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Communications

May 11, 2017

Annual Event Offers Ministers Opportunity to Learn and Reflect on Church Themes

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – Gardner-Webb University's 2017 Pastors' School, an annual three-day educational retreat for pastors and students of ministry and theology, is scheduled for May 29 – 31 at GWU. Several speakers will share on the topic, "The Minister and Self-Care."

photo of Dover Chapel

The 2017 School will feature guest speaker Dr. Al Cadenhead, who retired in 2015 after more than 46 years in ministry—including the last 17 years as Senior Pastor of Providence Baptist Church in Charlotte, N.C. Cadenhead currently works part time as the assistant vice president for church advancement in the Office of Church Relations at Gardner-Webb.

Rachel Hill, director of Supportive Services for Hospice of Cleveland County, Adam Velez, director of Association Member Services for the Cleveland County YMCA; and Dr. Lamont Littlejohn, servant pastor/teacher at Mt. Calvary Baptist Church in Shelby, N.C., will also offer insights. Morning devotionals will be offered by Dr. Tracy Jessup, vice president for Christian Life and Service and senior minister to the University.

According to Dr. Danny West, professor of preaching at Gardner-Webb, the goal of the annual Pastors' School is to offer ministers the chance to learn, converse and reflect on topics related to church ministry, and to hear from leading thinkers on pressing current issues.

"For me, the Pastors' School is a time of renewal of both body and soul," West shared. "Ministers are by nature 'givers' and one of the dangers in ministry is allowing the pressures of ministry to deplete our spiritual resources. Our school is designed to allow ministers to be challenged and inspired by outstanding ministry practitioners, to enjoy much needed fellowship with other ministers, and to carve out moments for rest and relaxation. We attempt to incorporate all of these ingredients into our three-day event."

The deadline for registration is May 25. Cost is \$75 for participants, \$30 for additional church staff or spouses, and free for students. The cost of meals is \$40. Lodging in campus apartments is available for \$60 per night. For more information about the Pastors' School, visit gardner-webb.edu/pastors-school or contact [Lisa Hollifield](#) at (704) 406-3855 to register.

Auxiliary aids will be made available to persons with disabilities upon request 48 hours prior to the event. Please call 704.406.4264 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 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.