

STARR KING SCHOOL FOR THE MINISTRY

by vote of the Board of Trustees hereby awards to

The Reverend Doctor C. Welton Gaddy

The degree of *Sacrae Theologiae Doctor*

Rev. Dr. C. Welton Gaddy is a role model of religious leadership for social change. He is a tireless advocate for multi-religious activism to counter oppressions and create just and sustainable communities.

As president of the Interfaith Alliance in Washington, DC for 15 years and as Pastor for Preaching and Worship at the Northminster (Baptist) Church in Monroe, Louisiana for more than 20 years, Dr. Gaddy has earned a reputation as the most prominent advocate for religious freedom and protecting the separation of church and state. Dr. Gaddy is regularly consulted by public policymakers, think tanks, religious leaders, and the media on religious pluralism, progressive religious activism, and protection of religious minorities in the U.S.

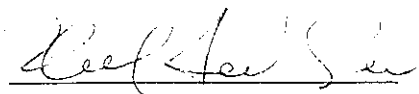
Dr. Gaddy preaches beyond the pulpit, raising a prophetic voice regularly in the public square. He has been an inspired and inspiring voice advocating the repeal of the Don't Ask Don't Tell policy in the military, making the religious case for marriage equality, and calling for the protection of LGBT teens. He speaks out for the protection of Muslims and other religious minorities from violence. He serves on the White House task force for the reform of the Office of Faith-Based Initiatives and Partnerships.

Dr. Gaddy is the author of 20 books, including *First Freedom First: A Citizen's Guide to Protecting Religious Liberty* and the *Separation of Church and State*. He also hosts the weekly radio program *State of Belief*, where he explores the role of religion in the life of the nation while exposing and critiquing both the political manipulation of religion for partisan purposes and the religious manipulation of government for sectarian purposes.

Dr. Gaddy has spoken clearly and courageously throughout his life as a religious leader. His message is one of love and inclusion, spirit, faith and justice.

With gratitude and humility we so award this degree

Sacrae Theologiae Doctor



Chair of the Board



President

May 23, 2013

Berkeley, California

STARR KING SCHOOL FOR THE MINISTRY

by vote of the Board of Trustees hereby awards to

The Reverend Phil Lawson

The degree of *Sacrae Theologiae Doctor*

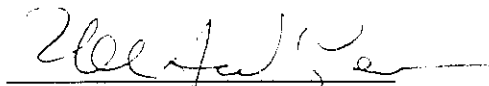
Rev. Phil Lawson has embodied the creation of the Beloved Community throughout his life's journey. He has steadfastly committed his resources - energy, intellect, experience, voice and feet - to building just, sustainable communities through combating oppression and celebrating the inherent dignity of all people as well as their diversity. Rev. Lawson was first introduced to nonviolence - which he embraces not merely as a strategy for social transformation but more profoundly as a way of life - when, at age 15, he became a member of the Fellowship of Reconciliation. A retired Methodist minister with an impressive legacy, he has been a prophetic pastor to congregations in Richmond, California and Kansas City, Missouri.

A giant of the civil rights movement, having worked directly with Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., his many ministries are marked by advocacy and actions for justice and peace. As a powerful community organizer, Rev. Lawson has been engaged with issues of immigrant rights, human and sexual freedom, a just wage for low wage workers, and economic development. He is now retired as Director of Interfaith Programs for East Bay Housing Organization, and is presently an organizer for the Council of Elders. He has shared his wealth of experience in effective non-violent social action with the Occupy Movement. He has also been an active participant with Greater Richmond Interfaith Program. Rev. Lawson is one of the founders of the Northern California Inter-Religious Conference. A popular guest lecturer at Starr King School for the Ministry, Rev. Lawson has taught the theological reflection class for community interns.

A profound thinker and activist, combining head and heart, he has been willing to follow the light of truth wherever it deemed he needed to go. Because of his authentic living and trust in life, he has illumined the path of many and brought to fore significant social change. The world is indeed a better place because of his audacious and inspiring living.

With gratitude and humility we so award this degree.

Sacrae Theologiae Doctor



Chair of the Board



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President