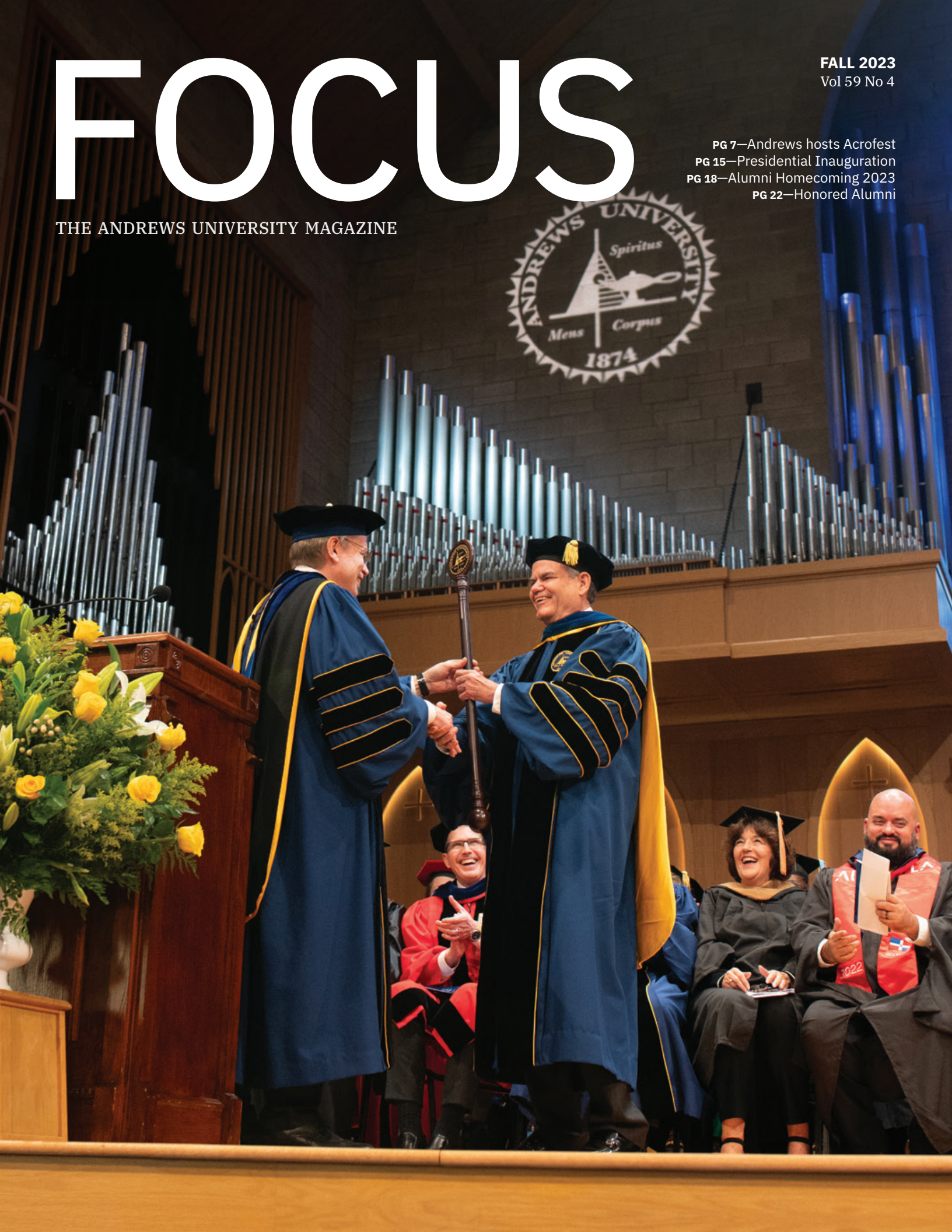


# FOCUS

THE ANDREWS UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

FALL 2023  
Vol 59 No 4

PG 7—Andrews hosts Acrofest  
PG 15—Presidential Inauguration  
PG 18—Alumni Homecoming 2023  
PG 22—Honored Alumni



## Living Our God-Given Values

John Wesley Taylor V, *president*

WHEN I BEGAN SERVING AT ANDREWS University this July, I had the opportunity to reflect on Andrews University's **Core Values** as part of a series of "From the Heart" messages ([andrews.edu/president/fromtheheart](http://andrews.edu/president/fromtheheart)).

These powerful **Core Values** are titled "Sharing the Heart of God."

- **Compassion** focuses on transformative action. It is not enough to simply have empathy—to try to feel another's pain. Instead, compassion always calls us to do something about it. (James 2:14–17)
- **Trust** builds community and expands the capacity of our whole Andrews University team. We want to be a community where trust flourishes, both on- and off-campus. (Matthew 8:23–27; 16:5–12)
- **Integrity** is a value closely aligned to trust. It means we seek to be true to ourselves and to the mission of our University. (Acts 9:1–18)
- **Humility** prompts us to ask daily, "How can I minister to others today? How can I advance the work of my students, colleagues and the communities we serve?" (John 3:30)
- **Wellbeing** is a reflection of the value of whole-person development that is at the heart of the Seventh-day Adventist educational vision of a full and balanced life of body, mind and spirit. (Luke 2:52)
- God is known for His passionate commitment to **Justice**. At Andrews University, we will encourage each person to engage in causes that align with the justice and purpose of God's Kingdom. (Amos 5:24)
- Finally, **Innovation** reflects the vibrancy of the early church described in the book of Acts. Here at Andrews University, we will seek to think beyond the boundaries and pioneer new methods that embody the significance of educating students for eternity. (Acts 2:42–47)

I believe you'll discover that this new issue of FOCUS magazine represents how these **Core Values** influence who we are as individuals and as part of this God-inspired University.

For example, the theme of Alumni Homecoming this fall, "The Quiet Hand of God," celebrated the mission, friendships and lifelong impact of an Andrews University education.

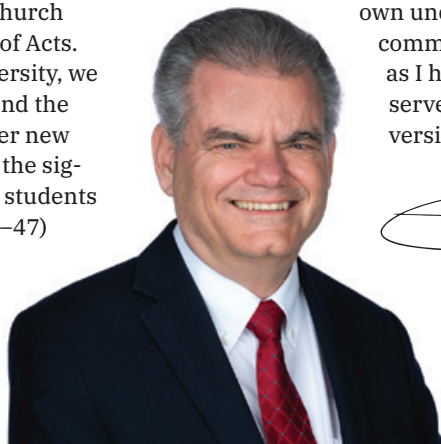
One of the opening events, the Spirit of Philanthropy & Homecoming Banquet, honored the world-changing lives of several of our notable alumni. I encourage you to read those stories that show how these honorees clearly reflect our **Core Values**.

I believe you'll also discover more about our **Core Values** throughout this issue.

For example, the core value of **Innovation** was demonstrated throughout our Fall Research Week. Additionally, the power of **Compassion** is reflected in our seventh annual Change Day, **Wellbeing** is celebrated through events including the national Acrofest held on our campus and the seminary's Wholistic Healing Conference, and we seek to better understand and fulfill God's call to **Justice** through events coordinated by our Diversity team, which helps our community better understand and honor the various cultures and communities that make up Andrews University and the world beyond our campus.

I believe that our University's **Core Values** are anchored in Scripture and God's plans for us. They continue to be the guiding light for our University family as we seek to fulfill God's calling for our lives and His school.

Those values also inspire my own understanding of and commitment to the Mission as I have the privilege to serve as the Andrews University president.



World Changers Made Here.

# FOCUS

THE ANDREWS UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

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FOCUS (ISSN 1077-9345) is published quarterly, free of charge, for alumni and friends of Andrews University, an institution owned and operated by the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The magazine's address is FOCUS, Office of University Communication, Andrews University, 8903 US Hwy 31, Berrien Springs MI 49104-1000. Copyright © 2023 by Andrews University. Reproduction in whole or part without permission is prohibited. Printed by Holland Litho Printing Service, Zeeland MI. Periodicals postage paid at Berrien Springs MI, and at additional mailing offices. Please send address changes to FOCUS Magazine, Office of Alumni Services, Andrews University, 8714 E Campus Circle Drive, Berrien Springs MI 49104-0950, email [alumni@andrews.edu](mailto:alumni@andrews.edu) or call 269-471-3591.



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## Features

### 15 Inauguration of John Wesley Taylor V

Andrews University officially recognized its seventh president with a Ceremony of Inauguration, luncheon and tree planting.

### 18 Alumni Homecoming 2023

“The Quiet Hand of God” was the theme for this year’s Homecoming Weekend. Alumni from nearby and far away enjoyed reconnecting while attending a variety of events planned for them.

### 22 Honored Alumni

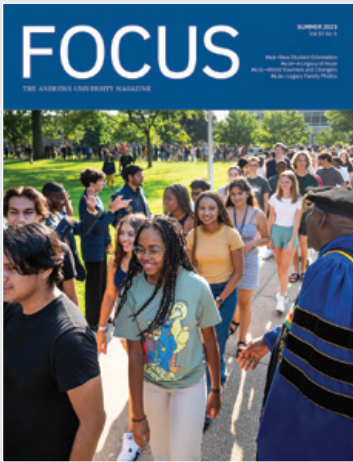
Daryl Gungadoo, Dwight K. Nelson, Jim Nix and Susan Zork were the 2023 honorees. Simone Weithers was the first recipient of the Up-and-Coming Alumni award.



## Departments

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**COVER:** Artur Stele (*left*), chair of the Board of Trustees, hands the official presidential mace to John Wesley Taylor V at his inauguration on Oct. 24, 2023.  
**PHOTO CREDIT:** Peter Tumangday (current student)



FOCUS | Summer 2023

## 2nd annual Andrews Partnership Grant and Shark Tank

*Awards \$125,000 for two projects*

ON FRIDAY, NOV. 17, THE SECOND ANNUAL Andrews Partnership Grant and Shark Tank competition took place at Andrews University. The initiative, created by the Office of the Provost to model a business reality television series, provides an innovative way for faculty and staff to secure project funding. Two teams of entrepreneurs presented to a panel of judges, which included Matias Soto, Gary Burdick, Kimberly Pichot, Kevin Brown, Lucile Sabas, Ingrid Slikkers, Bordes Henry-Saturne and Lionel Johnson.

The first proposal, which secured a total of \$100,000 in funding, was created by the Department of Mathematics and School of Education. The project, presented by Lynelle Weldon, mathematics department chair, and Lori Imasiku, assistant professor of education, was titled “Access to Math and Higher Education.” It aims to prepare students for success in college mathematics while also caring for their holistic wellbeing.

The funding will be used to provide free resources to students through a collaboration with the School of Graduate Psychology & Counseling, Student Success Center, and International Center for Trauma Education & Care. “I think the experience was very successful in providing us a common goal focused on improving our students’ experience learning math,” Weldon says. “We look

forward to pulling together strengths and expertise from across campus to provide more students with the tools they need to unlock math success.”

The second project was presented by staff from the James White Library: Paulette Johnson, dean of libraries, Margaret Adeogun, head of patron services, and Terry Robertson, associate dean. Titled “Expanding Access and Facilitating Academic Success,” the initiative received \$25,000 in funding to support the development and use of Open Education Resources (OER)—freely accessible online learning, teaching and research materials—for faculty and students.

According to Johnson, the use of OERs will help reduce student fees and payment barriers, allowing for more equitable access to learning resources. “Making free resources available to all students is consistent with the mission of the library,” she says. “Adding OERs augments services to students and promotes inclusive learning. The COVID-19 pandemic magnified the need for free digital learning resources. We are growing awareness about OERs and advocating for their development and use.”

“The Academic Partnership Grant (APG) is a key component of academic innovation on campus,” Soto, chair of the judging panel and director of the Office of Innovation & Entrepreneurship, says. “Although it’s only in its second year, it has already demonstrated the benefits of funding ideas for academic collaboration and innovation at our university. We hope to see more creative proposals year after year.”



Visit Andrews University’s YouTube channel to view inauguration, research presentations, Acrofest finale and more.  
[andrews.edu/go/youtube](https://andrews.edu/go/youtube)

Follow Andrews on your favorite social media platform

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### Don’t forget to write

#### Letters are always welcome.

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

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(L-R): Lori Imasiku and Lynelle Weldon pitch “Access to Math and Higher Education”

# LIFE ON CAMPUS



Sophomore nursing class dedication, Oct. 4



David Faehner Almost Anything Goes, Sept. 23



Cardinal Women's Soccer home game, Oct. 3



Veterans Day Recognition, Nov. 7



Professions Career Fair, Oct. 3



SciFest, Sept. 22



Pep Rally, Sept. 22



Clubs & Organizations Fair, Sept. 20

# Museum of Nature & Science

*Plans for revitalization with new name, leadership and goals*

THE ANDREWS UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF Nature & Science, formerly known as the Andrews University Museum of Natural History, has remained primarily unchanged in the 61 years since its inception in 1962. The museum began as a collection of donated specimens used for teaching in the biology department but expanded when space was set aside following the completion of the university's Science Complex in the early 1970s.

The museum has grown slowly over time. The majority of the museum's artifacts and collections have been donated by alumni or members of the community, including the museum's most famous piece, the "Prillwitz Mammoth," a Columbian Mammoth (*Mammuthus columbi*) discovered by a local farmer in Eau Claire, Michigan, in 1962.

One of the major recent changes in the museum was the addition of Roshelle Hall as adjunct assistant curator. Since taking the position in January 2022, Roshelle has been working alongside

**The museum seeks to enrich Andrews University's curriculum by serving as a resource for various courses such as biology, art, design and education.**

curator and professor of biology Daniel Gonzalez-Socoloske, PhD, to improve various aspects of the museum and community engagement.

Born and raised in Southern California, Hall's fascination from an early age with animals and the natural world led her to pursue undergraduate studies in biology with an emphasis in zoology at La Sierra University.

Hall came to Andrews University after her husband was hired as a faculty member, which prompted her to explore volunteer opportunities at the University's museum and Department

of Biology, reigniting her love for research, education and science. Having a passion for reptiles dating back to her years at La Sierra University, Hall joined the lab of Gonzalez-Socoloske to pursue a master's degree studying the endangered Eastern massasauga rattlesnake in Berrien County. After completing her master's in 2019, Hall continued to be involved in the department by volunteering in the museum.

Hall and Gonzalez-Socoloske began to reimagine the museum's potential. The team is currently working on a three-pronged strategy, including greater community participation and engagement, scientific collaboration and academic development.

They both agree that community engagement is a critical component of their museum development plan. "To connect with our community on a deeper level, we will be revamping displays, putting a much more concerted effort into labeling specimens and setting up thematic displays. We also want to be much more intentional about our outreach programs that are anchored in the museum's mission, which is environmental education," said Gonzalez-Socoloske.

The museum also intends to become a working museum that actively promotes scientific research. Hall emphasized the necessity of correctly categorizing

specimens and making them accessible via Internet databases, allowing scholars to obtain critical data without physically visiting the museum. This effort will improve collaboration among scientists around the world and help biodiversity research. "In discussions with other universities, they're excited to hear what we are planning to do with developing our online database of our unique specimens," Hall explained.

The museum seeks to enrich Andrews University's curriculum by serving as a resource for various courses such as biology, art, design and education. Both Hall and Gonzalez-Socoloske believe that museum specimens and the new displays can provide hands-on learning opportunities that bridge theory with practical experiences.

The museum is also committed to being more accessible and relevant to a broader community. Plans include rebranding and revitalizing displays to focus on local ecosystems, global species and current pressing environmental issues. The museum looks to actively participate in groundbreaking work and events through outreach activities to educate and engage people of all backgrounds.

To learn more about visiting, volunteering, contributing to research or making a donation to the Andrews University Museum of Nature & Science, please contact assistant curator Roshelle Hall by email at [hall@andrews.edu](mailto:hall@andrews.edu).

(L-R): Daniel Gonzalez-Socoloske, Roshelle Hall



Anna Galeniece,  
lead organizer of  
the conference

## “World Changers” Acrofest 2023

*Deemed a success by students and coaches*

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY WAS PRIVILEGED TO HOST ACROFEST 2023, an annual gymnastics showcase that brought more than 1,000 participants from a total of 30 teams representing Adventist high schools and colleges across North America to the campus from Nov. 9–11. Twenty-seven additional guest experts and clinicians assisted the team coaches in training for the skills needed in acrosports. Additional activities included swimming, an assortment of games and various worship programs.

Richie Silié, Gymnics head coach and assistant director of athletics, said one of the event’s greatest accomplishments was “successfully [emphasizing] the message that as disciples of Christ we are called to use whatever our given toolset, including gymnastics and other stunts, to be sharers of the Gospel and true world-changers in our respective communities. Our AU Gymnics did a phenomenal job in representing our institution in selfless hours of service and pleasant, positive demeanor throughout the event.”

Silié also credits Rachel Keele, manager of the Andraesen Center for Wellness, and Kevin Wooldridge, director of athletics, for their leadership and help, as well as countless volunteers from across campus who provided support throughout the event. Multiple coaches from visiting teams shared feedback:

- *Really enjoyed your theme, World Changers, and challenging us to get involved.*
- *The Gymnics really embodied a Christlike spirit. We had many kids on our team that mentioned that to me.*
- *I deeply thank you for emphasizing the spiritual aspect of our sport. Without that, SDA acrosport would just be another athletic sport.*

Acrofest concluded with a Sabbath evening worship and gymnastics performance for ticketed guests in the Andraesen Center. The performance was live streamed on YouTube and peaked at around 1,300 viewers. The stream has reached over 16,000 views and can be replayed via @weareAUSA on YouTube.

*Guest experts and clinicians assisted team coaches in teaching skills.*



## Wholistic Healing

*Inaugural conference emphasizes an all-embracing approach to human health*

FROM OCT. 12–14, 2023, THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST Theological Seminary at Andrews University hosted a conference titled “Wholistic Healing: Challenges and Opportunities for the Church.” The conference explored a comprehensive approach to healing based on biblical understanding, inspired revelation and contemporary science. Through formal presentations and panel discussions, participants addressed the fundamental health and healing issues faced by church members today.

“The term *wholistic* refers to an all-embracing approach that views every aspect of human health as an interconnected and interdependent total rather than groups of various isolated entities. In other words, *wholistic healing* is about looking at the trees without losing sight of the forest,” says Anna Galeniece, professor of chaplaincy and lead organizer of the conference. “It comprises physical, mental, emotional and spiritual aspects of wellness despite human brokenness.”

These considerations and conversations were made possible by a successful collaboration between various organizations, schools and departments. The conference featured involvement from institutions such as the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, Biblical Research Institute, White Estate, AdventHealth, Loma Linda University and Kettering Health. Renowned guest speakers addressed various themes related to wholistic healing, including mental, emotional, social and family health, as well as theology, worship and mission.

“Every presentation dealt with unique research material, exposing the audience to the multidimensional beauty of healthful living for broken people,” Galeniece says. “Both participants and attendees left the conference with deep satisfaction. They were enriched concerning the depth of information, equipped for practical daily life, and strongly motivated to start practicing a wholistic lifestyle at home, work, church and everywhere.”

Conference organizers plan to publish presentation recordings on the Seminary’s website and make the proceedings available in a printed format for future discussions. “Today, as never before, there is an urgent need to lead comprehensive discussions about wholistic healing for the broken people on all levels of our society,” states Galeniece. “These conferences enrich the in-person and virtual audiences with a provision of enormous opportunities for the church to live by wholistic healing principles and share them with others.”

## MDiv program offers new opportunities

*New concentration, additional dual degree and Spanish cohort*

THE SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST THEOLOGICAL Seminary at Andrews University is launching three new initiatives impacting the Master of Divinity program (MDiv). With a new concentration, another dual degree and a cohort offered entirely in Spanish, the Seminary is opening even more doors for training opportunities.

The MDiv Urban Ministry Concentration is devoted to helping students engage more fully in urban contexts. Pastoring in major cities can seem like a daunting task, but with this concentration, emerging pastors will be able

**“The new MDiv cohort will give Spanish-speaking pastors top-notch education and tools to take their ministry to a new level as well as a platform to move onto doctoral-level programs or chaplaincy endorsement.”**

administration and pastoral mission of the church intersect. It will also open doors to even more job opportunities for students to work not only as pastors, but as health care managers, administrators, chaplains and even in private and governmental health care settings.

Lastly, the MDiv is debuting a cohort taught entirely in Spanish. This program, which is a collaboration with the Florida Conference, is the first of its kind in the North American Division. It is an advanced degree for those who already have the Master of Arts in Pastoral Ministry and would like to get an MDiv.

“This historic move has a great potential to help pastors in the field to receive a superior education. This new visionary approach will be very useful to the pastors in their ministerial work,” notes Jiří Moskala, Seminary dean.

Fernando Ortiz, MDiv program director says, “The new MDiv cohort will give Spanish-speaking pastors top-notch education and tools to take their ministry to a new level as well as a platform to move onto doctoral-level programs or chaplaincy endorsement. Completing the MDiv is a dream come true for many.”

“The Florida Conference is excited to begin this partnership with the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary to heighten the education of our Hispanic pastors and bring their academic and biblical knowledge to the next level. We are happy to start this educational chapter in our conference,” shares Alan Machado, president of the Florida Conference.

The need for more well-trained pastors in the North American Division is great, so programs like these will help even more pastors get access to higher education. Andrews University looks forward to seeing how God will use these new programs to equip more leaders for ministry.



*The first MDiv cohort to study in Spanish is a collaboration with the Florida Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.*

to enter metropolitan areas with better tools and resources. Furthermore, when pastors graduate and begin working in the field, professionals will continue to support them, mentoring them in their first few years of ministry.

The Seminary is also rolling out a fourth dual degree program—the MDiv and Master of Health Administration. The other three degrees already

available to be paired with an MDiv are Master of Social Work, Master of Public Health and Master of Science in Community & International Development.

There has long been a need for an integration between health care administration and pastoral ministry, and this is the beginning of that bridge. With this dual degree, students will be able to serve in spaces where the healthcare





# Andrews fall 2023 rankings and enrollment report

*Strong national rankings and modest increase in enrollment*

This fall semester on its Berrien Springs campus, Andrews University celebrated a strong round of national rankings and a modest increase in student enrollment following recent nationwide enrollment challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## RANKINGS

IN THE 2024 U.S. NEWS BEST COLLEGES rankings, Andrews University was the only Adventist university listed among 439 national universities in the ranking of nearly 1,500 colleges and universities. This national university status reflects Andrews' full range of undergraduate majors as well as master's and doctoral degrees and a strong emphasis on research.

In this year's U.S. News rankings, Andrews University was again ranked the #1 most ethnically diverse national university, tying with the University of San Francisco. Andrews University was also tied for #7 among national universities for most international students, with more than 100 countries represented in the current student body.

"From its first days as Battle Creek College in 1874, to today's remarkable, ethnically diverse and international campus, Andrews University has been committed to learning about and changing the world, and to do that in the context of God's kingdom," says John Wesley Taylor V, president. "These excellent rankings continue to reflect Andrews University's unparalleled strength in meeting and excelling in this commitment, not just within the system of Adventist education but also in the context of U.S. higher education overall."

Andrews University also did well in Niche.com's 2024 Best Colleges in America rankings, including being ranked in the top 15 Christian universities nationwide, and Andrews was included in the Wall Street Journal/College Pulse list of "America's Best Colleges 2024."

## ENROLLMENT

ANDREWS UNIVERSITY'S FALL SEMESTER census of those enrolled on or through the main campus showed 2,972 students, a

2% increase in overall enrollment—1,427 undergraduate students and 1,545 graduate students. The freshman class of 272 FTIACs (First Time in Any College) was up 20% while the number of new undergraduate transfer students remained steady. New graduate student enrollment is up 8% over last year.

An additional 204 students are also registered and studying at international campus partners and programs this fall semester, which makes for an overall worldwide Andrews University 2023 fall semester enrollment of 3,176.

Additionally, Andrews University continues to enroll students throughout the year, including those who study through national and international student cohorts in graduate programs. An annual unduplicated headcount, which is released later in the year, best shows overall enrollment at Andrews during a 12-month period.

"Our fall semester enrollment statistics reflect the importance of a strong focus each year in encouraging our undergraduate and graduate students to continue their studies once they've begun, and also the growth in our student populations shows the overall work of our enrollment team and the entire campus community," says Christon Arthur, provost.

For more information on rankings and enrollment, visit [andrews.edu/agenda/64197](https://andrews.edu/agenda/64197).



**LEFT:** AULA hosted Noche Latina on Oct. 21.  
**BELOW TOP:** AFIA taught cultural dance at a cocurricular event.  
**BELOW BOTTOM:** Cusi Bawell, from the local Pokagon Band of Potawatomi, presented Native American crafts.



## Celebrating our diversity

*Three national heritage months were commemorated this fall*

THE OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY CULTURE & Inclusion recognized the diversity of its campus and community this fall by spearheading involvement in three national heritage months.

For the past 35 years, Americans have observed National Hispanic Heritage Month during the 30-day period of Sept. 15–Oct. 15. This year, Andrews University celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month under the theme: “Estamos Unidos.” This Spanish phrase means “we are united.” The theme was chosen to highlight the unity amid the diversity among Hispanics/Latinos and the campus at large.

The Andrews University Latino Association (AULA) organized multiple events in collaboration with Genesis Fellowship, the Center for Faith Engagement, and Impact (BSCF). Conociendo a Andrews University Preview Event was held for Spanish-speaking prospective students and families from Sept. 23–24. There were Tuesday cocurricular short courses options, Genesis Fellowship worship services, a Back-to-School Social, Night Market, joint AULA and Impact Vespers,

Hispanic Heritage Month Spirit Week (Oct. 16–20) and Noche Latina.

Just over three decades ago in 1992, the Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHS) first introduced October as Filipino American History Month with a formal resolution from the FANHS National Board of Trustees. The U.S. Congress later formally recognized October as Filipino American History Month in 2009.

The Andrews Filipino International Association (AFIA) chose “Tuloy Po Kayo” as their theme for the this year’s annual commemoration. This phrase in Tagalog is used to invite someone into your home. Its translation is “Please come in!” Danielle Pilgrim, interim chief diversity officer, stated, “I believe that this theme powerfully emphasizes and reinforces

**“One of the most significant characteristics of Andrews University is its ethnic diversity ...”**

our University’s value of being an inclusive and welcoming community.”

AFIA leadership planned multiple events including AFIA Sabbath at the local Michiana Fil-Am Adventist Church, a Kinetic worship, the popular AFIA Aunties’ potluck, a pickleball tournament and a Tuesday cocurricular opportunity.

National Native American Heritage Month was commemorated at two events during the month of November. A special co-curricular program was held on Tuesday, Nov. 14, with a presentation by Cusi Bawell, Culture and Sustainability Lead from the local Pokagon Band of Potawatomi. On Tuesday, Nov. 28, a dinner, documentary screening and conversation took place featuring the film “A Song for Everything.” This new documentary explores the resilience of the Pokagon Band’s culture, identity and hope through historic challenges and the pressures of modern-day life.

Pilgrim shares, “One of the most significant characteristics of Andrews University is its ethnic diversity, and our celebration of cultural months helps us to have an enriched human experience through interacting, understanding, respecting and appreciating the rich cultures that influence our identities and lived experiences.”

## Rich variety of research at Andrews

*Multiple events highlight its importance*

RESEARCH IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF learning at Andrews University. The following events which took place during the fall semester highlight its importance on campus.

Craig van Rooyen presented “Shame Healing: Poetry and Incarnation” on Oct. 12 for the annual **John O. Waller Lectureship on the Arts**. Van Rooyen graduated from Andrews University with a BA in journalism in 1990, then worked as a newspaper reporter before attending law school. He graduated from UCLA School of Law in 1996 and worked as a prosecutor and civil litigator before being appointed to the bench by Governor Jerry Brown in 2016—the same year he graduated with an MFA in poetry from Pacific University. His poems have appeared in multiple publications. He is a past winner of the Rattle Poetry Prize and the Neil Postman Award and is currently presiding judge of the Superior Court of California, San Luis Obispo County.

Dewey Murdick, PhD, was the plenary speaker for the fourth annual **Robert & Lillis Kingman Lecture Series on Science and Society** on Oct. 18. In his presentation titled “Understanding Tomorrow Today: Artificial Intelligence’s Impact on Society,” Murdick explored the implications of cutting-edge AI, delved into the global challenges it presents, and also shed light on ongoing technology-policy debates. Murdick, the executive director of the Center for Security and Emerging Technology at Georgetown University, is at the forefront of conversations on AI and its influence on society. He holds a doctorate in engineering physics from the University of Virginia and a BS in physics from Andrews University.

The fourth annual **Celebration of Community Engagement** took place on Thursday, Oct. 19. The Celebration of Community Engagement showcased the direct impact of community engagement programs to help address community needs. Daniel Xisto of Tacoma Park Seventh-day Adventist Church gave the keynote speech and President John Wesley Taylor V provided a mission spotlight.

Several departments used short videos or oral presentations to showcase their community engagement efforts. Each presentation highlighted the needs, the intervention, and demonstrable outcomes while emphasizing the partnerships with community stakeholders.

A \$1,000 scholarship was awarded to Takudzwa Mugwisi, an undergraduate business administration student, in recognition of her community engagement efforts with the Virtual Artisan Market (VAM). VAM is a groundbreaking initiative born from the collaborative efforts of Saving Orphans Through Healthcare and Outreach (SOHO) and dedicated student groups. Initiated to foster sustainable enterprise, VAM serves as a global platform for marginalized artisans, including survivors of abuse and human trafficking, to showcase their crafts.

The **Celebration of Research & Creative Scholarship** occurred on Friday, Oct. 20. The two plenary presentations were given by the 2022–23 recipients of the Siegfried H. Horn Excellence in Research & Creative Scholarship award winners. Daniel Gonzalez, PhD, professor of biology, Fulbright Fellow, and National Geographic

Explorer, spoke on “Ghosts in the darkness: A National Geographic Explorer’s quest to study the elusive Amazonian Manatee.” Oliver Glanz, PhD, professor of Old Testament, spoke on “The Revelation of Deviation: How a Theology of Patterns can frame faith in concrete ways.” The plenary session was followed by 35 posters and six contributed oral presentations highlighting faculty and student research across the University.

The theme for this year’s **Andrews Autumn Conference on Religion and Science** held Oct. 27–28 was “Neither Fools nor Heretics: Celebrating 10 years of friendship between a young earth creationist and an evolutionary creationist.” Todd Wood, Darrel Falk, Rob Barrett, Martin Hanna and Gary Burdick gave presentations affirming our biblical understanding while acknowledging the contributions of science. The presenters reflected on the challenges, outcomes and lessons learned together over the years.

This is just a sampling of the research activities that the Office of Research & Creative Scholarship helps to organize each year. Gary Burdick, dean of research, notes, “The rich variety of research events held on campus provide great opportunities for our students to meet world-class scholars and actively participate in the research presentation process.”



*Oliver Glanz was a keynote speaker at the Celebration of Research.*

**CALENDAR**

**Todd Galberth**

Todd is an American gospel singer and worship leader. Presented by Thompson Productions in association with Hallelujah Praise Promotion.

*Sunday, Jan. 14, 6 p.m.*

**Howard Center Presents ... Canadian Brass**

Canadian Brass have transformed a previously neglected group of instruments with a limited repertoire into a versatile and vital ensemble that can play everything from Gabrieli to Gershwin!

*Sunday, Jan. 28, 7 p.m.*

**Symphony Orchestra Young Artists Concert**

Showcasing the student winners of the Young Artist competition.

*Saturday, Feb. 3, 8 p.m.*

**Howard Center Presents ... Steve Green**

Steve Green is celebrating 38 years in the Christian music industry. He has communicated the gospel in almost 50 countries around the world.

*Sunday, Feb. 4, 7 p.m.*



*For tickets, information and a complete listing of performances, call the box office or visit the web.*

**888-467-6442**  
**howard.andrews.edu**

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**Clockwise, from top left column:** Kodachrome Quartet, gold medal winner of the 2023 Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition—Senior Wind Division, Sept. 17 ■ Heritage Singers, Oct. 14 ■ Sunday Music Series: Jason Gresl & Friends, “A Day and a Life,” Oct. 15 ■ Piano soloist Benjamin Loenser, one of the winners of the 2023 Young Artists Competition, performs “Rhapsody in Blue” by George Gershwin, during the Symphony Orchestra Fall Concert, Oct. 21 ■ Wind Symphony Fall Concert, “An American Tribute,” Oct. 28 ■ Take 6, Oct. 29 ■ Andrews University Choirs Fall Concert, “Songs of Hope, Songs of Praise,” Nov. 4 ■ Wind Symphony “On Holiday” Concert, Dec. 2

# New professors join SAID

*Three individuals bring expertise and professional experience*

THE ANDREWS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF Architecture & Interior Design (SAID) has hired three new professors who possess extensive professional experience in a range of disciplines. All were licensed practicing architects in their countries of origin and will augment the SAID's already impressive faculty. Additionally, one team member is moving from part-time adjunct faculty to full-time adjunct faculty and another has increased her role with the program by moving from adjunct-contract to part-time status.

Collectively, these moves enrich and diversify the expertise available to current and future SAID students, along with new programming within the school's Urban Design Studio.

The three new professors are Enrique Bernal Ponce (associate professor), Jussara Shultz Bauerman (professor) and Stella Diane Abijuru (associate professor of practice). Enrique has more than two decades of experience in architecture and education. He founded and served as director of the architecture program at the University of Montemorelos, Mexico. Enrique also co-founded an architectural consulting firm,

**“We are pleased to have new opportunities for students to gain practical experience and further our mission service in honor of God.”**

is a sought-after presenter with an impressive array of publications and is well-versed in teaching a range of vital subjects, including basic digital modeling, contemporary trends, residential design and more.

Jussara brings 30 years of diversified workplace and teaching experience to her new role as professor. She recently served as director of the Architecture and Urbanism program at Centro Universitario Adventista de Sao Paulo, Brazil. Additionally, her background includes extensive work designing Adventist churches and schools.

Stella is a licensed practicing architect in Rwanda, joining the SAID after working for the highly acclaimed international architecture firm, MASS Design. She is also an SAID graduate, having earned her Master of Architecture from Andrews in 2020.

In addition, two current faculty have taken on additional responsibilities for the 2023–24 school year. Tom Hurst, who began serving as part-time adjunct faculty in 2022–23, is moving to full-time adjunct faculty, effective this fall. Tom has 35 years of experience as a millwright and will teach Woodworking I and II and will also lead the woodworking studio.

Jessica Perry is moving from adjunct-contract to part-time status. She has nearly two decades of experience as a licensed interior designer and is heading up the SAID initiative to expand the interior design program.

“I’m delighted that the School of Architecture & Interior Design was able to invest this year in further enriching our students’ education by bringing in acclaimed new faculty and elevating the role of two additional key instructors,” said Lionel Johnson, chair of the School of Architecture & Interior Design. “We also are pleased to have new opportunities for students to gain practical experience and further our mission service in honor of God.”

Andrews University’s architecture program was the first and remains the only bachelor’s and master’s degree-granting program in Adventist higher education, as well as the only Adventist English-language program of its kind. The program is also one of only a few faith-based universities in the nation to hold National Architecture Accrediting Board (NAAB) accreditation. It has been ranked in the top 25 percent of architecture programs nationwide and also has been ranked at #18 for architecture programs in private, non-profit universities.

The School of Architecture & Interior Design remains deeply committed to its mission to promote stewardship, rigorous scholarship and creative problem-solving, all for the glory of God.



Enrique Bernal Ponce



Jussara Shultz Bauerman



Stella Diane Abijuru

## David Penno retires from the Seminary

*After 13 years of teaching in the Doctor of Ministry program*



AT AN EARLY AGE, DAVID PENNO learned that his spiritual gifts centered on teaching, learning and ministry. After marriage in 1976, he earned his bachelor's degree in theology with a minor in biblical languages from Southern Adventist University in 1980 and later went on to receive his master's degree in religion with an emphasis in homiletics and church growth from Southern in 2000.

These skills drew him to a career in pastoral ministry, and he served for 13 years in the Iowa-Missouri Conference. In 1993, he moved to the Georgia-Cumberland Conference, where he worked as a local pastor and later as an evangelism coordinator. A few years later, he decided to pursue his doctorate, and in 2009, he obtained a doctorate in leadership from Andrews University.

Throughout his graduate and pastoral work, David held on to a dream to teach at the university level. Following this passion, he accepted several invitations to return to Andrews as a guest lecturer at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. "God has gifted each believer and has a specific ministry for them to perform," he affirms. "My ministry as a pastor and as a professor has been guided by this. My role is to help believers discover their spiritual gifts and engage in active ministry based on those gifts."

David's dedication to ministry and teaching made an impact on the campus, and he was invited to join the Andrews University faculty as a project coach for the Doctor of Ministry program in 2010. While working in this role, he developed

**"I love engaging with students who really want to grow and transform as ministry professionals."**

and adjusted the program to help the students achieve higher levels of effective ministry. In addition to teaching research and dissertation seminar classes, he was also involved in two book projects on research in the area of practical theology.

"I broadened my ability to function effectively in various cultural contexts," he reflects. "This academic world has taught me to receive and give honest feedback on ideas and to engage effectively in critical thinking."

Throughout his over 13 years of service to the Seminary, David deeply enjoyed the camaraderie he fostered with fellow faculty members and doctoral students. "I love engaging with students who really want to grow and transform as ministry professionals. And my friendships with colleagues are very precious to me," he says. "Also, the cultural diversity has been great. I love the mixture of ideas and lifestyles."

After his retirement, David plans to stay in the area for a few years before moving to Georgia. He has been married to Nancy Morhaus, a registered dental hygienist, for 47 years, and has two adult sons, Matthew and Eric. They enjoy spending time at the beach, reading and visiting historical sites. He looks forward to having more time to spend on research and writing as well as traveling and spending time with his grandchildren. He expresses, "God has blessed me in my time at Andrews University and has grown me to be a better disciple and student leader."



# The Road Less Traveled:

The Inauguration of John Wesley Taylor V



**O**n a sunny Tuesday morning, Oct. 24, 2023, the campus flag mall was filled with scores of fluttering flags representing the home countries of Andrews University students. Just beyond the flag mall, Andrews University students, faculty, staff, administrators and employees, as well as special guests, gathered in Pioneer Memorial Church for the Ceremony of Inauguration for Andrews University’s seventh president, **John Wesley Taylor V.**

**ABOVE, CLOCKWISE:** *John Wesley Taylor V*  
 ■ *Dwight K. Nelson provided the inaugural address.* ■ *Board member Edwin Hernández congratulates President Taylor.*

**FACING PAGE, TOP TO BOTTOM:**  
*The Taylors greet guests at the inaugural luncheon* ■ *An American beech tree was planted in the president’s honor.*

Taylor first began serving as president of Andrews University on July 1, 2023, following the retirement of Andrea Luxton, sixth president of Andrews University.

The Ceremony of Inauguration offered the Andrews University community, both on its Berrien Springs campus and around the world, the opportunity to formally recognize President Taylor in his new role.

Participants in the inauguration ceremony included Artur Stele, chair of the Andrews University Board of Trustees; Christon Arthur, provost; José Bourget, assistant vice president for Faith Engagement; Shane Anderson, lead pastor of Pioneer Memorial Church; and Michael Horton, ministerial director for the Lake Region Conference.

Andrews University Singers, under the direction of Stephen Zork, performed “O Be Joyful” as the anthem for the ceremony.

The ceremony also featured greetings to the new president—by video, letter and in person. Those greetings included several from Adventist Church representatives, including Ted N.C. Wilson, president of the General Conference of

“This is what the Lord says: ‘Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.’ But you said, ‘We will not walk in it.’”

Seventh-day Adventists; G. Alexander Bryant, president of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists; and Ken Denslow, president of the Lake Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists.

Higher education representatives offering welcome messages included Ginger Ketting-Weller, president of the Adventist International Institute of Advanced Studies in the Philippines; Robert P. Bartlett, president of Michigan Colleges Alliance, and Robert LeFevre, president of Michigan Independent Colleges & Universities.



On-campus groups were represented by Raelene Brower, director of Alumni Services; Jennifer Burrill, chair of the Staff Senate; Kenley Hall, Faculty Senate chair; Loren Manrique, Andrews University Student Association president; and Christopher Findley, president of the Andrews University Graduate Student Association.

Christon Arthur, provost, and Alayne Thorpe, associate provost for graduate education, shared greetings from additional academic partners and distance students around the world. Arthur also shared a written greeting from Niels-Erik Andreasen, president emeritus of Andrews University.

Dwight K. Nelson, who served for 40 years as lead pastor of Pioneer Memorial Church on the campus of Andrews University, was the speaker for the Ceremony of Inauguration. Both he and President Taylor earned doctoral degrees from Andrews University in 1986—a Doctor of Ministry and a PhD in curriculum and instruction, respectively.



The title of Nelson's address, "The Road Less Traveled," was inspired by Robert Frost's poem, "The Road Not Taken." Nelson also shared the juxtaposition of Jeremiah 6:18, with its admonition: "This is what the Lord says: 'Stand at the crossroads and look; ask for the ancient paths, ask where the good way is, and walk in it, and you will find rest for your souls.' But you said, 'We will not walk in it.'"

Nelson noted that he shared this poem because Dr. Taylor is the one who is at the crossroads and, as Andrews University's leader, is the one who will need to decide which of the two roads Andrews University will travel.

Spiritual leadership is not a delegated task, noted Nelson. Nobody is sufficient for spiritual leadership on his/her own; instead, the secret to the calling of spiritual leadership is found in Jeremiah 6:18. In our search for the ancient paths we are reminded that if we search and call upon God he will lead us. "Today," said Nelson, "God is calling: 'Come to me, come to me, John Wesley Taylor V, for I am the spiritual leaders' leader.'"

He emphasized that Taylor's road ahead as the new president of Andrews University is a narrow road. He encouraged Taylor, and Andrews University, to connect daily with Jesus, the One who knows well the road ahead.

Following Nelson's address, Andrea Luxton, president emerita, returned the official presidential mace to Steele. The installation of and charge to President Taylor was given by Steele, who then handed over the mace to symbolically recognize and honor his new role.

In his response, President Taylor said he was humbled by the day's ceremony and was especially grateful that the events of the morning were simply another part of the ongoing story and mission of the University, an institution established and blessed by God.

**Taylor also noted that "each of us (at Andrews University) has received that invitation to walk with God the road less traveled."**

Taylor also noted that "each of us (at Andrews University) has received that invitation to walk with God the road less traveled." He continued by noting that he felt privileged to be part of an institution committed to the meaning and purpose of God's kingdom for nearly 150 years. He suggested that "it is essential for us to look back and see how God's divine leadership and vision guided the first days of this school and the early days of our Adventist Church, and how God continues to guide and inspire our lives and this school we love."

"I'm excited as we continue to seek to fulfill God's purpose, and to do that with creativity, intelligence and commitment," said Taylor.

As he closed his remarks, Taylor noted that our ongoing "core commitment is reflected in our Mission Statement. In this context, I believe that we will continue to find meaning, success and world changing impact as we Seek Knowledge from God, as we Affirm Faith in God, and as we Change the World for God."

Following the inauguration ceremony, special guests were invited to an inaugural luncheon in the Campus Center. Loren Hamel, member of the Board of Trustees, welcomed the attendees, and Ken Denslow, vice chair of the Board of Trustees, offered the prayer of blessing.

After the luncheon, President Taylor, accompanied by his wife Miriam, moved to the lawn in front of Buller Hall for the presidential tree planting ceremony. To honor the newly-inaugurated president, the Arboretum Council selected an American Beech.

The tree planting was arranged and hosted by the Arboretum Council. Kathleen Demsky, council member, and Noe Velez, manager of Arboretum and Grounds, welcomed attendees and described the Andrews University Arboretum and the history of the commemorative presidential tree planting. Stan Beikmann, Arboretum Council chair, shared "Trees—God's Gift to Mankind," which considered trees in the Bible as well as the many ways they benefit humanity.

More details about the Oct. 24 Andrews University Ceremony of Inauguration and a video of the event can be found at [andrews.edu/president/inauguration](http://andrews.edu/president/inauguration). ■

# The Quiet Hand of God

ALUMNI HOMECOMING | Sept. 28–Oct. 1, 2023



From top, left to right: Wes Christiansen Memorial Golf Outing ■ Spirit of Philanthropy & Homecoming Banquet ■ AdventHealth sponsors at golf outing ■ Meredith Jones Gray presents Homecoming artwork commissioned for President Emerita Andrea Luxton ■ Honored class members recognized at banquet ■ Campus Bus Tour ■ Homecoming Parade





**From top, left to right:** International students march in the Annual Homecoming Parade ■ Women's Scholarship Brunch ■ Pathfinders perform in parade ■ Classic Car Show ■ University Wind Symphony performs for the International Flag Raising Ceremony ■ President Taylor and his wife Miriam with an international student family ■ Presidential Portrait Unveiling, Daniel Weber, photographer and Andrea Luxton, president emerita ■ Tambunan Luncheon



**From top, left to right:** *Worship service at Pioneer Memorial Church ■ Rachel Keele speaks at One Place Fellowship ■ Pierre Quinn, guest speaker at Proximity Vespers ■ Chanda Nunes, guest speaker at New Life Fellowship ■ Deliverance Choir, New Life Fellowship ■ Harvest Picnic ■ Harvest Wagon Tours ■ Agriculture Education Center Open House ■ Brian Strayer, Michiana Adventist Forum speaker*





From top, left to right: Alumni Homecoming Gala  
■ Alumni vs Students Basketball Game ■ Annual Aviation Fly-In ■ Bradley Family Harvest Run 5K/10K and 1-Mile Walk ■ Made@Andrews Store Launch



# 2023 Honored Alumni

The Andrews University Alumni Association Medallion is presented to honored alumni who have been nominated by fellow alumni and approved by the Alumni Board of Directors to be recipients of this award. Honored alumni are selected on the basis of outstanding service to the University, exceptional achievement in a profession or occupation, and contributions to the community or church. *Congratulations to this year's recipients.*

## Daryl Gungadoo

(BSET '95)

DARYL GUNGADOO WAS BORN ON THE Island of Mauritius to a second generation missionary family. Beginning at age 3, he followed his parents on their missionary journeys to Rodrigues, Madagascar and equatorial Africa.

They moved to Berrien Springs in 1988 and Daryl graduated from Andrews Academy in 1990, completed a BS in Engineering Technology in 1995 at Andrews University, and then began a master's program in software engineering.

During the 1993–1994 school year, Daryl went as a student missionary to Guam, serving as an engineer with Adventist World Radio (AWR).



Subsequently, he earned a master's degree in audio engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1996. Daryl recently completed a PhD in computational cognitive neuroscience from Stanford University in 2022.

From 1996–2001, Daryl worked for AWR Europe, then transitioned to global R&D engineer for AWR from 2002–2017. Since 2018, he has been director of Adventist Review Media Lab.

He is especially passionate about nurturing innovation with a Christian ethos among the youth, and his goal is to float an incubator for innovation that is open to budding Adventist inventors.

Daryl has worked with the One Laptop Per Child (OLPC) project with MIT Media Labs. He has also been a pioneer in podcasting, 360 VR and Radio 2.0.

Daryl and his wife, Johannie, have two children: Noah and Anoushka. He enjoys trail running, photography, UAV videography, scuba diving, hiking, cultural anthropology, paragliding and ham radio.

## Dwight K. Nelson

(MDiv '76, DMin '86)

DWIGHT NELSON WAS BORN TO MISSIONARY parents in Tokyo, Japan. He is a fifth-generation Adventist and fourth-generation preacher, serving for 50 years as a pastor in the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Forty of those years, from 1983–2023, were spent in one location, Pioneer Memorial Church on the campus of Andrews University.

Dwight graduated from Far Eastern Academy in Singapore in 1969 and received a BA in religion/theology in 1973 from Southern Missionary College. He earned two graduate degrees at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, a Master of Divinity in 1976 and Doctor of Ministry in 1986. Before coming to Michigan, Dwight served as a pastor in Oregon for ten years.

As early as 1988, Pioneer Memorial Church began using television as an outreach tool. From a 30-minute studio program at a local TV station in South Bend, Indiana, to a national Christmas Eve telecast, to Net '98, and then the New Perceptions weekly telecast from Pioneer Memorial Church, a full-blown television ministry was established. Dwight was the speaker for Net 98 "The NeXt Millennium Seminar," a live simultaneous satellite evangelistic event for the Adventist world church. It took place over five weeks and was broadcast to 100 nations in 40 languages from Pioneer Memorial Church.



A prolific author, Dwight has written a dozen books, including "A New Way to Pray," "Outrageous Grace," and many more. He has also served as an adjunct teacher of homiletics at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary since 1987 and led dozens of evangelistic crusades around the globe.

Dwight is married to Karen (Oswald). They have two married children, Kirk and Kristin, and three granddaughters.

## James (Jim) Nix

(MDiv '72)

THE ENTIRE CAREER OF JIM NIX HAS been devoted to preserving and sharing the heritage of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, including the writings of Ellen White. He earned a BA in history and theology from La Sierra University, a Master of Divinity at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, and a Master of Science in Library Science from University of Southern California.

Jim began as an archivist for the Loma Linda University Archives and Special Collections in the 1970s and then became director of the Ellen G. White Estate Office at Loma Linda. In 1993 he moved to the Ellen G. White Estate at the General Conference, where he served as the director for 20 years, retiring in 2020.

Jim assisted with the opening of 11 Ellen White Research Centers around



the world and worked toward making White's books and previously unpublished letters and manuscripts freely accessible on the White Estate's website.

He visited more than 100 countries, participating in seminars, committees, camp meetings and symposiums, and led thousands of individuals on Adventist heritage tours throughout the north-eastern United States, Michigan and California.

Jim is currently researching and writing a book about White's return from Australia to America in 1900. He served as the managing editor of "Adventist Heritage Magazine," founding editor of two other publications, and authored numerous articles and several books.

In 2020 Jim was honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his nearly 50 years of service in fostering a wider interest and understanding of Adventist history.

Jim and his wife Mindi currently live in Washington state. They have one daughter, Shannon Buchanan, and a grandson, Tiernan.

## Susan Zork

(MA '01)

SUSAN ZORK ATTENDED ATLANTIC UNION COLLEGE, WHERE SHE graduated in 1986 with a BS in elementary education. She completed a Master of Arts in religious education at Andrews University in 2001 and is currently in the dissertation stage for a PhD in religious education at the Seminary.

Her career began in 1977 as head dean of Maplewood Academy in Minnesota, then on to other dean positions at Auburn



Adventist Academy and Shenandoah Valley Academy, before becoming an office manager and assistant registrar at Walla Walla College in 1989. She joined Andrews University in 1991 and went on to hold multiple positions, culminating in assistant professor of religion.

She taught general education theology courses to

hundreds of undergrads as well as spirituality within healthcare professions. She was awarded the Daniel A. Augsburg Excellence in Teaching Award and "AUSA Teacher of the Year" on two separate occasions.

Susan has been a volunteer teaching pastor at One Place Fellowship on the campus of Andrews University since 2011. She has an active speaking circuit at churches, academic and civic events, grief management programs, etc. around the country. She continues as a singing member, pastor and "Mama" of the University Singers, under the direction of her husband Stephen Zork.

Susan is also a published composer and recording artist. She maintains that her greatest claim to fame and sweetest blessing are her four grown children and six grandchildren.

Susan retired as assistant professor emerita of religion in 2021, but that retirement was short-lived as she is now serving as assistant chaplain for pastoral care at the Center for Faith Engagement.

The "Up-and-Coming Alumni Award" is presented to alumni aged 40 and under who are "Changing the World" through notable achievements in a profession or occupation, impactful contributions to the community or church, and/or outstanding service to the University. Nominations are submitted by fellow alumni or Andrews faculty/staff and approved by the Alumni Association Board of Directors. *Congratulations to this year's inaugural recipient!*

## Simone Weithers

(BFA '16)

SIMONE WEITHERS MOVED WITH HER FAMILY TO Berrien Springs, Michigan, in 2004. While studying at Andrews University she delved into art history, design, Spanish studies and performing arts. Her sophomore year was spent studying Spanish and living in Argentina, followed by a month traveling and studying Spanish history in the Mediterranean.

Simone co-founded the Andrews University Theatre Wing, where she produced, directed and starred in five plays and musicals; founded The Nest, a monthly open mic

night for budding artists; and served on the Andrews University Student Association as a public relations officer.

Simone completed a Bachelor of Fine Arts in visual communication in 2016. Upon graduation she was hired by a boutique luxury real estate firm on the North Carolina coast.

In 2018, Simone moved to Holland, Michigan, to become the marketing director for

Tulip Time Festival. She was the first person of color hired on staff in Tulip Time's 90 years. She also served on the board of Downtown Holland's Principal Shopping District and, as the youngest board member and one of two members of color, re-established the DEI subcommittee.

In 2021, Simone was awarded the Holland/Zeeland Young Professional Leadership Award for Equity Matters, and in 2022 she was named one of Grand Rapids Business Journal's 40 under 40 emerging business leaders who are making a difference in West Michigan.

Currently, Simone serves on the boards of nonprofits I AM Academy and Holland/Zeeland Young Professionals (HYP), for which she has also hosted a podcast.

She now works as the Creative Director at Burch Partners in Holland, Michigan.



# 2023 Honored Classes



## Class of 1953

(L-R): Dora Hewitt-Oyerly, Joseph Battenburg



## Class of 1963

**FRONT ROW (L-R):** James J. North Jr., Cecil Lemon, Calvin Huset, Ruth Nutter Satelmajer, Kirsten Anderson Roggenkamp, Charlotte Moon, Jeanette Stepanske, Carolyn Janes Grahn

**MIDDLE ROW (L-R):** Herb Domke, Don Learned, Bruce Stepanske, Donald Barko, Ron Graham, David Cromwell, Ed Nicholl, Ruth Moldrik, Barbara Myers

**BACK ROW (L-R):** Leroy Patterson, Ray Roberts, Clyde Roggenkamp, Norman Moll, Watson Chin, Floyd Murdock, Emil Moldrik



## Class of 1973

**FRONT ROW (L-R):** L. Arlene Bailey, Bruce N. Cameron, Lahna Farver, Arlene Saliba, Darlene Barnhurst, Dawn Wright Stilphen

**BACK ROW (L-R):** Hayward Penny, Jennifer Gibbs, Mark Regazzi, Stewart Collins, Kathy Friedrich Sabo, Peter Haynal, Esther de Gannes Jarrette, Miriam Brethwaite



## Class of 1983

**FRONT ROW (L-R):** Karen Koliadko Nash, Lillian (Sandie) Jardine, Annette (Trubey) Moon, Daniel Thompson, Jane Hartman Sherwin, Larry J. Walker, Steven J. Dovich

**SECOND ROW (L-R):** Steve Nash, Dan Jardine, Duane Habenicht, Margie Andrus Cholin, Bill Briggs, Robert Wood



# The Quiet Hand of God



## Class of 1993

**FRONT ROW (L-R):**  
Annabelle Lopez, Xiaoming Xu, John Schnepf, Joshua Baltazar, Morris Mattson, Lynnetta (Siagian) Hamstra, JoAnn Siagian, Belle Tan

**BACK ROW (L-R):**  
Russell Chin, Juanita (Moses) Campbell, Rudolph Bailey, Jason Goliath, Bryan Emde, Paul Smith, Scott Schalk, Brenda Schalk



## Class of 1998

**FRONT ROW (L-R):** Judy Mackie, Anna Galeniece, Eriks Galenieks, Charles Le Blanc

**BACK ROW (L-R):** Janelle (Burghart) Randall, Rhonda Tomenko, Bill Fagal, Alain Coralie, Staci Fagal, Kimberly Coleman-Ferreira



## Class of 2003

**FRONT ROW (L-R):**  
Daniel Gonzalez, Michele Krpalek Talbott, Carlene Roper, Ruth Nino, Ariel McLeggon

**MIDDLE ROW (L-R):**  
Chad Steinke, Zayda (Vasquez) Steinke, Adrienne James, Kristen (Eide-Altman) Jones, Teddy Jones, Jamison Bennett

**BACK ROW (L-R):** Matthew Meyer, Maxwell "Paul" Blakeney



## Class of 2018

**(L-R):** Laura Carroll, Priscilla Obeng-Akrofi, Daniel Djan Saparning



## Class of 2023

**(L-R):** Linda Baker-Bynum, Matthew Baltazar, Willis Byas, Curtis Johnson, Esther Guerrero, Edna Martinez, Anna Lonto, Donna Hales-Teat

## Upcoming Events

### JANUARY

- 25 **Atlanta, Georgia**—6 p.m.  
*DoubleTree—Hilton Atlanta-Marietta*  
2055 S Park Pl NW
- 28 **Orlando, Florida**—10:30 a.m.  
*Highland Manor Crystal Ballroom*  
604 E Main St, Apopka, FL

### FEBRUARY

- 6 **Asheville, North Carolina**—6 p.m.  
*Hilton Garden Inn Downtown*  
309 College St

- 11 **Chattanooga, Tennessee**—10 a.m.  
*Embassy Suites by Hilton*  
*Hamilton Place*  
2321 Lifestyle Way
- 12 **Huntsville, Alabama**—6 p.m.  
*SpringHill Suites by Marriott—*  
*Huntsville Downtown*  
745 Constellation Place Dr

### MARCH/APRIL

- Dallas, Texas
- Denver, Colorado
- Walla Walla, Washington
- Portland, Oregon
- Loma Linda/Riverside, California
- Palm Springs, California
- Napa, California
- Roseville, California

Please visit [alumni.andrews.edu/rsvp](https://alumni.andrews.edu/rsvp) to register and get up-to-date information on these events. If you've moved recently, please contact our office with your new address so you can receive regional event invites for locations near you.

**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.*

## Regional Event

### Rockville, Maryland

*Sunday, Oct. 29, 2023*

We spent a few great hours with our Maryland alumni and friends on Sunday, Oct. 29. What a delight that President John Wesley Taylor V and his wife Miriam could join us! We enjoyed food, fellowship and a presentation by the president on his vision for the future of Andrews. From our perspective, a few of our favorite things were seeing alums reconnecting, multiple generations represented (from toddlers to octogenarians), and meeting some new friends. Thank you to those who took the time to join us. For those who missed us, let's plan to reconnect next fall.



# HOMECOMING 2024

*Mark Your Calendars Now*  
**September 26–29, 2024**

*Honor Classes—***1954, 1964, 1974, 1984,**  
**1994, 1999, 2004, 2014, 2019, 2024**

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

# Andrews University to Celebrate 150 Years of Service to the Church and World

# 150



2024 MARKS 150 YEARS SINCE ANDREWS UNIVERSITY was chartered as the first institution of higher learning of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. 2024 is also the 150-year anniversary of the first missionary endeavor of the denomination, when John Nevins Andrews, the namesake of our University, and his two children sailed to Switzerland to promote the Adventist message.

As we prepare to honor these important milestones with the theme, “Founded in Faith. Forward in Mission,” we invite you to celebrate with us in the year ahead! Look for more information about the events being planned beginning in January and continuing through the 2024–2025 school year.

One of the highlights of the year will take place during Alumni Homecoming Weekend, Sept. 26–29, 2024. The sesquicentennial will be highlighted in a number of ways during homecoming, including the release of Meredith Jones Gray’s second history volume of Andrews

University, titled “Forward in Faith.” Her first volume, “As We Set Forth,” was published in 2002.

To hear more of the Adventist story as told by J.N. Andrews on that important first missionary voyage to Europe, we invite you to keep an eye out for Hope Channel’s film, “The Hopeful.” It exemplified our commitment to move “Forward in Mission.” Learn more on the film’s website ([thehopefulmovie.com/](http://thehopefulmovie.com/)).

Andrews University began in 1874 as Battle Creek College in Battle Creek, Michigan. In 1901 the school moved to Berrien Springs, Michigan, under the new name, Emmanuel Missionary College. In 1960, the school added graduate programs and welcomed the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary, taking the name of Andrews University. Much has changed over the past 150 years, but our commitment to **Seek Knowledge, Affirm Faith** and **Change the World** has remained steadfast.



## Andrews University Giving Day

In 2024, we celebrate an incredible 150 years of Andrews University. We are thrilled to commemorate this milestone with the Andrews University Giving Day, happening in April!

You’ll have the chance to support individual departments, each with a clear plan on how your contribution encourages students’ success.

“I’m excited about Giving Day next year,” said Kato Golooba-Mutebi, a sophomore finance major. “Education is the greatest gift one could give, and our donors have done so for the last 150 years. I’m incredibly grateful to each one of them. Every single dollar counts.”

Let’s unite to make an impact on students and shape the future of Andrews University—one department at a time.

Mark your calendars, look out for details, and get ready to help Andrews continue its amazing 150-year legacy.

# AU European Tour 2024

Join us for an inaugural AU Tour in late fall 2024 to Europe, including the Christmas Markets!

AU Tours will be utilizing the rich history of international travel and expertise of current and former faculty and staff. These valued Andrews University family members will host you as you explore some of the best European destinations. We will provide personal enrichment and help you stay connected with friends and colleagues from Andrews' global community.

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- Nutcracker at the National Theater
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#### Prague

- Tour of Prague Castle
- River Cruise/Lunch
- Christmas Market
- Michelangelo Grand Hotel Prague

#### Vienna

- Schoenbrunn Palace Tour
- Christmas Market
- Wachau Valley and Melk Abby or Hallstatt
- Concert or Opera

#### Salzburg

- Christmas Market
- Concert at fortress Hohensalzburg
- Sound of Music Tour



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## Dr. Frank Damazo Turns 100!

**Dr. Frank Damazo** (DIP '44, BS '47) of Frederick, Maryland, turned 100 years old on Nov. 11, 2023. Damazo and his late wife, Anna May Harkness Damazo, have been active supporters of Andrews University over the years.

Frank and Anne met while both were in medical training at Maumee Valley Hospital in Toledo, Ohio, Anna as a nurse cadet and Frank as a young intern. They were married on Sept. 4, 1948, and enjoyed 73+ years of marriage prior to Anne's passing.

In 1956, they selected Frederick, Maryland, as their lifetime home and became active members of the Frederick Seventh-day Adventist Church. After a devastating fire that destroyed the church building in 1993, Ann and Frank worked tirelessly as part of the building committee to acquire land and build a new church and school complex.

During their lifetime they shared a passionate desire to "pay back," especially to the educational institutions that benefited from their generosity through current gifts. In addition to giving to present needs, the Damazo family adopted a practice of multiplying the value of their gifts by using life insurance policies which enables a much larger amount to benefit the recipient institution.

Andrews University has been a direct recipient of this family's generosity. Damazo Hall is standing today largely due to the support of the Damazo family.

Dr. Damazo once summed up his and Anna's giving in these words:

*"All that we have done has been simply to glorify God, and not us, and to also pay back to those who sacrificially gave to establish these institutions, plus to establish a broader financial base for the recipient organizations and most importantly to set an example that everyone can follow. The amounts may be different but not the blessings."*

Happy birthday, Dr. Damazo! May God continue to bless you and yours as you continue a life of service and giving!

## 1950s



**Dora Oyerly** (BA '53, MAT '84), *second from right*, recently attended her 70th class reunion at Andrews University with all three of her daughters, **Anne Oyerly** (current staff, BA '05, BA '09), **Katherine Dengler-Mello** (BS '78) and **Amalia Schmoling** (BS '81). She lives in Apopka, Florida.

## 1960s

**C. William (Bill) Barney** (BS '65) was immediately hired to be the first flight instructor at Andrews University after his graduation in 1965. He left in 1972 to start his own contracting business in Martinsburg, West Virginia. When he retired in 2001, he had built several hundred houses, commercial buildings and four major subdivisions. He has served on numerous local, state and professional boards, as well as many church and school boards and committees. Since retirement, he has visited all 50 states and six Canadian provinces, as well as Israel and Egypt.

## 1970s

**Sheila LaVita Moses Noël** (att.) continued her education and worked with various churches in personal ministries, Adventurers and Pathfinders. She has tutored and taught at Spencerville Academy, and enjoyed sharing music with the Aeolians at Oakwood University and Silhouettes at Andrews Academy. She is presently a counselor in trauma and crisis. Her two sisters, **Karen Allen** (BS '79, MS '83) and **Ramona Minisee** (BS '80, MA '98) are both graduates of Andrews University.

## 1980s

**Laurice Howell** (BSD '80) earned a Doctor of Public Health from Morgan State University in 2020 and currently works as a private practitioner in nutrition and is a certified bariatric counselor. She also works part-time in long-term care. She wrote a book about grief titled "When Grief Comes Home" after her son died in 2020.



**Dwayne Leslie** (BA '88) was recently named senior vice president and general counsel for Adventist Health-Care. He previously served as vice president, deputy general counsel and chief compliance officer for the health system.

**Jack Boyson** (MA '88) is an NGO organizational development specialist with a specialty in positive youth development and youth workforce development and currently resides in Baltimore, Maryland. He married Kathy Shulman, and they have two children, **Marc** (BA '00, MAT '03) and **Tina** (BS '91).

## 1990s

**Fawcett Dunston** (BA '92) was recently promoted to the rank of full professor at a local community college in Maryland.

**Dewey Andrew Murdick** (BS '99) provided testimony to a U.S. Congress House Science Full Committee hearing on "Artificial Intelligence: Advancing Innovation Towards the National Interest" on June 22, 2023.

Dewey is executive director of the Center for Security and Emerging Technology within Georgetown University's Walsh School of Foreign Service. He also serves as an unpaid advisor to the OECD Network of Experts on AI (ONE AI) and for the National Network for Critical Technology Assessment.



Prior to joining CSET as its founding Director of Data Science, he was the Director of Science Analytics at the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative. Dewey served as Chief Analytics Officer and Deputy Chief Scientist within the Department of Homeland Security. At the Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity (IARPA), he co-founded an office in anticipatory intelligence and led programs in high-risk, high-payoff research in support of national security missions. He has also held positions in intelligence analysis, research, software development and contract teaching.

Dewey's research interests include connecting research and emerging technology to future capabilities, emerging technology forecasting, strategic planning, research portfolio management and policymaker support. He holds a PhD in engineering physics from the University of Virginia and BS in physics from Andrews University.

## 2000s

**Clifmond Shameerudeen** (BS '04, MDiv '11, DMiss '20) is currently employed at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as director of the Center for South Asian Religions. He lives in Virginia with his wife **Amy** (MA '06) and their sons Peter and Paul.

## 2010s

**Emeraude Victorin** (MA '13) is now the director of marketing for the Faith and Science Council, based at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in Silver Spring, Maryland. She works with and reports to the Geoscience Research Institute at Loma Linda University.



**Ryan Comeau** (BA '15, MDiv '21) worked as a pastor and is now transitioning into chaplaincy, currently training in a hospital setting. He shared, "It's been wonderful learning about this style of ministry, being present to provide comfort and care to patients and families on some of the worst days when they need it most."



**Catherine Bea (“Kit”) Watts** (MA ’80, former faculty) was born on Dec. 5, 1943. The family lived in the Midwest until the summer of 1955 when Kit, younger brother Howard and their parents sailed for Yokohama, where her parents served as Adventist missionaries in Japan and Okinawa for the next 18 years.

Kit completed her secondary education at Far Eastern Academy in Singapore in 1961 and enrolled at Union College in Lincoln, Nebraska, that fall. In 1966 she graduated with a BA in religion and physical education and minors in education and English.

Kit then headed for Walla Walla, Washington. For the next 2.5 years she took journalism classes at Walla Walla College. The summer of 1969 Kit assisted Roberta J. Moore, her major professor, with research for her doctoral dissertation on religious journalism in the U.S., colonial times to the Civil War. Kit fell in love with both American and church history as they researched libraries and church archives.

At the end of that summer Kit began her first full-time job as an editorial assistant at the Bureau of Public Relations at the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists (GC) in Takoma Park, Maryland. Her next job was assistant book editor at the Review and Herald Publishing Association.

Kit became the first woman on the pastoral staff of Sligo Seventh-day Adventist Church in Takoma Park in 1973, where she served for 5.5 years as minister of publications. Even as the youngest member of the Sligo team, she managed to magnify her views about gender inclusiveness. In 1973 she was invited to participate in the seminal Camp Mohaven Council on the Role of Women in the Seventh-day Adventist Church and presented a 57-page paper for that august assembly. (During her professional lifetime, she was the only invitee to participate in all the church’s major committees and councils on the role of women.) While working at Sligo, she also studied library and information science at the University of Maryland and earned a master’s degree in 1978.

In fall semester 1978, Kit enrolled in the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University, a dream deferred nearly a decade. She began classwork for a second master’s degree, and within a few months split her time between studies and working as periodicals librarian at the James White Library and assistant professor.

Kit was an early and enthusiastic member of the Association of Adventist Women. In 1992 Kit was selected as a Woman of the Year and honored at the annual conference, held in Orlando, Florida. (She attended 23 consecutive conferences of the organization.)

Kit became well known throughout the Adventist Church when she served for nearly a decade as assistant editor of the *Adventist Review*. She wrote on a variety of topics in the weekly magazine, but her focus was always widening the circle of acceptance for all peoples.

In 1997 Kit accepted a dual role as founding director of the Women’s Resource Center (WRC) at La Sierra University, Riverside, California, and in the South-

eastern California Conference as assistant to the president for communication. At the WRC she had freedom to create programming and resources not only to challenge the thinking of university women (and men) but also to support women in ministry throughout the North American Division.

When Kit retired in 2007, she moved back to the Walla Walla Valley. Again, she and Penny Shell pooled their resources and bought a country home with two acres in Milton-Free-water where they enjoyed being “Oregon ranchers.” Cancer was the long shadow across Kit’s horizon for 15 years.

Kit is survived by her brother, Howard Watts, one nephew, Travis Watts, one niece, Kandice Watts, and a multitude of friends scattered across the continent. *(Excerpted from official obituary by Pat Benton.)*



**Bruce Robert Block** (BS ’73) passed away on Nov. 6, 2023, in Berrien Springs, Michigan.

He was born on Sept. 20, 1936, in Manistee, Michigan. Raised by his loving parents, Bernard and Florence Block, Bruce was the youngest of five sons. His brothers, Merle, Jack, Neil and Don, filled their home with laughter and camaraderie. Although his parents and three brothers, Merle, Jack and Neil, preceded him in death, his brother Don remains to uphold their family legacy.

Bruce’s journey to education began at Cedar Lake Academy, where he graduated in 1955. He started Emmanuel Mis-

sionary College in 1957, before embarking on his vocation as a teacher in Indiana. His commitment to education brought him back to Andrews University in the 70s, where he completed his bachelor’s degree in elementary education.

For over 30 years, Bruce dedicated his life to shaping young minds at Seventh-day Adventist schools. His dedication to his calling was matched only by his devotion to his beloved wife, Janice Hill. The two were joined in marriage on Aug. 11, 1957, at the Courthouse in Berrien Springs, which served as the Village SDA Church at the time. He became a loving caregiver for his wife when she was stricken with MS.

Bruce’s life was a testament to the power of love and faith. He was a man who found joy in the simple pleasures of life—a good book, a well-cooked meal and trips to the beach. But it was in the classroom where Bruce truly thrived. His passion for education, his dedication to his students unwavering. He was a teacher in the truest sense of the word, imparting not just knowledge, but wisdom and values that would guide his students throughout their lives.

Bruce is survived by his three children, Greg (Karen) Block, Robin (John) Goodridge, and Brian Block, as well as five grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

**Walter E. Bermeo** (MA ’74, MDiv ’78, BS ’84) died Oct. 6, 2023, in Berrien Springs, Michigan, following an intense battle with ALS.

Walter was born Dec. 14, 1946, in Ambato, Ecuador, South America. He later became a naturalized citizen of the United States. He earned an undergraduate degree in theology from Colegio Adventista del Plata in Argentina and three degrees from Andrews University, a BS in nursing, an MA in religion, and an MDiv (graduating summa cum laude) from the Seminary.



Walter married LuAnn Row in Pioneer Memorial Church on July 16, 1978, and they enjoyed raising six children together.

Walter served as a vascular access nurse and nurse educator for close to 40 years, first at South Bend Memorial Hospital and then at the University of

Michigan hospital in Ann Arbor. He worked there until ALS forced him to go on disability in 2022. In earlier years, he was pastor and Bible instructor for the Ecuador Union Mission and later at Sandia View Academy in Corrales, New Mexico. He inspired countless students, patients and coworkers with his optimistic spirit and excellence. His service did not end when he got off work. Walter helped care for LuAnn's parents, John and Effie Row, for many years, enabling them to stay at home. He also spent hours visiting and taking care of friends in need.

Above all, Walter had a love for God and his family, demonstrated in every aspect of his life. He was a dedicated

advocate of healthful living and spending time with his family was Walter's greatest joy. He was always up for a rousing game of soccer, tennis or table tennis, and, as recently as October of last year, played soccer with his grandchildren.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 45 years, **LuAnn Bermeo** (BS/BS '77), and their six children: sons **Walter "Teddy" Bermeo** and **Dr. William "Monte" Bermeo** (BS '14), and daughters **Kristina Rice** (BS '06), **Dr. Leilani Bermeo** (BS '04, DPT '08), **Sonya Biskupski** (BS '09) and **Ivanna-Marie Bermeo**. He is also survived by his three grandchildren, Vincent, Cedric and Rosalee, his brother Dr. Franklin Bermeo, and sister **Sara Snider** (att., former staff).

Walter was preceded in death by his parents, Carlos and Sara Bermeo, and a brother, Dr. Carlos Bermeo.

**Bruce Earl Ivey** (BA '69) passed away peacefully at home on Sept. 20, 2023, from idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis.

Bruce was born in Owosso, Michigan, on Feb. 21, 1946. He grew up in Michigan, graduating from Cedar Lake Academy and Andrews University. He married the former **Janet Dice** (BS '68) in 1968. Following college, he taught math and science at

**Roger Louis Dudley** (MA '59, EdD '77), 92, emeritus professor of church ministry, died on Sept. 15, 2023, in Centerville, Ohio.

Roger had moved to Centerville to be near his daughter on July 1, 2020, but had lived in Berrien Springs, Michigan, for the past 46 years. He was born in Honesdale, Pennsylvania, on Sept. 8, 1931.

Roger graduated from Union Springs Academy, New York, in 1949 and earned a Bachelor of Arts in religion and history from Columbia Union College (now Washington Adventist University) in Tacoma Park, Maryland, four years later. He received two degrees from Andrews University—MA in education and EdD in counseling and educational psychology. His dissertation was titled "Selected Variables Related to Alienation from Religion as Perceived by Students Attending Seventh-day Adventist Academies in the United States."

Roger served as a teacher, school principal, pastor, youth ministries director and superintendent of education in several eastern states before he joined the Andrews University Seminary faculty in January 1980.

He served as the director of



the Institute of Church Ministry and professor of Christian ministry at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary. After officially retiring in 2000, he continued on a half-time basis as director of the Institute of Church Ministry until 2013. He is the author, co-author or editor of 16 books. In addition, he had over 170 articles published in scholarly, professional or general readership journals; directed the preparation of more than 75 unpublished research studies; and presented 58 papers at professional meetings. Roger was a member of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and the Religious Research Association and presented papers at 29 annual joint meetings.

Roger served as vice president for Publications of the Association of Adventist Family Professionals for five years, as a board member of the Andrews University Center for College Faith, and as liaison with Andrews University Press and the General Conference Department of Education for the publication of its integration of faith and learning book series. He was an invited member of the North American Division Executive Committee for 25 years and was a recipient of the annual Research/Creative Activity Award from Andrews University in 1993, 1995 and 2000.

In August of 2008, Andrews University awarded him with the J.N. Andrews Medallion for lifetime service to Adventist education. In 2018 he was presented with a Festschrift written by 24 scholars to honor his 40 years as a pioneer of Seventh-day Adventist Human Subject Research. For more than 12 years he served as a volunteer for bibleinfo.com, a ministry of the Voice of Prophecy.

He was married for 68 years to the former **Margaret (Peggy) Goronzy** (BS '81, MA '83, PhD '88). The Dudleys often worked

together in conducting marriage seminars and grow groups, giving presentations and holding workshops on various areas of family living and interpersonal relationships. They also did research and published various articles and two books together. They were presented with the Arthur and Maud Spaulding Award for Distinguished Service in Family Ministries by the General Conference in 1994, the Outstanding Research/Publication Award by the Michigan College Personnel Association in 1995, and the Distinguished Service Award by the Family Ministries Department of the North American Division in 1999 and in 2018.

Their favorite recreational activity was traveling to visit new and exciting places. They have been to all seven continents, including Antarctica twice, and 61 different countries.

Roger was preceded in death by his wife Margaret, his parents, George Dudley Sr. and Hazel Donachy Dudley, and his brother, George Dudley Jr. He is survived by a daughter, Cheryl (Hans) Zwart, one grandson and one great-grandson, and three nieces. He also had an adopted Chinese daughter, WenGuo (Dan) Edmans.



Enterprise Academy in Kansas and then at Mount Ellis Academy in Montana. While in Montana, he attended Montana State University, earning a doctorate in education. This was followed in 1992 by a move to Angwin, California, where he taught computer science, physics and astronomy at Pacific Union College for 21 years.

Starting during his time at Montana State and continuing for the rest of his career, he was also the software lead for natural resource education simulation projects and for MicroLab, a company developing computer-based chemistry lab tools used nationally and internationally.

Bruce was deeply committed to his family, to God and to his church community. He was a pilot, trumpet player, traveler and photographer. He had a deep love of the outdoors, enjoying canoeing, fishing, backpacking, wildlife viewing, skiing and snowshoeing. Lifelong hikers, Bruce and his wife explored many trails in the Montana Rockies and Northern California. They shared their love of nature with others by leading group hikes for their church and for the Land Trust of Napa County.

Bruce is survived by his wife, Janet, and sons: **Mark** (BS '82) (Yana) and Brad; grandchildren Alex and Eric; sisters Margaret Pottle and Josephine Prophet; and several nieces and nephews.

**Becky De Oliveira** (MA '97, former faculty) passed away in her home in Dacono, Colorado, on June 21, 2023, after living with brain cancer for over 18 months. She was 51.

Becky was born in Enumclaw, Washington, on Nov. 18, 1971, to Dave and Alice Crooker. In 1975, her brother, Dan, joined the family. Becky's parents nurtured within her a love of nature that she would carry with her throughout her life.

In 1993, Becky met her future husband, **Japhet** (BA '95, MA '97, former staff), while studying abroad in England. They married in 1995. Together, they had their first son, Joshua, in 2000 and their second son, Jonah, in 2004. The family moved to Michigan in 2007 and to Colorado in 2014.

While living in England, Becky took up running. For over a decade, she ran eight miles a day, six days a week. She completed four marathons—each in less than four hours—in addition to countless shorter races, often accompanied



by friends and family as participants and spectators. When she wasn't running, Becky was walking. She loved long walks—along beaches, across bridges, through cities—and always appreciated good company and conversation.

In 2006, Becky summited Mt. Rainier alongside her father. While living in Colorado, she climbed numerous 14ers, and on two separate occasions, she backpacked a 30-mile section of the Continental Divide known as the Tonahutu Loop with her sons.

Becky was an accomplished writer and storyteller. She pub-

lished essays, articles and short stories, edited magazines, and wrote three books, including two for children. In addition to writing, Becky was a prolific reader, averaging 50 books a year.

Becky was a gifted artist. She made beautiful drawings, paintings and collages that hang on the walls of her home, and encouraged her children to engage with their inner creativity. Her keen eye for detail led her to work as a freelance graphic designer for several years.

Becky taught university courses for many years before earning her doctorate, and she took pride in creating an inclusive, safe environment that fostered long-lasting friendships and mentorships between her and her students.

After her diagnosis, Becky defended her dissertation, spoke at her graduation, and won two awards for excellence in academics and research. She wrote numerous thoughtful and humorous essays about living with cancer and created a podcast with her husband. She went to Honolulu with her son, Jonah, and husband, Japhet, and later traveled to the Grand Tetons, Newfoundland, and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan with her son, Joshua, while planning his wedding that summer. She camped in Wyoming with her brother, niece, and youngest son, and visited London, Paris and Dublin with Japhet to celebrate their 28th wedding anniversary.

Becky is sorely missed by her husband, children, brother, father, niece, nephew, and many friends worldwide.

**Shirani Victoria Simpson** (att.) died May 7, 2023, in Berrien Springs, Michigan.

She was born on Aug. 25, 1980, in Detroit, Michigan, to William Lloyd Garrison Simpson Jr. and Doris J. Simpson.

Shirani and her brother, William Lance Simpson, were homeschooled throughout high school. She was always a very bright and intelligent student,



both eager to learn and excel in every subject. She came to know and love the Lord, our Creator and her Saviour Jesus Christ, and His word, the Bible. She was also deeply attracted to music, both singing and piano, at a very young age. From the age of 2, she was able to sing in tune and harmonize. Throughout her life, she enjoyed expressing herself through music, writing, reading, cooking, fashion and art.

After homeschooling, Shirani attended Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, with a double major in Spanish and music, studying piano and voice. She later left Andrews University to attend Southwestern Adventist University in Keene, Texas, for one school year. She completed her junior year at Andrews University, which included spending a school year at the Universidad Adventista del Plata in the country of Argentina, with plans to return to Andrews University for her senior year.

She married and then postponed her return to school. The marriage blessed her with two precious children, Jeziel R. Galindo, 12, and Silas T. Galindo, 9, who were the solid love and foundation of her life.

She spent several years teaching Spanish at the Great Lakes Montessori School in St. Joseph, Michigan.

Over the years Shirani both attended and had membership at several churches in the Berrien Springs community including Pioneer Memorial Church, Living Word Fellowship and Iglesia Adventista del Septimo Día de



**Dennis Wayne Woodland** (former faculty), emeritus research professor of botany, died on May 20, 2023, in Milton Freewater, Oregon.

Dennis was born in Medellin, Colombia, South America, on Nov. 24, 1940, to missionary parents, Clinton and Esther Woodland. When his father contracted malaria they moved to the U.S. for health reasons.

Dennis enrolled in Laurelwood Academy in Gaston, Oregon, in 1955. During his high school years, he participated in a select choir, served as Junior Class president, and in the summers enjoyed playing baseball.

After graduating from Laurelwood, he attended Walla Walla College (now University) from 1959–1963, earning a degree in botany.

In 1964 Dennis married Betty Alderson. The couple began their marriage in the high elevation of the Wallowa mountains, hiking in nine miles and camping for two months at a remote lake while Dennis collected alpine plants as a comparison study for his master's thesis. He earned his master's degree from Walla Walla in 1966.

After graduation, Dennis and Betty moved to Mazola, Montana, where both continued their education, taking a two-year hiatus to teach at a small school in Jordan, Montana. They moved to Ames, Iowa, in 1969 where Dennis earned his PhD in botany from Iowa State University in 1971.

Dennis was then invited to teach botany and be curator of the herbarium at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. It was here that the couple's two daughters, Cherie and Heather, were born.

After eight years in Montreal, the family of four moved to Berrien Springs, Michigan, where Dennis was invited to teach courses in botany, ecology, medical botany and environmental science at Andrews University. For many years he also taught evening classes at Southwestern Michigan College for elementary and secondary school science teachers. For 11 summers, Dennis taught at the Walla Walla University Marine Biology Station at Rosario Beach on the shores of Puget Sound.

Always advocating excellence, Dennis enthusiastically supported Betty in her pursuit of her Doctor of Music, of Cherie in her study of violin performance and Doctor of Music in piano and voice, and of Heather who, after many years in elementary education, is working on certification in speech pathology.

During his career at Andrews, Dennis continuously served as curator of the Andrews Herbarium (greenhouse). He also served as curator of the Andrews Arboretum and chaired the Andrews Arboretum



Council for 21 years. He has about 50 publications and numerous awards to his credit, including Fellow of the Linnean Society of London (1977), the J.N. Andrews Medallion (1997) and Outstanding Service Award from the Michigan Botanical Club (2003), to name just a few. He was active in local church work wherever there was a need and enjoyed the friendships he gained.

Through the years Dennis conducted multiple tours with students to the Amazon, Australia and New Zealand. Always looking for ways to improve the field of botany, Dennis wrote his own botany (taxonomy) textbook that he used for many years.

When Dennis was 70 years young, he reached the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro with his son-in-law Michael Hughes. Several years later, he set his sights on Mount Everest Base Camp and enjoyed the rigorous, multi-day climb with his colleague John Nay. Adventure ran in the family. When Cherie was 12 she was able to join in one of the Australia and New Zealand trips, and Heather and Dennis participated in a multi-leg, cross-country bicycle tour from the most western point in the continental United States to the most eastern point.

After 35 years of teaching at Andrews University, Dennis and Betty moved back to the Pacific Northwest to be closer to their children and grandchildren. In 2012, Dennis was told that he had cancer. He courageously and cheerfully went through various treatments and then enthusiastically participated in a cancer drug study until its completion in early 2022.

He is survived by his wife **Betty** (att.), daughters **Heather Christensen** (att.) (BJ) and **Cherie Hughes** (att.) (Michael), and grandchildren Liam, Colin and Mason Christensen and Rosalyn Hughes; and brothers Terry and Phil Woodland.

Berrien Springs, where she was always very active in all types of service. She gave Bible studies, taught in the Adventurers Club, was a pianist and/or soloist for special music, and served at community events or wherever else she was needed.

She is survived by her two sons, Zeziel and Silas, her mother Doris Simpson, her brother W. Lance Simpson, her Aunt Sheila and Uncle Mike Combs, her children's father Ruben Galindo and his wife Nereida Cardona Rivera, her beloved fiancé Antonio Aguilera, plus many devoted family members and friends.

**Ebenezer Agboka** (BS '77, MBA '79), 71, of Springfield Gardens, New York, died peacefully on April 16, 2023, after a protracted illness. He was born in Koforidua, Ghana, on Aug. 29, 1951.

Following his high school graduation in Ghana, he attended Adventist College of West Africa, now Babcock University, in Nigeria, then West Indies College, now Northern Caribbean University, in Jamaica. He continued his education at Andrews University, completing a Bachelor of Science in 1977 and a Master of Business Administration in 1979.

A highlight of his time at Andrews was meeting **Lorna (Dyett)** (BS '78). They married on July 22, 1979, after which Lorna accompanied him to West Africa. In 1979, he served as a treasury intern in Ghana, then, from 1980 to 1989, as secretary-treasurer and treasurer within the Sahel Union in Togo, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal.

Subsequently, Ebenezer and Lorna settled in Canada with their family, which now included two children, **Christelle** (BA '03) and **Marc** (BBA '11). He was hired as assistant treasurer at the Ontario Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in 1990, promoted to associate in 1991 and elected treasurer in 1997.

In 2001, they moved to the United States. He continued to serve the church as a business professor at Atlantic Union College (2001–2006) and treasurer of the Northeastern and Greater New York conferences

(2006–2012 and 2014–2018, respectively). He also held leadership roles at Shaw University in North Carolina, where he was comptroller, and at the United Nations, where he was a consultant, traveling to Africa, Europe and Asia.

Ebenezer will be remembered for his jokes, generosity, amiable personality and adventurous spirit. He leaves behind a legacy of service to the church, friends from all walks of life, and a loving family.

He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Lorna, their children, his brothers Japheth, Joseph and David, and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, David and Eunice, three brothers and his sister.

**Alfred “Al” Williams Burdick** (BS '66, MBA '73, former staff) died March 18, 2023, in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Al was born Nov. 20, 1943, in Madison, Tennessee. He enrolled as an Andrews freshman in 1962. Employed for the summer at the College Press, he and Doris (incoming Student Movement editor) met on a blind date at the press picnic. Three years later, they married (between semesters, with special permission) on Dec. 26, 1965, in Pioneer Memorial Church.

Hired by Andrews University after completing his undergraduate degree, Al was employed in data processing until drafted into the army in 1967. His two years of military service as a computer programmer found him stationed in Germany. He returned to Andrews in 1969 as a computer programmer then director before using the G.I. bill to earn his MBA in management.



He next worked as manager of Friendly Market, an auxiliary enterprise of Andrews University.

From 1975–78 he managed Mount Pisgah Academy's finances. The family then moved to Seoul, Korea, where Al chaired the business department of Korean Union College (now Sahmyook University) for five years. Part of that time, he also directed the Korean Union Servicemen's Center.

For the next 17 years the family lived in Collegedale, Tennessee, where Al marketed printing for the College Press at Southern Adventist University. In 2000 he was invited to become treasurer of AdventSource on the campus of Union College. Before retiring in 2009, he was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his service to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Al remained active as a volunteer with several organizations.

He is survived by his wife, **Doris Stickle Burdick** (BA '63), and his children, Janene (Jack) and Brent (Angela), and six grandchildren.

Al was predeceased by his three older brothers, Paul, David and John.

**Esther Virginia Tyler** (former faculty) passed away on May 1, 2023, at her home in Ringgold, Georgia, after a six-year battle with cancer.

She was born on July 19, 1938, in Lansing, Michigan, to the late Rhoda and Henry Tyler.

Esther Tyler served as the head cataloger for James White Library at Andrews University for over 40 years. She was a quiet, kind, soft-spoken person who was always smiling and was a true friend to all those who worked with her.

She started her librarianship when cataloging was done by hand—way before the age of computers. Her cataloging experience at JWJL included the historical move from a manual card catalog to an electronic online catalog. Esther proved her adaptability by embracing the new technology while continuing to do the careful and meticulous job of cataloging, thus contributing to the accuracy



of many parts of the current catalog. Like many catalogers, she was a very organized and detail-oriented person. Regardless of the method of cataloging, she saw to it that standardized cataloging rules were followed and employees in her department were well acquainted with any changes that needed to be implemented.

She is remembered for her humility and patience in teaching those who needed to be trained—she never made them

feel ignorant. Her Christianity was seen without her telling it.

During her break times, Esther would be seen watering and tending the plants in the department instead of chatting on the phone. Though her personal encounters with the public were limited due to the nature of her work, she maintained good relationships with those around her. She had chances to mingle with a wider circle of colleagues and friends during departmental and library-wide potlucks where she

was best known for her signature dishes: Watergate salad and stuffed dates.

Esther loved to read and travel in the United States and abroad. She found genealogy of great interest and was a member of the Daughters of America as well as the Alden Kindred of America.

After retirement, she continued her devotion to library work by volunteering at the ANGEL (Adventist Network of General Education Libraries) Project at the McKee Library, Southern Adventist University. She loved to hear news and talk about Andrews University, librarianship in general, and the wider community through contacts with long-time friends, colleagues, and retired librarians from James White Library and McKee Library.

Esther is survived by her sister, Ruth Tyler Streffling, nephew, Rob Haas and his son, Jacob, eight cousins, and many colleagues and friends.

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**PHOTO:** *David Sherwin, assistant professor, Department of Visual Art, Communication & Design*

