FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Murray, KY— All the Way Through Evening: An Ecumenical Liturgy for World AIDS Day, a candlelight vigil to remember the lives lost and to pray for those currently suffering from AIDS, will be held at the First Presbyterian Church on Main and 16th Streets in Murray on Tuesday, December 1, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. This program will be followed by a reception at the church and the AIDS Memorial Quilt opening ceremony at 7:00 p.m. in the MSU Curris Center Ballroom.

Sponsored by Murray State University’s Office of Regional Stewardship & Outreach and the Department of Music, this non-denominational service will be led by baritone Patrick Evans, Associate Professor at the Yale University Institute of Sacred Music. As an opera, oratorio and recital singer, Evans has toured the United States and Japan, and has been a fellow of the Tanglewood Music Festival and Cleveland Art Song Festival. In his work with sacred music, Evans recently joined a team of church musician/teachers spending two weeks in Uganda, teaching and learning from African church musicians and pastors.

Also performing will be Swiss pianist Djordje Stevan Nesic. Nesic's career includes recital, concerto, chamber collaborative and vocal coaching work, frequently appearing in Carnegie’s Weill Hall. Nesic currently lives in New York City, working as a freelance musician and serving as Artist-in-Residence at Broadway Presbyterian Church. Both Nesic and Evans have presented programs focused upon the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt and the AIDS Quilt Songbook for over a decade.

Drawing on multiple Christian traditions of song and prayer, this program in Murray will lift up those affected by the global HIV/AIDS pandemic, providing a time of remembrance, naming, and candle lighting in the hope that the world will soon see an end to this world health crisis.

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