



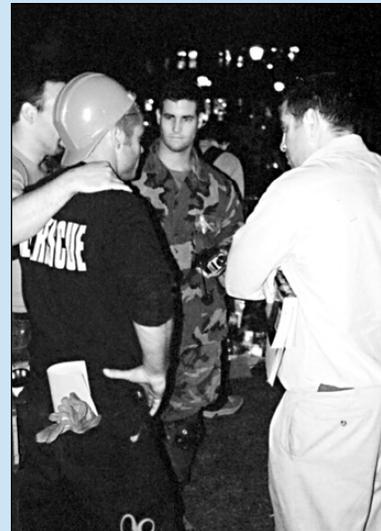
# Reflections on New York



Andrews University reacted to the terror of September 11 with prayer and with the eyes, hands, ears and heart of Christ. Pictured above is a prayer service held in response to the General Conference worldwide call to prayer at 3:00 p.m., September 11.

Since then, three groups of faculty, staff and students have made the journey to the twisted wreckage of New York City to help them rebuild; not the fallen structures, but their fallen spirits.

*...the whole experience was so successful because it was bathed in prayer. . . I will never forget the scene of five or six Andrews University students bowed in prayer at*



*I talked to a man named Fernando and asked him, "Where was God in all this?" He quickly replied, "God was busy." I asked him to clarify and he said, "God was busy keeping people out of the buildings. If you stop to consider that 45,000 to 55,000 people work in the towers and only some 5,000 perished, you can't help but see the mercy of God."*

Scott Manly, 1st-year seminarian



**Just as the City has its firefighter and police heroes, Andrews University has its student and faculty heroes. Heroes who chose to go out on a limb for Christ, and "walk the talk."**

*The trip to New York was an opportunity for me to give something back to the people of this country. . . I had heard so many times that the people in New York were very reserved, that they never hug others. I have never received so many hugs in my life as during these five days from the people on the streets of New York. . . I met God in New York, the God whose heart beats for the people there.*

Ranko Stefanovic  
associate professor of religion

*We learned that God had sent us there to walk alongside them in this time of pain and sadness, to listen to their stories (stories of fear, guilt, great loss and shock), to hug them, to wipe their tears, to pray with them, to reassure them that what they were feeling was normal and important, and then to listen some more. God wanted us to tell them, by our presence, that He was with them and that they were not alone.*

Nancy Carbonell  
associate professor of educational and counseling psychology

*Two phrases that continue to run through my mind are (1) God doesn't call the qualified; He qualifies the called, and (2) It's not my ability, but my availability.*

*I wish I could have done more, but I pray that God will bless the little that I was able to do. I continue to pray for the people in NY everyday, because a bit of my heart was left there with them.*

Tunisia Peters, junior  
clinical lab science/pre-med

*When I heard of those that lost their lives that day, all I could think was, 'How many of them were ready to die?'*

Dwight K. Nelson, senior pastor  
Pioneer Memorial Church



*We may not have left New York changing hundreds for Christ, but if our smiles and prayers keep passing along, who knows how it can change! And that was worth it to me.*

Kelly Knowlton,  
senior, history/political science

*the edge of Ground Zero -- with their arms around the broad shoulders of NYPD officers. The students prayed passionately and the officers wept openly. The policemen hugged the students after the prayer and quietly went on their way back to their posts of duty at the barricades.*

Glenn Russell  
assistant professor of religion