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Office of University Communications

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Hoyt Bynum Jr. is Chamber President, Local Pastor, and Advocate for Children

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. –Gardner-Webb University strives to produce well-rounded graduates who incorporate faith, service and leadership in their lives. Alum Hoyt Bynum Jr. is such a graduate; a successful businessman, a community servant, and a third-generation preacher.

Bynum received a bachelor's degree in business administration from Gardner-Webb University in 1993. During his time at Gardner-Webb, he was a well-rounded student and served as a member of the football team, the pianist for the GWU Gospel Choir, and an active member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA).

"My time at GWU shaped me into the business and community leader that I am today. It was definitely God's plan and purpose that led me to GWU," said Bynum. "The experiences I had at Gardner-Webb academically, socially and spiritually gave me the foundation and confidence I needed to succeed in life."

After graduating from Gardner-Webb, Bynum gained a great deal of experience working with nonprofit organizations. He has served as CEO with the Children's Shelter of the Upstate and Henderson County Habitat for Humanity. Bynum also served as an executive professional with three different Boys & Girls Club organizations over a period of 14 years.

"Boys & Girls Clubs inspire and educate disadvantaged young people to be responsible, productive and caring citizens," Bynum said. "Having the chance to offer love, hope and opportunity to children is what is so special about working at the clubs."

In 2005, Bynum answered his spiritual calling by becoming a third-generation preacher. "I am a minister of the Gospel. In August, I launched Born Anew Church in the Spartanburg County area," Bynum said. In addition to starting a new church, he is currently working on a Master of Art in Religion and Christian Leadership and recently took over as president of the Simpsonville (S.C.) Area Chamber of Commerce.

"One of my favorite verses in scripture is Romans 8:28, which states 'we know that in all things, God works for the good for those who love him, who have been called according to His purpose,'" Bynum reflected. "I'm grateful to live my life according to God's purpose. Now, it's up to me to continue to walk in obedience, love and favor of God."

As president and CEO of the Simpsonville Area Chamber of Commerce, he leads a group that strives to promote business, community and educational interests in order to yield a high quality of life for residents of the Simpsonville community.

Bynum believes his most important and fulfilling role is as husband to Shawna and father to Caleb and Naomi. “I couldn’t do the things I do without a loving, supportive and praying wife and two wonderful kids,” he shared. “I truly believe the best is yet to come.”

Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University provides exceptional education 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.