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Gardner-Webb University Choral Students Prepare for "Concert for a Cause" on May 3

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Gardner-Webb University Choral Students Prepare for "Concert for a Cause" on May 3

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Office of University Communications April 19, 2017

Performance in Shelby, N.C., to Benefit the Hungry in Our Community

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – Hungry community members will benefit from an upcoming musical performance being offered by Gardner-Webb University students.

University Chorale

On May 3, "Concert for a Cause" will feature the Gardner-Webb Chorale, Vocal Chamber Ensemble, and the Old Time Ensemble. The repertoire will be vast and will include selections from the Beatles, Bluegrass, Celtic, and original works by student composer Nathaniel W. Parks.

The free event begins at 7 p.m. at the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer in Shelby and will support the church's Shepherd's Table and Food Pantry. The ministry provides nearly 120 hot lunches each week and supplies nearly 60 families each week with fresh and non-perishable food items, clothing, and toiletries.

Dr. Morgan Soja, GWU Assistant Professor of Music Education and director of the GWU Chorale, helped students plan and execute a similar concert last fall, which also raised money for local food ministries. "We know that Gardner-Webb's motto, 'Pro Deo et Humanitate' (For God and Humanity), means that we should not just 'sing to the Lord' but also use our voices to serve the Lord as well," shares Soja. "Students always have the option to participate in this concert, and I am always so proud that they choose to allocate their time and passion toward helping others and really living our motto."

Concert attendees are encouraged to bring non-perishable food items, toiletries and monetary donations for the ministry. The Shepherd's Table serves lunch from 11:30



Photo Credit: The Shepherd's Table

a.m. to 12:30 p.m. every Wednesday, while The Food Pantry provides those in need the ability to shop the pantry's inventory for food and toiletries each Wednesday from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. Because of the frequency of these services, the church encourages individuals to support the ministries by donating canned food and/or meat, donating money online, or by signing up to volunteer.

To learn more about the upcoming Concert for a Cause, contact Dr. Morgan Soja at <u>msoja@gardner-webb.edu</u> or by calling (704) 406-2062. For more information about the food ministries offered at The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer in Shelby, N.C., visit redeemershelby.com.

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.