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Communications

November 6, 2014

Center for Christian Ethics and Responsibility Lecture Planned for Nov. 20

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – Gardner-Webb University's Center for Christian Ethics and Social Responsibility, in conjunction with Fireside Books and Gifts of Shelby, N.C., will host author and philanthropist Paul Leonard for a special lecture and book signing on Nov. 20 at 6:30 p.m. The event will be held in Stewart Hall at the Tucker Student Center on the Gardner-Webb campus, and is free and open to the public.

Leonard will discuss his spiritual journey and how it led to his work for Habitat for Humanity. He will highlight elements of his new book, *When the Spirit Moves*, in which he discusses aspects of his personal spiritual growth related to both the frustrations and benefits ever present with the human experience.

“Leonard’s journey in Christ led him to believe that life is best lived when it is offered in service towards others,” said Dr. Tom LeGrand, director of the GWU Center for Christian Ethics and Social Responsibility. “Our hope is that churches and individuals who know the work of Habitat for Humanity will enjoy the privilege of hearing from the man who once led the organization. This gathering will enable people to speak directly with a man who encourages others to answer the call to serve.”

When the Spirit Moves, a book of poems, essays and vignettes, invites readers to move forward into meaningful life by embracing their own spiritual gifts. Written in many ways as a fresh approach to psalms and parables from the biblical New Testament, the book invites readers to explore the gamut of human experience, yet concludes with a message of comfort in a poem titled, “Always.”

With an undergraduate degree from Davidson College (Davidson, N.C.), a Bachelor of Divinity from University of Chicago (Chicago, Ill.), and Master of Business Administration from Emory University (Atlanta, Ga.), Leonard has held a number of positions throughout his career to foster improvements in housing for those in need. He was elected to the Habitat for Humanity International Board of Directors in October 1995 and served a two-year term as chairman of the board beginning in 2001. He was named as the interim chief executive officer for Habitat for Humanity in 2004 and 2005.

Today, he is a member of the U.S. Council for Habitat for Humanity International. He currently serves as chairman of the Board of Directors for Crosland Interests, LLC, a real estate development company in Charlotte, N.C., and as a director for Charlotte-based Crowder Construction, a civil, environmental and industrial construction company.

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 Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University blends a liberal arts core curriculum with more than 55 major and minor professional programs of study, a comprehensive academic experience that flows from our Christian commitment to intellectual freedom, service and leadership.