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Illinois Wesleyan University

NEWS RELEASE

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January 16, 2008

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Chapel Hour to Celebrate Martin Luther King, Jr.

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Illinois Wesleyan University will present a chapel hour on Wednesday, Jan. 23 at 11:00 a.m. in the Evelyn Chapel (1301 N. Park St., Bloomington).

The service is open to the public.

In commemoration of Martin Luther King Day, which falls on Jan. 21 this year, chapel hour will recognize King's achievements by focusing on how to defend justice and peace just as King did.

Carren Moham, associate professor of music at Illinois Wesleyan, will lead the service, titled "A Festival of Spirituals and Songs in Honor of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr."

According to Moham, "This is the tenth year for the program, which highlights not only songs that were meaningful and important to the Civil Rights Movement, but were also representative, in some way, of important events in the history of African-Americans in this country."

The service will incorporate performances by students and faculty, including both vocal and instrumental pieces.

Illinois Wesleyan has a special connection to King's legacy. The civil rights leader, who twice visited campus in the 1960s, delivered the 1966 Illinois Wesleyan University Founders Day Address to a crowd of 3,000 people where he spoke on various civil rights issues including economic inequality.

A celebrated civil rights leader, King is best known for helping lead the Montgomery Bus Boycott and for organizing the 1963 March on Washington where he delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech. These efforts and his 1964 Nobel Peace Prize established King as one of the driving forces in the civil rights movement of the 1960s.

For additional information, contact the Chaplain's office at (309) 556-3005.

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