Founary United Methodist Church

J. Philip Wogaman
Senior Minister

July 28, 2000

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF ZONING
'00 AUG -2 P2:42

Mrs. Sheila Cross Reid, Chairperson
Board of Zoning Adjustment of the District of Columbia
441 4th Street, N.W. – Suite 210-S
Washington, D. C. 20005

Re: Parking Lot Application of St. Luke's Episcopal Church
File numbers 16593 and 16594

Dear Mrs. Reid and Members of the Board:

As Senior Minister of a neighboring congregation, I wish to support St. Luke's Episcopal Church in its application for use of their parking lots. I am frankly surprised, and even a bit mystified, that anybody should question the right of this venerable church to its use of those lots. I cannot imagine that their use would be irresponsible nor anything but an asset to the community. The assurances that St. Luke's Church has given in this regard are impressive and dependable.

St. Luke's has occupied the present site for 125 years. It was there long before any of the residences of the few who are complaining about this. Indeed, is it not true that those who oppose the parking lots purchased their homes in full knowledge that those lots were there and were in use by the church?

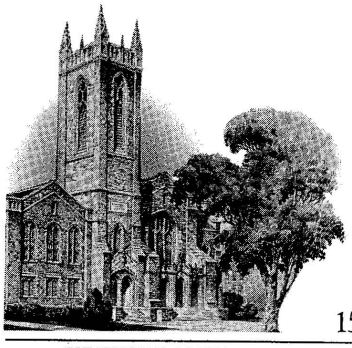
We are their neighbors. We consider them to be good neighbors, in every respect an asset to the community of which we are a part. The District of Columbia, though neutral about all issues of religion, clearly benefits from the presence of houses of worship. They should be encouraged, not handicapped.

When the matter comes before the Board on September 5, would it be possible for a representative of our church to be present to indicate our support of St. Luke's application?

Sincerely yours,

J. Philip Wogaman

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BZA
Case No. 16594
Exhibit No. 27

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16594
EXHIBIT NO.27