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Office of University
Communications

February 19, 2019

Boz Tchividjian Shares About His Ministry to Help Christian Communities Respond to Abuse

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.—In recent weeks, abuse within the church has received national and international attention. For the last 20 years, Boz Tchividjian, a grandson of the late evangelist, Rev. Billy Graham, has led efforts to care for the abused and to inform churches about the complexities of child abuse.

Tchividjian is the founder and executive director of GRACE (Godly Response to Abuse in the Christian Environment), a ministry that helps Christian communities recognize, prevent and respond to abuse. He will be speaking about his ministry at Gardner-Webb on Feb. 25 at 7 p.m. and then lead the Dimensions program on Feb.

26 at 9:25 a.m. Both programs are free and open to the public and will be held in Stewart Hall inside Tucker Student Center.

Tracy Jessup, vice president for Christian Life and Service and senior minister to the University, invited Tchividjian to speak after learning about his ministry.

“Unfortunately, the issue of abuse is scandalous in both Catholic and Protestant churches,” Jessup observed. “As Christians and as citizens, not only do we need to be aware, but we need to know how to respond. This topic will be the focus of the event on Monday evening sponsored by the Center for Christian Ethics and Social Responsibility.”

In addition to GRACE, Tchividjian has also spoken extensively on the subject of child abuse including the conferences sponsored by the American Association of Christian Counselors and the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of America (PCA). A co-author of “Thank You Billy Graham,” he has also written numerous law journal articles related to the issue of child sexual abuse and is also the author of “Protecting Children from Abuse at Church,” “Caring for Survivors of Sexual Abuse,” and “The Child Safeguarding Policy Guide for Churches and Ministries.” He currently serves as a law professor at Liberty University



School of Law in Lynchburg, Va.

A former assistant state attorney, Tchividjian served as chief prosecutor in the sexual crimes division where he gained experience in cases involving sexual abuse and later served as the attorney for the Child Advocacy Center in the southern United States.

During the Dimensions program on Tuesday morning, Tchividjian will bring a devotional message.

Auxiliary aids will be made available to persons with disabilities upon request 48 hours prior to the event. Please call 704-406-2155 or email disabilityservices@gardner-webb.edu with your request.

For more information about Tchividjian's ministry, visit netgrace.org.

Gardner-Webb's Dimensions program seeks to enhance the spiritual, intellectual and cultural life at the University and to promote a sense of community. More information is available by calling the GWU Office of Christian Life & Service at 704-406-4277 or visiting gardner-webb.edu.

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.