Plugged In

Andrea Luxton, president

Some days when I arrive onto campus I sit in my car and watch the campus—watch and then pray: for the University and for the students and staff I see walking by. One of the most striking realities of my “watch” of the campus is the way most of the students today walk around. They may be walking alone and they may be walking in groups but the most common way of traveling the campus is with earphones in. Others who pass, even those walking alongside, are merely part of the scenery—the real connection is what is plugged in!

If you listen to the news reports of studies on today’s University students you will hear how anxiety levels are at an all-time high. University counseling centers are overwhelmed by the number of students seeking help with depression, anxiety and feelings of loneliness. Many posit that these changes are a direct result of being “plugged in” in isolation and of social media that puts a screen and emotional distance between those who communicate. Not that technology advances are not critical and valuable, they are, but as with any advances, there are risks that need to be recognized and ameliorated. If that does not happen, the barrage of communication received by each of us every day easily leads to a growth in superficial connections, rapid conclusions on issues before all the facts are known, and the resulting risk of lack of trust or certainty.

What does that have to do with Seventh-day Adventist education? A place of real connection; a place of deep and meaningful connections: that is what we must be at Andrews University. It is what we seek to be, what we pray to be, and most often, what we are!
14 Health & Wellness Center
Official Groundbreaking
by Gillian Sanner

It’s official! Construction is underway for the new health and wellness center, set to open in fall 2019.

16 2018 Faculty & Staff Awards

Michigan Wonders abounded on the stage of the Howard Performing Arts Center at this annual celebration of service and excellence.

23 The Next Chapter, Storyline Three
by Andrea Luxton

Continuation of the storylines from the 2017–2022 strategic plan features the University as a leader in teaching and learning.
DO YOU KNOW YOUR “WHY”? PRESIDENT Luxton’s message to campus opened with this thought-provoking question on Friday, March 16, as she introduced a new brand position statement for Andrews University. Here is the full text of her message:

When was the last time you paused to consider this question? Why do you get up every morning? Why are you pursuing your degree or career? And why do you keep going? While our answers may vary, when it comes to our Andrews University family I believe our mission is a big part of the answer for many of you.

To “Seek Knowledge and Affirm Faith in order to Change the World” not only defines who we are but also guides the day-to-day operations of Andrews University. As a result, our mission has naturally become a core part of our identity to students, faculty and staff, as well as to the communities we touch and serve—locally, regionally and globally.

This doesn’t happen by chance. There has been clear and convincing evidence of God’s leading throughout our nearly 150-year history, and we daily continue to see His hand guiding our future as we finish His work through the mission He has given to us.

And that future includes you.

God has chosen you to not just be part of our mission but to actually be the mission of Andrews University. When that happens—individually and collectively—there’s no limit to what God can and will do through each of our Stories of Andrews.

But while it’s much more important to do mission rather than just say it, from time to time we must be more intentional about how we talk about our mission. Are we, and our mission, adapting to an ever-evolving world? Are we connecting with younger generations by sharing our mission in relevant and meaningful ways? Do future students clearly see what differentiates Andrews? Does that difference matter to the students we’re trying to reach? In other words, are we clearly answering the question, “Why Andrews?”

So, in order to help us answer these questions with a strong “yes,” we’ve just completed months of careful assessment, which included internal and external research and testing. That review and reflection led us to this brand position statement for Andrews:

World Changers Made Here.

Even as we begin to embrace and use this new phrase, please understand that it does not replace “Seek. Affirm. Change.” Instead, it supports it, unpacks it, and simply explains it in a new, fresh way.

Thank you for all the ways in which you live and do the Andrews University mission—our big “why”—by being a World Changer in your own unique and powerful way.

Visit andrews.edu/worldchangers and watch the video to learn more.
Andrews University Department of Visual Art, Communication & Design
Professor Lynn Caldwell took some of her Public Relations Campaigns & Special Events students on a field trip to the University of Notre Dame’s communication offices and met with the director of media relations, Sue Lister. Their goal was to understand how a large, world-famous organization works with the news media.

To view an online video of the Lifestyle Medicine Symposium, please go to the University Health & Wellness Facebook page: facebook.com/aulivewholly, and scroll to the two different videos (morning session & evening session).

Andrews University: come on by the math department between 12:30 and 2p for a Pi Day celebration! #PiDay #WeHavePi

This is the image of the page.
Scheduled events for Black History Month 2018 included short course, chapel and forum programming; vespers and church services; panel discussions; book club meetings; and entertainment such as roller-skating, a story slam and spirit week.

The central celebration weekend took place February 16–17, beginning with Friday’s “Seeing the Invisible” vespers in the Howard Performing Arts Center. The program was designed for attendees to feel the weight of the Black journey in America then to move forward in hope. Artist, speaker and urban missionary Sharona Drake shared musical numbers that spoke to the Black experience.

Claudia Allen, Andrews alumna and featured speaker for the evening, noted that society has said an African American is nobody. She told the story from the Gospel of John about the man by the pool of Bethesda, saying, “In spite of society’s attempt to erase this man, Jesus saw this man. And when Jesus sees you, no matter your condition, you can no longer remain unseen.”

She closed her presentation with the thoughts, “I believe Jesus shows us how to make the invisible visible...may we see like Him, sense like Him, speak like Him.”

The Sabbath church service, “#FreedomCulture,” also took place in the Howard Center. Deliverance Mass Choir began the program with a powerful rendition of “Lift Every Voice.” The sermon, “Catalyst,” was delivered by Tanya Loveday. Beginning with the story in John 4:46–54, she outlined distractions to sparking real change—questions of how to properly enact change, what people should be praying for, and why certain things happen to certain people. She stated, “It is hard to reject what’s in front of us because we’re so used to the dysfunction. We have to sometimes keep ourselves away from thinking only about the miracle and look toward the change God is calling us to make.”

She reminded those in attendance that as a church and as a people, there is a responsibility to face discomfort and refuse the status quo.

A fellowship dinner followed the service. Yasmine Siagian, a sophomore psychology major and member of DMC, said, “It was a great time where we could talk about some of the issues that were present on campus and in the world. It was a fantastic experience to be a part of.”

The Black Student Association of the Seminary (BSAS) sponsored Sabbath afternoon’s The Justice Lab, a panel discussion with Claudia Allen and Rebecca Murdock, a graduate theological studies student at the Seminary. Allen addressed the crucial role of language to both create sin and redemption in the Bible—as words and concepts create action, we have a responsibility to use our words in responsible and empowering ways. Murdock spoke on the apparent dichotomy between the truth’s priority to focus on self-expression and love’s priority to sacrifice for others.

Danielle Barnard, BSAS president, said, “I feel that the presentations complemented one another well. I believe that participants were equipped to examine how they speak and advocate for justice. It was a great afternoon with truly riveting dialogue.”
Sharon Risher recounts personal journey

Self-described “accidental activist” who lost her mother, two cousins & childhood friend in Charleston shooting

On Thursday, Jan. 11, 2018, Sharon Risher shared her personal journey through and since June 17, 2015, when the lives of nine people were abruptly and horrifically ended in a church shooting at the Mother Emmanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Charleston, South Carolina. This event irrevocably changed the course of Risher’s life, as her mother Ethel Lee Lance, two cousins and a childhood friend were among those who died. As a result of this tragedy, Risher describes herself as “an accidental activist—someone who finds themselves in a life-altering experience and then springs into action for whatever specific cause or issue.”

She recounted being 9 years old, hearing Martin Luther King Jr. and thinking she wanted to learn to speak like him. In 1976, both Risher and her mother became the first people in her family to receive high school diplomas.

These moments all helped to shape Risher. “I didn’t ask for this journey that I’m on…but here I am,” she said. And now, her mission is to help other people understand that hate and violence will not win.

Risher emphasized her struggle with forgiveness. “There comes a time in our lives when we have to stand up for what we believe and be in that space for however long it takes. I had to feel what I felt. I was not going to hop on the forgiveness bandwagon,” said Risher. Her process of forgiveness was complicated, lonely, hard and full of never-ending prayer. Ultimately, she expressed the importance of actually forgiving and continuing toward that end goal even when the journey is long and riddled with anger. Risher described her experience of forgiving as coming to a place of peace and feeling God say, “You’re strong, you’ve been faithful, now is the time.”

The idea of forgiveness especially resonated with the audience. R. Deborah Weathers, dean for Student Life at Andrews University, says, “Her journey of forgiveness was raw and honest and helped us put ourselves in her shoes.”

Not only did Risher call the audience to embrace forgiveness, but she also stated, “As people of faith, messengers of God, we have a duty to begin the conversation about race...to truly understand the call to be a community.”

As people of faith, messengers of God, we have a duty to begin the conversation about race...to truly understand the call to be a community.”

Natalie Hwang, a second-year English literature major, appreciates Risher’s perspective on hate and valuing others. Hwang says, “It was truly humbling to hear a woman who didn’t let trauma distort the way she saw others.”

At the conclusion of Risher’s talk, she received a standing ovation from attendees. Garrison Hayes, a third-year Master of Divinity student, reflected on his response to Risher’s story. He says, “I am thankful for her commitment to truth-telling and her ability to seamlessly intertwine her lived experience and her desire to see equity and justice everywhere.”

The Andrews University Departments of Music and English hosted their annual vespers in the Howard Performing Arts Center on Friday, Feb. 23, 2018. The theme for this year’s program was “In the Beginning: A Vespers in Music and Poetry.” It followed the pattern of the Old Testament creation story.

This yearly program was inspired about a decade ago by two faculty members with fond memories of evensong programs they had attended in England. They noticed that while students, faculty and staff have many opportunities to attend concerts and worships on the Andrews University campus, the evensong experience was largely unknown. An evensong experience is centered on quietness. The spoken words and music are carefully chosen and presented as works of art. The program organizers aim to create a quiet, reflective environment where listeners can put aside the cares of the work week and ponder a chosen uplifting and renewing theme. Undergraduate and graduate students present the music and poetry, and the congregation joins in the singing of several hymns.

Far left: Organizers Beverly Matiko, associate professor of communication and English, and Charles Reid, associate professor of voice and voice area coordinator
Left: Music students led out in congregational singing
New BS in Public Health program

Accredited by CEPH, the nationally recognized accrediting body

The Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH), the nationally recognized accrediting body for public health programs and schools, met on Dec. 4, 2017. As a result, CEPH accredited the Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH) at Andrews University. The accreditation seal reflects bachelor’s- and master’s-level education in public health at Andrews.

Each CEPH-accredited school and program goes through a rigorous accreditation process. By successfully completing this process, Andrews students are assured a quality educational experience. Other benefits include:

1. Eligibility to sit for the Certified in Public Health (CPH) exam administered by the National Board of Public Health Examiners (NBPHE).
2. Eligibility to take the Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) exam administered by the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA).
3. Eligibility for public health internships and fellowships sponsored by various federal agencies.

The BSPH at Andrews University started Winter 2018 and offers two concentrations: Environmental Health and Social & Behavioral Sciences. Environmental Health offers an excellent pre-med option for students. Andrews is the only Adventist university offering an undergraduate public health degree providing students with a versatile future that may include working as a public health practitioner, physician, dentist or pharmacist. Students joining the program who meet the criteria will receive a $2,000 scholarship each year in addition to the Andrews Partnership Scholarship.

For more information, visit andrews.edu/go/bsph

H.E.L.P. Project hosts "The Nativity Story"

Benton Harbor High School students form the cast for the play

On Friday, Dec. 8, 2017, the Human Empowerment Life Project (H.E.L.P.) team hosted “The Nativity Story” in the Howard Center for approximately 460 grades 2–5 students from the Benton Harbor area.

Carlisle Sutton, director of Community Engagement, Integration & Service at Andrews University, led the event with the assistance of many others, including David Faehner, vice president for University Advancement; Alayne Thorpe, dean for the Schools of Graduate Studies and Distance Education & International Partnerships; and Elynda Bedney, assistant vice president for Student Financial Services. Marguerite Samuels, director of the musical ministry Journey, and Stephen Zork, professor of music and conductor of Andrews University Singers, performed musical selections.

The local community also contributed to make this event possible. Sutton says, “Principals, teachers, parents and the administration of the Benton Harbor area schools all worked to ensure the students were afforded the opportunity to attend.”

Ronnika Williams, from the Boys and Girls Club, partnered with Sutton to mentor students in learning their roles for the play. Neighbor to Neighbor in Berrien Springs helped by providing the stage props.

The Nativity Story event first took place in 2016 when Sutton learned of the Benton Harbor schools’ need of holiday programming. It provides an opportunity to expose the students to high-quality acting by using an historical approach to the nativity story that incorporates life lessons on issues pertinent to the children.

The choice to involve the Andrews University Department of Music was also a very intentional decision to infuse different genres of music throughout the drama. Sutton explains, “We believe that early exposure to interesting experiences in a university environment will also increase the elementary students’ interest in learning, foster a desire to work toward attending university and build a college-bound culture.”

This is the first year that the cast for the play was chosen from Benton Harbor High School students rather than Andrews students. Additionally, Xiomara “Pepper” Urbina, a third-grade community student, helped with the music. According to Sutton, the high school students have already been profoundly impacted with the experience of acting in this program. Because of their experience, they are all interested in being part of a drama club. He says, “The H.E.L.P. team believes a drama club would continue to give disadvantaged students opportunities to develop self-confidence and demonstrate skills that they work hard to perfect.”

The ultimate hope is that this Christmas program will continue to bless the Benton Harbor Area community as well as Andrews participants. This hope was seen in the eyes of the children as they excitedly watched the play and clapped with the music. It was seen through the high school actors as they began to understand their potential for greatness and worked to harness and direct their talent in positive ways.

Sutton says, “I hope that we at Andrews University will continue to appreciate the blessings we have been afforded, continue to be intentional about connecting in meaningful ways, and go the distance to help others understand their inestimable value.”
14th annual Seminary Scholarship Symposium

Featuring Millard Erickson, acclaimed biblical theologian

ON FEBRUARY 6 AND 8, 2018, THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY hosted the 14th annual Seminary Scholarship Symposium. Typically held during the first full week of February, the gathering seeks to enhance scholarly dialogue among seminary faculty and students. This year’s symposium featured Millard Erickson as the plenary speaker. Erickson, best known for his work “Christian Theology,” is an author and former dean of Bethel Theological Seminary.

“Our world is changing rapidly, but God is sufficient for us in all those situations.”

The symposium began on Tuesday, Feb. 6, in the Seminary Chapel with the Recognition Ceremony highlighting outstanding scholarship among faculty and students. The publications spanned four languages and topics ranging from religious liberty to best preaching practices.

“We want to be acquainted with the latest research of our professors and students and to encourage and motivate each other to engage in a deeper, more thorough understanding of biblical teaching and how to apply and live it in everyday life,” said Moskala, Seminary dean.

In addition to the featured publications, Stanley Patterson, professor of Christian ministry, was presented with the Siegfried H. Horn Excellence in Research & Creative Scholarship Award, and Osvaldo Lima Ferreira received the Doctor of Ministry Dissertation Award.

Chad Angasan, Seminary Student Forum co-president, commented, “The sermon today asserted that God is the consistent answer in the past, present and yet to come.”

That evening, Erickson addressed the question, “Are There Ranks in the Trinity?”

Erickson explored the implications of the temporary subordination and eternal subordination views, as well as the internal and external criteria for evaluating both perspectives, stating “The question of the evening...is to answer: is the Father superior to the Son, or is the Son eternally equal in authority with the Father but temporarily subordinate during his time on earth?”

Erickson concluded, “It is my judgment that the temporary subordination view accounts better for more of the evidence, with less distortion, and suffers from fewer difficulties, than does the view of eternal subordination.”

“Dr. Erickson’s lecture regarding ranks in the Trinity was very relevant because of the discussion on the ordination of women in our midst,” said Moskala. “We were created in God’s image, and equality among the Trinity or the eternal subordination of Jesus and the Holy Spirit has serious consequences. As Adventists we are part of the Christian Church that struggles with the understanding and communication of the Trinity because we want to be faithful to what God reveals about Himself. Dr. Erickson helped us to better comprehend that the viable biblical view is to point our thinking toward equality.”

Although the symposium was scheduled to conclude on February 9 with 28 student and faculty scholarly papers in breakout sessions, a winter storm led to cancellation of the presentations.

Top: Slavisa Jankovic (right) presented a Festschrift to Jiri Moskala, Seminary dean, for the Department of Old Testament. The book is titled “Searching the Scriptures,” and was written by several PhD students. Above: Millard Erickson, former dean of Bethel Theological Seminary, was the plenary speaker for the symposium.

Additional materials and papers available at: https://digitalcommons.andrews.edu/sss/2018/
On Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2018, Berrien County began to experience the beginnings of a major flood. Due to rapid snow melt and excessive rainfall by Thursday, Feb. 22, the St. Joseph River crested at 17.33 feet in Niles, Michigan, thereby exceeding the major flood level of 15 feet and leading to the evacuation of many local residents.

In response to the displacement of flood victims, Guest Services & University Towers began housing flood victims on Thursday, Feb. 22. Temporary housing was provided for two staff members, four community families, and five students. Long-term housing was arranged for three of those students who completely lost their apartments and homes. Meal tickets and boxed breakfasts were provided to flood victims through the first weekend, and care packages were given to students who lost many items in the flood. Guest Services also provided showers for victims staying at the Red Cross shelter in the Village Seventh-day Adventist Church.

In addition to assisting on campus, Andrews University participated in community flood cleanup in both Berrien Springs and Niles, Michigan. On Saturday, Feb. 24, Campus Ministries worked with Neighbor to Neighbor to send 20 volunteers to pack cleanup buckets. Andrews continued to participate in service opportunities as scheduled by local government. On Friday, March 2, 39 Andrews students/employees worked in conjunction with the City of Niles to do flood cleanup in the surrounding area. On Saturday and Sunday, a total of 50 students/employees worked through United Way in the River Springs Estates area in Berrien Springs to clean out flooded mobile homes and yards. Teams were assigned to help carry and dispose of items that had been damaged or ruined by the water. Also on Saturday, 15 students/employees from the School of Education worked with the Red Cross to provide childcare and entertainment for the children of River Springs Estates flood victims while their parents helped with flood cleanup.

On March 12, 12 seminary students, faculty and staff volunteers assisted flood victims in the area at the end of Kephart Lane in Berrien Springs. Out of nine homes, five experienced flooding inside their houses. The volunteers picked up trash and raked debris from lawns, cut up and hauled away logs, etc. that had floated in from the river, and cleaned out the inside of one house that had been flooded. One large dumpster was filled so much that a backhoe had to come and compress the trash so more could be added.

One of the homeowners said, “You and your crew have saved us an entire summer of labor...I can’t say enough about the entire team’s positive attitude, sense of fun, loving spirit and hard work. Consider us blessed.”

A seminary student volunteer said, “The owner of the house where I was working had been struggling with moving all the trash for two weeks and it seemed like nothing was done. When he saw how fast we cleaned his house he was really thankful, and I could see an expression of relief on his face. I was blessed to see that. Please, let me know if there is going to be another effort to help the community.”

Teela Ruehle, an associate dean and associate director of Guest & Convention Services at University Towers, helped coordinate the University’s response to the community and also attended the Saturday, March 3 cleanup. She says, “For me it was a beautiful experience to see the whole community—Andrews, Village officials, police, churches and schools—working together to help our neighbors during a time of crisis. This is what God called us to do! And it was awesome to be a part of serving our community and seeing how many students were willing to come out and help!”

“For me it was a beautiful experience to see the whole community...working together to help our neighbors during a time of crisis.”

below: Volunteers place damaged items into front loaders in Niles, Michigan. ▲ Seminary volunteers remove refuse from flooded house on Kephart Lane
2018 Health & Wellness Fest

Including the first Lifestyle Medicine Symposium

FROM MARCH 1–7, 2018, ANDREWS UNIVERSITY held its third annual Health & Wellness Fest. The aim of this event is to inspire people to continue making practical positive lifestyle changes and join together as a University to achieve our goal of becoming the healthiest university in the world.

This year’s highlight was the first-ever “Fully Alive” Lifestyle Medicine Symposium. Produced in partnership with the Department of Public Health, Nutrition & Wellness, this event featured international expert presenters, interactive learning experiences, expert panels, engaging express movement training, a cooking demo, and a completion certificate for those who attended on-site.

The full-day event took place on Friday, March 2, and about 150 people attended locally with over 2,000 online viewers.

Abby Vaughn, student assistant for University Health & Wellness, says, “Both the fitness competition and lifestyle medicine symposium fulfilled their purpose in showing people how to be healthier and that being healthy can indeed be fun. Reading the reviews, I do believe that these were effective in getting people to change their lifestyle.”

Katia Reinert, health ministries associate director at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, was the speaker for Thursday’s Wellness Chapel as well as a symposium presenter. The other guest presenter was Dr. Torben Bergland, health ministries director for the Trans-European Division of Seventh-day Adventists. His presentation, “Mindwell,” reflected on his belief that “the mental, social and spiritual dimensions of life are as important for good health and quality of life, as physical health.”

Multiple faculty from the Department of Public Health, Nutrition & Wellness presented at the symposium, including Sherine Brown-Fraser, Carol Burtnack, Sherri Isaak, Gretchen Krivak and Maximino Mejia.

Symposium topics included building resilience for traumatic stress, awareness of the right kinds of food to fuel our bodies properly, and diabetes education.

Throughout the program there were five-minute breaks where attendees participated in various physical exercises.

Burtnack reflected, “It was an absolute privilege to participate in and to present at the first Lifestyle Medicine Symposium. We had a lot of fun sharing the theme of Going Further with Food for National Nutrition Month in such a unique way to highlight the specialized nutrition needs of endurance athletes. I hope that having Laura [Malcolm] and Oliver [Glanz] be a part of our discussion on how they use food to fuel their rigorous endurance activities allowed the audience to fully grasp the idea of fueling our bodies through a variety of food choices.”

In addition to the symposium, the Wellness Fest also included activities such as a Wellness chapel, Total Body Fitness program, sing-along with Deliverance Mass Choir, group fitness activity, fitness competition, eating disorder awareness activities, and Tai Chi.

Dominique Gummelt, director for University Health & Wellness, states, “The annual Health & Wellness Fest is a celebration of the power of holistic wellness as a campus. We want to continuously educate, inspire, motivate and bring us together to join the MISSION to become FULLY ALIVE!”

During the Fest, Gummelt received word that Andrews University was named “Gold Level Campus” for the third year in a row. The title is awarded by the American College of Sports Medicine for being an “Exercise is Medicine” promoting and practicing campus.

This event was made possible by collaboration between University Health & Wellness, Student Life, Campus Ministries, Counseling & Testing Center, Department of Public Health, Nutrition & Wellness and various other entities on campus.

Both the Wellness Fest and being named “Gold Level Campus” show how Andrews University is taking progressive steps in its quest to become the healthiest campus.

Stay in touch with what’s happening at andrews.edu/wellness
Visit howard.andrews.edu for a schedule of more upcoming events and to purchase tickets online. Schedule is subject to change.

Department of Music...

Easter Choral Concert
Friday, March 30, 7 p.m.
No tickets required

Department of Music...

"Street Scene" Opera/Music Theater
Saturday, April 7, 8:30 p.m., Sunday, April 8, 4 p.m.
$10 general admission, $5 students

Kurt Weill, working with the poet Langston Hughes, created the opera/music theater version of Street Scene in 1949. For its run on Broadway, Street Scene received a Tony award. Composer Kurt Weill considered it the first truly American opera, blending the traditions of verismo opera with blues, jazz, gospel and more. Brought to you by the Andrews University Department of Music, Singer Actor Studio and University Symphony Orchestra.

The Aeolians of Oakwood University
Saturday, April 21, 8:30 p.m.
$15 general admission, $10 students (limit 2)

Established in 1946, the Aeolians of Oakwood University present choral music repertoire from the Baroque era to the 21st century, becoming an authoritative exponent of Negro spirituals and Work songs.

SMSO: Featuring Jiji Kim, guitarist
Sunday, April 29, 4 p.m.
$5–$35 reserved seating

Winter 2018 at the Howard
From an early age, Barry Wilson helped his uncle and grandfather with electrical and repair jobs. Consequently, his uncle tried to convince him to work for Andrews University. After two years of college and three years of marriage with Dianne Wilson, he applied to work at Andrews University, and began working on the construction crew in 1978. In 1982, after his construction job concluded, Wilson’s life took a different turn. During this time, he taught swim lessons and lifeguarded at the YMCA, helped with the YMCA maintenance, and completed electrical/construction/maintenance side jobs for various clients.

“I’ve appreciated working at the University because it is a team and you work together to solve problems.”

One summer day, five years later, the University called and asked if he would return to work at Andrews. Fast forward... Wilson has worked a total of 35 years at Andrews University, 27 of them as electrical foreman, and the rest as an electrician and HVAC technician.

When asked what he admired and appreciated about working at Andrews, Wilson said, “I really enjoyed the fact that if I needed to take time off for family, I could do it. We adopted our daughter from Brazil, and the adoption process took almost 18 years.” Throughout this process, he described Andrews University as being helpful and understanding. “We were treated as if she was our daughter already.”

Wilson also appreciates how he can mention God on campus, specifically the way that God has protected him throughout his life. “I’ve worked places outside of campus where you mention God’s protection and you get ridiculed.” He described an experience with the high voltage system where he barehanded 2,400 volts and lived to tell about it. “The Good Lord saw fit to keep me around...I know several times he’s protected me and others I was with. He’s still got something for me to do.”

Ultimately, Wilson refuses to take God’s protection for granted, and he actively continues to serve others. Rooted in God’s promise, “I will never leave you or forsake you,” he desires to show others this promise as well. “You can always find someone in worse shape, and you can always find someone in better shape,” he says. Although he retired in December, Wilson still holds to this mentality of helping others. He still teaches swimming lessons at Andrews University and serves with the local fire department in Berrien Springs.

Another serving individual for Andrews University is Ron Norton. Before retiring in December, he worked at Andrews for about 28 years as a plumber, operator of the wastewater treatment plant, and lastly as an HVAC technician.

Much of Ron’s life has revolved around Andrews and the surrounding area. He originally came to Andrews as a student, but after various interests fell through, he ended up pursuing a career in maintenance, which led to his first job at Andrews.

He says, “One of the interesting things is, I have never gone out and looked for a job. The Lord just kind of put them there. It felt like that’s where the Lord wanted me to be.”

When asked about his experience at Andrews University he says, “One thing I appreciate about working in a Christian institution is if you don’t know something for sure there are people that you can ask...I’ve been in places where not knowing is a way for the next person to get ahead of you. I’ve appreciated working at the University because it is a team and you work together to solve problems.”

Norton also enjoyed talking about spiritual things in the work environment. Many of his days were spent working in student apartments or dormitories. While working, he loved to talk about God to any willing audience. “When I would get done, I would have prayer with them before I left.” Praying is one way that Norton has consistently tried to follow one of his favorite, guiding verses, Proverbs 3:6: “In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths” (KJV). Now that he is retired, Norton strives to continue ministering to others by finishing a book that he began seven years ago. The book is centered around the Bible passage of 2 Chronicles 7:14, and he has felt impressed by God to finish it.

Overall, Norton’s reflection captures the steadfast dedication that both he and Barry Wilson have put into Andrews University. “Because you’re just going by, year by year, you don’t think that you’re going to retire here...Time flew.”
ANDREWS BREAKS GROUND FOR HEALTH & WELLNESS CENTER

“This is not just a new building for the campus; it is one that will be central to our life and our mission.”
On Monday, March 5, Andrews University broke ground for an approximately $17.5 million, 76,000 square foot Health & Wellness Center scheduled to open in the fall of 2019. Twenty individuals, leaders from on- and off-campus, participated in the shovel brigade, using gold-colored shovels to turn ground at the building site.

The groundbreaking celebration started in the Howard Performing Arts Center Lobby. David Faehner, vice president for University Advancement, and Andrea Luxton, president, shared opening remarks.

Faehner noted the location of the Wellness Center—close to students as well as the community. “Inadvertently, or may-be on purpose, it [the Wellness Center] will complete the final corner of a square between the Howard Center, Seminary and Pioneer Memorial Church,” he said, “and, in the process, will incorporate the meaning of the concepts that are permanently engraved on the Andrews University seal of Corpus, Mens, Spiritus or body, mind and spirit.”

Andrew von Maur, professor of architecture in the School of Architecture & Interior Design, has served as one of the architects for the project. Addressing attendees, he said, “Former president Dr. Andreasen once told me that the reason we have a school of architecture on our campus is because architecture is about stewardship. Stewardship of God’s blessings: financial resources, land, our natural environment, our built heritage and the time that each student and visitor spend on our campus. So it was very humbling and a real privilege to work on the design of the Health & Wellness Center.”

Dominique Gummelt, director for University Health & Wellness, summarized work already taking place related to the University’s health and wellness initiative. Highlights included the Health & Wellness Council, the approximately 40 campus Wellness Ambassadors, an e-wellness platform for employees, daily wellness themes and the recognition of being selected as a “Gold Level Campus” by the American College of Sports Medicine for the third year in a row. Gummelt said, “God has created us with phenomenal potential to live our lives to the fullest in every possible way. He has created us extraordinarily, and He wants us to live healthy and happy lives so He can use us best for His sake.”

Artur Stele, chair of the Andrews University Board of Trustees, invited Ted Wilson, president of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, to close the program with a prayer of dedication. Attendees then walked to the construction site where the official, ceremonial groundbreaking took place, followed by a reception back in the Howard Center lobby.

“We have been awaiting this moment for several years,” says Luxton, reflecting on the event. “This is not just a new building for the campus; it is one that will be central to our life and our mission. It will show every day how vital we consider health and wellness to be for our campus and our community. This build is now happening only due to the vision of President Emeritus Niels-Erik Andreasen and the generosity of all those who have supported this project with their very significant gifts. Thank you all very much.”

The Health & Wellness Center will have a swimming pool, a recreation and event center with basketball courts, fitness and exercise areas and space for educational programs. The building site is currently under construction, and a web camera will be installed to provide a live view as the center takes shape.

Visit andrews.edu/wellnesscenter for updates on the Health & Wellness Center.
A multi-sensory experience of Michigan Wonders greeted those who attended the annual Faculty & Staff Awards Celebration held March 4, 2018, in the Howard Performing Arts Center. As guests entered the building, they were greeted by an antique automobile, paying tribute to the world-renowned auto industry headquartered in Detroit. A buffet of made-in-Michigan food was served in a Michigan woodland, complete with woodland animals among the trees and flying overhead. Four local photographers also displayed a mini gallery of photographs of Michigan Wonders.

The program began with a warm welcome and blessing by President Andrea Luxton. The host for the event was Duane Covrig, chair of the Department of Leadership in the School of Education. Duane portrayed Michigan-born former president Gerald Ford, a Michigan woodsman, and Edson White, son of Ellen & James White, at intervals during the evening. He also shared details about the historical, cultural and natural wonders of Michigan against a stage backdrop portraying the four seasons. Throughout the evening, the audience enjoyed various prizes of made-in-Michigan items and participated in electronic polls that tested their knowledge of the state.

At the conclusion of the night, Artur Stele, board chair and General Conference vice president, expressed his appreciation for the people of Andrews and the beauties of Michigan, closing the evening with a prayer of blessing.

The real Michigan Wonders are the faculty and staff who were honored for their years of service to Andrews University as well as for excellence in service, teaching, faith development, research and creative scholarship. Here is a glimpse into these amazing people:
Throughout his years at Andrews Academy, Steve Atkins, earth science and biology teacher, has helped hundreds of students reach their Christ-centered educational goals in the classroom, as well as assisting with senior portfolios and extracurricular activities. A colleague stated “He represents what makes Adventist education successful.”

Bruce Bauer, director of the doctor of missiology program in the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, is best known for three things: a mentor, who has been dissertation advisor for more than 150 students; a scholar, authoring countless articles, almost a dozen books, and serving as editor of the Journal of Adventist Mission Studies; and missionary at heart, spending 23 years as an overseas missionary.

As kindergarten teacher at Ruth Murdoch Elementary School (RMES), Denise Curnutt is passionate about her job and committed to maintaining a Christ-centered, engaging and nurturing learning environment where her students can grow and shine. She plans meticulously and implements creative activities to involve both students and their parents. RMES also molded a significant part of her life and career—Denise was among the first group of students to attend the school at its present location. She was a key contributor and teacher trainer of the new Kindergarten curriculum for the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists.

Dan Drazen has served as the editor of the Seventh-day Adventist Periodical Index or SDAPI since 1992. He continues to spend half of his time indexing the SDAPI and the other half implementing the Digital Commons @ Andrews. In this work, Dan enters index citations for up to 20,000 articles each year, by skimming each article, entering basic bibliographical information, and creating one or more subjective subject headings for each article citation. He has almost single-handedly produced an invaluable resource used worldwide by Seventh-day Adventist students and scholars.

Max Jardine, HVAC foreman and master electrician at the Office of Plant Services, is a steady, ethical, hardworking and talented individual who communicates with wisdom and experience. Max is always willing to help with anything that arises at work or off campus. He is a great mentor and reflects Christ’s character to all he comes in contact with.

In the Departments of English and Communication, Beverly Matiko is appreciated for the creative and carefully planned classroom experiences she offers her students, for her ear for graceful writing and the spoken word, and for the nurturing care she extends to her students and colleagues beyond the classroom and workplace. She is also one of the English department’s premier writers and editors. Beverly has been a member of the Honors faculty for her entire tenure at Andrews; she has mentored
to successful completion 15 senior honors projects. Her teaching awards include CAS Humanities Undergraduate Research Mentor of 2016–2017, Honors Teacher of the Year, and the University-wide Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Each and every day of her years working with the Office of Student Financial Services, Mencia Shelley analyzed and awarded federal, state and institutional funds to students. Though her work at the computer was tedious, she never complained, always displaying a cheerful demeanor. Her work ethic was stellar, very thorough and consistent. Mencia, who recently retired, always came to work with a smile, a joke and often with words of encouragement from Scripture.

Jo Ann Davidson is the second-longest serving professor and the first woman to teach in the Department of Theology & Christian Philosophy, with expertise in the area of systematic theology, especially narrative theology. Jo Ann has become a well-known speaker and presenter who travels widely, attending professional and church-related events. In the classroom, in the office and in her travels, listeners appreciate her approach, expertise and contagious love for Jesus.

Kathleen Demsky is the director of the Architecture Resource Center (ARC), a branch of the James White Library. In addition to making the ARC a repository of worldwide renown for environmental design books, it is the living room of the school, where students can relax, study and worship together. The Friday night vespers Kathy started is now a regular part of architecture school life. Her passion for the study of the faith and history of the Waldensian people has made her an authority on the subject. Every year she leads a group of students and friends of the school on a life-changing tour of the mountains and valleys in Italy.

Herbert Helm has been committed to teaching and research excellence among his students and fellow faculty peers throughout his 30 years. He has published in over 29 peer-reviewed journals, contributed to several book chapters, presented at numerous professional conferences, mentored numerous student poster presentations, and co-authored several undergraduate students to publication in peer-reviewed journals. In addition, he’s known as a canoer, wind surfer and gelato connoisseur, as well as an excellent study tour guide for Peru and Tanzania.

Elynda Bedney, assistant vice president for Student Financial Services, also serves as one of the University ombudspersons. She has the trust and respect of students and colleagues alike and is an excellent mentor to her staff. As part of her excellent work she is a believer that there is always a good reason to have a party—birthdays, working late during registration, a holiday or whatever. She also takes time to honor almost any request that is made for which more time is required and always does it well.

James Hayward, emeritus professor of biology, is characterized by his colleagues as pursuing excellence in his teaching and science while pointing his students to the rich contributions of others. He models excellence as a scholar with genuine Christian humility and courtesy. Jim has been a notably effective personal and research mentor for nearly 40 undergraduates and over 20 MS students, often including students all the way to publication. About half of Jim’s 50+ publications have included students as co-authors; and a number of these students have gone for advanced studies and careers in biology, thanks to his influence.
Bernard Helms is responsible for ordering materials for the James White Library and in 2006 he also became the periodicals librarian. As format options have evolved from paper, microforms and media to electronic books, periodicals and streaming video, the complexity of his position has greatly increased with models for acquiring materials changing constantly. Bernard utilizes sophisticated library programs to track both access and statistics for print and electronic resources. Over the years, Bernard has worked to build the Center for Adventist Research into the world’s premier collection of Adventist resources.

Mildred McGrath has worked within the patron services area of the James White Library for the past 18 years. She is admired for her judgment, consistency and loyalty. She manages the circulation desk and the MeLCat book delivery system, which provides students and faculty with access to five million books across the state of Michigan. Presently, she also oversees preservation services. Mildred has the unenviable task of managing client complaints and mediating overdue fines, which she does with fairness and wisdom. Prior to her work at the library, she worked for Adventist Information Ministry.

Dorothy Show served as administrative assistant, first for the Department of Old Testament at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary and then for the last five years as the executive administrative assistant to the Seminary dean. She is greatly appreciated and admired for the depth of knowledge she brings to the dean’s office. Her expertise in the various facets of Seminary life is legendary. When Dorothy is given a job, it will be done thoroughly, completely, accurately and on time. Her work ethic and philosophy are service-oriented and she unfailingly manifests an attitude of unselfish service and passion for mission.

Daniel Cress directs the Servers and Networks group at the Office of Information Technology Services and leads out in researching new technologies for use at the University. As part of this responsibility, he often is involved in reviewing plans for new construction to ensure that the needed IT infrastructure is included. He takes great care in planning for sufficient server, storage and networking resources for the University. Meticulous attention to detail, broad picture thinking and constant drive to bring excellent service through IT systems are themes that characterize his work at Andrews University.

Michael Harrington began his career at the old College Wood Products and then on to Campus Safety in the mid-1980s. After two years, he moved to the Dairy to be the full-time cow feeder. The milking herd in those days numbered around 250 animals. The herd has grown considerably since then, up to 750 milking cows, and so have Mike’s responsibilities. Increased milk production required an increase in the complexity and preciseness of the cows’ rations. Mike has taken on all these changes with a smile, optimism and can-do attitude.

Carlene Johnson came to Andrews University in June of 1981 as an executive secretary for the provost. She retired from that same position in September 2001. In retirement she took temporary employment in various departments cheerfully filling the gaps when needed. In January 2014 Carlene accepted a part-time position as administrative assistant for agriculture. Carlene is well loved and cherished by those who work with her. Her experience and wisdom—as well as her warm smile and helpful attitude—are invaluable.

35 YEARS OF SERVICE

Daniel Cress

35 YEARS OF SERVICE


40 YEARS OF SERVICE, L–R: Gregory Offenback, Daniel Bidwell

Attendees at the 2018 annual Faculty & Staff Awards Event enjoying the evening.
As chair of the Department of English, Meredith Jones Gray is a highly regarded team player and effective leader, who “loves learning and loves learners.” Colleagues describe her as “tireless” and her “ability to inspire in the classroom...amazing.” A Medievalist by training, she speaks fluent French, passable German, a little Latin, and a bit of middle Welsh. Merrie’s eclectic interests and expertise, her unassuming and gracious manner, and her wisdom in all things have marked her time at Andrews—an institution she knows quite well, given her authorship of the official history of the University, “As We Set Forth.”

Keith Mattingly, dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, is appreciated for his blend of collegiality—a warm and friendly colleague—who also has a laser sharp focus on what is strategically best for the college. He loves a robust and vigorous conversation and believes there is no argument that could not be made better through banter and dialogue. Colleagues deeply respect his faithfulness to God, his willingness to tackle difficult tasks, his financial management skills, and his diligence, even when health concerns could have sidelined him. He has consistently sought to honor God in his life and in his work.

Barry Wilson, recently retired master electrician at the Office of Plant Services, enjoys being ready to respond to any emergency that arises. If he doesn’t really know how to fix it, he is blessed with the ability to figure it out. His fingerprints are seen throughout the University, from working with the Andrews University construction company which built several buildings on campus to maintaining, repairing and remodeling again and again. His belief in God’s promises and his longing to live in a God-centered existence was seen from his coworkers at Plant Services.

For 19 years, Daniel Bidwell served as a computer science professor, who explained deep and complex systems in ways that the uninitiated could understand. A profound and deep thinker—skills that bode well with his line of work—Dan’s impact on students is immeasurable. Twenty-one years ago, Dan transitioned to the Office of Information Technology Services. His insightful explanation of complex systems contributes to the overall development of his colleagues. They concur that Dan’s most significant contribution to Andrews is “his dedication and countless hours maintaining and securing our network systems, protecting us from untold security threats.”

Gregory Offenback is heavy equipment operator at the Department of Transportation, deftly operating machinery to uncover buried utilities and other treasures on campus. From wielding a shovel to filling potholes, repairing road signs, maintaining and repairing heavy equipment, Greg is a hard worker and has been a Christian mentor to many student workers through the years. He has safely driven University buses on tours of thousands of miles and his faithful service includes plowing snow for the campus on many early snowy mornings during the winter.

Gunnar Lovhoiden, professor of engineering, teaches not just from theory but from years of engineering experience. He challenges students to think independently and brings out their best performance, always ready to provide extra assistance. His classroom is a place of laughter as well as learning.

Arts, Humanities & Education: Charles Reid, director of vocal studies and artist-in-residence in the Department of Music, is recognized as one of this generation’s leading lyric tenors. He has sung on many of the most famous international stages, including nine seasons with New York’s Metropolitan Opera. His most recent performances include an engagement with...
the National Opera Bastille, Paris and a CD release on the prestigious classical music label Naxos as well as debuts in Germany, France, Spain, Italy and Mexico. In addition to his outstanding performance career, Charles Reid is an innovative professor who keeps finding creative ways to grow the vocal area, currently one of the fastest-growing concentrations among music majors.

Religion & Theology: Stanley Patterson joined the Department of Christian Ministry at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary in 2008, quickly establishing himself as a much-beloved professor, thorough researcher, prolific writer, and capable department chair who practices what he preaches, modeling servant leadership to students and colleagues alike. His service to the Adventist church spans 41 years: he has served as a pastor, ministerial director, vice president for pastoral ministry and evangelism, university professor, and highly sought-after presenter at many venues worldwide.

Faith Development Leadership Award

Harold Schmidt is the maintenance supervisor for Lamson Hall and also manages the woodshop at the School of Architecture & Interior Design. He has a heart for God and love for students, evidenced in his mentorship of student employees and his consistent selfless leadership in multiple mission trips each year. Harold has used his vacation time to sponsor various Andrews University mission trips; teaching construction skills to students and helping build schools, orphanages and hospitals in third world countries.

Staff Excellence in Service Awards

Benjamin Regoso, PC support manager in the Office of Information Technology Services, has a passion for delivering best-in-class service to students and employees, and does so with a soft-spoken, gentle and caring demeanor. Ben views Andrews as his mission field to reach students for Christ. In broader arenas, Ben is also described as “dedicated to Adventist education” and that he “embodies the values that it represents in our community.”

According to her boss, Jennifer Albers, administrative assistant for the School of Business Administration (SBA), is probably the most important person on campus in making sure the SBA operates well and runs smoothly. Her proficiency positively affects countless individuals, offices and organizations both on- and off-campus. Jenny interacts with teachers, students and visitors with tact and diplomacy, treating each one as if they are one of the most important people in the world.
10 YEARS OF SERVICE
Front Row, L–R: Carrie Chao, Gregory Almeter, Thomas Shepherd, Jennifer Janssen-Rogers, Rachel Sauer, Licette Church, Silas Marques, Mona Sarcona
Back Row, L–R: Teddy Weithers, Jamie Wright, Brandon Lowry, Timothy Miller, Darius Jankiewicz, Carmelita Troy, Darla Smothers-Morant
Not Pictured: Karen Benjamin, Audrey Castelbuono, Ryan Clough, Judy Damayan Benjamin, Letebrhan Gebremikiel, Rozenia Marinho, Jeff Powell, Lynette Quinones, Alicia Symonds, Allan Walsh, Jina Yoon

15 YEARS OF SERVICE
Front Row, L–R: Karen Reiner, Ildiko Gyeresi, Nevena Slavujevic
Back Row, L–R: Getahun Merga, Randy Siebold, Boon-Chai Ng
Not Pictured: Jillian Panigot, Katie Freeman, Shanna Leak, Dennis Hollingshead, Dawn Dulhunty, Lee Olson, Harold Schmidt, Nancy Sheppler

20 YEARS OF SERVICE
Front Row, L–R: Rebecca Wright, Wanda (Poole) Ferguson, Shelley Erhard, Lynelle Weldon, Bill Colwell, Esther Lonto, Alfredo Ruiz
Back Row, L–R: Constance Gane, Gorden Doss, James Lim, Jim Nave, Carey Carascallen, Ivan Davis, Gunnar Lovholden, Robert Steele, Deborah Everhart
Not Pictured: Elvin Gabriel, Marsha Beal

Visit andrews.edu and choose the “2018 Annual Faculty & Staff Awards” feature to access video links of individual tributes.
As we turn to our next chapter, we have chosen several lenses (core strengths) with which to approach and communicate our overarching theme (mission). The lens of Explore Intentionally identifies our commitment to finding new and relevant ways to live out our mission and to encourage students to do the same. Live Wholly portrays actively our historic commitment to holistic education (Body, Mind, Spirit) and our commitment to reinvigorating that in the lives of our current community whether through initiatives in physical, emotional or spiritual wellness. The lens of Learn Deeply is the lens of depth and quality: what we are known for and how we can continue high impact practices for our students. And our final lens of Engage Globally is part of our story DNA: it is the way of the past and the way of the future, albeit through adjusted storylines.

And so we move to those new storylines, strategies that we believe will both ensure the continuity of the rich Andrews story, as well as deepen and strengthen the story as it moves into the next chapter. Each storyline will be rooted in our overarching theme(s) and through our chosen lenses, but will in turn introduce new and engaging plots that will add color and texture to our future. These will be the central thrust of this chapter of the Andrews’ story.

STORYLINE THREE:
In a competitive environment Andrews University must be able to provide a flexible, engaging, learning environment through faculty committed to the redemptive work of education. They will use both innovative and time-honored teaching methods, using the lens of “the teacher” in advancing research and engaging with service. The result will be a transformational education experience.
with their constant support of academics and faith without fear of tension, but with their own life as an example. They are not afraid to bring in faith to their individual fields of study; they embrace it and show it through their daily interactions with the people around them. Their mentorship throughout this whole process is priceless and I thank God for the opportunity of being their student and research mentee.”

This graduate could not have expressed more eloquently what our third storyline in our strategic plan seeks to accomplish—the creation of an environment where every student finds fulfillment in their discipline, a deep connection between their discipline and faith, and sees in the life of the teachers Seventh-day Adventist professionals who practice their faith daily.

Let me start by telling you of some other student successes that tell us of the seriousness Andrews places on providing a transformational educational experience for our students. During 2016 alone students were named writers in 14 peer-reviewed publications (usually partnering with faculty) and students were presenters at 48 professional conference sessions (often more than one student presenter in a session) at events as far apart as Michigan and Australia. One former Honors and English student has recently been accepted with full funding to eight different prestigious PhD in English programs, one Ivy League. Another former student is currently at the University of British Columbia studying microbiology and was a recipient of the prestigious Canadian national Vanier Scholarship. Just the other day, our Honors director received a message from a former student now studying at one of the top law programs in the world in Melbourne, Australia, “We have our first intensive class for the semester over the next 2 weeks and after that we settle into regular classes (torts, contracts, and public law!). I just have to say, thanks for preparing me so well!!! My research project and all our Honors classes have once again made a tremendous difference already. Being able to synthesize large amounts of reading, paying attention to details but also being able to relate the issues globally, and generally the hard work ethic you instilled in us have already had an impact on how I’ve approached/understood the material.”

Many similar quotes are sitting in my inbox that speak to the conviction of students on the transformational nature of an Andrews’ educational experience.

Our outstanding Honors program at the undergraduate level does much to model the best of our teaching and learning experience. As L. Monique Pittman, director of the Honors program expresses it, their program and the faculty that teach in it, are dedicated to supporting the development of critically thinking scholars and professionals; committed, lifelong believers in Christ, and ethically acting members of the human community. That is very much what our third strategic storyline is all about.

As I recount these successes maybe you are asking, why do we need a storyline that focuses on teaching and learning when we have so many stories to tell of success and value in this area? And certainly we could multiply these stories many times over. Yet what is critically important to us is to create an environment where every student could write a testimony on their experience that is equal on the quality of their Andrews University experience. In a changing higher education environment, this requires intentional focus on partnering with faculty, and particularly new faculty, to build their skills and understanding as teaching professionals, as well as an enhanced focus on evaluating the effectiveness of each of our programs in meeting the mission of the University and the expectations of the marketplace.

Let me talk then about what we are doing with our new Center for Teaching & Learning for faculty. During the 2016–17 school year 146 faculty members attended at least one event offered by the Center and in the 2017–18 year those numbers will likely be surpassed. Since its inception this group has set up a mentoring scheme for faculty, started a book club on texts related to teaching and learning, encouraged research on teaching and learning in specific disciplines, and provided significant
“Our outstanding Honors program at the undergraduate level does much to model the best of our teaching and learning experience.”

professional development in cooperation with other offices on campus. As a result, for example, 10 percent of current faculty is researching in the field of the Scholarship of Teaching and 25 present annually at the Andrews University Teaching and Learning Conference that attracts faculty from Andrews University and beyond. Our website (www.andrews.edu/ctl) provides far more detail than I can do here on the work of this Center.

This is what we have done, but perhaps what is even more exciting is our plans to make this storyline a reality in the future. In that context I am very pleased to announce that a new Graduate Certificate for College and University Teaching has completed campus approval processes and is ready to go. Ideally, all students at Andrews University receiving terminal degrees with a desire to teach in higher education, should be provided the opportunity to earn the certificate. This certificate also will be available for our new faculty, as well as faculty in other institutions, to strengthen and broaden their teaching skills in a faith environment. Through the Center for Teaching & Learning our intent is to position the University at the forefront of teaching excellence and teaching innovation with the Seventh-day Adventist context.

The Center for Teaching & Learning does not work in isolation. The Center for College Faith, the Department of Digital Learning & Instructional Technology (DLiT) and more recently the Office of Diversity & Inclusion, work closely with the director, Anneris Coria-Navia. For the purpose of this storyline let me speak to the second of these: technology and online learning, a very fast-changing area of education and a significant focus for Andrews Universi-

ty. Amongst DLiT’s many services, they too are focusing on ensuring the strength of teaching and learning. In particular, their “Course Tune Up” helps faculty in a workshop setting revise courses in line with best practice in technology and their monthly Faculty Technology Showcases are faculty-led events, which demonstrate and discuss various uses for technology and tools. In addition, the associate dean for Online Higher Education, Janine Lim, reports that each online course, every semester, is assigned to an instructional designer who provides pedagogical and technical support in the online teaching and course design process. That way faculty receive one-on-one support and guidance on building the syllabus, designing assessments, creating learning activities, and recording video lectures. In addition, during the online teaching experience, their team provides technical support as well as assistance with any online teaching-related challenges that may arise.

That is some of the detail but it is the impact of what we do that becomes critical. Our goal is to ensure that all online students will be able to resonate with these student comments: “This course helped me to see history in all of its truth and in a broader context. It also helped me to see it through a Christian perspective,” or, “The way the instructor conducted the course was amazing,” or, as a result of the class, “I have actually changed some of my personal habits to become a better steward of the environment.”

Teaching and learning is at the heart of what we do at Andrews University. That is why we are here—for our students. Time-honored methods cannot be forgotten in that process. However, we cannot stand still without constantly seeking fresh ways of ensuring our mission is met through the teaching and learning enterprise, whether that is in classroom delivery, mentoring in a research environment, creating service opportunities, or through an online modality. This interaction between faculty and students lies at the heart of any university, and our uniqueness is in ensuring that as we do this we live out our particular mission in a very intentional way.

This is our third strategic storyline.
Alumni calendar of regional events

Please register for these events at alumni.andrews.edu/rsvp and receive up-to-date information on these and other events in your area. You may also contact the Office of Alumni Services at 269-471-3591 or alumni@andrews.edu.

APRIL
7  Kettering, Ohio
   12:30 p.m.
   Moraine Farm
   1233 W Stroop Rd
   Dayton OH  45429

16  Denver, Colorado
   6 p.m.
   India’s Restaurant
   8921 East Hampden Ave
   Denver CO  80231

MAY
6  Spring Commencements 2018
   8 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m.
   Pioneer Memorial Church
   Berrien Springs MI  49104

26  Kiev, Ukraine
    7 p.m.
    Ukrainian Institute of Arts and Sciences
    Instytutska St, 14, Bucha
    Kyivs’ka oblast Ukraine  08292

JUNE
9  Indiana Camp Meeting Event
    Indiana Academy Campus
    24815 State Road 19
    Cicero IN  46034

16  Wisconsin Camp Meeting Event
    Camp Wakonda
    W8368 County Rd E
    Oxford WI  53952

23  Michigan Camp Meeting Event
    Fellowship Hall, Cedar Lake Church
    Cedar Lake MI  44829

TBD  Lake Region Camp Meeting Event
    Camp Wagner
    Cassopolis MI  49031

AUGUST
5  Summer Commencement 2018
    9 a.m.
    Pioneer Memorial Church
    Berrien Springs MI  49104

SEPTEMBER
27–30  Homecoming 2018
    Berrien Springs MI  49104

Who are alumni?
If you’ve graduated, attended, worked or taught at Andrews University we consider you alumni! And if you’re a parent or a potential student considering Andrews, you’re invited to be our honored guest.

LEFT–RIGHT: Cynthia (Miller) Gettys (BS/BS ’65), Barbara Myers (BA ’65), Don Gettys (BA ’65, BD ’68), Fred Myers (BA ’65), Bill Mutch (BA ’66), Patricia (Black) Mutch (BS ’65)
Regional Events

Orlando, Florida
Sunday, Jan. 7, 2018
More than 100 alumni and friends of Andrews University gathered at the Highland Manor in Apopka, Florida for brunch. Attendees enjoyed seeing pictures from campus and hearing the latest news during the short presentation by Andriy Kharkovyy (BBA '06, MBA '09), alumni director. President Andrea Luxton (MA '78) was also in attendance, and both spoke to the group and answered questions from alumni.

Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas
Sunday, Jan. 28, 2018
More than 130 alumni and friends attended the Andrews regional event in the Dallas/Fort Worth area, resulting in the largest event we've held there! The event was held at a local favorite, Byblos Mediterranean Lebanese Restaurant. Alums enjoyed great food, meeting President Luxton, lots of great conversations, and meeting both new and old friends.

Phoenix, Arizona
Monday, Jan. 29, 2018
Over 55 alumni and friends welcomed us to the Phoenix area at our regional event held at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Chandler. It was great having such a good turnout at the largest event we’ve held yet in Phoenix. The Office of Alumni Services was excited to see new friends being made and many conversations held over the pasta dinner.

Riverside, California
Sunday, Feb. 11, 2018
It was a huge gathering of almost 180 alumni and friends of Andrews University who joined us at the Old Spaghetti Factory in Riverside, California for this regional event. Attendees met new friends from the area over a pasta dinner, and many good conversations were held. Andriy Kharkovyy, alumni director, gave a presentation with news and photos from campus, and President Luxton spoke to the group about updates at Andrews.
Roseville, California  
*Tuesday, Feb. 13, 2018*

This event brought out around 60 people to the Old Spaghetti Factory in Roseville for a meet and greet with President Luxton. This is always a warm group of alums, and we were pleased to meet some new faces this year, including a few recent alums who have begun working in the region. Andriy Kharkovyy shared news from campus before President Luxton spoke to the group and took questions. Pictured: *Katina Barrera Downs* (MA ’13) with her family.

St. Helena/Napa, California  
*Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2018*

A tightly packed event at a local favorite pizza shop in St. Helena marked President Luxton’s inaugural visit to the Napa area for an Andrews regional event. *Bill Mutch* (BA ’66), a longtime Andrews faculty member, opened the event with prayer, before attendees dove into the good food. The alumni director shared photos and news from campus and had an excellent conversation about various Andrews offerings with a group of young people who came to the event in hopes of learning information about attending Andrews. A closing prayer by *Jim Pedersen* (MDiv ’81) wrapped up this gathering of alumni and friends, although many lingered long afterward catching up with each other.

Portland, Oregon  
*Thursday, Feb. 15, 2018*

A vibrant group of over 80 alumni and their families from the Portland area came out to meet President Luxton and hear the latest news from campus presented by Andriy Kharkovyy. *David Faehner* (MA ’72) and *Donald Bedney* (MDiv ’90, MSA ’91) represented the University Advancement team and spoke to those in attendance about various projects and opportunities that the University is working on this year. The event was closed with prayer by *Alexander Bolotnikov* (MA ’95).

Walla Walla, Washington  
*Sunday, Feb. 18, 2018*

Over 80 alumni and friends came out on a sunny but brisk morning to have brunch and fellowship together at the Marcus Whitman Hotel. Local alums took advantage of the opportunity to meet Andrews University President Andrea Luxton and ask her questions. As the event got underway, opening prayer was offered by *Raymond Mayor* (BA ’51), a longtime Andrews supporter who was recently transplanted out west. Andriy Kharkovyy shared photos and news from Andrews.

David Faehner, vice president for University Advancement, was also in attendance to talk about several projects the University is working on. Closing prayer was given by *Jon Dybdahl* (MA ’66, BD ’67), a 2016 AU honored alum and former president of Walla Walla University.
**AUPT to celebrate 30 years of graduating physical therapists**

With great joy and thanksgiving for God’s continued blessings, the Andrews University Department of Physical Therapy announces its plans to celebrate 30 years of graduating physical therapists who have and continue to Change the World. The celebration will take place during Andrews University Homecoming Weekend, September 27–30, 2018.

We invite all 1,386 PT graduates, as well as former faculty and staff to save the date and join us in celebrating 30 years of PT graduates. While the details of the weekend are still developing, events will include continuing education, networking, department tour, and a meal together. Watch the Andrews University alumni page for more details. If you would like to serve on the planning committee please contact the department at 269-471-6033 or kimferreira@andrews.edu.

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**Holy Lands Tour**

Join alums and archaeologists Larry Geraty and Larry Herr on a two-week tour to Israel and Jordan from July 2-15, 2018! Visit Jerusalem, Nazareth, Petra, the Dead Sea and other famous sites. Cost is $3,780 per person and includes airfare, lodging and meals. **Deadline:** May 11, 2018. For more information contact Kelsey Curnutt at 269-471-1202, kcernutt@berrienhistory.org.
1940s

Glenn Engen (BA ’47) was a research scientist for the federal government for 30 years, followed by many years as a consultant. He earned a doctorate from the University of Colorado. Glenn lives with his wife Mildred in College Place, Washington.

1950s

Maxine J. (Clark) Taylor (BA ’57) did a dietetics internship at a Veterans Hospital in West Los Angeles from 1957–58 and also served as a clinical dietitian at the VA hospital. While in Michigan she was the food-service director at the Berrien County Hospital. Her career path then led her to teaching at Oakwood College and Loma Linda University. She was also food-service director for Fresno County Hospital. She earned a master’s degree in nutrition from Loma Linda University and an EdD from La Sierra University. She lives with her husband, David Taylor, in Highland, California.

1960s

David D. Logé (BA ’62) retired Feb. 2, 2018, after 19 years of service at the Glendale Adventist Medical Center as a construction accounting specialist. He previously worked in property management as a controller, as an accounting manager for benefit plans administration, branch auditor in banking, and as a healthcare administrator, including CEO at two small hospitals in southern California. He served a one-year residency in hospital administration at Loma Linda University Medical Center in 1964; was business manager for a year and a board member of Christian Edition Men’s Chorus. David also assisted in the writing of "The Seventh Escape" by Jan Doward, the story of his father's escape from Russian POW camps at the end of WWII. The book was published by Pacific Press Publishing Association.

1970s

Wil Clarke (BA ’65) married Sylvia Nelson (att.) in Pioneer Memorial Church after graduation in 1965. He went on to earn an MA in mathematics from the University of Iowa and spent five years teaching in Tanzania. After earning a PhD from the University of Iowa, he taught for four years at Helderberg College in South Africa. From 1979–86, Wil taught math and some computer science at Atlantic Union College. He and Sylvia then moved to La Sierra University, where he taught math for the next 27 years. Wil retired in 2013 and started attending Spanish classes at senior centers in the area. He also attends writing classes and workshops and writes memoir material and a blog. He and Sylvia volunteered for three months in Madagascar, teaching conversational English at Université Adventiste Zürcher.

Roger McFarland (BS ’65) spent 14 years teaching in Adventist academies and then moved with his family to La Sierra University where he taught in the Health & Exercise Science Department for 39 years. He was recently inducted into the Riverside Sports Hall of Fame Wall of Distinction. He continued as a contract teacher since retiring nine years ago, but is now officially retired. He and his wife, Sharon (BS ’66), have three sons, Jeff, Greg and Matthew.

Melva Rasmussen-Hicks (BS ’66) is a legacy student. Her father, Hans L. Rasmussen graduated in 1933 with a two-year diploma and earned a BA in 1937. Melva is currently retired and enjoys volunteering.

Wayne Friestad (BA ’72) is currently retired after working for 37 years, 33 of them being in emergency medicine. He and his wife, Dawna (BS ’75), just celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary. Pictured in this photo from 1972 are, left–right: Lindsey Paden, Dallas Hack, Calvin Hill, Steve Sharp, Nancy Anderson, Dave Forsythe, John Buxton and Wayne Friestad.

Janice Parchment Martin (BA ’73) moved with her husband Paul (BS ’78, MS ’82) to her hometown of Toronto, Ontario, Canada after graduation. They returned to Andrews University in 1976 and then worked in Bermuda from 1979–82, where Paul taught at the academy there. Then they moved to Loma Linda, California, where Janice worked at the Loma Linda University Medical Center (LLUMC) as a pediatric and NICU nurse and earned an MS in nursing. She taught pediatric nursing at Victor Valley College then worked for...
the Canadian government in Alberta on an Indian reservation as a community health nurse with Plains Cree Natives from 1991–93. She also helped with the Adventist church there. They moved back to Loma Linda in 1995 and Janice worked at LLUMC until 2011. She is currently studying naturopathic medicine and is active in her church with Pathfinders, Sabbath School and music, and caring for her husband and grandkids.

Kelly Eick (BA ’74) retired after working at Loma Linda for 39 years. He has been on disability for two years. His wife, Donna (BS ’76) is still working, while caring for her parents, who are in their mid-90s, and Kelly. One grandson, Enoch, brings lots of sunshine to their family.

Estrella E. Acosta (BS ’77) completed her MBA at FMU in 2003 and in 2009 she completed her MSHE with Kaplan University. She is currently retired but still involved with the children's ministry in two churches. On certain days she also assists people who may need help with transportation, shopping and/or companionship.

Marilee (MAT ’77) and H. Mark (MDiv ’77) Dalton pastored for 20 years, then went into teaching. Marilee served as a principal of Adventist schools in California for 14 years, then in the public school system as principal/superintendent while completing a doctorate at La Sierra University. She is currently teaching with Horizon Charter Schools in the Sacramento area. Mark is retired. Their ministry has taken them to North Carolina, Tennessee, Pennsylvania, California and India. Marilee says, “We’ve been blessed to see God at work all over the world! We praise him for the privilege of being coworkers with Him.”

Bob Knutson (BA ’77) recently completed writing a book titled “The Solution? Daniel 11:20–45—A Historical Interpretation.” He has been working on it since the early 1980s. The book is published by XLibris and is available at amazon.com.

1980s

J. LeBron McBride (MDiv ’80) is currently director of Behavioral Medicine and a faculty member at Floyd Medical Center Family Medicine Residency in Rome, Georgia. He recently had his fifth book published, titled “Coming Back to Faith: The Journey from Crisis of Belief toward Healthy Engagement Signposts from the Christian Year.” He is the author of over one hundred published items. In addition to his MPH from Loma Linda University he has an undergraduate degree from The University of West Georgia, Master of Divinity from Andrews University, and PhD in marriage and family from The Florida State University. He and his wife, Deborah, live on a farm outside of Rome and have two young adult children.

Donna M. Bly Rowe (BS ’81) worked for approximately 30 years for the state of California as a public health/infection control nurse. She retired from Patton State Hospital in 2017. Currently, she is doing medical nursing work in southern California and serves as a board member for abokin.org.

Lynn Larson-Rognsvog (BMus ’87) moved to Portland, Oregon in 1988 to assume piano teaching duties at Portland Adventist Elementary School, where she still teaches. She has three children, Liezel, Faith and Fenton. She and her husband David live with the family on a little farm out in the country.

Kim (Medina) Knowlton (BS ’88, MSPT ’89) homeschooled all three of her sons for 12 years. She is currently full-time faculty at La Sierra University in the Health and Exercise Science department. Kim was promoted to chair of the department in July 2017. The two older sons, Joshua and Jacob, are both current Andrews University students.

Ronnie Mills (BA ’86) has been selected as associate director of development for the worldwide Voice of Prophecy ministries. He will be stationed at VOP headquarters in Loveland, Colorado. Previously, Mills has held major philanthropic positions at the national headquarters of the American Diabetes Association and Takoma Academy. He is a graduate of Andrews University (with honors) and the Howard University School of Law. Mills states, “I am thrilled to be working with the incredible VOP family under the leadership of Shawn and Jean Boonstra and their commitment to equipping the world for the soon return of Christ.”

1990s

Joy Reid (BS ’90, MSPT ’91) has been working as a home health physical therapist in the Orlando, Florida area.

Randy Lonto (BS ’91) has been voted Physical Education Teacher of the Year by SDA-HPERA, the North American Division’s governing body/organization for PE teachers. He is currently the PE teacher at Ruth Murdoch Elementary School and was nominated by his principal, Evelyn Savory. He was also voted to serve as president of the SDA-HPERA group last year and is currently serving the final term of that position in an exiting president advisory role.

Corey Knowlton (BS ’93) graduated with a BS in technology education with a teaching certificate in industrial arts. He is in his 25th year of teaching high school architecture at Montclair High School in Montclair, California. He earned a master’s degree from Cal State San Bernardino in instructional technology.

Ronald W. Busby (EdD ’94) is enjoying retirement. His time has been filled with research, writing and lecturing on apocalyptic themes (Daniel, Revelation, etc.). He writes, “My wife of 65 years
recently passed away, leaving an unfillable gap. I now live with my
daughter, Amy Martin."

Darcy Tataryn (BS ’93, MSPT ’94) has been practicing physical
therapy since graduation. He currently works in Salem, Oregon,
where he is a partner in seven clinics. He and his family enjoy
travel and the outdoors, and his spare time is spent flying and
woodworking. He says, “We love visitors, if you would like to see
Oregon, come visit.”

Denise Petersen
(BS ’95) traveled to
Antarctica with two
friends, Melissa Haidu
(BS ’97) and Judith
Hall (BS ’02, MSPT ’03),
in December 2017. The
trio of alums aims to
visit all seven con-
tinents; Denise and
Judith only have Australia left, Melissa still needs to visit Asia as
well. Pictured, left–right: Melissa, Judith and Denise.

Jennifer Gomoll
(BSN ’96) works as a utilization nurse for a major
healthcare company and has been in utilization management for
the last 10 years of her nursing career. She lives in Westchester, Il-
inois, and has one daughter, age 7, who is active with the Hinsdale
Adventurers club. Together they enjoy traveling coast to coast.

Tonya Larson Dietrich
(BBA ’96) has two chil-
dren, Shelby (13) and
Sidney (11). They live
in the foothills of Mt.
Hood with a 2-year-old
Bernese Mountain dog
and one cat. They love
to travel and camp.
She currently works for
the General Conference Auditing Service as an auditor.

Eleanor Grace Kang (pictured at right)
was born February 16, 2017, to Brian and
BonJoo Koo (BS ’07) Kang.

After graduating with her bachelor’s
degree in animal science, Claudia (Mel-
gosa) Mattice (BS ’09) went to veterinary
school at Washington State University. She
currently works as a small animal private
practice veterinarian in Walla Walla, Wash-
ington with her husband, Ron, a writer.
They don’t have any human kids yet, but lots of fur ones—three
dogs, two cats and two rats.

2010s

Christopher White (BS’10) spent a few years working in a variety
of educational roles after graduation and married Olivia Makador
(BFA ’12) in 2014. After moving to Walla Walla, Washington in 2016,
he began working for the Washington State University GEAR UP
program. Currently, he serves as an academic specialist at a local
middle school, helping GEAR UP accomplish its goal of increasing
college awareness and preparedness in under-served populations.

Jeff Horn (BBA’10) completed a master’s degree at Michigan State
University after graduating from Andrews. He married Femke Aerts
(DPT ’14) in December 2014 and they moved to Loma Linda, Cali-
ifornia in 2015 for Femke to attend medical school. Jeff currently
works as an accountant for the Olin Corporation.

After graduation, Olivia (Madakor) White (BFA ’12) moved to Wash-
ington, D.C. to work on a graduate degree. She received a master’s
in school counseling with a specialization in counseling urban
youth. She married Christopher White (BS ’10) in 2014 and they
moved to Walla Walla, Washington, in 2016. Olivia currently works
as a mental health counselor, based at an elementary school.

Melissa Baptiste (BS ’14) is graduating with a master’s in child life
specialist from the Loma Linda University School of Behavioral
Health in June 2018.

Andre Moncrieff (BS/BA ’14) was part of a team that discovered a
new antbird species in Peru. He is a graduate student of ornitholo-
y at Louisiana State University. Andre was the lead author on their

Leonard Lugo (MA ’15) has translated a book since graduating and
has also applied to law school.

Daniela Torrez (MBA ’15) has been working for Florida Hospital
in Orlando since graduation. In 2016, she took several leadership
classes with smart, talented leaders at Florida Hospital. Last year
she took a tour through Europe and is planning to go to Greece this
year. Traveling has taught her to be grateful for all of God’s blessings.

Nathalie Borges (BS ’14, DPT ’17) passed her boards in October
and received her license in November. She recently accepted a
position as a physical therapist with Florida Hospital.

2000s

Ryan Wallace (MSA ’05) was a finalist for Law Student of the Year,
a distinction given by The National Jurist in its spring issue. He
is among 20 student leaders from across the country recognized
for significantly contributing to their law school and community.
Last year, Wallace became the first WVU student to hold a seat on
the Morgantown City Council. He also serves on several municipal
boards, commissions and committees and works to improve food
security and youth fitness. He is expected to graduate with a law
degree in May from West Virginia University College of Law.
Joseph Grady Smoot (former president), 85, of Pittsburg, Kansas, died Friday Jan. 5, 2018 at Via Christi Village. He had been a resident since January 2015.

Smoot was born May 7, 1932, in Winter Haven, Florida, to Robert Malcolm Smoot and Vera Eaton Smoot McNutt. He grew up in Tennessee where he graduated from Tullahoma High School. He received his Bachelor of Arts in history and business/economics in 1955 from Southern Adventist University, graduating as president of his class.

Earning a Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy in history in 1961 from the University of Kentucky, he specialized in 18th-century American studies and presented “Freedom’s Early Ring: The Northwest Ordinance and The American Union” for his doctoral dissertation. He was a member of Phi Alpha Theta, the national honorary society for history.

Smoot served as academic dean at Columbia Union College and dean of graduate studies at Andrews University where he also became vice president for academic affairs and later president. He held the academic rank of professor of history at Andrews from 1968 to 1983. He led Andrews to professional accreditation in several fields of knowledge, created the first strategic master plan, launched the first comprehensive capital campaign, and built numerous buildings. He instituted doctoral programs of study, developed a world system of affiliated higher education, and led the university to full accreditation for the Doctor of Philosophy.

Smoot also organized two new schools in the university in Business and Education, established the Department of Architecture, and relocated the archaeological museum to a separate building and named it for Siegfried Horn. He developed the Andrews University Press as a scholarly publisher and created the Institute for Prevention of Addictions. He was the leading founder of the University of Eastern Africa in Kenya. Widely traveled, he visited some 100 countries on six continents.

Smoot was assistant to the president of Pittsburg State University and vice president emeritus. He organized the PSU Foundation, established the public radio station KRPS, founded the university magazine, and created a substantial endowment fund for university operations. He brought one of America’s finest concert organs to the campus and provided funding for numerous building and renovation projects. He also wrote the university’s centennial history (1903–2003).

In 1994, he became a director of Gold Bank Pittsburg and served for nine years in that capacity. In 1999, the Pittsburg City Commission appointed him to a four-year term to the Pittsburg Public Library Board of Trustees where he became a founder of the PPL Foundation in 2000 and its president in 2004. The Pittsburg City Commission appointed him to a second four-year term to the Board of Trustees in 2003. In 2001, he became a founder of the Pittsburg Area Community Foundation and served on its board.

Widely published as an historian, he has nearly 700 publications. As an educator, Smoot became a national authority on the accreditation of higher education. He was a member of the American Historical Association, the Organization of American Historians, the Southern Historical Association, and the Filson Club Historical Society. He was also a Fellow of the Institute of Early American History and Culture. Smoot was a member of the Art Institute of Chicago, the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, Missouri, the Gilcrease Museum of Art and the Philbrook Museum of Art in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He was also a member of the Washington National Cathedral Association. As a historian of 18th century American Studies, he held membership in George Washington’s Mount Vernon and the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. He also maintained membership in the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the Military Order of the Stars and Bars. He was listed in Who’s Who in America first in 1974 and Who’s Who in the World first in 1980.


Survivors include his son, Andrew Christopher Smoot (BA ’84, MSA ’01) of Oshkosh, Wisconsin; brother Wayne McNutt (BD ’68) of Winter Park, Florida; and four grandchildren. Hannah, Haley, Eric and Heidi Smoot of Berrien Springs, Michigan.

Smoot was preceded in death by his first wife, Florence, in 1957, and second wife, Irma Jean (BA ’50), on June 18, 1999; grandson Christopher Nash Smoot, one brother, two sisters and one half-brother.
Mary Rant Baker (DIP2YR ’52) died on Feb. 2, 2018, in West Bend, Wisconsin. She was 95.

Born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to Slovenian immigrants, she loved art and music and for a time worked in a florist shop. After graduating from Emmanuel Missionary College, she married Philo Baker Jr., and for many years used her secretarial degree to help him run Jackson Printing, one of the last firms in Milwaukee to do custom hand type-setting in a commercial environment. She also worked for 39 years as a Sunday receptionist for the West Bend Art Museum, now the Museum of Wisconsin Art. A highly proficient watercolorist and oil painter, she enjoyed selling her works to local art connoisseurs, donating paintings to the annual PBS fund drive and giving beautiful Christmas, wedding and birthday presents to many family and friends. She also received recognition for her oil painting through the Kohler Arts Center in Sheboygan, Wisconsin.

Mary is survived by her husband Philo, brother Alexander (Paula) Rant, daughter Suzanne Kordas (BA ’77), son Robert (Terri-Sue) Baker and grandchildren Marianne Kordas (BA ’07, current staff), Alex (Lauren) Kordas, Camille Kordas (current student), Benjamin Daniel Baker, David John Baker (BA ’08).

Jeanne Morris (MA ’71), 73, of Stevensville, Michigan, passed away on Dec. 15, 2017, after a battle with pancreatic cancer. Jeanne Michele O’Brien was born on April 21, 1944 in Orange, New Jersey to George and Florence (Sanzo) O’Brien. She attended Blue Mountain Academy in Hamburg, Pennsylvania, graduating in 1962. She went on to earn a bachelor’s degree in education from Columbia Union College, a master’s degree in early childhood education from Andrews University, and a Specialist in Education in educational leadership from Western Michigan University.

Jeanne served in the educational field for over 35 years. Over that time she served as a first-grade teacher, a preschool director, a staff development coordinator, and an elementary principal. She was a trailblazing school administrator and served as the assistant superintendent for general education for the Berrien County Intermediate School District (now Berrien RESA) from 1987 until her retirement. Berrien County students have enjoyed programs such as the Berrien County Mathematics & Science Center, the Lest We Forget educational initiative, and Education for Employment thanks to her visionary leadership.

She loved spending time with family and friends, traveling and entertaining, and sailing and boating—and she was particularly well known for her boat docking skills.

She is survived by her husband Tedd Roy Morris, whom she married June 21, 1980; her three children, Erin K. Yingst, of Mattawan, Michigan, Aileen (Ross Nova) Yingst of Brunswick, Maine, and Jeremy Robert (Amanda) Yingst of Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin; and seven grandchildren.

Richard H. Gutsche (BS ’57) died Dec. 1, 2017 in Los Angeles, California.

He was born April 9, 1934, in Hinsdale, Illinois, to Florence Victoria Johnson and Ernst Erich Gutsche in Hinsdale Sanitarium.

While growing up, music was an important part of Richard’s life. When he was just 13, Richard played the organ for the Adventist church he and his family attended in Illinois. At the age of 14, he was asked to be the church organist at the Graceville, Illinois church, where he continued to serve as the organist during his high school and college years.

Richard met the love of his life, Vesta Joyce Wöhlers, in 1955 when a mutual friend introduced them. They were married on June 10, 1956.

Before graduating from Emmanuel Missionary College, Richard was hired by the California-based Ace Drill Bushing Company. They had sent a management team to the college to scout out prospective graduates. He served in various management positions with the company for a number of years.

Richard and Joyce welcomed daughter Jill on July 1, 1961 and their son Eric completed the family on Sept. 2, 1966.

After living in Sunland, California, for over 20 years with Joyce and the children, 20th Century Fox hired Richard as a data processing manager in 1979. He worked there for 20 years before retiring in 1999.

Richard was closely involved in the Adventist churches he attended. He served as organist, worship leader, board member and helped run PowerPoint presentations for many years.

He was also involved in his community, providing his skills of management, finances and leadership wherever he could. One example of this included the many years he and Joyce spent supporting Families Anonymous. Richard held various positions on the board, and served as the editor of “The Twelve Step Rag” newsletter from 2000–2010.

Richard was predeceased by his wife, Joyce, in 2007 and his brother, Roy, in 2012.

Lenard Dale Jaecks (BA ’55, MA ’61, DMin ’76), 85, died June 25, 2017 in Chattanooga, Tennessee, with his wife, Lois (Iattoni) by his side.

Lenard was born March 21, 1932 in Wausau, Wisconsin. He attended Bethel Academy and then graduated in Wisconsin Academy’s first graduating class in 1950. He received his Bachelor of Arts in 1955 from EMC and master’s degree (1961) and Doctor of Ministry (1976) from Andrews University.

Lenard and Lois met at Wisconsin Academy. They were married June 7, 1953. They had two sons, Steven and Ronald. Lenard was ordained as an Adventist minister in 1961.


After retirement, Lenard was executive director of Adventist Heritage Ministry and coordinated the restoration of Historic Adventist Village in Battle Creek, Michigan.

Throughout his 45+ years of denominational work he served on many committees in the local conferences and the North American Division.

Lenard is survived by his wife, Lois (Iattoni), sons Steven (Carmen) of Ooltewah, Tennessee and Dr. Ronald (Kellie) of Salem, Oregon, and three grandchildren.
Dick Stenbakken

ISAIAH 64:3 TALKS ABOUT GOD DOING “…awesome things that we did not expect….” (NIV) While that was absolutely true about His intervention and leading of the ancient people of Israel, it certainly has been my own personal experience as well.

After graduation from Union College, in Lincoln, Nebraska, Ardis and I moved to Andrews University, where I completed an MA in theology and philosophy and an MDiv in New Testament studies. My drive was to be the best prepared I could be for wherever God led.

Following graduation, we took a three-month trip through Europe and the Middle East, thinking, “We better travel now because we will never have a chance to travel again.”

Then we headed for Wyoming to begin pastoral service in a small district. When we arrived, an evangelistic series was ending. A young man, Sammy, who had joined the Army to see beyond the local sagebrush, was on leave before going to Vietnam. Sammy had attended the meetings and renewed his commitment to Christ. I met him briefly while he was waiting for the plane to start him on his journey. We talked about my being his pastor, even at a distance, and he pledged to keep in touch. In our letters back and forth, I offered encouragement and spiritual guidance. He was receptive and grateful. Then the message came to his parents: “We regret to inform you…..” I helped with his funeral and service ran from 1992 through 2004. During that time, I served as chair for the National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces (NCMAF) for three consecutive years. As director of ACM and Ardis as director of Women’s Ministries, we each traveled extensively. And, yes, we laugh at our naiveté earlier when we were sure we would never have a chance to travel.

Since “retirement” from the GC in 2004, I have published three books and produced over 70 different first-person characters.

In December of 2017, it was a thrill to see a memorial marker commemorating the service of military chaplains in the Pacific Theater placed at the Punchbowl National Military Cemetery in Honolulu, Hawaii. I was privileged to have designed the monument, secured permission to have it put in place and find funding for the whole process.

Currently, I am part of major training events by the Army Chief of Chaplains all across the Army system. Other speaking presentations include being a keynote presenter at the 100th anniversary of the U.S. Army Chaplain school and at various camp meetings, local churches and schools.

Another series of firsts began when the General Conference asked me to retire early and take up the position of director of Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries (ACM) at the GC. This was the first time anyone in the department would have even served in the military. That assignment was accepted and serving as a full colonel, nomination by the Chief of Chaplains as a White House Fellow, and nomination by the Chief of Chaplains to serve as the Cadet Chaplain at West Point.

Another book is in the works, “The New Testament Through Roman Eyes.” I have often said, “It’s a good thing I am retired. I wouldn’t have time for a job!”

Indeed, God has done “awesome things we did not expect…..” Those ministry opportunities are still unfolding. Andrews University served as a stable and strong launching pad for every step along the path.

Richard (Dick) Stenbakken (MA ’64, BD ’65) is pictured above as the Centurion at the cross. He hand built the armor, crest and leathers he is wearing.
The photo below was taken from the Andrews University water tower on February 23, 2018. It shows an overview of the dairy. None of the buildings or cattle got wet, all were high and dry in their barns on the “islands.” The manure lagoon in the back was not breached by the floodwaters. We can thank God for His protection and also for the foresight of former department chair, Tom Chittick, who had the dairy rebuilt 18 years ago to withstand a “100-year flood.” There was no contamination of the St. Joseph River from the dairy. Inset photo: Summer 2017  Photo credits: Jamie Wright, Plant Services manager