

# CAMPUS UPDATE

## Beit B'nei Zion—House of the children of God

An Adventist synagogue . . . and just when you thought you'd heard it all. The sixth service of the Andrews University Hebrew Adventist Synagogue, Beit B'nei Zion, was held Sabbath, Feb. 12, in the University Towers auditorium. A monthly event, the service attracts approximately 400 worshipers from campus and the Berrien Springs community.

The Hebrew Adventist synagogue offers a special worship experience that combines the joy, reverence and sense of community of the Hebrew traditions with the distinctive Adventist identity and message.

Initiated by Dr. Jacques Doukhan, professor of Hebrew language, exegesis and Jewish studies and director of the Institute of Jewish-Christian Studies at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews, the first service was held February 1999.

"We must not forget that Christianity was first Jewish," says Doukhan, explaining the reason for an Adventist synagogue. "Jesus was a Jew, and early Christians worshiped as Jews. We are better Christians when we are faithful to our roots. It's not a new religion, but an old formula that was lost along the way."

The content and liturgical structure of the worship service at Beit B'nei Zion are patterned after traditional Jewish worship services: a succession

of emotionally moving songs about the Messiah and the Sabbath sung in Hebrew via a transliteration of the Hebrew words into English letters and sounds; prayers of old, most recited by Jesus Himself, iterated in unison; and an exegetical homily which combines glimpses into the Hebrew culture with biblical lessons from the past, practical advice for today and hope in God for the future.

The distinctiveness of the Hebrew-style worship was displayed most clearly in the presentation of the Torah

parchment scroll that contains the first five books of the Bible and other sacred Jewish literature written in Hebrew. As a prelude to the Scripture reading, the symbolically decorated Torah was carried up and

down the aisles of the auditorium by the first reader of the Torah, who was followed by a procession of the remaining six Scripture readers. Presented at each pew, worshipers reached out to touch the sacred scroll in a symbolic display of commitment and dedication to the Word of God.

More than a cultural education for Adventists, the synagogue also provides an opportunity for the Seventh-day Adventist message to be shared with the Jewish community. "Global missions encourage contextualization of the Adventist message in order to successfully reach out to non-Adventists," says Doukhan.

The synagogue is just one way this

goal is being met. As editor of *Shabbat Shalom*, a triyearly publication of the North American Division, Doukhan wants to promote a climate of respect, understanding and sharing between Jewish and Christian communities, not only for the exercise of love and appreciation of the other, but also for the discovery of truths and values which surpass the genius of both traditions.

## Grant to expand library services

As a result of a \$100,759 federal library services and technology grant, the James White Library is responsible for connecting 16 libraries in southwest Michigan to a global network of academic journals and publications.

Each of the libraries will be connected to the Ariel document transmission system. Any library connected to the system will be able to retrieve documents from other libraries quickly and easily.

"I'm excited about this grant because it gives us an opportunity to participate in a community endeavor to improve informational resources in the Berrien Springs area," said Keith Clouten, James White Library director.

The goal of the project is to meet the information needs of Berrien County residents by maximizing the sharing of library resources through rapid document delivery. The Ariel document transmission system utilizes the Internet.

Each southwest Michigan library will get its own computer, scanner, and laser printer. The grant money will also be used for training staff to use the system.



BEIT B'NEI ZION: Jacques Doukhan leads out in the monthly Jewish worship service.

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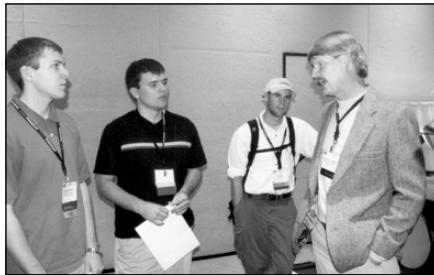
## Photo students learn tricks of the trade

Thirty Andrews students attended the sixth annual North American Nature Photography Association (NANPA) Conference in Austin, Texas, in January.

At the seminar, photography students learned from world-famous photographers top-quality techniques such as how to take close-up and abstract photographs and how to market their images.

Junior photography major Clay Schwarck coordinated the

Andrews students' participation in the conference, and Don May, assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and director of the photography program in the College of Technology, turned the seminar into a class for credit. "It was a unique group for an off-campus learning experience," says May.



**PHOTO OF:** Andrews students Jason Norton, Eric Philcox and Clay Schwarck meet with Kennan Ward, noted nature photographer.

Instead of just one group of students in the same academic rank, this group was composed of all photography students, not just upperclassmen. I'm glad it worked out how it did. It was good for the

upperclassmen on this trip to play a mentoring role to the underclassmen."

Students reported that Andrews University was the only school listed in the official welcome during the NANPA proceedings.

After several sessions, Andrews students concluded that the ideals of the world-famous photographers are the same as those expressed in the AU mission statement: care for the environment, recognition of God's beauty and respect for God's creation.

## Twenty-one inducted into Phi Kappa Phi

During fall induction ceremonies held in Bridgman, Mich., the Andrews chapter of Phi Kappa Phi inducted 21 new members, Nov. 11, 1999.

Following the annual banquet which celebrated the chapter's ten-year anniversary, Atilio R. Dupertuis, professor of theology and director of the Institute of Hispanic Ministry, was inducted as an honored faculty member.

Twelve graduate students were inducted: Arthur Adams, Allen Chichester, Teresa Cribari, Michael Denklau, Kimberly Franzke, Linda Haddad, Jesse Hall, Tadashi Ino, Carolyn Langley, Carmen Pagan, Simon Sim, and Joan Standish.

Eight seniors were also inducted: Andrea Connell, Hans Habenicht, Lori Halvorsen, Michaela Lawrence, Jamie Lee, Arthur Martens, Renita Nelson, and Katherine Widner.

Following the induction ceremonies, the group was entertained and informed about puppetry through "The Puppet's Court," a puppet parody presented by members of last year's Creativity and the Arts class.

## Lectures to feature ethics of assisted suicide and hospices

"The End of Life: Assisted Suicide and the Hospice Movement" is the topic of the annual McElmurry Ethics and Society Lectureship to be held at Andrews University, April 6-8, 2000, in University Towers Auditorium.

Speakers will include Richard Rice, professor of religion at Loma Linda University; Herbert Hendin, medical director of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and professor of psychiatry at New York Medical College; Tom Preston, professor of medicine at the University of Washington; Howard Brody, professor of family practice and philosophy and director of the Center for Ethics and Humanities in the Life Sciences at

Michigan State University; and James Standish, a Seventh-day Adventist lawyer from Washington, D.C.

Karen Stockton-Chilson, assistant professor of social work at Andrews, will offer an introduction to the topic of assisted suicide and the hospice movement the Wednesday evening before the weekend program.

The lectureship will sponsor a research paper competition for Andrews students, with prizes ranging from \$100 to \$1000. Winning research papers will be presented over the course of the weekend.

The McElmurry Ethics and Society weekend is funded by the McElmurry Endowed Lectureship established at Andrews University by Dr. Leland McElmurry of Eaton Rapids, Mich. It was coordinated by a faculty committee. For more information, call 616-471-3444.

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## Andrews goes wireless

The Andrews University Networks and Servers Group, a part of Information Technology Services (ITS), has been hard at work researching the possibilities of setting up wireless connections around campus to be used primarily for laptop computers.

As a result of the research, the Networks and Servers Group set up the first antennae during the fall of 1999. "We are one of the very first schools in the Midwest to implement this wireless system," said Dan Cress, head of the Networks and Servers Group.



"We have been asked to set up a consulting program with other schools also going wireless. They want to observe us and see if we have any major problems or hang-ups before they use the system.

So far, everything has been flawless," added Cress.

Parts of campus have been wireless for the last two and a half years. Buildings with current connectivity include James White Library, Chan Shun Hall, the Campus Center, and the Division of Architecture. Cress reports that by mid-March, the Group aims to have more than half of the buildings on campus connected, and the ultimate goal

sees campus-wide connectivity by summer.

The only buildings that will not be

wireless are the dorms, due to the presence of network connections in each room.

## Former student composes tribute

He wasn't even born when Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. died, but on Feb. 11 former Andrews student James Lee, III



James Lee and Kenneth Logan

returned to campus to premiere his solo organ composition entitled "Ascend the Mountain: A Walk With Dr. King."

Commissioned by the University to compose a musical piece that would underscore a significant event or person in African-American history, Lee's tribute was performed by organist Kenneth Logan, associate professor of music. The tribute was part of the annual Andrews University Black History weekend celebration.

"The primary source of inspiration for this work is Dr. King's 'I've Been to the Mountaintop' sermon which he preached the night before his assassination," says Lee, who is currently pursuing a masters degree in music composition at the University of Michigan.

Specifically composed for the organ, Lee describes the style of the composition as contemporary classical. He presents the emotional experience of the African-American struggle for equality in the 1960s by combining original works with such well-known spirituals as "Over My Head" and "We Shall Overcome."

## Class act

Over the years college courses have taken on new forms and expectations. Here's a preview of some intriguing course offerings for this spring:

**BOT474 *Flora of Great Lakes*** Dennis Woodland, instructor. A taxonomic study of vascular plants emphasizing the plants found in the Great Lakes area. The class includes field trips and hands-on experience with plants around Andrews.

**COMM440 *Family Communication*** Shelley Bradfield, instructor. An exploration of the aspects

of gender communication and contexts in which we base our struggle for understanding. Particular contexts such as the family, the classroom, the office, romantic relationships and mediated contexts like magazines and television are used to highlight the characteristics and experiences of gender communication.

**ENGL255 *Studies in Literature: Baseball Literature*** Gary Gray and Gary Land, instructors. This team-taught class is in its third inning as Gray and Land introduce students to the joys of baseball literature. The

class studies various novels such as *Shoeless Joe* by W. P. Kinsella as well as baseball poetry by Marianne Moore.

**CHMN578 *Voice and Hymn Singing*** John Baldwin, instructor. Focuses on teaching seminary students an understanding of the voice as it relates to singing. Topics covered in class include breathing, tone quality, placement, and aspects of keeping the voice healthy. Each person in class is also a member of the Seminary Chorus.