

April 10, 2007

Mary Ann Moman
Associate
General Secretary
(615) 340-7357
email:
mmoman@gbhem.org

To Whom It May Concern:

As a former pastor of Broadway United Methodist Church and as the Associate General Secretary of the United Methodist Church's General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for *The Miracle on 29th Street*. This campaign for the Mapleton-Fall Creek neighborhood embraces what's best in the area's residents – especially the precious resource of young people – and provides a solid plan to make things even better.

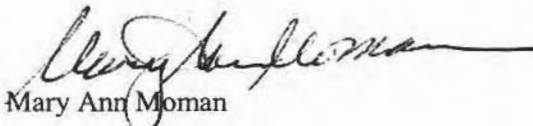
The Miracle on 29th Street will create opportunities to support children and youth in school, in church, and in the community. Broadway is collaborating with other congregations in the area to create and enhance ministries that will focus on strengthening people's connection with their families and with their neighbors in ways that have not previously been possible. Stronger connections between family and community will undoubtedly lead to greater educational opportunity; as the community gets stronger, the area will celebrate more young people graduating and excelling academically. In turn, more opportunities will be available for these young people to attend college. So, not only will this campaign promote ministries of immediate impact, it will also realize opportunities for community development on a "generational" scale.

In the years since I served at Broadway, I have had the opportunity to witness how other congregations respond to the unique challenges presented by ministry in low-income communities. The neighborhoods that thrive are those where local churches have come together to work in partnership with area residents. Based on my experience there, I know Broadway has always enjoyed a great relationship with other area congregations, small and large. I'm delighted to see that the bond between these faith communities is still strong as they continue to work together. *The Miracle on 29th Street* will bear the fruit of deeper and broader interfaith partnerships for the benefit of the Mapleton-Fall Creek neighborhood.

I am also encouraged by Broadway's continued commitment to being a teaching place for seminarians and others. Interns from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and Christian Theological Seminary, as well as Indiana University, Butler University and other schools, have had the opportunity to learn and grow at Broadway. *The Miracle on 29th Street* will become a model for urban ministry, and the seminarians and other students who experience it firsthand at Broadway will carry the model with them in their future roles as clergy, as social workers and as other servant leaders.

Through the efforts of Rev. Mike Mather and Dr. Rachel Metheny, church staff and lay leaders, great things have happened in and around Broadway. *The Miracle on 29th Street* is a campaign about acknowledging what has already worked and making it work even better through collaboration, connection, dreaming and doing. I wholeheartedly endorse this effort and look forward to witnessing firsthand the results of this extraordinary undertaking.

Sincerely,


Mary Ann Moman

**The United
Methodist Church**
1001 Nineteenth
Avenue, South
P.O. Box 340007
Nashville, TN
37203-0007
U.S.A.

(615) 340-7357
FAX (615) 340-7048
www.gbhem.org