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University Chapel to Honor Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

January 17, 2007

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. - Illinois Wesleyan University's weekly chapel hour will honor the life of civil rights leader and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Martin Luther King, Jr. with a service for peace on Wednesday, Jan. 17 at 11 a.m. in the Evelyn Chapel (1310 Park St., Bloomington).

Co-coordinated by the student group Young People Called to Action and by IWU's Multicultural Student Affairs Office, the service is free and open to the public.

Joel Rogers, head of education leadership at State Farm Insurance, will speak about educational development projects in communities around throughout the nation. While in Washington D.C., Rogers did undergraduate research on the sermons and speeches written by King. Based on King's ideals, Roger's talk will focus on the many opportunities individuals have to make a personal commitment to community leadership and service.

Also included in the program are hymn selections by University Organist Susan Klotzbach and a tribute to King by the Eta Tau Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha. Established in 1906, Alpha Phi Alpha was the first intercollegiate African American fraternity. Alpha Phi Alpha is currently gathering funding for a permanent memorial to be constructed in Washington, D.C. in honor of King, who was a prominent member of the fraternity.

The chapel hour is part of a week of events held in memory of King, who spoke at IWU twice during the height of the civil rights movement, in 1961 and 1966.

For additional information, contact the IWU Dean of Students Office at (309) 556-3111.

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