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Recitals, Performance Celebrate 25 Years of Evelyn Chapel and Jordan Organ

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Illinois Wesleyan University

NEWS RELEASE

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March 24, 2009

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Recitals, Performance Celebrate 25 Years of Evelyn Chapel and Jordan Organ

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Illinois Wesleyan University will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Evelyn Chapel (1301 N. Park St., Bloomington) with a series of commemorative events on Saturday, March 28. The celebration, which requires reservations, is free and open to the public.

Alumni organ recitals will begin at 3 p.m. A reception will be held at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner and a celebratory concert by Marilyn Keiser, 1963 Illinois Wesleyan alumna and retired Indiana University music professor, at 7:30 p.m. After Keiser's performance, the central Illinois chapter of American Guild Organist will host a reception in the chapel.

Named after Evelyn Sheean, benefactor and friend of the University, the Evelyn Chapel was built in 1984 and houses several campus religious activities, as well as the office of University Chaplain Hope Luckie. In 1985, the chapel received an Interior Architecture Award from the Chicago Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

Also celebrating its 25th anniversary is the chapel's organ, known as the Alice Yost and Frank B. Jordan organ. Installed in 1984, the Jordan organ was designed and built by Quebec Casevant Organ Co., Inc. The 39-and-a-half rank organ was endowed and provided by Professor Frank B. and Alice Yost Jordan of Des Moines, Iowa. Yost Jordan is a world-renowned composer, and Jordan was a former director of Illinois Wesleyan's School of Music who later became dean of Drake University's School of Fine Arts. Under his leadership at Drake, the school grew in stature and ranked among the best schools of music in the nation.

For reservations to the event, contact Evelyn Chapel at (309) 556-3005.