This morning the recipient of the John Nevins Andrews Medallion is Hyveth Williams, whose dedicated mentoring of students in the art of preaching has impacted the lives of many students by teaching them how to do various aspects of ministry.

Williams completed a Bachelor of Arts in theology from Columbia Union College in 1984, a Master of Divinity from the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary in 1989, and a Doctor of Ministry at Boston University School of Theology in 1998. Her dissertation was titled “Theleia Theology: a Preaching Model for Women.”

Before sensing a call to the ministry, Williams spent a year in 1971 as women’s editor of WINF Radio in Manchester, Connecticut. From there she worked as executive assistant to the mayor of Hartford, Connecticut from 1971 to 1980. While in this position, Williams spent two years as human resources director at Mocatta International Inc. in London, from 1978 to 1980, then returned to the United States to spend two years as human resources director of Rural American Inc. in Washington, D.C.

In 1982 Williams interned at the Pennsylvania Avenue Church in Washington, D.C. For three years she participated in all aspects of ministry and also conducted a Revelation Seminar, which resulted in 28 baptisms including 11 Jehovah Witnesses. During the final year of her seminary studies, Williams interned at All Nations Church in Berrien Springs. Here she created the annual Great Advent Preach-In. Williams has served as associate pastor of Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church, as acting chaplain on the campus of Andrews University and as senior pastor at churches in Swampscott and Boston, Massachusetts, and Loma Linda, California.

Williams joined the faculty of the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary as professor of homiletics in 2009. In 2012 she became the director of homiletics, a post she holds in addition to her duties as senior pastor of The Grace Place, a flourishing community church she founded in South Bend, Indiana, in 2013.

In addition to articles in professional journals, Williams is the author of several books. One of these is “The Celts & The Christ: Another Look at the Letter to the Galatians,” which she co-authored with Dorothy Minchin-Comm, that sheds important historical light on the earliest wellspring of Celtic Christianity. Williams is also the author of “Anticipation: Waiting on Tiptoes for the Lord” and “Secrets of a Happy Heart: A Fresh Look at the Beatitudes.”

Williams is a fellow of The Episcopal College of Preachers, National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. and a member of The Academy of Homiletics in Saint Paul, Minnesota.

For her persistent effort to touch lives through teaching and ministry, the faculty of Andrews University is proud to present Hyveth Williams with the John Nevins Andrews Medallion.