



Lake Union HERALD

September 2023



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Sept. 2023 issue

This month's issue features stories
from Andrews University.

World Changers Made Here

As I write this and the tomato plants are climbing over their cages. The melon vines are sprawling wildly, leaving little space for the ripening cucumbers to roam. This is an idyllic time of year for me. It is a perfect opportunity to soak up lots of sun—which I understand is actually good to do as its effects are stored for the winter season ahead. Surrounded by the seasonal beauty, I revel in the company of avid gardeners who venture to rent 900 sq. ft. plots of land from Andrews University. Collectively we aspire to turn seeds into bounty.

I've learned so much from my neighbors in the garden and some deep lessons have taken root. One of those is that when you suspect that you may have failed, the gaze of wisdom reveals to you that it was instead, just an opportunity to learn. Why didn't the beet seeds sprout? Why are the cabbage leaves not forming a tight curl? Why did a cucumber plant suddenly wilt and die? When you are dealing with nature, there are no guarantees. There is also not

about the challenges and failures they experienced on the road to that success.

But apart from receiving a lesson in perseverance, you know what I've come to appreciate most about this season of growth? It is amidst the calm and peace that I experience God. My heart overflows with awe and my eyes are drawn to the beauty of my natural surroundings where butterflies and bees dart carefree. (We won't talk about the squash vine borers or the Japanese beetles.) With each breath, the stress of life melts away. I am astounded at how, surrounded by the Master's creation, I can experience a type of re-creation. I find myself praying, *Wonderful God, when we behold Your handiwork in nature, we can understand how You gazed upon the world that You had made and called it good. Thank You for the reminder of how blessed we are to live in Your garden. Amen.*

My prayer for you is that you, too, take time to exhale and behold the beauty of our Lord.

Debbie Michel
Lake Union Communication Director
Lake Union Herald Editor

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FEATURED STORIES



Innovative Ways to Change the World

This past spring, Andrews University students were given a unique opportunity to demonstrate the combination of their interests, academic knowledge and creative ideas.

At the second annual Pitch Competition, held during Innovation Week, students presented original business ideas for the chance to win awards in support of their projects. As a result, many of those who participated were empowered to positively impact the communities around them. Here are some of the stories of how Andrews students have found innovative ways to “Change the World.”

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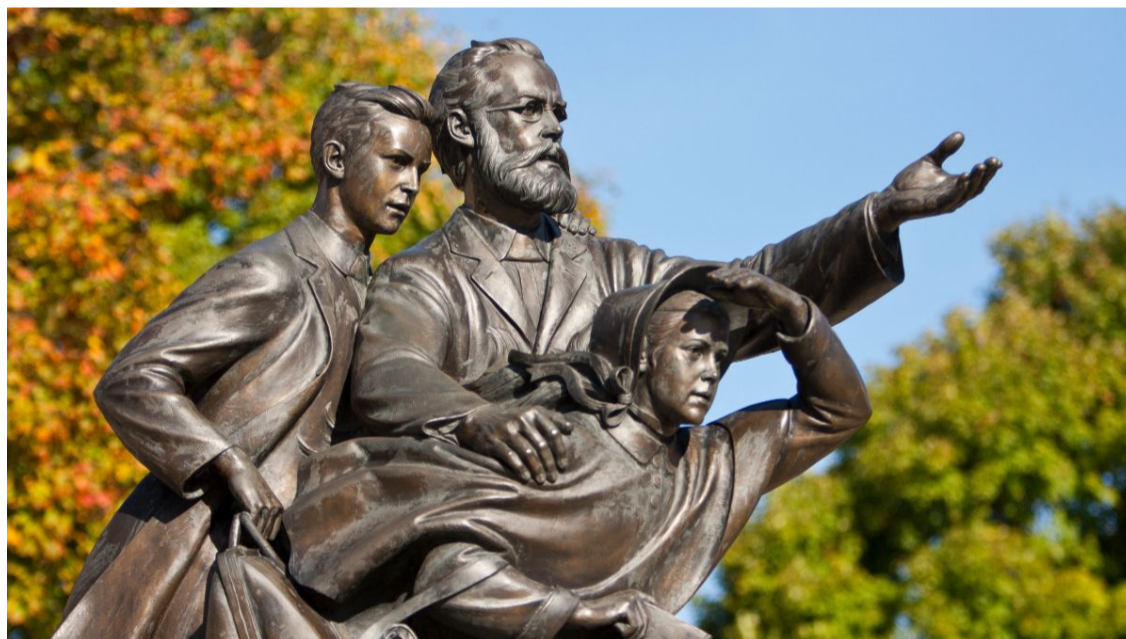


Learning at a Deeper Level

During the 2022–2023 school year, the Andrews University International Center for Trauma Education & Care placed two Andrews students at the Bourj Hammoud Adventist Learning Center (ALC) in Beirut, Lebanon, to work with Syrian refugee children.

Naissa N'diaye and Maci Chen created a trauma-informed care culture at the school; provided a safe space for students and teachers to express their needs and concerns; taught coping skills, behavioral management and classroom strategies; and gave space for all involved to tell their stories. At the same time, Naissa and Maci were hugely impacted, not only because they had opportunity to practice what they learned in school but because the ALC staff, students and families enriched Naissa's and Maci's worldviews—highlighting what is really important in life and showing the true meaning of unconditional love.

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We Are Called to Fulfill Mission!

Mission! As Seventh-day Adventists, we are called to fulfill mission. Jesus instructed us to “go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19–20). At Andrews University, this mission assignment pulses through our veins, igniting our hearts and propelling us to become World Changers for God.

Throughout Andrews University's rich history, our students, faculty, staff and alumni have answered this call with resounding enthusiasm, embracing their roles as ambassadors of hope who are called to offer transformation to a broken world. Andrews University has become a launchpad for impacting lives, whether it's through local community service initiatives, courageous overseas missionary work or the profound influence we wield in our careers and daily encounters with one another.

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