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Office of University
Communications

October 9, 2014

Fall Break Activities to Include Several Volunteer Opportunities for Participants

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – Gardner-Webb University’s Community Engagement and Campus Recreation offices are joining forces for the inaugural Fall Break Service Trip to New York City, set for Oct. 17-21.

Brian Arnold, assistant director of student activities, and Micah Martin, director of student leadership development and community engagement, will accompany 14 students on a service-oriented trip to the Big Apple during fall break. While they are including time in their schedule for sightseeing, the primary purpose of the trip is to show students the wide range of volunteer and service opportunities through which they can become involved citizens.

“We’re doing this because God loves us and He calls us to serve,” Arnold shared. “This is our way of offering students a unique opportunity to exercise their ability to show love to others through their service and volunteerism.”

The group will leave GWU in the early morning hours of Friday, Oct. 17 and will likely arrive in the city late that afternoon. They will be up early on Saturday morning, because they will be running and/or volunteering for the Terry Fox Cancer Run 5K. “Those students and chaperones who aren’t planning to run will help throughout the race,” explained Arnold. “Several of us are going to run in the event, and we will help with event set up and tear down.”

Sunday plans include a visit to the National September 11 Memorial and Museum. The group expects to spend the morning hours in quiet reflection, and then will plan some sightseeing time later that afternoon.

On Monday, students will help with meal preparation and food service at The Holy Apostle Soup Kitchen. Founded in 1982, officials say it is currently the largest emergency feeding program in New York City and in the Episcopal Church nationally. Housed within the nave of the church, the soup kitchen serves over 1,200 meals every weekday and offers counseling and referral services to help the guests break the cycle of hunger, poverty, and despair.

“We hope this will become an annual event,” Arnold shared. “New York may not always be the destination though. We envision other service trips to cities like Chicago, Baltimore, Washington, D.C., and Boston. We’re excited about what the students will get to experience and hope this will remind all of us of the importance of offering our time to those who need it most.”

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.