



September 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter of recommendation for the Miller Architects and Builders firm of St. Cloud, Minnesota.

During the past two plus years, I have served as the Facilities Design and Facilities Construction Team Chair for Windsor Heights Lutheran Church, Windsor Heights, Iowa, as we undertook and completed a \$4 million new construction and remodeling project at our church. During this time, I worked primarily with the following personnel from Miller A & B.

- David TeBrake – Executive Vice-President
- Scott Hanson – Project Manager
- Brad Torok – Architect
- Dick Wehrs – Consultant
- Arden Holzheimer – Project Superintendent

In addition, I had occasion to have contact with some other Miller personnel.

From the beginning as we determined the financial feasibility of raising the funds for the project, through sessions determining facility needs and mission, drafting preliminary and final plans and then entering the construction phase, it was very rewarding to work with Miller to accomplish our facility expansion. In all cases, the consultants, engineers, owners, architects and superintendents provided excellent guidance and support. Perhaps the most important attribute of the firm is that they possess a lot of expertise in designing facilities for churches whether it is remodeling or expansion. Although St. Cloud is some distance from Windsor Heights, it did not present any obstacles as far as communication and logistical support. One of the first requests from Miller was to seek our advice on local contractors and they honored that as much as they possibly could accomplish.

As most of us understand, when working with a team of fifteen or more church members on the design and construction phases, there are lots of varying opinions and much advice. Miller personnel were patient and helped us work through major and minor issues. When we felt the need to have support or assurance from the owners of Miller, they were quick to be available and to respond directly to our team.

There are several strengths of the Miller firm. Here are a few.

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- Architect Brad Torok did a masterful job in designing the facility expansion and remodeling to meet our space needs and mission. He essentially began with two rectangular box-shaped parts of the old facility and created very welcoming and useable areas. A very creative approach.
- Project Manager Scott Hanson guided us on every detail of construction and the many decisions that had to be made to begin and complete the project. Every aspect was attended to and his knowledge was very valuable.
- Consultant Dick Wehrs guided us through the decision and fund-raising aspects and then gave us a great start to the beginning of the bidding and construction phases.
- Executive Vice-President David TeBrake was always available to provide assurance and support and lent credibility to efforts of both Miller and Windsor Heights Lutheran Church.
- Project Superintendent Arden Holzheimer came to WHLC and immediately endeared himself to members of the congregation and became part of our culture. He worked tirelessly to coordinate the various trades and to keep us all informed of progress and issues. "Let's ask Arden" became a familiar statement. He got to know the staff, the members, the local city staff, and the residential and business neighbors. He did know north from south from east from west—although maybe posted on the walls of his work trailer!

I do not hesitate to recommend the Miller firm to any group or organization considering the design and construction of new facilities or the remodeling of present space. Please contact me if further dialogue is desired.

Sincerely,



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