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Office of University Communications

October 18, 2019

Entities Will Collaborate to Offer Conferences and Other Enrichment Events

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.—The Gardner-Webb University School of Divinity and The Center for Healthy Churches (CHC) have established a partnership to address the needs and opportunities faced by churches, clergy and organizations. The School of Divinity and CHC will collaborate to offer conferences, academic programs, consulting, coaching, and enrichment events to churches and clergy in the region. The two organizations will share resources, personnel and facilities while seeking ways to engage those involved in ministry.



Dr. Danny West

"I am delighted at the natural, organic relationship that now culminates in a formal partnership between the School of Divinity and The Center for Healthy Churches," noted Dr. Danny West,

GWU director of ministry leadership and professor of preaching and pastoral studies. "We both share a passion for God's church and seek meaningful and significant ways to serve it. It is a privilege to serve alongside Bill Wilson (director) and his impressive staff at The Center for Healthy Churches."

Located in Clemmons, N.C., the CHC has provided help, hope and healing for congregations and organizations nationwide. Using a diverse network of coaches and consultants, the CHC has established itself as a national thought leader and high-quality source of resources. Since its beginning in 2014, the CHC has increasingly become a go-to resource for congregations, clergy, and organizations in the midst of transition, staffing challenges, conflict and visioning endeavors.

"The Center for Healthy Churches is thrilled to be able to partner with the Gardner-Webb School of Divinity as we seek to engage and encourage the churches and ministers of the 21st century," observed Wilson, who also founded CHC. "The challenges and opportunities before us are both daunting and exhilarating, and we look forward to the many ways we will find to provide resources for those who are engaged in this high calling."

Initial plans are to offer a regional series of "Lunch and Learn" events focused on "Turnaround Leadership" in the local church. This series will take place in various locations in North Carolina, South Carolina and Virginia in early 2020.

Learn more about the Center for Healthy Churches.

The Gardner-Webb University School of Divinity's primary function is "to equip persons

who are committed to Christian ministry to fulfill their calling at the highest level of the practice of ministry." The School fulfills this mission through academic programs and the Pittman Center for Congregational Enrichment, which sponsors training events for both laity and clergy. *In addition, the School hosts Bible study opportunities,* endowed lecture series, and an annual Pastors' School. *Learn more about the divinity school.*

Located in the North Carolina foothills, Gardner-Webb *University* is a private, Christian, liberal arts university. Gardner-Webb emphasizes a strong student-centered experience and rigorous academics to prepare students to become effective leaders within the global community. Ignite your future at Gardner-Webb.edu.

Bill Wilson