



Partners for Sacred Places

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of Partners for Sacred Places, I am very pleased to provide this letter of support for Rev. Mike Mather and Broadway United Methodist Church's ***Miracle on 29th Street*** campaign.

As you may know, Partners provides assistance to the people who care for sacred places while promoting a new understanding of how these places sustain communities. I have been privileged to know Mike for several years – he has helped us train many congregations in how to embrace and strengthen their role in the community. Mike understands that church – “church” in general and Broadway Church specifically – is not just for a certain set of people on Sunday morning; it’s for all people, all the time. And the members of Broadway’s congregation join him in this belief.

Broadway Church has partnered with the local development corporation, other congregations, and the larger community, genuinely connecting with neighbors to explore their gifts, hear their stories, see their hopes and dreams. The people of Broadway Church have adopted a “parish” mindset; their ministry shows not only their love of God and each other, but also their love of the neighboring community and the individuals and families who make it up.

It is clear to me that ***The Miracle on 29th Street*** addresses how the people of Broadway care for their parish family, but also how the people of Broadway care for the church building itself. By developing and implementing plans to maintain the church facilities, Rev. Mather and his congregation are taking proactive steps now to prepare for their future. By caring for the building today, they are ensuring the sustainability of current and emerging ministries tomorrow.

The work that Mike and Broadway Church have undertaken is already setting a good example for many other urban, community-serving congregations, and we are eager to support and follow that work. Broadway’s ability to tell its story and engage additional funding partners will ensure that its presence and outreach will flourish, continuing to touch the lives of hundreds of families in the community they hold so dear.

Sincerely,

A. Robert Jaeger
Executive Director

*Promoting the Stewardship
and Active Community Use
of America's Older Religious
Properties*

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