

A WILL TO PREACH



For immediate release:

Half-hour documentary film 'A Will to Preach' examines perspective, impact of Bishop William Willimon

COLUMBIA, S.C. – **A Will to Preach**, a half-hour documentary film examining the perspective and impact of renowned minister Bishop William Willimon, is being made available to public television stations this spring. Presented by South Carolina ETV (SCETV) and distributed by American Public Television (APT), the project was produced by Susie Films.

William Henry Willimon is an American theologian and bishop in the United Methodist Church. He is currently professor of the Practice of Christian Ministry and director of the Doctor of Ministry program at Duke Divinity School, where he previously served as dean of the school's chapel for two decades. One of America's best-known, most influential and most frequently read preachers, Willimon has authored approximately 80 books.

To examine Willimon's perspective and theology, **A Will to Preach** touches on several characteristics of his preaching style, including his affinity for storytelling, his use of laughter and his desire to act as a provocateur, emphasizing the radicality of Jesus Christ. The film features archived footage of past sermons delivered by Willimon, as well as interviews with students, colleagues at Duke Divinity School, fellow ministers and his wife, Patsy Willimon.

For more information on Susie Films, visit www.susiefilms.com. For more on SCETV, visit www.scetv.org.

About American Public Television:

American Public Television (APT) is the leading syndicator of high-quality, top-rated programming to the nation's public television stations. For more than 10 years, APT has annually distributed one-third or more of the top 100 highest-rated public television titles in the U.S. Founded in 1961, among its 250 new program titles per year, APT programs include prominent documentaries, performance, news and current affairs programs, dramas, how-to programs, children's series and classic movies. America's Test Kitchen From Cook's Illustrated, Cook's Country, AfroPoP, Rick Steves' Europe, Front and Center, Doc Martin, Nightly Business Report, Midsomer Murders, A Place to Call Home, Lidia's Kitchen, Globe Trekker, Simply Ming, and P. Allen Smith's Garden Home are a sampling of APT's programs, considered some of the most popular on public television. APT licenses programs internationally through its APT Worldwide service. Now in its 12th year, Create@TV — featuring the best of public television's lifestyle programming — is distributed by American Public Television. APT also distributes WORLD™, public television's premier news, science and documentary channel. To find out more about APT's programs and services, visit APTonline.org.

About South Carolina ETV and Public Radio

South Carolina ETV (SCETV) is the state's public educational broadcasting network. Using television, radio and diverse digital properties, SCETV's mission is to enrich lives by educating children, informing and connecting citizens, celebrating our culture and environment and instilling the joy of learning. SCETV currently presents "Carolina Classrooms," "Expeditions," "Making it Grow," "Palmetto Scene," "Reconnecting Roots," "Reel South," "Somewhere South," "This Week in South Carolina," "Yoga in Practice" and "Live from Charleston Music Hall" on public television in addition to the national radio production, "Chamber Music from Spoleto Festival USA."

Media Contact:

Jeremy Cauthen

jcauthen@scetv.org

803-737-3433