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GWU Dimensions Speaker Will Share How Helping Somali Refugees Renewed her Spirit

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Office of University
Communications

September 19, 2017

Breast Cancer Survivor Sarah Thebarger Discovered the Power of Helping Others

By Katie Furr ('20), GWU Intern for Communications

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.—Sarah Thebarger, a breast cancer survivor and inspirational speaker, will be featured at Gardner-Webb's Dimensions program on Tuesday, Sept. 26. This event will be held at 9:25 a.m. in Stewart Hall of Tucker Student Center on GWU's main campus and is free and open to the public.



Thebarger found her life uprooted after her battle with breast cancer, so she relocated to Portland, Oregon. This is where she met Hadhi, a Somali refugee, and her five young daughters. Thebarger helped them to settle into American culture, and through helping them, she found herself again. She recounts her riveting story in her memoir, "The Invisible Girls."

"Sarah Thebarger comes to Gardner-Webb through our partnership with Compassion International, a Christian ministry whose mission is to release children from poverty in Jesus' name," shares Dr. Tracy Jessup, vice president for Christian Life and Service and senior minister to the University.



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.

For more information about Sarah Thebarger, visit sarahthebarger.com.

Auxiliary aids will be made available to persons with disabilities upon request 10 days prior to the event. Please call 704-406-2155 or email servicerequests@gardner-webb.edu.

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 student-centered experience and rigorous academics, Gardner-Webb ignites learning and service

opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students. Ignite your future at Gardner-Webb.edu.