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2002 Collegiate Choir Embarks on Spring Tour

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BLOOMINGTON, Ill. --Listed below is the tour itinerary for the Illinois Wesleyan University Collegiate Choir.

Saturday, March 16

1st Congregational
Church
United Church of Christ
2201 7th Ave.
Moline, IL

Sunday, March 17

Faith Lutheran Church
10395 University Ave.
Clive, IA

Monday, March 18

First Lutheran Church
1555 40th Ave. N. E.
Columbia Heights, MN

Wednesday, March 20

1st Presbyterian Church
200 S. Ashland
Green Bay, WI

Thursday, March 21

Baker Memorial United Methodist
Church
East Main and 3rd Ave.
St. Charles, IL

Friday, March 22

Tabernacle Presbyterian
Church
418 E. 34th St.
Indianapolis, IN

Saturday, March 23

Second Presbyterian
Church
4501 Westminster Pl.
St. Louis, MO

Tuesday, March 26

St. John's Lutheran Church
1617 E. Emerson St.
Bloomington, IL

The IWU Collegiate Choir has established a long history of excellence through its on-campus performances, annual tours and recordings. The choir also sponsors the IWU Choral Commission Series, which in its 50-year history has added many significant works to the choral repertoire and resulted in a number of important world premieres at IWU.

The 51-voice choir is composed of student musicians representing the school of music and other areas of the university and is dedicated to the performance of the finest sacred and secular choral music of the past five centuries. Students in the choir are selected by audition and maintain a rigorous rehearsal schedule in preparation for their concert tour and other engagements throughout the year.

The choir is under the direction of Dr. J. Scott Ferguson, IWU associate professor of music and director of choral activities. Under his direction, choral ensembles have received critical acclaim for their "exquisite discipline, enthusiastic singing and total responsiveness," and for being "one unit of lovely responsive layered sound." Programs have been called "wonderfully well-selected, versatile, interesting and musical."

The program will include selections from the Renaissance to the twenty-first century, featuring sacred compositions by Schütz, Mouton, Gibbons, Brahms and Penderecki, early American sacred music and secular compositions by Sarah Hopkins and Jakko Mantyjärvi. Of special interest will be the world premiere of "Nocturne" by IWU composer David Vayo, commissioned by the Collegiate Choir for the 2002 Concert Tour.