

FOCUS

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THE ANDREWS UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

PG 11—New Student Orientation
PG 18—A World Changer at World Vision
PG 22—Strategic Plan: Storyline Two
PG 26—Legacy Family Photos



Compassion x2

Andrea Luxton, *president*

THE FEEDING OF THE 5,000 IS AN important enough story that it is the only miracle retold in all four gospels. There could be many reasons for the prominence of this story, but for me the critical lesson of this miracle is what I am going to call compassion x2.

Jesus had gone away to a quiet place. John the Baptist had recently been beheaded and, whether to escape the turmoil or for his personal rejuvenation, Jesus had left the crowds to find some personal space. However, as we know, he was soon discovered by both his disciples and by the multitudes. Jesus' compassion immediately took over, for he recognized the needs of the crowd as greater than his, and he preached and he healed. But of course his compassion does not stop there. The day passes and the crowd gets hungry. The disciples, being practical, plan to send the crowd away to get their own food. But Jesus' compassion takes over once more, and he decides to feed them. Jesus, with the help of one small boy and the disciples as the waiters. A miracle is performed and Jesus' divinity shown, but this miracle is not one done just for the sake of showing the power of Jesus—it is firmly rooted in an act of compassion.

Was there enough to go around? The disciples ridiculed the idea, but there was. Jesus knew there would be, not just physical food but compassion and love.

As I look at the Andrews University campus, and even more its extended community, including you, our alumni and friends, that same question is often on my mind: is there enough to go around? In the midst of the University learning experience, the expectations that come with being part of a Seventh-day Adventist community, the demands of mission, in the midst of all that: is there enough love, compassion, gentleness, graciousness to go around? Are those core Christian qualities not just visible but core to all our dealings?

I am sure that the crowds went away that day marveling at seeing a miracle performed. But whether they could identify it or not, the fact that the miracle was performed in the context of compassion x2 sets it apart. If we do everything right but we do not have love, if we do not have compassion, then we may be nothing.



World Changers Made Here.

FOCUS

THE ANDREWS UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

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22

Storyline Two



PHOTO: Jeffery Wright

18

World Changer

Features

18 A World Changer at World Vision

by *Jeremy Gray*

Alumnus Jeffery Wright has worked in humanitarian relief organizations for more than 30 years and shares a passion for making a change in the world.

22 Creating Community

by *Andrea Luxton*

Storyline Two of the new Strategic Plan addresses community culture and belonging with the goal of enriching the experience and commitment of the entire Andrews family.

COVER: *Jeffery Wright at work in San Pedro Sula, Honduras, 2020*

PHOTO CREDIT: *Courtesy of Jeffery Wright*



11

New Student Orientation

Departments

- 2 President's Desk
- 4 Campus Update
- 5 Life on Campus
- 13 Faculty & Staff
- 28 Class Notes
- 29 Life Stories
- 35 My Testimony



FOCUS | Spring 2022



Visit Andrews University's YouTube channel to view summer graduation services, State of the University, Convocation and more.
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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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Andrews receives two important grants

Funding new initiatives and programs

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY HAS RECEIVED A Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education (NetVUE) Vocation across the Academy Grant, intended to help member colleges and universities strengthen the connection between liberal arts and career preparation.

“As a recipient of the award, Andrews University will receive a grant in the amount of \$18,550 for use over a three-year period (July 2022–June 2025). In addition, upon receipt of documentation of \$18,550 in matching funds raised from third-party sources and designated for use in support of this project, CIC will award an additional \$18,550,” says Emilee O’Dell, projects coordinator for NetVUE Vocation across the Academy Grants.

The opportunity comes through a partnership with the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC). Through this collaboration and funding, Andrews will deepen the intersection between the Center for Faith Engagement, Office of Undergraduate Education and Career Center by developing a program called “Going on Vocation” (GOV). GOV will seek to establish an institutional working definition of vocation through collaboration with faculty and staff and will identify and share best practices for vocational discernment with all University schools and departments to promote an institutional culture which reflects that understanding of vocation and calling.

GOV initiatives include the following:

- Introducing vocational exploration through a redesign of the undergraduate general education course “God and Human Life”
- Enabling students to focus on vocational discernment and career readiness through the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) competences
- Coordinating chapel and worship services, leadership development, coaching, service projects, student missions and hands-on opportunities for students to explore God’s calling on their life

The Dollar General Literacy Foundation recently awarded Andrews University a \$10,000 grant to support an Andrews University Adult Basic Education (ABE) program.

Provost Christon Arthur states, “We are proud to partner with Dollar General and Neighbor to Neighbor in meeting the needs of our community. Andrews recognizes the need for ABE, English as a Second Language and a High School Equivalency Program to provide access to economic opportunities that will improve the social-emotional wellbeing of Berrien Springs and neighboring community residents, as well as migratory and seasonal workers.”

According to Paulette Johnson, dean of libraries and director of the grant initiative, “ABE programs are designed to: (a) create a safe place for adults to gain essential literacy and communication skills, (b) train students and other volunteers in using evidence-based approaches that address reading, the effective use of the English language and credentials for post-secondary advancement, and (c) increase awareness of the need for ABE among our students, faculty and staff.”

The program runs from September 2022 to summer 2023. It consists of three cohorts taught by certified instructors and volunteers at Neighbor to Neighbor two evenings per week as well as a campaign to raise awareness about ABE on the Andrews campus. The University hopes this will become an annual initiative.

Andrews ABE facilitators include employees in the Center for Intensive English Program, College of Education & International Services, International Center for Trauma Education & Care, Office of Research & Creative Scholarship, and James White Library as well as staff at Neighbor to Neighbor.

Andrews has a long history of providing ESL instruction, GED testing and literacy and numeracy programs for children. This grant allows the University to expand these initiatives to adults.

LIFE ON CAMPUS



A "Gardening Get-together" was held on June 2 to spruce up the Margaret Davis Garden.



A reception for Phillip Maiyo, vice chancellor, University of Eastern Africa, Baraton, was held June 15.

Guests attending a summer University Preview enjoyed time at the beach on June 13.



President Luxton shared her final State of the University address on Aug. 18.



The annual employee Strawberry Feed took place on June 28.



Kenyan Ambassador Lazarus Amayo and his wife visited campus July 15.



Chaplain Danielle Pilgrim led vespers for May Express students on May 20.



This year's annual 180 Symposium was a hybrid event held May 10-12.



The Fall Fellowship Employee Dedication Service took place in Pioneer Memorial Church on Aug. 20.



New organizational approach for Office of Residence Life

Deepens services for residence hall students

THE ANDREWS UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF Residence Life has introduced a new organizational structure for the 2022–2023 school year.

“The approach was guided by the treasured hallmark of distinctive Seventh-day Adventist whole-person education,” says Jennifer Burrill, assistant vice president for Residence Life and dean for Student Life. “An important goal was to effectively deepen our focused services for our residence hall students as we continue to provide the best quality care possible.”

In their planning, the Residence Life team considered several significant factors: the increase of students’ mental health needs over the last decade and in the wake of the global COVID-19 pandemic, the benefit of having a dean with a facilities focus and expertise, and the benefit of having one team of staff to respond to priorities.

The Residence Life team also carefully thought about the various family environments of residents and determined there could be value in reflecting, as much as possible, the ideal home environment for the undergraduate residential experience on campus.

In the new organizational structure,

then, undergraduate residence life deans will function as one team, with opportunities to carefully and appropriately serve the residents of both Meier and Lamson Halls. Within this new approach, each residence dean will specialize in a specific assigned area for residential students such as “community connection,” “community standards,” “student intervention” and “student development”—matching various responsibilities with professional staff to facilitate efficiency as well as a greater focus and intentionality in services.

“We are widening and enhancing the circle of care,” says Burrill, “just as many students come from homes where some combination of father, mother, grandparents and even aunts and uncles positively influence the children who live and grow in those homes. We believe this new approach will help echo that reality by providing a beneficial and additional type of support for our residential students who may, at times,

“We are widening and enhancing the circle of care ...”

Residence hall students enjoy getting acquainted with new friends.

welcome wise mentorship from a female or male professional dean.”

Undergraduate residence halls will continue, indefinitely, to house and serve single-gender residents. Lamson Hall will continue to house undergraduate females and Meier Hall undergraduate males. For direct care or personal concerns in private residence hall rooms, a female dean or student dean will always be available for Lamson residents and a male dean or student dean will always be available for Meier residents.

Residence hall students can also connect with male or female deans in an office setting when needed, reflecting how students already interact with professors, counselors and chaplains during established office hours elsewhere on campus.

Burrill says, “We look forward this school year to working to care, support and fully assist residence hall students in their optimal growth and spiritual development during their educational journey at Andrews University.”

For a list of current Residence Life team members, visit andrews.edu/life/housing/residencelife and click on the link to “meet the team.”

Summer graduation services

Celebrating the Class of 2022

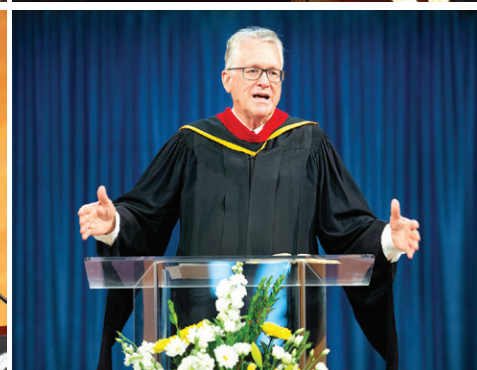
ANDREWS UNIVERSITY'S SUMMER graduation took place Aug. 5–7, and approximately 290 students received degrees.

On Friday, Aug. 5, Cheryl Doss, recently retired director of the General Conference Institute of World Mission (IWM), spoke for the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary's Commencement. Doss served for 16 years in the country of Malawi. At IWM, she helped develop curriculum and resources for mission training and established support systems for missionary care and cross-cultural education.

Also on Friday evening, E. Edward Zinke was honored with the President's Medallion. Zinke has contributed significantly to the theological thinking of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on the integration of faith and science. In addition to organizing several international conferences, he has been a long-time member of the Andrews University Board of Trustees.

The Baccalaureate on Saturday, Aug. 6, was delivered by Ken Denslow, president of the Lake Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and vice chair of the Andrews University Board of Trustees. Before assuming his current position in 2021, he worked as assistant to the president of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists and served as president of the Illinois Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Duane McBride, senior research professor of sociology at Andrews University and executive director of the University's Institute for Prevention of Addictions, offered the Commencement address on Sunday, Aug. 7, for students of the College of Arts & Sciences and Col-



lege of Professions. McBride has taught at Andrews for 36 years and was chair of the Department of Behavioral Sciences from 1992–2015. He is known for his prolific research and publications and has served on numerous boards.

During the same service, Surangel S. Whipps Jr., president of the Republic of Palau, was presented with an honorary Doctor of Laws. Whipps has dedicated his life to advocating for the best interests of the Palauan people and the island's natural environment. He is best known for his commitment to human resources and fostering the Palauan economy, including implementation of a law that increased the minimum wage in his country.

The second Commencement service on Sunday was for the College of Health & Human Services. Lena Caesar, professor of speech-language-hearing sciences and director of graduate programs at Loyola University Maryland,

CLOCKWISE, FROM TOP: *Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary (SDATS) Commencement in the Howard Performing Arts Center* ■ Cheryl Doss was the SDATS Commencement speaker ■ Ken Denslow spoke for the Baccalaureate at Pioneer Memorial Church ■ Duane McBride addressed graduates from the College of Arts & Sciences and College of Professions ■ Lena Caesar was the Commencement speaker for the College of Health & Human Services

was the speaker. Caesar's teaching and scholarly interests focus on typical speech and language development in bilingual speakers as well as speakers of non-mainstream English dialects. She was recently nominated for the 2022 Distinguished Scholar of the Year Award at Loyola University Maryland.

Additional academic and cultural programs took place throughout the weekend. Central graduation events are available on the Andrews University YouTube channel.

Social Survival Camp

Teaching effective social strategies

FROM JUNE 13–JULY 1, ANDREWS UNIVERSITY HOSTED ITS FIRST Social Survival Camp. The program, run through the Speech-Language & Hearing Clinic in the School of Communication Sciences & Disorders, used a video game theme to teach children and young adults effective social skill strategies. Four graduate students took turns facilitating the camp each day, bringing their creativity and dedication to the campers.

Jordan Mondak, program director, explains, “The first goal for the camp was to ensure the kids were comfortable and having fun. We wanted our kids to learn new social strategies and apply them with the other students in the camp. Ultimately, the main goal was for them to take what they learned and use it in their everyday life.”

Each day, participants learned new skills, including eye contact, listening, commenting, answering questions, asking questions, initiating conversation, maintaining a topic, understanding emotions, social problem solving and carrying on a conversation. They had the opportunity to “level up” through mini-games and worksheet handouts and were rewarded with “gold” coins. Throughout the camp, there were three “bosses” to defeat: Dis-Tractor, a focus-stealing tractor, Off-Topic Tornado, a tornado that ruins conversation by bringing in random topics, and the Silent Assassin, a boss who only talks about the things he likes.

“To see kids come each and every day excited and motivated to learn was so rewarding for myself and the graduate students to see,” Mondak expresses. He looks forward to running the camp again in the future and notes, “I want our clients to leave our camp feeling empowered and confident in their ability to make and maintain friendships. If Social Survival can help alleviate some of their social anxiety and give them the tools to overcome their social difficulties, then our job is complete.”



PHOTO: Courtesy of Jordan Mondak



MISSION: INVENT 2022

Showcasing STEM education

MISSION: INVENT, AN INITIATIVE CHAMPIONING STEM learning for K–12 SDA students, officially launched in 2022. It was made possible by a grant from the Versacare Foundation, which serves Adventist ministries and other humanitarian efforts.

Monica Nudd, STEM coordinator for the College of Arts & Sciences, and her team crafted a grade-specific curriculum for the program, distributed free of charge to participating schools. In each school, student teams were tasked with solving a real-world problem utilizing engineering and entrepreneurial skills.

Then, on July 11, 2022, winning teams visited Andrews University for an exhibition and awards ceremony. They also were able to tour campus and participate in an educational STEM show.

The next Mission: Invent will occur at Andrews in 2023. In following years, it will rotate to different Adventist universities that have partnered with Andrews. The Association of Adventist Colleges and Universities offers high school winners a scholarship to any Adventist university in North America.

Marsha Peters, principal of Conyers Adventist Academy, affirms, “[This event] bonded our students together like nothing other than working hard together can do ... These are life skills that our students will use in the real world, and I look forward to having them do it again.”

ABOVE: A Mission: Invent participant explains her project to Matias Soto, director of Innovation & Entrepreneurship.

New community programs at Andrews

Connecting with people in creative ways

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY IS EXCITED TO highlight two new programs directed toward community engagement: community art classes and Explore Andrews summer camps. Both aim to bring individuals to campus for hands-on learning and creativity.

In September 2021, a vision to revive the ceramics studio on the Andrews campus came to life. Kari Friestad, then associate professor of painting and drawing, and Amy Rosenthal, dean, College of Arts & Sciences and associate provost for Undergraduate Education, wanted to see empty studios filled with students again. Several dedicated alumni and student lab assistants cleaned workspaces, tested equipment and ordered supplies.

The AU Community Art program offers visual art studio classes to both the campus and local community. Friestad explains, “I see the opportunity as a door to many types of outreach. These classes are significant and important because the process of making art is a healing and relaxing activity that can be used to help manage stress.”

The first undergraduate ceramics classes since 2017 were launched in January, and one community art class was soft-launched in March. Beginning in June, the first summer session ran successfully, and more courses are in development for the fall. Classes typically run for 3–6 weeks and meet 1–2 times a week. Currently, the courses include Intro to Watercolor and Intro to Wheel Throwing with more to come. Updates and information can be found at the community art website, and inquiries can be directed to communityart@andrews.edu.

With a similar goal of fostering community creativity and growth, Explore Andrews Summer Camps launched in June 2022. Almost three years in the making, the program was formulated by Aaron Moushon, assistant dean for Undergraduate

Education and Explore Andrews program director, and his team.

The program targets middle school students, who have typically not been served by the University before. He explains, “Through this program, students will be able to better understand the learning opportunities that a college ed-

“Imagine being in the seventh grade and learning engineering from a university faculty member through Lego Robotics.”

ucation provides, without the pressure of earning credit.”

Each of the camps is led by an Andrews academic department and instructed by a faculty member, allowing students to learn from professionals in their area of interest. This past summer, a variety of topics was offered, including Lego Robotics, Pre-Veterinary, and Art and Design. Moushon notes, “Students can expect a unique, hands-on experience that will introduce them to topics that they might not normally encounter in middle school or even high school settings. Imagine being in the seventh grade and learning engineering from a university faculty member through Lego Robotics.”

The opportunity is open to students between the ages of 13–16 who are enrolled in grades 7–9. Programs take place as day camps over the course of one week, Monday through Friday. More information can be found at the Explore Andrews website or through contacting explore@andrews.edu.

Both Friestad and Moushon look forward to connecting with people in new ways. Moushon expresses, “We have a vision of drawing community members onto campus, some of whom might not even know we’re here.”



TOP TO BOTTOM: AU Community Art class; Lego Robotics

Andrews University recognized for work in Cuba

Creative evangelism sparks hope

ON APRIL 5, 2022, ANDREA LUXTON, president, and Jiří Moskala, dean of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, received recognition plaques from the Cuban Seventh-day Adventist Church, honoring committed service between Andrews University and the Cuban Union.

Since 2013, Care for Cuba, an annual evangelistic study tour led by Fernando Ortiz, director of the Master of Divinity program, has brought more than 200 MDiv students to the country. The group has carried out evangelism in more than 30 churches, baptizing more than 2,000 people, provided food and clothing for hundreds of families and equipped scores of church leaders with ministry tools, bikes and electronics.

During the 2022 spring break, 24 MDiv students and three faculty preached and served in Cuba. Evangelistic meetings were held in three different venues, with seminarians preaching to a full house each night. Throughout the days, students collab-

orated with Cuban pastors and Bible workers, praying with people in their homes and on the street and carrying out creative evangelism.

One group worked with a local church to make a large supply of soup and deliver it door to door. A woman expressed her gratitude, stating that she would not have had a meal that day except for the soup. Others took portrait pictures and gave them at no charge to the community. Ortiz views this kind of ministry as “vital experience for young pastors. Creative evangelism directly meets the needs of a community while paving the path for others to come to Jesus.”

Luxton expresses, “It is such a privilege for Andrews University to have such a tradition of Seminary faculty and students bring ‘good news’ to Cuba. Our students are richer for the experience and the people of Cuba are blessed by their presence. This is the mission of Andrews University and the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary.”

*By Jordan Stephan and
Care for Cuba contributors*

2022 Care for Cuba mission group



PHOTO: Courtesy of Fernando Ortiz



The SDA Business Teachers Conference

From June 13–17, 2022

As Andrews University hosted the 12th Biennial SDA Business Teachers Conference (SDABTC), speakers and participants shared and discussed research under the theme “Changing the World Through Business: A Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals.” The conference included an array of plenary speakers, including two affiliated with the United Nations. Programming reflected on the United Nations’ sustainable development goals for 2030 and aimed to explain how that vision aligns with the Seventh-day Adventist commission received from God.

Lucile Sabas, associate dean of the College of Professions and associate professor of economics and finance, emphasizes the importance of the conference, noting, “First, it allows the Andrews community to strengthen its collaborative ties with sister universities; second, it promotes emulation in research; and finally, as we are about to open a doctoral program, the conference creates a space to stimulate research among doctoral students.”

The next SDABTC is planned for the summer of 2024. Sabas says, “We hope this conference will serve as a motor for intellectual production within the community of Adventist teachers in business worldwide.”



New Student Orientation 2022

FROM TOP LEFT, CLOCKWISE: Enrollment counselor Darius Bridges assists a new freshman at First Stop on Aug. 21 ■ Moving into the residence halls, Aug. 21 ■ Playing volleyball at Silver Beach, Aug. 24 ■ Dwight Nelson, lead pastor for PMC, Proximity Vespers, Aug. 26 ■ Vice President Tony Yang and his freshman daughter Claire, Convocation & Matriculation Ceremony, Aug. 21 ■ Graduate students receive Andrews Study Bibles, Aug. 24 ■ Enjoying s'mores around a fire, Aug. 27 ■ Professor Anthony Bosman greets a new student during the Faculty Barbecue with Mentoring Groups, Aug. 26



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Kevin Wilson joins the University Communication team

To lead digital and social media at Andrews University

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY WELCOMED Kevin Wilson as the new digital and social media coordinator in the Office of University Communication in September 2022. He will oversee the University's social media platforms, developing and implementing strategy and overseeing the creation of content.

"It's a fancy way of saying that if President Luxton jumps on a TikTok trend, she didn't do it voluntarily," Wilson quips. He explains further, "The position involves a fair bit of planning, strategy and execution with regard to communication across different social media platforms."

Wilson, who is perhaps better known as the "chai guy" or "CEO of Chai" on TikTok, has a passion for telling stories that allow him to connect with others. In 2020, Wilson began creating videos of himself making and sharing about chai. Just two years later, he has built a community of 355k followers. He elaborates, "Sharing one-minute vignettes from my life as I make chai, highlighting chai culture, the South Asian experience, or decolonized Christianity has made me realize that storytelling is a powerful conduit for impact and change."

Born in Sri Lanka and raised in places as varied as the Sultanate of Oman, Virginia, Maryland, Lebanon and Berrien Springs, Wilson has embraced his unique cultural background. He reflects, "Ever since I can remember, I've been interested in documenting experiences and transforming them into meaningful content ... I eventually chose short-form video production as my medium of choice."

Most recently, Wilson served as a youth and young adult pastor at the Oceanside SDA Church and chaplain at the Oceanside Adventist Elementary School in San Diego, California. He reflects, "Working with real humans with real stories across different age groups inspires me to create a content strategy that is not only

"Ever since I can remember, I've been interested in documenting experiences and transforming them into meaningful content ..."

culturally relevant and effectively marketable, but deeply human."

A call from God led Wilson and his wife, Elynn, back to Andrews University, where they originally met during freshman orientation in 2009. He acknowledges Elynn, who works as an occupational therapist and co-parent to two playful cats, Phoebe and Leo, as being an incredible force for good in his life. Andrews was also the place where Wilson received his bachelor's in theology and Master of Divinity. Both he and Elynn felt moved to pursue vocations "proximal to college students," and after much prayer and consideration, they decided to return to Berrien Springs.

In addition to his other responsibilities, Wilson hosts "The



Kevin Wilson

Faith and Chai podcast," which recently finished its second season. He also looks forward to the release of his book, "The Way of Chai," scheduled for the summer of 2023.

"It's deeply gratifying to be able to give back to a place that has given a lot to me," Wilson shares. "My hope for University Communication is that we continue to leverage media as a tool for connection in addition to seeing it as a tool for promotion. In this information economy, the most pressing challenge for us is figuring out scalable solutions to create, consolidate and deepen our Andrews online community."

A sampling of heaven

Mickey Kutzner retires after 33 years of teaching

MICKEY KUTZNER DISCOVERED HIS PASSION for teaching in college, while serving as a student missionary in India. Over the course of a year, he taught sixth graders and found he deeply enjoyed the process of instructing and interacting with students. “Physics and astronomy are so fundamental to an understanding of nature that I knew I wanted to teach those subjects,” he conveys.

When he returned to the U.S., Mickey obtained a master’s degree in astronomy from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and a PhD in theoretical atomic physics from the University of Virginia (UVA). As he was graduating from his PhD program, he met Clark Rowland, a physics professor from Andrews University who showed him it was possible to combine teaching and research effectively at Andrews. Mickey recalls, “It was my dream job to teach physics at a Seventh-day Adventist institution.”

That dream was realized when he was hired as a professor of physics at Andrews. As he began teaching, he quickly grew to appreciate the diversity and compassion of his students, noting,

“Looking around a classroom of varying nationalities and ethnicities at AU is what I imagine a sampling of heaven will be like.” He adds, “Students seemed genuinely kind to one another and to me. My teaching style necessitated a level of tolerance, accommodation and forgiveness on the part of the students.”

He recalls a time when, for a general education science class, a pre-dental student was hired to attend labs alongside a student with a learning disability. “I remember the genuine joy and laughter that they both shared during those moments of discovery,” he says. “I learned to really appreciate the students given to my care. At first, they were almost like colleagues, then I started to think of them as somebody’s child entrusted to

“Students are of inestimable value in God’s eyes. I pray that families and faculty see their true worth every day.”

me and finally as somebody’s grandchild. I learned that the person inside is more important than the informational material of the course.”

Mickey also valued the ability to experiment and learn within his own classroom. He expresses, “If you want to work on research you may and you will have help from highly talented students. If you want to develop an innovative lab or teaching tool, you are welcome to do that. There is always room for imagination and improvement.” Over the course of his time at Andrews, he expanded his areas of research to include intersections between physics and biology, which allowed for wider scholarly readership and impacted student motivation to study physics.

After 33 years of teaching, Mickey looks forward to his next chapter in life. He deeply cherishes the Andrews community for being an ideal place to raise his family and will miss being a part of his students’ lives and successes. He and his wife, DeAnn, have moved to western Montana and spend time together “riding horses, hiking and exploring God’s beautiful country out there.”

To Mickey, God is the greatest mystery author, as outlined in Proverbs 25:2, “It is the glory of God to conceal a matter, to search out a matter is the glory of kings” (NIV). One of his ongoing goals in life is to “come to know God, partly through scripture and interacting with those we know and love but also in the study of nature—particularly physics and astronomy.” While he will continually be exploring that mystery, one thing he knows for certain: “Students are of inestimable value in God’s eyes. I pray that families and faculty see their true worth every day.”

Mickey Kutzner



An eternal impact

Denise Curnutt retires from Ruth Murdoch Elementary School

IN 30 YEARS OF TEACHING AT RUTH Murdoch Elementary School, Denise Curnutt had the opportunity to impact the lives of many young individuals. She always knew she wanted to be a teacher, and she fulfilled that dream through teaching/guiding students in kindergarten and grades 1–3.

Growing up, Denise attended both Ruth Murdoch and Andrews Academy. She began college at Andrews University, then completed her undergraduate degree at Pacific Union College.

Denise first taught grades 1–4 at a two-teacher school in Tillamook, Oregon, for seven years. During that time, she met and married Charlie Curnutt. They continued to live in the Pacific Northwest with Denise spending the next seven years at home with their children, **William** (BA '08) and **Kelsey** (BA '11, current staff).

In 1992, Denise was hired to teach at Ruth Murdoch Elementary School. She describes the move back to Michigan as “providential,” as it gave her two young children a year and a half to be close to her mother, Doris Schaller, before Doris unexpectedly passed away.

Denise quickly found a community and a purpose in her new teaching position. She relates, “I absolutely loved the students and the families of Ruth Murdoch. The diversity of students made my job even more enjoyable, and I appreciated that my own two kids could learn with and become friends with students from other cultures.” Over the years, she greatly appreciated the thoughtfulness of her students, their families, and her fellow staff, as well, and learned how to “really listen to, study, empathize and communicate with people.”

During her time teaching, Denise completed her MAT in elementary education at Andrews in 1996. She served on the North American Division Kindergarten Steering Committee for five years as a developer and writer for the new kindergarten curriculum, “Stepping Stones.” Denise was also a mentor teach-



Left to right: Denise Curnutt, her husband Charlie, daughter Kelsey and son William

“The diversity of students made my job even more enjoyable, and I appreciated that my own two kids could learn with and become friends with students from other cultures.”

er for Andrews students from the School of Education and valued passing on philosophy, rationale and tips. She explains, “Teaching is the challenging task of explaining biblical truths on a level to be understood, making math so fun and approachable that no one will ever have math phobia, showing the wonders of science and nature, developing lifelong readers, encouraging creativity, and practicing critical thinking skills, kindness, honesty and fairness.”

Some of Denise’s favorite memories center around her students. For 8th grade and high school graduations, she often creates a big envelope of Kin-

dergarten schoolwork, a class photo and a personal letter to present to her former scholars. She enjoys it when old students drop by to say hello, even after 10–30 years. Lightheartedly, she reflects, “And why didn’t I write down all the clever, funny things my students said? If I had, I’d have a book ready to publish tomorrow!”

In retirement, Denise will stay in the Berrien Springs area, where her extended family lives. Although she wonders how she ever got “old enough” to retire, she intends to make the most of it with plans to “write, read, hike, travel near and far, paint, garden, do 562 house projects, go to Chicago Cubs games, spend more time with family and get a dog.”

Denise has been continually guided by the message presented in 1 Chronicles 28:20, which states, “Be strong and courageous and do the work. Don’t be afraid or discouraged by the size of the task for the Lord God is with you. He will not fail you or forsake you” (NLT). Although teaching came with its challenges and rewards, she deeply cherished every opportunity “to build the life of a lifelong learner, here and for eternity.”

The culmination of a career

Lynn Merklin retires after 12 years at Andrews

AS LYNN MERKLIN REFLECTS ON HER time at Andrews University, she is amazed by the ways God has worked in her life. She notes, “It was personally satisfying to know that I was following God’s path and that He had orchestrated my previous experiences to prepare for my job here, the culmination of my career.”



Lynn Merklin

Before coming to Andrews, Lynn successfully pursued a bachelor’s degree in medical technology and, over 20 years later, a master’s degree in public health. On the side, she took education courses to improve her teaching skills for classes she instructed in Pakistan and the Philippines, but she never dreamed in her early life that she might someday have a job centered around higher education assessment, accreditation and research.

When she and her husband, Lester, resided in the Philippines, Lynn

served as practicum advisor and instructor in the Department of Public Health at the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies (AIAS). Simultaneously, Lynn began pursuing a PhD in curriculum and instruction from AIAS.

In 2005, Lester was called to be director of the Institute of World Mission, and the family moved to Berrien Springs, Michigan. Lynn transferred her coursework to Andrews, graduating with a PhD in education, curriculum & instruction in the spring of 2010. In January of that year, she had been hired half-time by the University as director of

“I have always had an improvement mindset, wanting to do my work well and improve processes to make them more efficient and effective.”

assessment for the School of Education. After her graduation in May, she was offered a full-time role as director of Institutional Assessment.

Lynn notes, “I have always had an improvement mindset, wanting to do my work well and improve processes to make them more efficient and effective. Also, I’ve enjoyed mentoring others, such as helping them succeed in challenging assessment, accreditation and program development tasks.”

Two years later, in summer 2012, with increased responsibilities, Lynn took on the title of assistant provost for Institutional Effectiveness. She and her team guided Andrews Uni-

versity, the School of Education, the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary and several departments through successful accreditation visits. She expresses, “... having them be affirmed and/or used as an example of good practice fills me with joy! I pray for their continued success and high standing.”

Although Lynn did not work directly with students at Andrews, she connected with them to inquire about and improve their University experience. “They were happy to engage in conversation with me. I found Andrews students as a whole to be friendly and committed,” she affirms. “Working as part of a team to improve student learning and University processes was the most rewarding aspect of my job. I also really enjoyed delving into the details of data and curriculum.”

One of Lynn’s favorite aspects of working at Andrews was the community she established with her colleagues. She explains, “I felt supported in my role, but the camaraderie I experienced as I worked closely with staff and faculty from other offices/departments on projects and/or to resolve data issues was a real blessing. I feel that I have made friends for life!”

After switching to remote work in 2021, Lynn moved to northern Georgia, seeking milder temperatures year-round. After 12 years at Andrews, she will enjoy retirement and the opportunity to be in nature, riding her horse and hiking.

Reflecting on her career, she expresses, “While we may have dreams for our lives, we should always be open to God’s leading ... The journey that God will take us on, if we are willing, is beyond our wildest imagination for ourselves.”

New vice president for University Advancement

Donald L. Bedney II began his new responsibilities August 2022

DONALD L. BEDNEY II HAS BEEN appointed to serve as the next vice president for University Advancement, following the retirement of David Faehner, who served for nearly four decades in the role.

Bedney earned a BA in religion from Oakwood College in 1979. He and his wife, Elynda, moved to Berrien Springs, Michigan, in 1987, primarily for Donald to attend the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University. Elynda worked at Andrews, advancing in the student accounts/financial aid areas to her current post of assistant vice president for Student Financial Services.

Bedney completed an MDiv in 1990 and an MS in administration in 1991 from Andrews. He went on to earn a JD at the University of Notre Dame in 1995, achieved the Certified Specialist in Planned Giving in 2003 and currently holds the Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) designation.

Bedney has worked as a teacher in various locations as well as a pastor and director of Stewardship, Trust Services and Religious Liberty for the Lake Region Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. He also served two terms as executive secretary and director of Human Resources with the Lake Region Conference, then joined Andrews University as the senior development officer for the West Coast. Just prior to his current appointment, Bedney was director of the Andrews University Office of Development.

During his employment at Andrews, Bedney has greatly enjoyed meeting alumni and donors and making friends on behalf of the University, helping to match those individuals' dreams for the world with God's purposes and mission for Andrews.

Going forward, Bedney believes University Advancement is central

“Our outreach to young adults and to under-represented groups of alumni must become ‘part and parcel’ of who we are and how we interact with our constituents.”

to the success of Andrews. He says, “Andrews University will prosper and thrive in direct proportion to God’s blessing *through people* who understand and support the mission of the University in the time we have remaining between now and eternity.”

He notes, “To advance means to improve, progress and grow. I believe I am in this position to improve, grow and help propel the University toward its ‘preferred future’ as articulated in the President’s long-term vision.”

Bedney, who is passionate about the legacy of Christian education, is excited to connect both with donors who have supported the University for years and with new segments of donors who have yet to engage in the life and mission of Andrews. “Our outreach to young adults and to underrepresented groups of alumni must become ‘part and parcel’ of who we are and how we interact with our constituents,” says Bedney.

A quote from Ellen G. White inspires Bedney to stretch his faith toward higher expectations in his daily work as a fundraiser: “The Lord is disappointed when His people place a low estimate upon themselves. He desires His chosen heritage to value themselves according to the price He has placed upon them. God wanted them, else He would not have sent his Son on such an expensive errand to redeem them. He has a use for them, and He is well pleased when they make the very highest demands upon Him,

that they may glorify His name. They may expect large things if they have faith in His promises” (Desire of Ages, p. 668).

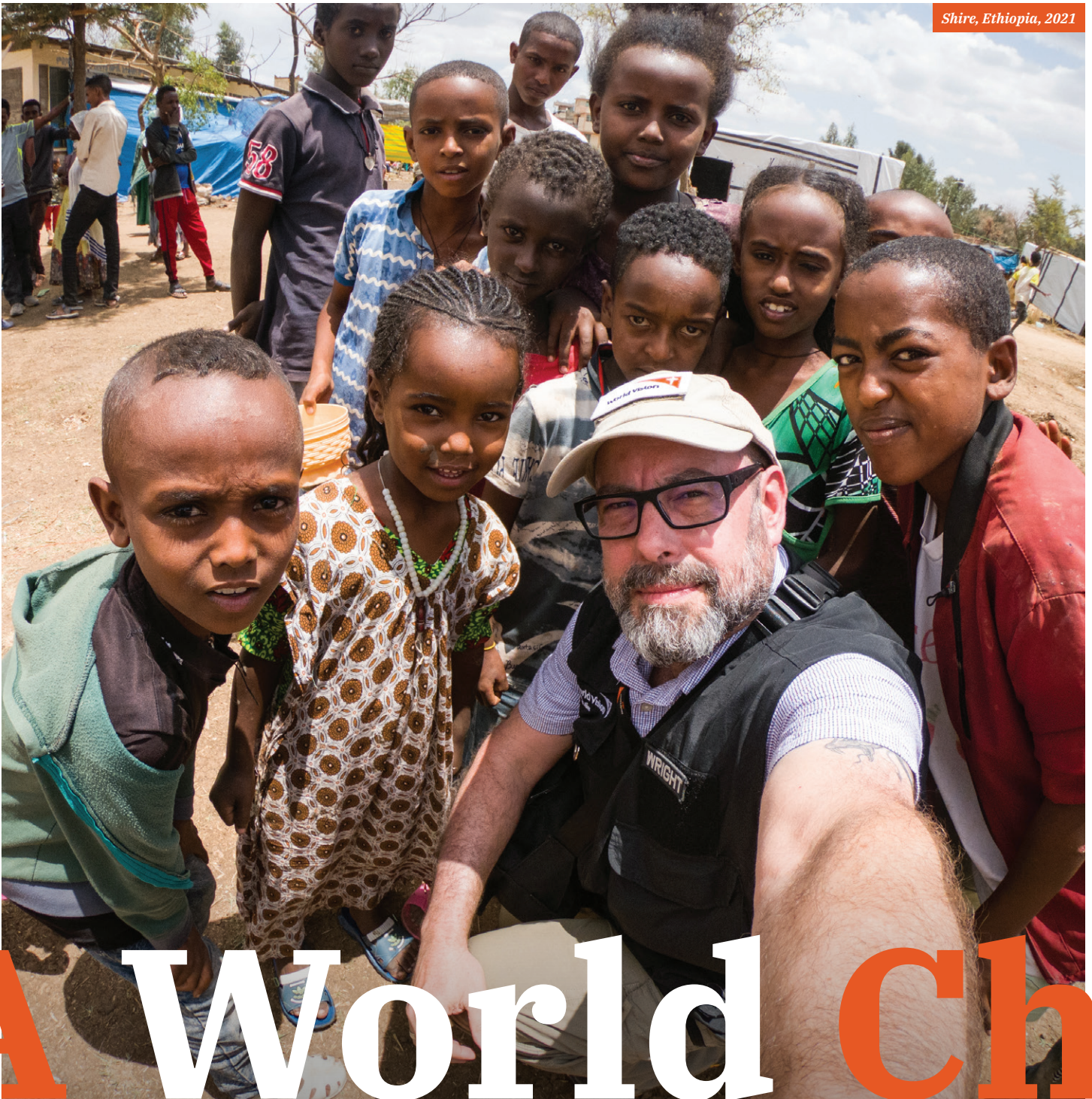
This, along with the story in Acts 12 when Peter is released from prison following believers’ prayers, compels Donald to ask the question, “What do we *expect* God to do when we ask Him to bless our fundraising? Do we expect business as



Donald L. Bedney II

usual or unparalleled blessing? Do we anticipate thousands of dollars of gifts, or do we expect *billions?*”

Bedney attributes any success he has to the amazing grace of God and says, “God has truly been faithful to me, my family and friends and His people over the years. I look forward to what He will do here at Andrews in the coming days.”



A World Cha at World Vis

*“In the course of the job you will meet American army colonels
and al-Qaeda intermediaries in the same week.”*

“The basics and have two indulgences” is Jeffery Wright’s expert packing advice after traveling for over 30 years to more than 40 different countries as a humanitarian aid worker. “My two indulgences are real coffee and music,” he says. “It’s appalling how many places will feed you Nescafé and call it coffee.” He has packed enough times that he has it down to a science and can be ready to go in a day and a half.

But that was not always the case. At the beginning, it took him two weeks to pull everything together for a deployment. It’s just one of the things Wright has learned since he started his career in the “humanitarian industry,” moving from frontline aid work to his current title of Humanitarian Response Director at World Vision International, one of the largest aid organizations, employing 37,000 people globally. Most of World Vision’s nearly \$3 billion in revenue comes from government funding for both long-term development and Wright’s focus, disaster and emergency response.

He spends half the year abroad in two three-month stints directing the organization’s emergency response to both natural disasters and armed

conflicts, often following in the wake of headlines in the news. As a result, Wright’s work takes him to places all over the world, such as Ukraine and neighboring Poland where he has recently been coordinating support for refugees. But he also winds up in other places that don’t dominate the headlines, like Ethiopia’s Tigray region, where civil war has displaced millions.

Wright’s first taste of service abroad began between his junior and senior years at Andrews University when he was recruited to teach English in Bangkok through Andrews’ student missionary program. He enjoyed it so much he delayed his senior year to stay on with Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Thailand for another two years. But he wanted to do more. After returning to Andrews University to complete his degree in photography, his experience working with a different culture abroad compelled him to take an anthropology class from Professor Øystein LaBianca. That class, he recalls, confirmed his path: “I loved it ... I remember thinking many times, ‘Wow, this is exactly what I need.’” Wanting more, he finished his Bachelor of Science in 1993 and enrolled in an MA in cultural anthropology program from Western Michigan University, which he completed while working for ADRA

“That part where you go into a situation where there’s nothing and two weeks later you’ve got an office and a team, it is very gratifying. You make things happen. It’s very immediately visible.”

International. In 2001, Wright became the country director for ADRA Vietnam, spending three years there before joining Medical Teams International in Portland, Oregon, which he still calls home. For two and a half years he led their tsunami relief team in Indonesia and Sri Lanka before moving to World Vision in 2007.

The nature of Wright’s work has changed a lot throughout his career, from the hands-on frontline aid that first got him excited about humanitarian work to now managing large-scale emergency responses. In many ways, Wright’s own career trajectory has paralleled changes within the humanitarian industry itself.

As it has developed, for example, the industry has pushed back against the old-fashioned, albeit romantic, version of aid work—foreigners in a remote spot handing out water to locals. The majority of this frontline work is now done almost entirely by locals, with organizations like World Vision providing and managing the resources needed to address crises. “It’s not uninteresting, but it’s not quite like the pictures,” he explains. Instead, the main challenge now is how to get a vast international organization like World Vision to operate effectively at both a global and a local level.

This is the kind of question Wright must face almost daily, supervising crews of five to 12 people up to field teams of a thousand. As the younger aid workers he directs gain invaluable experience at their own local level, they also become highly qualified for management positions on the global scale. When he first joined his current team many of his colleagues were from Indonesia and the Philippines where they had gained invaluable experience dealing with tsunami relief in their own countries. Wright is seeing this pattern more and

anger sion

PHOTOS: Courtesy of Jeffery Wright

by Jeremy Gray



Ondjiva, Angola, 2019



Tigray, Ethiopia, 2021

more. “I’ve met people in Central African Republic two years ago who were managing projects,” he says, “who started out as junior staff in Haiti during the Haiti earthquake response. Now we’re starting to see Iraqis, Syrians and Lebanese come onto these global teams.”

This diversity is essential to World Vision’s ability to respond to disasters the world over. In his role, Wright must always be aware of travel restrictions and cultural prejudices when assembling rapid response teams. A team with a variety of passports means at least someone is always likely to get a visa quickly and easily when timeliness counts. For example, Indian and Lebanese aid workers currently comprise most of World Vision’s presence in Afghanistan, where a U.S. passport holder like Wright is unlikely to get a visa any time soon.

The reality of the day-to-day work itself is not so different from any other type of office work: attending meetings, responding to emails, arguing about budgets. For Wright, however, this office work can take place anywhere in the world. One of his roles involves going to an established aid program that has a particular problem, a gap in personnel that needs filling or a relationship with the local government that needs mending. In these cases, Wright does his office work where you might expect—a plate-glass high-rise downtown in a large city like Nairobi, for example. But in other cases, his role involves going into a place where a disaster means a brand new situation. In these cases Wright works at the edges of war zones or where whole regions have been devastated by a nat-

ural disaster—places where, as Wright puts it, “the offices aren’t that nice.” He remembers one time on the border of Somalia where his team’s offices, and accommodation, were just a couple of tents: “And we intentionally put our office close enough to the U.N. compound that we could sponge their wifi for free.”

In such cases, the aim of Wright’s work is to establish an office from scratch that can coordinate large-scale relief efforts as a situation unfolds. In 2019, for instance, he was in Mozambique, one of several countries on Africa’s southeastern coast devastated by one of the deadliest cyclones in recorded history. There he had to hire staff, find and rent office space, locate a warehouse to store supplies, all under extraordinary circumstances and with intense time pressures. “We camped out for a couple of days. For the first few days there wasn’t a lot to eat. We were eating MRE [Meal, Ready-to-Eat] rations and there was one restaurant in town that was open.” Although so much travel has made Wright a self-confessed ethnic food snob, circumstances mean he’s often simply eating what’s available. But other times, very little is available. Last summer, for example, Wright and his team were in Ethiopia working in the Tigray region, where once again civil war has displaced millions of people. When the central Ethiopian government fell in the region, a blockade meant the hotel where they were working slowly but surely ran out of food. They were there for three months and he remembers, “By the end of it, it was just white rice and maybe some potatoes.” That blockade, he notes, is still ongoing.

Much of Wright’s work also centers on negotiating effectively with militaries in a particular region, known as civilian-military engagement (or simply Civ-Mil): “The principle of neutrality is of particular importance when sharing space with formal and also non-formal military organizations. It’s really important that we coexist effectively with them.” Along with neutrality, the guiding principles of humanitarian work are impartiality, independence and humanity. Civ-Mil has emerged as a particularly important issue in the last 10 or 15 years and has profound implications for all the principles of humanitarianism, but perhaps none more so than neutrality.

Not only is it essential that people receiving humanitarian assistance know with certainty that it’s not contingent on political affiliation, but it’s also essential to the safety of the aid workers, who can all too easily be mistaken for armed combatants. Toward that end, in an area where there may be armed conflict,

“The principle of neutrality is of particular importance when sharing space with formal and also non-formal military organizations. It’s really important that we coexist effectively with them.”



Tigray, Ethiopia, 2021, with a few colleagues

Wright and his team are sure to go “branded,” that is, wearing a vest, a cap and a badge that identify them with their organization. “In some cases,” he adds, “we have letters of passage from civilian leaders.” Similarly, when in transit all their vehicles have a universally understood symbol signifying there are no weapons on board, a circle with a line crossing out the silhouette of an AK-47. Such precautions are necessary to ensure their safety or, as Wright so nonchalantly puts it, to “not get shot, get through checkpoints, things like that.” In regions where checkpoints are a reality of everyday life, Wright and his team must negotiate their way through multiple times a day and in some cases are turned back.

Negotiating their way through complex political situations can be dizzying at times. He cites northern Syria, where ISIS, Turkish military, Kurdish military, the Syrian government, the Russians and the remnants of al-Qaeda all have their own interests. To cut through this complexity Wright heads up a committee at World Vision that guides internal company policy on just how to deal with these issues as effectively and as safely as possible. Part of the challenge is never quite knowing who you’ll be interacting with next. It might mean working alongside the 82nd Airborne Division of the U.S. military, who provided security for Wright and his team in downtown Port-au-Prince during earthquake relief in Haiti. From around 2013 to 2015 it meant negotiating remotely with ISIS to gain access to southwestern Syria. As Wright describes, “In the course of the job you will meet American army colonels and al-Qaeda intermediaries in the same week.”

All this does not come without a mental and emotional toll. Another way the industry has changed is a growing recognition of the importance of mental health for aid workers who can be firsthand witnesses to intense pain and suffering. It took a while, he explains, for the industry to realize “this mental health stuff is real and we need to take it seriously.” Aid workers in regions of armed conflict are especially at risk of secondary trauma, the result of hearing firsthand accounts as told by survivors. “When you spend a couple weeks listening to people describe the horror of war as it happened to them, it takes a toll,” Wright says.

The resulting issues can be similar to those faced by military veterans, and many organizations, including World Vision, now provide counseling services to their staff to address them. It’s now a standard routine to debrief with a psychiatrist after coming home from an assignment. Wright himself has also developed his own strategies to deal with the mental and emotional stressors. “Part of my routine is to find ways to decompress on my way back or after I get back.” For him this includes sometimes taking a detour on the way home to travel for pleasure, or getting home and heading out into nature with backpacking trips throughout the Pacific Northwest. Otherwise, he says, “I’m not necessarily in the best shape when I get home.”

But despite such challenges, Wright still finds the work as rewarding as ever: “That part where you go into a situation where there’s nothing and two weeks later you’ve got an office and a team, it is very gratifying,” he says. “You make things happen. It’s very immediately visible.”

In Mozambique, for example, where the cyclone wiped away the region’s crops, food distribution was essential. “We got a food distribution team in there, got a supply line of food ration from World Food Program, and basically were doing distribution to 3,000 families a day, six days a week, for six weeks without a break. It’s intensely gratifying to see that machine get going.” It may just be office work, and sometimes it’s in dangerous places, but he finally admits that affecting change on that scale is “hard to downplay.”

And as the industry changes, Wright’s energy and passion focus more and more on the future generation of aid workers. He heads up an internal service training course at World Vision and finds satisfaction in, as he puts it, “identifying the bright shining stars from among our local staff. In Iraq, in Syria, in Mozambique, it’s going to have to be those people who have to stay there long term and run it, so let’s find the good ones and let’s invest in them and make sure they’re given opportunity to advance. If they need training, make sure they get it.”

After accumulating more than 30 years of knowledge, Wright has a lot to impart to the next generation of aid workers. “When I started at the ripe old age of 22 or 23,” he admits, “it was really about the adrenaline rush and the adventure.” While much of what he does now may be office work, “That sense of adventure is still there,” he says. In those early days when it was all new and exciting he claims, “I really didn’t think as deeply about what it was that we were doing: those people need food, give them food—easy.” But now his experience in an industry that is still working to improve the good it can do has made him think more carefully about how best to do good. “After, lo, these many years,” he says, “I spend more time thinking through what are the actual impacts of what we’re doing, also the impacts of how we’re doing it, and are there better ways to do it.” ■

Jeremy Gray is a native of Berrien Springs and a graduate of Andrews Academy ('11). He holds master's degrees from Trinity College Dublin and the University of Cambridge. Gray's grandfather, Harold T. Jones, taught mathematics at Andrews University for nearly 40 years.

Andrews University

2022–2025

Strategic Plan

Our Story

In this strategic plan for 2022–2025, we share the outline of our new and yet ongoing narrative. We seek to grow by expanding our access to current and prospective students. We hope to deepen our commitment to shared values and broaden our opportunities to understand how to serve even better. And we recognize to do this, we must strengthen our resilience. As we seek to expand our revenue base, we will find new resourcing to allow us to do what we do well, even better!

by **Andrea Luxton**



Storyline Two:

Creating Community

Robert's grandfather tears up as he puts the Kente stole around the shoulders of his graduating grandson, the first in the family to graduate from a university—and with honors, too.

Emily visits the University chaplain. She wants to find a way to make a difference. They agree to a way she can fulfill her passion on campus: to seek healing in the community by helping students find ways to talk to each other across the divides of politics and culture.

Trevor attended the Pitch Competition and found a new excitement for his educational journey and its connection to innovation and service.

Serena has never been on the Andrews University campus, but she suddenly finds she is invited



to participate in a leadership seminar that reaches her in her culture and her community.

The last two and a half years have put significant pressure on all communities, not least universities and churches. Churches report that post-COVID attendance has rebounded some but not close to prior levels, even when there is a virtual option. Universities have discovered that they are no longer seen as being as important or relevant as they were before. Students who are going to university take with them the results of the isolation, divisiveness, fear and loss that have been part of the COVID-19 pandemic experience. Add to that the significant slide in commitment to faith and organized religion within the U.S. as a whole, and particularly the younger generations, and faith-based universities face a perfect storm in 2022. Andrews University is not immune from those pressures. Therefore, the second storyline in our strategic plan, “We will deepen and sharpen our

community culture and sense of belonging to further enrich our world-changing experience and commitment,” is not just important but critical to the vibrance and future of the University.

In 2017, Andrews University commenced the administration of an annual Spiritual Life Story Survey. After four years the University now has some significant data which has assisted the University chaplain and his team (the Center for Faith Engagement) in defining the best ways of deepening and broadening campus engagement with faith in our current environment.

For example, with the drive to more social media communication and remote delivery that developed throughout the pandemic, the Center intentionally broadened its reach through improved communication with students about activities, increased virtual spiritual programming, and further intentionality in social media engagement. The Center has added a University Faith app

that provides information for upcoming events, sign-up lists for service/missions, and devotional media. Notifications can be pushed to students, which they are more likely to receive and see than regular email. Sabbath morning worship services from the two campus fellowships include virtual options, too, because of funds provided by grants and donations to purchase video equipment. These initiatives particularly ensure that all students, whether in residence halls, the community, or remote will have easy access to a range of faith development and engagement opportunities.

Beyond the deep focus on personal spiritual life and Adventist identity which always remain core to our programming, the next few years will also see the University chaplain and his team partnering across campus with areas such as the Career Center and the Department of Religion & Biblical Languages to focus with students on vocation and calling. The University has received an external grant



to pilot some specific programming in this area. In addition, the emphasis on mission and service throughout the whole campus will drive our faith development initiatives. This is focus that excites our students and employees alike and is reflective of our brand statement of World Changers Made Here.

Our last Strategic Plan (2017–2022) focused on our development of the Office of Diversity & Inclusion under a new vice president. After significant development, storyline two anticipates the further deepening of what can be done to enrich our campus culture and community through recognition of the strengths of our diverse cultural and multi-talented community. To encourage that further depth and integration on campus of this important part of our identity, we have expanded the role of our vice president for Diversity & Inclusion to vice president for University Culture



& Inclusion. Under the guidance of the vice president and his team we anticipate increasing the rich experience of all on our campus throughout the next three years.

How do we achieve this? Over the last few years the Office for University Culture & Inclusion has conducted a wide range of services and activities that have been aimed at encompassing ethnic and cultural groups represented in our student body, as well as particular community needs. This has included an increasing slate of events for both students and employees such as vespers and church services, forums, co-curricular short courses, musical concerts and celebrations, cooking demonstrations, food exhibits, banquets and extracurricular activities. Many of these events have been co-sponsored by Campus & Student Life areas, University Wellness and the Center for Faith Engagement. Our new strategic plan sees these connections increasing and adding areas such as the new Office of Innovation & Entrepreneurship, in order that all in our University community are invited to participate in a cohesive experience that intentionally seeks to address corporate and individual hurts and to create a safe and engaged community that is focused on opportunities and positive change.

The University has received funding to further two particular projects. In August of 2020, we launched the Andrews University Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation (TRHT) Campus Center that has been mentioned in an earlier FOCUS. This initiative, developed by the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, has already helped the campus listen better to each others' stories across racial and social divides. With this background we will enter the new period of our strategic plan with even more focused ways of creating

SEVEN CORE VALUES

COMPASSION
JUSTICE
HUMILITY
INNOVATION
TRUST
INTEGRITY
WELLBEING

that engage and provide a healing culture for all.

The University has also received funding to find ways of expanding the storytelling of the University's history to include new and diverse voices. The goal is to launch the resulting second volume of our history, as well as visual storytelling options, during the 150th anniversary year of the University (2024–2025).

While all we do on campus in the areas of faith and community culture and inclusion impacts our employees, our Storyline Two does include specific emphasis on our employees: both their needs and their employment environment. The plan also signals the University's commitment to core values in all campus interactions. The seven values we have chosen are compassion, justice, humility, innovation, trust, integrity and wellbeing. These will be part of our orientation sessions, move into our evaluation processes, and drive institutional conversations about how we should treat all those who connect with us. All our values are driven by biblical imperatives; all respond to the climate of the wider culture that seems to very often act counter to these principles.

Storyline Two is about campus community and culture. However, Andrews University is far more than Andrews University in

Berrien Springs, Michigan. We are Andrews University wherever our influence reaches, and when we talk about deepening and sharpening our community culture and sense of belonging we want that to be true of wherever Andrews University has a presence. Likewise, when we talk about how that culture enriches our world-changing experience and commitment we want our local communities and our world church family to know that this includes commitment to all of you. Here are a few examples of what the next few years hold for us beyond the Berrien Springs campus walls.

The Global Leadership Institute will be working in collaboration with the General Conference to offer leadership development opportunities throughout our world church divisions. Our Leadership department will start an online MA in social innovation to encourage our church members and others to seek innovative ways of leading in their communities to bring hope and opportunity. Our academic programs will continue to find unique ways of partnering with the church and other non-profits to build capacity in areas of defined need worldwide. Our International Center for Trauma Education & Care will spread its reach in helping education leaders in traumatic environments discover how to engage with their communities to bring hope back in individual and corporate lives. And the Seminary and others will continue their plans to partner with other institutions and organizations to help the impossible happen with God's leadership.

This then is our second storyline. It is a storyline that seeks to bring positivity, possibility and passion to our campus community and beyond. It is a storyline that invites us to remember who we are as individuals created in the image of God and what opportunities God has given to us. It also equally invites us to value those around us as also created in the image of God and help them discover their potential. It speaks of healing and the transformative power of a community of faith where God invites us all to live with the principles of the kingdom in our relationships and in the choice of our life priorities.

Thank you for helping us live this storyline!



FOCUS will feature the final storyline from the strategic plan in the next issue. View the strategic plan at andrews.edu/president/strategicplan.

Storyline One: We will grow by increasing access for more students to engage in a world-changing education.

Andrews University is committed to providing a high quality, accessible, world-changing education to eligible students at all levels of higher education, through on-campus and remote experiences, dependent on mission, market and need. By the beginning of the 2025–2026 academic year, the University intends to grow to 1,800 undergraduate students and 1,800 graduate students studying on or through the main campus, with a first to second year retention rate of 87 percent and an overall persistence rate for undergraduates of 90 percent and graduates of 85 percent. These figures exclude continuing education/certificate students studying through the Adult Education Center and students studying at international locations.

Storyline Two: We will deepen and sharpen our community culture and sense of belonging to further enrich our world-changing experience and commitment.

Andrews University is committed to a community culture where faith is active in service, evidenced in calling, and where institutional values are experienced in the University's commitment to diversity and inclusion, building leadership, encouraging holistic wellness and nurturing innovation. A robust liberal arts program, particularly as experienced in ACE or the J.N. Andrews Honors Program, and intentional graduate programming will bridge the students' academic experience with the community experience, and shared values will together increase the sense of belonging of all campus demographics. Together these become world changing.

Storyline Three: We will intentionally increase our resilience to bring rich and innovative planning to our future.

Andrews University's mission is to educate students to be World Changers for the Seventh-day Adventist Church and the wider community. To continue effectively with this core mission, it will be critical for the University to increase its financial resilience and be committed to thoughtful innovative planning and change. This will strengthen the University at all levels as it continues to serve its students and constituents well beyond its 150th birthday.





ANDREWS



LEGACY





Among our new students coming through FIRST STOP during New Student Orientation on Sunday, Aug. 21, 97 identified themselves as Legacy students—students with a sibling, parent and/or grandparent who attended Andrews. The Alumni Association celebrated this legacy connection by taking photos of the students and/or families.



1960s

Eileen O'Brien

Brown (BA '62) is now fully retired after spending several years as a stay-at-home mom while completing her MA in French at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. Subsequently, she served as principal and teacher at Laurel Oaks Adventist School. During semi-retirement, she was hired as a writing consultant for New Haven Public Schools in New Haven, Connecticut.



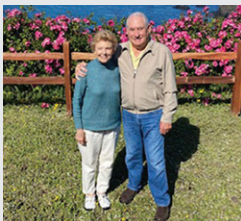
Betty Jane Stevens Kettering (BS '62) married **James David Kettering** (BA '64). Both Betty and Jim are retired.



1970s

In 2020, Otis John Hughson (MDiv '72) and his wife Joan moved from Angwin, California, to the resort/retirement community of Oakmont near Santa Rosa.

They worked at Pacific Union College for over 20 years at the church and in the nursing department. In June they celebrated their 54th year of marriage. They enjoy spending time with their three adult children and four grandchildren.



Eurydice V. Osterman (BMus '72, MMus '75) is a Fulbright scholar and a published author and composer whose works have been read and performed around the world. A listing of her works is cited in the book, "Music by Black Women Composers: A Bibliography of Available Scores" by Helen Walker-Hill, CBRM Monographs, No.5, 1995 and also posted on YouTube. She is the featured composer in the dissertation of Angelique Clay, "The Life and Music of Eurydice V. Osterman." Having studied with the late C. Warren Becker, she is



an accomplished organist and has served as dean of the Greater Huntsville Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO). She was commissioned

by the AGO to compose a piece for the 2024 national convention. Eurydice is the author of two books, "What God Says About Music" and "Worship: From Praise Him to Praise Hymn." She is the recipient of many awards and holds membership in several professional organizations, including Phi Kappa Lambda.

Eurydice accrued six years of teaching before joining the faculty at Oakwood University (four at Mt. Vernon Academy). She retired in 2016 after 35 years of service. She also served as the music chair at Northern Caribbean University for three years. Since retiring she is still active playing the organ, composing commissioned and other works, publishing her music, and lecturing. She writes, "I am grateful for the training received at Andrews University and have fond memories of my time spent there."

1980s

Jerry Thacker (EdD '87) has now completed over 50 years as a public school educator. He is in his 51st year overall and 25th year as a school superintendent.

He writes, "I will be forever grateful to Andrews University and the outstanding professors and fellow students for the exemplary education that I enjoyed ... Thank you for making a difference!"

1990s



Efraín Velázquez II (MDiv '99, PhD '08) serves as president of the Inter-American Adventist Theological Seminary (IATS). He notes that he wore his

Andrews University face mask for the inauguration of the new IATS administrative offices on May 23, 2022, in Mayagüez, Puerto Rico.

2000s

Andrea Moskalova Jakobsons (BSELED '04, MSA '09, MDiv '15) came to the U.S. from the Czech Republic as a sophomore in high school and had not attended an Adventist school until Andrews University and "that was only because my dad insisted that I go," she says. "Andrews University changed my life. I developed into who I am because of the experiences and opportunities I had there. It was also the first time I experienced teachers praying in class and their passion for Jesus inspired my walk with God. I don't remember much of what they taught me but the professors who showed Jesus through their teaching had a huge impact in my life. Thank you for the many opportunities you offer to students and the professors who don't even realize the impact they have for eternity."

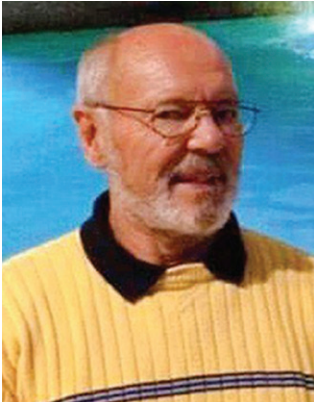
Albert L. Reyes (PhD '09), president and CEO of Buckner International, was selected for the 2022 D CEO Magazine's Non-Profit and Corporate Citizenship Award for Leadership Excellence in the Mega Non-Profit Category. He was also recently featured as one of the 100 stories in "Our Story in One Hundred Images: 20th Anniversary Book," published by Latino Leaders.

2010s

J. Mark Joslin (BA '15) and **Alma Navarrete Vargas** (BS '21) were married on July 14, 2022, at the Temple City SDA Church in Temple City, California.



The groom's parents, **Katherine Koudele** (BA '79, MS '83, current faculty) and **Jeffrey Joslin** (BS '80), bridesmaids **Liz Dominguez** (BA '17, MA '19), **Jade Romelus** (BSN '18) and groomsmen **Joshua Faehner** (BA '16), **Regie Saintina** (BS '18), **Stephan Suinda** (BBA '14, MBA '15) and **Jeremy Faehner** (BBA '17) were all alumni of Andrews University as was the officiant, **Cliff Jean-Baptiste** (MDiv '17). Alma is teaching high school math near Knoxville, Tennessee, while Mark is completing his doctoral degree in American history from University of Tennessee-Knoxville.



Gary Erhard (BS '67), of Berrien Springs, Michigan, died July 14, 2022, from congestive heart failure. He was born March 4, 1937, in Royal Oak, Michigan, to **John** (BA '51) and **Dorothy (Evans) Erhard**. He was the second of four children.

Gary graduated from Southfield High and in the summer of 1953 met Pat Caldwell. They married in 1957.

Gary worked for a civil engineering firm till he was drafted in 1960. He served in the U.S.

Army, stationed for two years in San Antonio, Texas.

In transitioning to civilian life, Gary and Pat planned an eight-week, 10,000-mile trip all over the west and Northwest, ending up in Berrien Springs where Gary enrolled at Andrews University. He worked part-time for Wightman civil engineering, played and studied, finishing with a BS in business. Andrews hired him as office manager at College Wood Products (CWP) where he developed a retail factory outlet. In 1973 Gary left CWP and started a furniture and carpet business.

Gary traveled to Georgia to pick up carpet, and then people started asking him to move their households to different places. Thus, Erhard Moving was added to provide Gary with, as he called it, "A Paid Vacation."

Gary, Pat and their children Kendall and Cheryl loved camping, boating, water skiing, jet skiing and traveling.

Gary, Pat and Kendall started mission trips with Andrews Academy, and then Gary and Pat served every other year for many years to Central America, Venezuela, Peru and Tanzania.

Gary is survived by his wife of almost 65 years, Pat (Caldwell) Erhard; son Kendall and daughter Cheryl (Sergei) Polishchuk; sister, June Edwards; brother, Peter (MyLuoc) Erhard; sister, Sharon (**William** (BA '67)) **Guth**; grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Stephen Lee Burlingame (BA '72) of Williamston, Michigan, died at age 71 on July 2, 2022.

Stephen was born July 25, 1950, to **R. LeRoy Burlingame** (BA '59) and **Ruth (Ross) Burlingame** in Berrien Springs, Michigan. He graduated from Andrews University in 1972, then the University of Michigan Law School, graduating *magna cum laude* in 1977.

Stephen married **Mary**

Miller (BA '72) on July 9, 1972, in Berrien Springs and they have three children: Meredith, Christopher and Timothy.

He was drafted in August 1972 and served in the U.S. Army with USAMRID (White Coats) at Fort Detrick, Maryland. He was proud to have volunteered to work as a typist in the personnel office instead of working in one of the labs.

After graduation from law school, Stephen joined the firm Fraser, Trebilcock, Davis and Dunlap in March 1977 and practiced law there for over 40 years. He was honored to serve as president of the firm and on the executive committee.

He lived a life of faith and service as a member, Bible teacher, church elder and chair of the church board at the University Seventh-day Adventist Church in East Lansing, Michigan. He was a former member of the Lansing Rotary Club and volunteered with United Way.

Stephen loved reading, Tigers baseball, fishing and

Donna Jeanne Lugenbeal Habenicht (BA '54, MA '74, EdD '77) died at Woodland Terrace on June 22, 2022, at age 87.

Donna was born Dec. 13, 1934, in the Philippines to missionary parents, **Edward Newton** (BTh '27, MA '42) and **Cora (Garber) (DIP2YR '27) Lugenbeal**. She graduated from Adelpian Academy in 1950, then Emmanuel Missionary College (now Andrews University) in 1954 with a major in elementary education and a secretarial science minor.

After graduation, she married **Herald Habenicht** (BA '54) and they honeymooned across the U.S. to California, where Herald began medical school. Donna worked as an elementary school teacher and a secretary in Loma Linda and Los Angeles.

After Herald's pediatric residency the family accepted a call to mission work at Bella Vista Hospital in Mayagüez, Puerto Rico, where Donna helped establish children's ministry programs in local



Seventh-day Adventist churches.

After nine years of mission work the family moved to Berrien Springs in 1970. Donna worked as secretary for the chaplain's office at Andrews University and later was put in charge of freshman education. She obtained a master's degree in education in 1974 and an EdD in educational psychology

in 1977. She taught in the Andrews University School of Education and served as chair of the education department from 1990 until 1995.

Throughout this time and after her retirement from Andrews in 2000, she remained active in promoting the spiritual development of children. She authored five books on the topic including, "How to Help Your Child Really Love Jesus," which was translated into at least six languages.

Donna passed quietly to her rest after declining with dementia for several years. Those who took care of her were always impressed by her smile and pleasant nature.

Donna is survived by her husband of 68 years, **Herald Habenicht**; a brother, **Ed** (BD '64) (**Marilyn** (BA '65, MA '68)) **Lugenbeal**; son, **Larry** (BA '76) (**Debbie** (BA '75)) **Habenicht**; daughter, **Nancy** (BA '80) (**Bruce**) **Schilling**; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

traveling with family and friends. Besides spending summers “up north” at Glen Lake, Michigan, he loved vacations, especially after retirement, to Sablet in the south of France.

Stephen is survived by his wife, Mary, and children: Meredith Lajewski (Andrew), Christopher, Timothy (Lisa) and grandson Robby Burlingame; siblings David (Jenifer) Burlingame, Richard (**Deborah** (BA/BA '74)) **Burlingame, Gary Burlingame** (BS '78) (Kara Cattani) and Diane Wendth (**Ron** (BS '76, MAT '80)); sister-in-law Margaret (**George** (BS '75, MDiv '78)) **Pangman** and many nieces and nephews.

Michael (“Mike”) I. Marsh (CERT '74, BA '81) passed away unexpectedly of natural causes on July 2, 2022, at age 67.

Mike was born Nov. 14, 1954, in Aledo, Illinois, to Irwin and Alta Mae Marsh. He graduated from Broadview Academy in 1973. Mike met his future wife, Debbie, at school, and they married in 1974. They then moved to Berrien Springs where Mike attended Andrews University for sign painting. He graduated in 1981 with a major in religion and a minor in music.

Mike served Berrien Springs and the surrounding area as a locksmith for over 30 years. He dabbled in local politics for awhile and engaged in many musical activities, including barbershop singing groups and playing in bands at Andrews University and in Niles and St. Joseph, Michigan. He also organized and led the Suncoast Singers in Berrien Springs.

Mike was an avid collector of old tractors, namely the two-cylinder variety like John Deere, Farmall and International. He also participated in parades and WWII reenactments with his restored WWII DUKW.

Mike is survived by his wife, Debbie; three sons: Michael II, William and Nicholas; and three grandchildren.

Frank Donald “Don” Yost (BA '49) died June 18, 2022.

Born in Minneapolis on June 23, 1927, Don spent much of his adult life in the Washington, D.C., area and, more recently, Augusta, Georgia, and Fletcher, North Carolina.

With an MA from American University and a PhD in religious journalism from Syracuse University, he dedicated his life to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. After a pastoral internship, he worked for the young people’s Missionary Volunteer Department.

In the early 1960s, Don and **Lois** (BA '49) moved with children Bob and Pat to teach at Newbury Park Academy. In 1965, after completing classwork for his journalism degree in Syracuse, New York, the family moved to Southern Missionary College (now Southern Adventist University) where Don taught until moving back to the Washington, D.C., area as a book and magazine editor for the General Conference. In 1970, Don was the first editor of *Insight* magazine and in 1973, he became the first director of the archives department of the Adventist Church, continuing in that role until his retirement in 1995. After retirement, he served with the Office of Adventist Mission.

Don published a book titled, “Holiness: The Art of Letting Go,” supported by a website.

He was preceded in death by his wife Lois; father, Frank H. Yost; and mother, Esther Yost.

Don is survived by his son Robert (Bob) Yost (Emily), daughter Patricia Ritter (Stuart), five grandsons and three great-grandsons.



Linden Ray Beardsley (CERT '72) died June 13, 2022, in Santa Rosa, California.

Linden was born to Gladys and Fredrick Beardsley on July 12, 1951, in Watervliet, Michigan. He had two younger sisters, Lanae and Kim.

The family moved to California, where Fredrick passed away when Linden was 13. Linden’s mother moved her family to Angwin in 1965. Linden attended PUC Prep School, where he met his future wife, Sally Bloesch.

Linden and Sally were married on Dec. 1, 1973. The following year their daughter Cynthia was born, and two years later their son Joseph was born. Linden worked most of his career as staff at St. Helena Hospital. His son Joseph says, “His proudest duties were caring for the gardens ... His favorite, though, was the ‘jungle’—a secluded quiet nook with bamboo grove, tropical plants and a series of spring-fed pools leading to a koi pond. He spent as much time making that area beautiful as the rest of his duties allowed.”

Linden always said his greatest achievement was marrying Sally and his greatest joy was small things that made her happy. Linden and Sally walked side by side for over 48 years.

He loved reading and learning how mechanical things worked and helped design and build displays and backdrops

for the children’s programs at the PUC church, of which Sally was a big part.

Linden was predeceased by his father, mother and sister Lanae. He is survived by his wife, Sally, his daughter Cyndee Beardsley, son and daughter-in-law Joe and Abigail Beardsley, and sister Kimber Beardsley.

John Peter Russo (BA '61, former faculty), 82, died on June 5, 2022, in South Bend, Indiana.

John was born Aug. 28, 1939, in Evanston, Illinois, a son of the late Peter John and Genevieve (Brice) Russo, and had lived in South Bend since 1975.

John graduated first in his class in 1961 from Andrews University with a BA in mathematics. He received his PhD in mathematics at Florida State University in 1965.

John was an assistant professor of mathematics at Andrews University from 1965–1969 and was an associate professor of mathematics and computer science at Indiana University South Bend for 34 years. He served as the first Faculty Development Officer at IUSB from 1986–1989. This office later became the University Center for Excellence in Teaching (UCET). He instituted the highly successful Teaching Consultation Program to help professors become better teachers. He was co-owner of University Software Consultants from 1987–1992 and taught programming at Miles Laboratories.

Irene Touchard (att., former staff), 83, of Berrien Springs, Michigan, died on May 13, 2022, after a battle with dementia.

Irene was born May 22, 1938, in Budapest, Hungary, to Ernest and Irene (Orban) Vandulek and immigrated to the U.S. in 1947. She graduated from Canisteo Central Itha-

ca High School and worked at Cornell University prior to joining the Seventh-day Adventist Church. She briefly attended Emmanuel Missionary College before returning home to Ithaca to care for her father. During this time her cousin Lazlo needed a ride home and convinced his friend, Wolfhard Touchard, to drive him, promising to introduce him to his pretty cousin. Wolfhard and Irene were married July 3, 1966, with a goal to serve the Savior together.

Irene retired after working many years as a missionary in Virginia at Shenandoah Valley Academy, Middle East College in Beirut, Lebanon, and then University College of Eastern Africa in Kenya, filling the roles of women's dean and administrative assistant to the head administrator. Upon return to the U.S. she became the administrative assistant at Lamson Hall at Andrews University, providing dedicated support to the five women's deans and a dorm full of young women.

She enjoyed caring for her family, decorating her home and spending time with family and friends.

She is survived by her husband, **Wolfhard Touchard** (former staff); a sister, Eva Fazekas; brothers, George and Peter Vandulek; a daughter, **Erika** (BS '93, MSPT '94) (**Donald** (AT '93) **Kissinger**; a son, **John** (BT '95) (**Maria** (BSW '97)) **Touchard**; and four grandchildren: **Samantha** (BS '19) (**Michael** (BSELED '18)) Gusky, Phillip Kissinger, DeAnna, and John-Mark Touchard. She was preceded in death by her brother, Paul Vandulek.

Charles Tidwell (MA '68, former faculty) died on May 10, 2022, in Newton, Massachusetts.

Charles retired as dean emeritus from Andrews Uni-

versity in 2011, after serving in several capacities since his arrival in 1996, including director of off-campus programs in the School of Business Administration, 1996–2000; interim dean of the School of Business Administration, 2000–2001 and 2006–2007; and dean of Affiliations & Extensions, 2002–2011.



Prior to his arrival at Andrews, Charles served as the academic dean and a member of the teaching faculty at Hong Kong Adventist College (1984–1996). Before moving to Hong Kong, Charles taught at Canadian Union College (now Burman University), South Lancaster Academy and Cedar Lake Academy (now Great Lakes Adventist Academy).

Charles received a PhD in English from the University of Calgary in 1983. His master's degree in English was from Andrews University in 1968, and his undergraduate degree, also in English, was from Atlantic Union College in 1967.

He is survived by his wife Ruth, son Chet, a brother and two sisters and their families, and a host of former students, friends and colleagues.

Jerry Thomas Shilling (att.), 78, died on April 24, 2022, at Spectrum Health Lakeland in St. Joseph, Michigan.

Jerry and his twin brother,

James Michael Shilling, were born to Delores Mae and James Balie Shilling on Sept. 14, 1943, in Battle Creek, Michigan. Jerry and James attended Battle Creek Academy and then went on to Andrews University in Berrien Springs. Jerry then attended Madison College in Madison, Tennessee, and completed his radiology technician training. He met his wife, Carolyn Lee Shipp, in Madison, and they were married on Dec. 19, 1965.

In October 1967 Jerry was drafted to the Army and was stationed at the Letterman General Hospital Presidio in San Francisco, California. He received the Vietnam Service Medal and the National Defense Service Medal.

Jerry and Carolyn had one son, Jerry Dwayne Shilling. Jerry spent many years working in the Adventist Health System as a radiology manager and completed his career at Florida Hospital Orlando before retiring in 2012.

Jerry is survived by his wife, Carolyn, of Niles, Michigan; son, Jerry Dwayne (Tammy) Shilling; granddaughter, Paige Shilling; grandson, Nicholas Shilling; and great-grandson, Kayden Thompson; and his brother, James Michael (Carolyn) Shilling.

Terrence (Terry) Dodge Jr. (BT '91, current staff) died of cancer on April 8, 2022, surrounded by his family. The recording of his service can be viewed on the Stevensville SDA Church's Facebook page.

Terry was born on Nov. 15, 1968, to Maxine and **Terrence** (BS '68) **Dodge Sr.**

He attended Andrews University from 1987–1992 and graduated with a bachelor's degree in aviation. He and **Jill Kline** (BSELED '96) were married on June 30, 1995, and

welcomed their four children in 1998, 1999, 2001 and 2003.

Terry worked at Andrews University from 1998 until this year, first at ITS as a computer support specialist and most recently as assistant professor in the Department of Aviation.

His family remembers him loving flying, cooking, eating spicy everything, the Broncos, F4-U Corsairs, sunrises, the smell of grapes on a fall drive, sunset walks on the beach, creating documentaries, reading Dahveed and the Sam Campbell books, and spending time with his family and friends.



Terry is in a holding pattern awaiting clearance from Jesus to be on final approach to heaven and together again for eternity.

He is survived by his wife of 27 years, Jill (Kline) Dodge; his children, Autumm, Winter and her husband Trevor Willauer, Terrence III, and Holden; grandson Anthony Willauer; parents Maxine and Terry Dodge Sr.; and siblings **Michelle** (BS '93) (Stephen) **Pester** and **Tobin** (BA '97, MDiv '03, DMin '15) (**Virlyn** (MDiv '03)) **Dodge**.



Kelly Eick (BA '74) was born March 7, 1952, and died April 7, 2022, after a long illness.

Kelly spent four years at Andrews University, graduating with a BA in math and computer science in 1974. While at Andrews he met his future wife, **Donna Stannard** (BS '76).

He was hired by the purchasing department of Loma Linda University & Medical Center and worked in the re-named materials management department for 39 years.

Kelly is survived by his wife, Donna Stannard Eick; daughter, Heather (Berlin) Eick Vindel; son, Ben Eick; grandson, Enoch Vindel; and sister, Jolene (Bob) Eick Wall.

Patricia Ann Lafferty Anderson (att.) died April 4, 2022. She began life in 1933 in Illinois with her parents, Charlie and Rosalie Lafferty, and two older brothers, **Charles** (BA '50) and **Alfred** (BA '53).

Later, her family moved to Iowa and ultimately to Berrien Springs, where Patricia attended high school at the Academy operated by Emmanuel Missionary College—now Andrews University. During high school, she met her future husband and fellow student, **James Anderson** (BA '53, MA '62). They married shortly after Pat finished high school.

“Pat,” as she was known to her friends, was first and foremost a wife and mother.

Throughout her adult life, Pat always managed to balance her career as an accountant with caring for her family. After their children left home, Pat and Jim ventured to Africa to spend three years teaching at Maxwell Academy.

Pat spent many years working as an accountant for several Seventh-day Adventist academies—most notably Great Lakes Adventist Academy and Sunnyside Adventist Academy.

During “retirement” Pat spent many years helping her son-in-law Dave manage his construction company, as well as delving into her family genealogy. She also was widely read and closely followed politics.



She was immensely proud of her husband, children and grandchildren. Pat and Jim were married almost 70 years. When Jim became disabled, Pat cared for him for several years when they both were in their 80s.

Pat is survived by her daughter, Penny (Dave) Smikle; six grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; and one daughter-in-law.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James L. Anderson; son, **James C. Anderson** (BA '76); and brothers, Charles E. (Leona) Lafferty and Alfred L. Lafferty.

Liene Bauman (former staff), 82, of Berrien Springs, died April 1, 2022, in St. Joseph, Michigan.

Liene was born May 31, 1939, in Riga, Latvia, to Fridrichs and Lucija Viksne. The family left Latvia on Oct. 4, 1944, to escape communist Russia's takeover. They spent the rest of World War II in Germany, immigrating to the U.S. in July 1950.

She graduated from Wappingers Center High School in 1957 and from the University of Buffalo School of Pharmacy in 1961. Liene worked as a pharmacist until June 1967 when she married **Ulrich (Uldis) Bauman** (att.) and moved to New Jersey, where he was a professor of violin at Trenton State College. They had two sons, Alfred and Egil. Egil was born encephalic. When he was older, she took care of him until he died in 1990 at the age of 16.

The family came to Berrien Springs in fall 1980. Liene's husband suffered a possible career-ending hand injury and went to Andrews University to study theology after having recently converted to Seventh-day Adventism. Due to moving several times, she chose not to work in pharmacy again because each state required a new pharmacy license which takes a couple of years to attain as well as state boards. She took and acquired four pharmacy licenses, in New York State, New Jersey, Ohio and Michigan. After passing the Michigan State Boards, there were no jobs available locally so she started work at Apple Valley Market. She worked there for 19 years until her retirement in October 2009.

Before then she worked for several years at the Andrews Post Office as a postal clerk.

Her husband passed away in 2007. She leaves a son, Alfred, two granddaughters, Jeannee and Adara, and her brother, Janis (John) Viksne.

Jack Sequeira (MA '65, MDiv '71) was born Sept. 25, 1932, in Nairobi, Kenya. He fell asleep in Jesus on March 26, 2022, in Portland, Oregon.

After graduating from Newbold College in England, Jack trained students in colporteur work for the South England Conference. Following his studies at Andrews University, he served in Uganda as Education & Missionary Volunteer (MV) and Home Missionary Secretary in 1965. Then he was called to Kenya to teach at Kamagambo Teacher Training College near Kisii and Maxwell Secondary School in Nairobi (1966–1968). He returned to Uganda as Education and MV Secretary (1969) and then as principal of Bugema Adventist College (1971–1972).

When 80,000 Asians were deported from Uganda, Jack and his family had to leave everything in their home and go to stay in Beirut, Lebanon. Later, Jack was assigned to Ethiopia (1973–1977), then back to Kenya as chaplain for Adventist students in government universities (1978–1982).



In 1982 the family moved to the U.S. to fulfill GC requirements related to refugee status due to their Uganda experience. Jack served as a district pastor for the Idaho Conference until 1987, then pastored the Walla Walla City Church in the Upper Columbia Conference.

From 1991–2001 he served the Potomac Conference as pastor of the Capital Memorial Church in Washington, D.C.

He is survived by his wife Jean, daughter Jenny, son Chris and wife Nenette, and their children Jazmine, Parker, Shasta and Luis.

Raphaël Yves Sabbat (BS '07) suffered an unexpected fatal heart attack on March 17, 2022.

Raphaël was born on Feb. 15, 1984, to Patricia and Yves Sabbat.

He was soon joined by his late brother Patrick a year later in 1985 and the youngest of the trio, Tatoni, in 1988.

These mischievous boys grew up in Delmas, Haiti, in close familial bonds with their cousins, Alexandra, Raquel, Jenny, Krystel, Leica and Cedric. They also shared inseparable childhood bonds with Junior Arboite and Dimitri Edouard as well as many more friends throughout the years who also became part of their brotherhood.

Raphaël attended Andrews University where he earned his BS in computer science with a minor in mathematics.

After returning to Haiti, Raphaël met an amazing woman who would become his life partner, Sandrine Batroni.

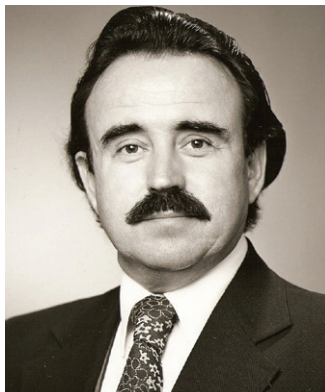
He is survived by his wife Sandrine and daughters Tahira and Quira.

Conrad A. Reichert (BA '64, MA '67, former faculty) of St. Joseph, Michigan, died Feb. 28, 2022, at the age of 88.

He was born Feb. 3, 1934, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

He honorably served his country as SP4 in the U.S. Army, 6th Armored Division, stationed in Germany.

Conrad became a beloved educator after studies in engineering, mathematics, history and education, culminating with a PhD in psychology from



Cornell University. He served as full professor at Andrews University. During his career he instructed students from grade 1 through doctoral level.

He spent many years as a special healer, practicing clinical psychology in St. Joseph. He was a lover of humanity and genuinely connected with those of any background. As a member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, he found comfort in the knowledge of a life guided by his Lord.

His diverse interests included the Bible, storytelling, writing, ham radio operating, boating, scuba diving, camping, flying, motorcycles, mechanics, farming, music, aquarium keeping and enjoying nature.

He was a proud father of surviving children: Conrad Jr. (Candy), **Daniel** (BS '84) and his wife **Lynette** (BS '84), **John** (BS '86) (Ann Marie) and Rebecca Puffer (Guy II). He is also survived by brother Donald Williams; nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his wife of 55 years, Joyce, in 2013.

Ruth Thøger Nielsen (BA '68, former faculty), 96, died on Feb. 18, 2022, at her home in Candler, North Carolina.

She was born May 28, 1925, in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Ruth was raised in Copenhagen, the oldest of four girls. She attended the Danish Adventist high school, Vejlebjerg, and

graduated in 1944. While attending a summer camp to learn about literature evangelism, **Louis Christian Nielsen** (BA '54, MA '55, BD '57, MAT '67, DMin '77) caught her eye. On May 6, 1946, they were married in Stockholm, Sweden, spending their first year of married life canvassing the countryside. They returned to Denmark where Ruth settled into life as a pastor's wife.

In 1952, they immigrated to the U.S. where she worked in a local hospital and Louis earned a BA in theology from EMC in Berrien Springs, Michigan, and an MDiv from the seminary in Takoma Park, Maryland, where he was ordained.

In 1958 they accepted a call to be missionaries to West Africa. Together, they served in Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone.



They returned to Andrews University in 1965 so Ruth and their four children could receive an American education. Ruth earned a BA in home economics from Andrews in 1968 and a master's degree in human environment and design, textiles and clothing from Michigan State in 1974. Ruth was an instructor in the home economics department at Andrews University from 1968–1969 and an assistant professor from 1970–1977. She was acting chair of the department for her last year and led several home economics tours to Europe.

In 1977 Ruth and Louis returned to Denmark and served at Skodsborg Sanitarium. Ruth was director for the chef's school and sanatorium hostess, and Louis served as church pastor, sanatorium chaplain and Bible teacher.

In 1981 they returned to Africa where they built and established a mission school in Gambia. Soon they were called to serve at Bugema College, Uganda. In completing their service in Africa, Ruth and Louis operated an orphanage (Les Esperance) on the shores of Lake Victoria, Uganda.

Finally, in 1994, they moved back to the U.S. to retire in Candler, North Carolina. Ruth and Louis developed a botanical garden and a five-acre animal farm for their grandkids and the youth of the church.

Her interests included community service, international travel, needlepoint, reading and Danish home cooking.

She is survived by her three sisters in Scandinavia and children **Jan Nielsen** (BS '74), **Anita Grandy** (BS '82), **Arne Nielsen** (BS '83, PhD '21) and Frank Nielsen; 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Donald Edward Habenicht (former staff), 86, of Berrien Springs, died on Feb. 4, 2022, in St. Joseph, Michigan.

Don was born Jan. 28, 1936, in Cicero, Indiana, in the boy's dorm at Indiana Academy. He spent his childhood years at Shenandoah Academy in New Market, Virginia. In 1946 the family moved to Monterey, Mexico, where his father was farm manager and then president of Montemorelos University. After six years the family moved to Costa Rica for two years.

Upon returning to the U.S., the family settled in Berrien Springs, Michigan. Don attended the University School (predecessor of Andrews

Academy) for one year and then transferred to Adelpian Academy. After graduation, Don attended La Sierra College, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in agriculture. While in college he met Edith Forgey who became the love of his life. They were married for 60 years.

They moved to Monterey Bay Academy where his two children, Duane and Cindy, were born. The next move was to Laurelwood Academy in Forest Grove, Oregon. In 1970, Don and Edith received an invitation to serve as missionaries in South America. They worked for three years



at Colegio Unión just outside of Lima, Peru, where he served as farm manager, and

then at CADE in DonalSanto Domingo, Ecuador, where Don started the school farm.

Returning to the U.S., the family settled at Platte Valley Academy in Shelton, Nebraska. Don was assistant dairy manager and taught calf care classes.

In 1993 Don and Edith moved back to Berrien Springs, where he worked at Andrews as assistant dairy manager and herdsman. He retired in 2000 with 40 years of service to the Seventh-day Adventist Church school system. Even in retirement Don remained active part-time, helping at the dairy until it closed. According to his

careful records, Don dehorned more than 7,000 calves.

Don is survived by his wife of 60 years, Edith Habenicht; his son, **Duane** (AIT '83, BIT '86, MBA '05, current faculty) (Elsie) **Habenicht**; his daughter, **Cindy** (BS '86) (**Gary** (BS '94)) **Scull**; four grandchildren, **April** (BS '16), **Daniel**, **Mathew** and **Kara**; and his brothers, **Herald** (BA '54) (**Donna** (BA '54, MA '74, EdD '77)) **Habenicht** and **Bill Habenicht** (former faculty).

He was preceded in death by his parents, **Herald** and **Kathryn** (DIP2YR '29, BA '34) Habenicht, and his sister-in-law, **JoAnn Habenicht**.

SHARE YOUR ANDREWS STORY!

As part of our efforts to retell our institutional saga, we are seeking your participation as part of the research for Volume II in the Andrews Heritage Series, the sequel to "As We Set Forth." Volume II, which starts with the transition from Emmanuel Missionary College to Andrews University, is in progress—stay tuned for information about a publication date!

We are looking for firsthand lived-experiences that reflect our diversity and the full scope of stories that tell an accurate picture of our history. For this round of stories we are especially interested in hearing from **international students who attended Andrews from the 1960s through the 1980s**. Send us your funny, painful, life-changing, spiritually uplifting or just everyday stories that especially remind you of your Andrews experience.

Please send your reminiscence (less than 300 words) by the end of October to meredith@andrews.edu. (Hard copy can be mailed to Meredith Jones Gray, University Communication, Griggs Hall A, 8903 US Hwy 31, Berrien Springs, MI 49104-1000.) And keep checking this space in upcoming FOCUS issues; we will be asking for stories from other specific time periods and perspectives. We would love to hear from you!

ALUMNI HOMECOMING 2023

Mark Your Calendars Now
September 28–October 1, 2023

Honor Classes—1953, 1963, 1973, 1983, 1993, 1998, 2003, 2013, 2018, 2023

Will you be a member of an upcoming honor class? Start planning now to partner with us to make Homecoming more meaningful for both you and your classmates. If you're interested in serving as a reunion leader or willing to volunteer in any capacity, please contact the Office of Alumni Services at 269-471-3591, alumni@andrews.edu. Getting involved is a great way to make a difference!



Three decades of impact and counting

by Edsel Adap

A COMPUTER SCIENCE PROFESSOR, WHO was also in charge of the University network, offered me a student job in the computer lab because he thought I had successfully hacked in. That was in 1991, my freshman year at Andrews University, and I kept the job until I graduated *magna cum laude* in 1994 with a Bachelor of Science, double major in computer science and mathematics.

My Andrews experience prepared me to excel and be competitive in my field. Additionally, the responsibilities and trust that my professor gave me proved invaluable to my professional life. As a student worker in the computer science department, I helped build and manage the University's computer systems and networking infrastructure. Immediately after graduation, I found employment with Sun Microsystems. I currently work with Oracle Corporation as a Cloud Solutions Architect building cloud-based solutions for clients including the United States Department of Defense. Although the technology has greatly evolved, the knowledge and skills I learned at Andrews continue to be useful in my current employment.

The preparation that Andrews gave me extended beyond academics. Socially and emotionally, my professors genuinely cared about me. I remember being invited to meals at faculty homes, being encouraged during difficult times, and

even seeking and receiving relationship advice from a professor. Spiritually, it was at Andrews that my understanding of God's love deepened. From various Friday evening vespers, Fireside Fellowship, Pastor Dwight Nelson's preaching, and many outreach opportunities, my relationship with God changed from being a religion passed down by my parents to a real, tangible and personal relationship with Jesus.

Andrews made such an incredibly positive mark on me that even after graduation I would make the eight-hour drive from Toronto, Canada (where I live), at least once a year to visit with family, friends and former professors, attend church services, and enjoy cafeteria food. These trips continued with my girlfriend. When we got engaged, we attended the Adventist Engaged Encounter weekend on campus. After we got married and had children, we took them along with us on these frequent visits. I told my children many stories from my

“... my relationship with God changed from being a religion passed down by my parents to a real, tangible and personal relationship with Jesus.”

LEFT: AU Dad and AU Mom with Caitlin (AU Freshman), Sept. 6, 2022

RIGHT: Caitlin's first visit to Andrews at 7 months old

time at Andrews and shared with them the many ways Andrews had shaped me.

Our children became familiar with Andrews and its surrounding community, and they eventually considered it like a second home and Pioneer Memorial Church (PMC) like a second church. They grew up knowing the campus, faculty and staff, and even the Andrews Filipino International Association (AFIA). Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, we worshiped with PMC through their livestream.

This school year, our eldest starts her university journey as a freshman at Andrews. With her ACT score of 34, she had many excellent choices for a university education. It was an Andrews Preview Weekend that set it apart from the rest and eventually sealed her decision. During that weekend, she experienced personable professors and a program that not only offered excellent academics but also emphasized a closer and deeper relationship with God—the same things that positively impacted me three decades ago.

My wife and I believe that this institution will wholistically prepare her for a future of service to God, to her community and to the world. Cheering on and praying for our World Changer, Caitlin Adap, Class of 2026!

Edsel Adap (BS '94) is married to Christianne Guarin-Adap. They have three girls: Caitlin Ema (Andrews University freshman who was homeschooled until 7th grade), Catherine Eeva (9th grade online school), and Christine Ella (2nd grade homeschool).



Office of Alumni Services
Andrews University
Berrien Springs MI 49104-0950

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World Changers Made Here.

Members of the President's Party pose for a photo moments before they march in for the historic 2022 University Convocation held at Pioneer Memorial Church on Thursday, Sept. 1.
PHOTO: *Darren Heslop, University Communication staff photographer*

