A Commitment to Care and Love; A Rejection of Hatred

April 29, 2022

Dear students,

Recently, a series of posters was found in campus buildings. These posters raised concerns about the harm some LGBTQ+ students have experienced in their faith community. Concerns were also expressed regarding Andrews University’s expectations for LGBTQ+ students.

If you share similar experiences, both our Division of Campus & Student Life (write to VP Frances Faehner at frances@andrews.edu) and our Office of University Culture & Inclusion (write to VP Michael Nixon at michaeln@andrews.edu) would welcome an opportunity to listen and dialogue with you.

We also support the messages shared in an Instagram post from the Center for Faith Engagement which responded to these posters: Each student deserves a seat at the table for the fellowship we all share with Christ. We must always seek to fiercely love, hope for, protect and preserve the lives of each one of our students which also requires us to reject and repel hatred, harassment and violence of any kind.

Most importantly, if you are fearful of harm from others, or harm you might do to yourself, please reach out directly and confidentially to resources on campus who can provide you with care and resources.

Those resources include:

- The Counseling & Testing Center (CTC) at ctccenter@andrews.edu or use this website to find links to privately express your specific concerns—see the “Report a Concern” column on that page; you can also reach the CTC by phone at 269-471-3470.
- The Center for Faith Engagement—DM them directly at @universityfaith on Instagram or confidentially by texting the chaplains at 269-281-4383.
- The Haven group, committed to providing care for our LGBTQ+ students. You can write to them confidentially at havencare@andrews.edu or reach them by phone at 269-340-0065.
- The Title IX Office—you can reach out to Alyssa Palmer, senior Title IX deputy coordinator, at alyssap@andrews.edu or use this website to make an incident report.

In closing, we will deepen our commitment to seek to create an environment where every member is a valuable part of God’s table. Let us strive to change our world to reflect the Kingdom of God in every way possible, starting right here in our own community with learning better together how to love one another.

With care,

Frances Faehner  
Vice President  
Campus & Student Life

Michael Nixon  
Vice President  
University Culture & Inclusion