

## Inauguration Speaker Greg Boyd

Known for his dynamic, powerful speaking style and thought-provoking perspectives, Greg Boyd is an internationally recognized theologian, preacher, teacher and author. He is the founder and senior pastor of Woodland Hills Church in St. Paul, Minn. Boyd has authored or coauthored 18 books and numerous academic articles, including his best-selling and award-winning *Letters From a Skeptic.* 

In his works, Boyd challenges people to think critically in developing their faith. Ten years ago, in his book *God of the Possible*, Boyd argued that the future and the outcomes of our lives are not predetermined, but comprised of possibilities. With this, people have the capability to freely determine themselves, and to some extent determine "the way things are" and the flow of world history.

Boyd has written extensively about the challenge to live one's faith in the context of today's politics and social realities. In order to be true to one's faith and to avoid the



polarization of society, he believes truly faith-based communities should not be fused with any particular political viewpoint. His perspective has been featured on the front page of *The New York Times*, The Charlie Rose Show, CNN, National Public Radio, the BBC and numerous other television and radio venues.

In 2000, he founded Christus Victor Ministries, a nonprofit organization to support his writing and speaking ministry. The organization has assisted refugee families with finding stable housing and employment.

Boyd received his doctorate from Princeton Theological Seminary, his master of divinity from Yale Divinity School, and his bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota. He was a professor of theology for 16 years at Bethel University, St. Paul, Minn. President Dooley's wife, the Rev. Lynn Baker-Dooley, and their two children are all Bethel University graduates.

Boyd and his wife, Shelley, have been married for 30 years. They have three children and two grandchildren and live in St. Paul, Minnesota.