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Charlotte Minister to Speak on Imani at Dec. 1 Kwanzaa Celebration

The Rev. Trevor Beauford '00, who earned his B.A. in history at Winthrop, is the keynote speaker for this year's Kwanzaa celebration. The celebration will be held Dec. 1 at 7 p.m. in the DiGiorgio Campus Center ballroom.

Beauford, who is DeiVision Minister for Children, Youth and Singles at the church, will speak on Imani, or "faith," which is one of the seven principles of Kwanzaa. This year's 7 p.m. celebration in the DiGiorgio Campus Center ballroom will include Beauford's speech and performances by the WU Vision of Prayze Gospel Choir and the Association of Ebonites Dance Team. A short reception will follow at 8 p.m.

Beauford is an ordained minister who also serves as director of the Friendship Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools Volunteers Initiative and as a liaison to CMS schools. He is a member of the leadership teams of the American Baptist Churches, USA and the International Youth Development Department Team for the Lott Carey Baptist Foreign Mission Convention. He earned his B.A. in history at Winthrop and his M.Div. at Howard University. In addition, Beauford is a member of Leadership Charlotte; a mentor and active CMS volunteer; a member of the of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; co-chairman of the Beta Nu Lambda Foundation Beautilltion Program; and part of the Mecklenburg County Young Democrats. Beauford serves on the Board of Directors for Freedom School Partners, Mecklenburg County Kids Voting and the Winthrop University Alumni Association.

Kwanzaa, a non-religious celebration founded in 1966, is based on seven principles: unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity and faith. The principle of Imani signifies "believing in our people, our families, our educators, our leaders and the righteousness of the African-American struggle." Traditionally celebrated Dec. 26-Jan. 1, Kwanzaa is celebrated before Christmas break at Winthrop.

The Dec. 1 celebration is an approved cultural event for students. For more information, contact Dante Pelzer, program director for the Office of Multicultural Student Life, at 803/323-4524.