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Media Advisory

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Illinois Wesleyan University

NEWS RELEASE

Illinois Wesleyan University News Service, P.O. Box 2900, Bloomington, IL 61702-2900

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October 27, 2003 Contact: Laura Sahn (309)556-3181

Media Advisory

Event: University Chapel Hour and Special Events: Larry D. Pickens, senior

pastor of First United Methodist Church of Elgin, Ill., will present

"Blazing an Unpredictable Path Through Life"

Date: Nov. 5 (Wednesday)

Time: 11 a.m.

Location: Evelyn Chapel, 1301 N. Park St., Bloomington

Admission: Free and open to the public

Background: African-American minister, lawyer, and activist, Larry D. Pickens is

involved in ministry that advocates a commitment to justice, economical development, and humanity. In addition to his role as Senior Pastor of First United Methodist Church, Elgin, Pickens is a member of the United

Methodist Judicial Council which interprets church law of United

Methodism. He also is a member of the Illinois and South Carolina Bar

Associations.

Having served inner city congregations in Chicago for 15 years, Pickens is currently an extern in the Chicago Office of the United States Trustee for evaluating bankruptcy. He serves as president of the Felton Housing Foundation for the development of affordable housing for senior citizens

in Chicago.

Pickens is a graduate of North Park University in Chicago, where he studied political science. He also holds degrees from Chicago Theological Seminary (D. Min) and Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary (M. Div.). He received a juris doctorate degree from DePaul University

College of Law in Chicago.

Contact: For additional information, contact the Illinois Wesleyan University

Chaplain's office at (309) 556-3005.

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