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Gardner-Webb's Annual "Festival of Lights" Returns Dec. 5

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Public Invited to Holiday Event Featuring Christmas Music and More

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – Gardner-Webb University's *Festival of Lights* has become a Christmas tradition and is a way for students, faculty, staff and community members to usher in the holiday season. This year's event will be held Thursday, Dec. 5 at 7 p.m. in the Dover Theatre, located in the Lutz-Yelton Convocation Center on the Gardner-Webb campus. 

The event features the GWU concert choir, chorale, and other ensembles, under the direction of Dr. Paul Etter, director of choral activities at GWU.

"The Festival of Lights inaugurates the Gardner-Webb University celebration of Christmas," said Dr. Tracy Jessup, Gardner-Webb's vice president for Christian life and service. "This celebration includes songs, scripture readings, and prayers offered in thanksgiving to God, who so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son."

Following the festivities, the community will have the opportunity to walk across campus, as they follow a path of bright luminaries to the Quad for the official lighting of the campus Christmas tree. After the lighting of the tree, guests are invited to Tucker Student Center for refreshments.

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 with doors opening at 6:15 p.m.

For more information about this event, please contact the GWU Office of Communications at 704-406-3221.

Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University offers a comprehensive academic experience that introduces students to the diverse world of ideas and to the people who think them, preparing them for career success and for engaged, responsible citizenship in their professional, civic, and spiritual communities.