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Annual Kwanzaa Celebration to be Held

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Annual Kwanzaa Celebration to be Held

November 30, 2010

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – A dinner celebrating Kwanzaa will be held on Thursday, Dec. 2 at 6 p.m. in the Davidson Room of Memorial Center (104 University St., Bloomington).

The event is free and open to Illinois Wesleyan students, faculty and staff.

During the event, the Black Student Union will give an informational presentation on the holiday.

Kwanzaa is an African-American and Pan-African holiday celebrated from December 26 to January 1. With origins in the first harvest celebrations of Africa, the name Kwanzaa is derived from the phrase “matunda ya kanza,” which means “first fruits” in Swahili, the most widely spoken African language.

Kwanzaa celebrates family, community and culture through what are called “The Seven Principles of Kwanzaa” or “Nguzo Saba.” These principles are: umoja (unity), kujichagulia (self-determination), ujima (collective work and responsibility), ujamaa (cooperative economics), nia (purpose), kuumba (creativity) and imani (faith).

For additional information, contact the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs at (309) 556-3412

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