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GWU's Annual "Festival of Lights" Returns Dec. 3

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Office of University
Communications

November 20, 2015

Community Invited to Holiday Celebration Featuring Music, Tree Lighting

By Brooke Kelly, Communications Intern

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.—Gardner-Webb University's Festival of Lights has become an annual community tradition as a celebration of the holiday season for students, faculty, staff, alumni and members of the public. This year's event will be held Thursday, Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. in Dover Theatre, located inside the Lutz-Yelton Convocation Center on the GWU campus.

The free festival features the GWU concert choir, chorale and multiple small instrumental ensembles. Readings from the Old and New Testaments related to the Advent and Christmas season will also be shared throughout the evening.

Following the concert, members of the Gardner-Webb community will walk across campus, following a path of luminaries to the Quad for the official lighting of the campus Christmas tree. After the lighting of the tree, guests are invited to the Tucker Student Center for refreshments.

"This is a special time for the GWU family and the surrounding community," shares Dr. Paul Etter, professor and chair of the music department, as well as director of choral activities at GWU. "Some experience this as a kind of official beginning of the holiday season. We often have families that return yearly as they make this a part of their Christmas tradition. No matter if this is your first year or something you've attended regularly, I think you will enjoy the musical celebration of Christmas."

The annual Festival of Lights is Gardner-Webb's gift to the community and is a way to celebrate the Advent and Christmas season. Seating is limited for this event, so seats will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. The doors will open at 6:15 p.m.

For more information about this event, contact the music department at 704-406-4448.

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 Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University provides exceptional educational opportunities within a Christian environment, preparing students to think critically, to succeed professionally, and to serve faithfully as members of their local and global communities.