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Office of University Communications October 12, 2017

University to Host Annual Fall Festival at Main Campus on Oct. 26

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – Gardner-Webb University invites families to campus Oct. 26 for its annual Octoberfest event that will

offer children a variety of candy, games and other fun activities. The free evening of entertainment is set for 6-8 p.m. at Paul Porter Arena, inside the Lutz-Yelton Convocation Center on campus.

Children and their parents can wear costumes to the festival, which will include candy, pizza, popcorn and a variety of games and crafts. Inflatable rides and a train ride will also be offered as weather permits.

"Octoberfest provides families a safe place to come, dress up in their favorite costume, and engage in good, family fun," offered Mindy Robinson, coordinator for Community Engagement and Student Ministries. "The kids will get to participate in numerous games and activities, as well as collect tons of candy and other sweet treats."

More than 100 Gardner-Webb students, faculty and staff members will help organize and operate Octoberfest. "Gardner-Webb wants to be involved in our local community," Robinson shared. "We want our students to get to know people outside of our campus. Octoberfest serves as a way for our students to engage with the people in our community. Hopefully, by engaging with our students here at Gardner-Webb, local kids will be inspired and encouraged to pursue higher education."

The festivities started years ago when a group of professors and staff members decided they wanted to do a Trunk-or-Treat-style program for local children's homes. The event has since grown to serve hundreds of kids and their parents.

"Scripture tells us to love our neighbors as ourselves," Robinson stated. "We love our neighbors here at Gardner-Webb. Octoberfest is a practical way that we can show them this love. By putting on this free event, getting our students involved, and serving each child and family who walks through the door, I believe we are showing them the same love that Christ has shown us."

For more information about Octoberfest, email Robinson or call 704-406-3273.

Auxiliary aids will be made available to persons with disabilities upon request 48 hours prior to the event. Please call 704.406.4253 or email servicerequests@gardner-webb.edu with your request.

Located in the North Carolina foothills, Gardner-Webb University is a private, Christian, liberal arts university that prepares students to become critical thinkers, effective leaders and compassionate servants in the global community. Emphasizing a strong studentcentered experience and rigorous academics, Gardner-Webb ignites learning and service opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students. Ignite your future at Gardner-Webb.edu.