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Katherine Filippo

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ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

NEWS RELEASE

Office of Communications, P.O. Box 2900, Bloomington, IL 61702-2900

(309) 556-3181 univcomm@iwu.edu www.iwu.edu/~iwunews

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Contact: Katherine Filippo, '12, (309) 556-3181 univcomm@iwu.edu

Hanukkah Dinner and Celebration

BLOOMINGTON, III.— On Wednesday, Dec. 5, the campus community is invited to a Hanukkah dinner hosted by Hillel, Illinois Wesleyan University's Jewish student religious organization. The dinner begins at 6 p.m. in the Turfler Room in the Memorial Center (104 University St., Bloomington).

Hanukkah, which begins this year on the evening of Saturday, Dec. 8 and runs through Sunday, Dec. 16, commemorates the recapture of the Jewish temple from the Syrians in 165 BCE by a Jewish group called the Maccabees. The Maccabees rededicated their temple to God, but only had enough oil to light the temple lamps for one night. The oil lasted for eight days, allowing the Maccabees to prepare more oil. Every year, Jewish families celebrate the eight days of Hanukkah by lighting one candle each night for the eight nights on the menorah, a particular kind of candelabra, and exchanging gifts.

For additional information on the event, contact the Office of Communications at (309) 556-3181.