providentially spared in a 1946 explosion at his grade school. He graduated from Baroda High School in 1952 and Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University) in 1956 with a business degree.

In his professional life he was a salesman, executive, owner, and real estate developer at various businesses in Michigan and Florida.

His children, **Denise** (MAT '96, current faculty), **Greg** (BA '81, MDiv '87), John, Ann and Anthony, remember family trips, Cubs games, pranks and picnics. Everyone enjoyed good times when Fred and Laura spent summers in Michigan. A family highlight was an Alaskan cruise to celebrate his 70th birthday.

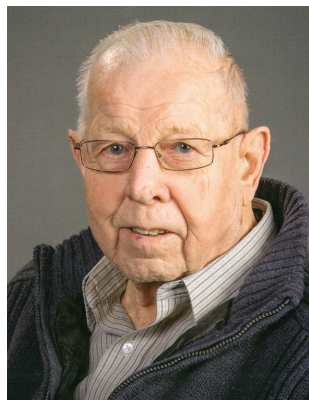
He loved spending time with family, reading his newspapers, eating out, watching football games, and spoiling his cat, Mittens.

Fred was known for his good sense of humor, his wise sayings, his sage advice, his generosity, and his business acumen. He was a good friend, a great cook, an interesting storyteller, and a sharp dresser.

He was preceded in death by the mother of his children, Doris Schaller, his parents, brothers John and Robert, and sister Maryann Prien.

He is survived by his partner, Laura Kidman; his brother Henry Schaller; his children, Denise (Charles) Curnutt, Greg (**Bonnie** (BS '81)), John (Cherie), Ann (Tim) Hesson, and Anthony (Michelle); his grandchildren, **William** (BA '08) and **Kelsey Curnutt** (BA '11, current staff), Clifton (Stephanie) Schaller, Margeau

(Brent) Wagner, Sammee and Paxton Schaller, and Gabrielle Harrison, with a great grandson joining the family in 2021.



**Richard Allen Rorabeck** (former staff), 93, of Berrien Springs, Michigan, passed away July 11, 2020, at Caretel Inns of St Joseph, Michigan. He was a member of the Berrien Springs Village Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Richard was born April 2, 1927, to the Strimback family of Hickory Corners, Michigan. Depression year hardships necessitated that the family adopt Richard out at age 2 to the Rorabeck family. All through his childhood years he never realized that his biological mother lived only a few miles away from the farm he grew up on. His adoptive parents later had two more boys of their own, Herbert and Clarence.

He married Bernita Mary Lunz on August 30, 1953, in the old Urbandale Adventist Church. The couple later moved from the farm to the Battle Creek area, where Richard worked in construction, and Bernita worked as a nurse. They raised two children.

Richard's work paths would lead him to maintenance work in Battle Creek Academy until 1977. At that time the family moved to Berrien Springs, Michigan, where Richard took on a more supervisory position in the Andrews University custodial department for 15 years. He retired in 1992.

At home you could find Richard busy in his gardens, feeding the birds, battling the squirrels, or driving his Ford

8-N tractor back in the woods to cut firewood for the wood stove. He built a special box for the tractor hitch to carry his saw and tools, or occasionally to give his grandchildren rides.

In the late 1980s, events related to Herbert's tool business would result in Richard meeting his biological siblings and several aunts and uncles.

Richard was preceded in death by his wife Bernita, his biological mother Martha Strimback, his adoptive parents Clay and Edna Rorabeck, his brothers Herbert Rorabeck and Clarence Rorabeck.

He is survived by his daughter **Donna Jean** (CERT '77, AS '79, CERT '81) and her husband Mike Davis, son **John** (BS '80, current staff) and his wife **Christine** (MA '15) **Rorabeck**, grandchildren John Henri (Melody) Rorabeck, and **Anna** (BMus '20) and her husband Ray Stephenson. He is also survived by his biological siblings Carole Hussey of Bradenton, Florida, Ray (Marilyn) Roush of Nashville, Michigan, and Wayne Roush of Hastings, Michigan.

**Lynn Stephen Gray** (BS '71) of Berrien Springs, Michigan, died on June 13, 2020.

He was born in Detroit, Michigan, to George and Ola Mae Gray on April 3, 1949. He attended the Berean Seventh-day Adventist Elementary School and was a 1966 graduate of Cass Technical High School. In 1971 he earned a Bachelor of Science in biology from Andrews University. He received his MD from the University of Michigan Medical School in 1975.

Lynn married **Deborah Louise Dowdell** (BS '72, MA '83, EdD '94) on August 6, 1972. To this union were born three children: Stephen, Jennifer and Matthew.

In 1979, Dr. Gray moved to Southwest Michigan to open his own family practice office.



After 16 years of solo practice, he joined the emergency team at Lakeland. Lynn was an active member of the medical community. He held the medical director position for the Orchard Grove extended care facility, the Berrien County Jail and Planned Parenthood. He also served as a consultant to the Michigan Peer Review Organization and to Lakeland's Case Management and Performance Improvement Departments.

Lynn provided leadership roles as past-president and member of the board of the Michigan Academy of Family Physicians, member of the Andrews University Board of Trustees, past board member of the Berrien County Medical Society, past member of the board of the Michigan State Medical Society and the Medical Director of Diversity at Lakeland Healthcare. Over the years, Lynn was the recipient of numerous awards for his dedication to the community.

He was an active member of the Highland Avenue Seventh-day Adventist Church in Benton Harbor. He had a heart for mission and had the privilege of going on a number of medical mission trips. His goal was to continue with mission projects after his retirement.

Lynn is survived by his wife, Deborah; his children, Stephen (Jamie), Jennifer (Eddie) and Matthew (Jayna); seven grandchildren; nephew, Eric; along with a host of family and

friends. He was preceded in death by his parents and his older brother, George Gray Jr.

**Kembleton Wiggins** (MA '77, EdD '79), 81, of Keene, Texas, passed away May 26, 2020, in Keene. He was born Oct. 24, 1938, in Bridgetown, Barbados, to William H. and Endine (Carver) Wiggins.

He married Valerie Marguerit (Raymore) on July 7, 1962, in Kingston, Jamaica. He was a doctor of social psychology.

Survivors include his sons, Christopher Wiggins and wife Kimberly, and Peter Wiggins and wife Cece; brother-in-law Dr. Patrick Raymore; grandchildren, Andrew Wiggins, Nicholas Wiggins, Kristina King, Lorretta Craft, Dakota Tipton and Peter Wiggins Jr.; seven great-grandchildren; sisters, Beverley Fleming, Juanita Brown and husband Ben, and Elizabeth Wiggins; brother, Wilvin Wiggins; as well as several cousins, nieces and nephews.

He was preceded by his wife, Valerie, and his parents.

**James John Charles ("Jim") Cox** (MA '57) passed to his rest on April 13, 2020.

He was born on June 12, 1925, in Kakanui, New Zealand, the older of two sons born to James and Janet Cox.

Jim's life and the Seventh-day Adventist Church were intertwined from an early age. When he was just 15, he spent a year working as a general assistant in the North New Zealand Conference office before heading to Avondale College in Australia to study for the ministry. It was at Avondale that he met, then fell in love with, Alice Cameron.

From 1946 to 1948, Jim worked as a minister in the Tasmanian Conference (Alice's home state). From 1948 to 1955, he worked as a minister in the North New Zealand Conference. It was while he worked in Wellington that Jim and Alice's son, John, was born.

Although Jim was a much-appreciated minister, he

had a love of learning and an academic aptitude that made it clear to him that he would find more satisfaction in teaching at a college or university. So the family packed up and crossed the Pacific, heading to Walla Walla College, where Jim earned a bachelor's degree.

They then moved to the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University, where he earned his master's degree. Continuing their eastward trajectory, the Coxes moved to Maryland, where Jim taught in the Theology Department at Columbia Union College (CUC) from 1957 to 1960.

With Jim having been accepted into a PhD program at Harvard University, the family moved to Massachusetts. With his doctorate completed, he once again taught at CUC, from 1963 to 1965, when he accepted a call to the Seminary at Andrews University.

From 1965 to 1980, Jim was chair of the New Testament Department, making a positive impact on a steady stream of young people who were dedicating their lives to ministry.

In 1980, Jim and Alice crossed the Pacific again, this time headed to Avondale College, where he served as president until 1984. At that point, the Coxes moved back to Maryland, where Jim partnered with long-time friend Jim London on a creative outreach project called the Washington Institute. When the project ended, Jim again joined the faculty of CUC, where he worked until his retirement in 1991.

Jim and Alice packed up yet again and headed to Florida to enjoy retirement. But the term "retirement" was a misnomer. He served another five years as academic dean of the newly established Florida Hospital College (now AdventHealth University).

In total, Jim was employed by the Adventist Church for 46 years, starting at age 15 and concluding at age 71. But woven throughout those years, he spent another 10 years in

academic study so he could be more effective in his work for the church.

Jim's beloved wife Alice died from lymphoma. For the past eight years, Jim lived with his son, John, who played an increasing role as caregiver.

**Virgil "Chuck" Tacket** (BA '55), 96, passed away on Jan. 1, 2020. He was born March 26, 1923, in Hollister, Wisconsin, as the eighth of nine children born to Hiram and Minnie Tacket.

After graduating from high school in White Lake, Wisconsin, in 1942, he was drafted into the U.S. Army in 1943. After receiving basic training, he was sent to the front lines in Italy in February of 1944 for 14 months where he served his country proudly as a staff sergeant. It was there on the front lines that he prayed for the first time in his life. His service to his country continued until his discharge in October of 1945.

He enrolled in Emmanuel Missionary College and graduated in 1955 with a Bachelor of Arts in accounting. During his time in college, he married **Phylis Servi** (BA '53) on June 17, 1951. Chuck worked as an accountant several years before he found his true calling as a custom home builder. He was one of the founders of the Berrien County Home Builders Association, serving as its treasurer for a couple of years.

As an active member of Pioneer Memorial Church in Berrien Springs, he served as an elder and a member of the church board for 25 years. During his time on the finance committee, he was a leader in raising funds for Ruth Murdoch Elementary School.

Chuck is survived by Phylis, his wife of 68 years; two children: daughter Judy Vallieres, son **Dr. Douglas Tacket** (BSMT '84) and his wife **Dr. Tracy Wilson Tacket** (BS '84); five grandchildren: **Kaitlie Anne VanRaden** (BHS '11, DPT '13), **Whitney Tacket** (BS '13), Jordan, Shane and Cheyenne Oakley, and five great-grandchildren.



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Members of Andrews University's Christian Youth Action Club fellowship together in 1971.  
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