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### Andrews University Theological Seminary releases Statement on Church Headship

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## [ LOCAL CHURCH NEWS ]



Five family members of three generations are involved with the Terre Haute Church Prison Ministry Team. From left: Charles Schlunt, Janet Schlunt, Benjamin Middaugh, Sylvia Middaugh, Glen Middaugh

### Three generations reach out to inmates

Indiana—Charles and Janet Schlunt became part of the Terre Haute prison ministry team in 2005. Members of the team conduct services at 7:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. every Sabbath in the Federal Prison Complex. Some also engage in one-on-one mentoring, job

airs and other educational activities. In 2011, Charles was honored as volunteer of the year for his work in all three sections of the prison.

When the Schlunts left in August 2012 to serve a year as volunteers at Nile Union Academy for Adventist Volunteer Services, their daughter, Sylvia Middaugh, and her husband, Glen, decided to step into the prison ministry void that resulted with her parents' departure. Benjamin Middaugh joined his parents in taking the required training to become a prison ministry volunteer. Now, there are five members from three generations of the family engaged in prison ministry.

"Threshold" is a six-month program offered in the maximum-security section, designed to aid inmates preparing for re-entry into society. During the topic of families and their influence on their members' behavior, Charles was asked to bring his family members on Sabbath, June 7, to share their suggestions on how the inmates could strengthen spiritual values, educational aspirations,

family togetherness, as well as a spirit of service, when they are reunited with their families. Inmates also were given the opportunity to ask questions since the presentation took the form of a panel discussion. Before them was a living example of the positive effects of religious training, volunteer service and family togetherness.

"The Terre Haute Seventh-day Adventist Church has been involved in prison ministry at the Terre Haute Federal Penitentiary for over 20 years. This program depends on many faithful volunteers to provide both an early morning and an afternoon chapel service at the minimum security camp each Sabbath.

"Charles and Janet Schlunt are active in this ministry, and have recruited their family members to become involved as well. As the pastor, I appreciate their commitment to this ministry," stated Ernie Peckham, pastor of the Terre Haute Church.

Janet Schlunt, member, with Ernie Peckham, pastor, Terre Haute Church

## [ WORLD NEWS ]



### Andrews University Theological Seminary releases Statement on Church Headship

On Thursday, Aug. 21, the Andrews University Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary voted and released a major statement on headship in the Church. This document is based on careful study of the Scriptures and the Spirit of Prophecy. It represents a consensus of the Seminary faculty who created this document as a service to the worldwide Church.

"I am excited to offer to the Church this biblical-theological study that uplifts the unique headship of Christ in the Church," says Jiří Moskala, dean of the Seminary. "It is my hope that it will significantly contribute to the current debates on leadership."

The statement's preamble says, "While there exists legitimate leadership in the church, no other human being may rightfully claim a headship role in the church. As head of the church, Christ provides the ultimate manifestation of God's love, demonstrating and vindicating God's moral government of love, and thus defeating the counterfeit government of the usurping 'ruler of this world.'"

The seven-page document includes detailed discourse on God's moral government of love, the Great Controversy between Christ and Satan, the unique and non-transferable headship of Christ, and a section on affirmations and denials compiled by the faculty of

the Seminary.

"I am grateful for the faculty that is dedicated and committed to the church and its mission," says Moskala, "as they worked diligently and prayerfully to produce this statement. I pray that this document will prove to be a unifying influence in the church."

To read the full statement, visit <http://www.andrews.edu/sem>.

Founded in 1874, Andrews University is the flagship institution of higher education for the Seventh-day Adventist Church and offers more than 200 areas of study, including advanced degrees. Its main campus is in Berrien Springs, Mich., but the University also provides instruction at colleges and universities in more than 30 countries around the world.

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