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Dinner to Celebrate Breaking the Fast of Ramadan
October 10, 2006

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. - Illinois Wesleyan University's University Chapel Hour and Special Events and Services and the IWU Muslim Student Association will host a dinner in celebration of breaking the fast of Ramadan on Tuesday, Oct. 24, at 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Davidson Room of the Memorial Center, 104 E. University St., in Bloomington.

The service is free and open to the public.

Ramadan is the Muslim month of fasting in which followers dedicate daylight hours to worship and prayer while abstaining from food, drink, violence, envy, greed and lust to seek a raised level of closeness to God and to cleanse their inner souls. In the Muslim faith they believe that during the month of Ramadan, Allah, their god, revealed the first verses of the Qur'an, the holy book of Islam, to the prophet Muhammad.

Ramadan begins during the 9th month of the Muslim calendar, Hijri, and ends on Eid al-Fitr, the first day of the month of Shawwal. On the day of Eid, practicing Muslims give charity called "Zakatul Fitr" and pray in Islamic mosques and community centers. At this ending celebration, people dress in their finest clothes, adorn their homes with lights and decorations and share their blessings by feeding the poor and making contributions to mosques.

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

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