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May 16, 2011

**City of Madison
Urban Design Commission
215 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd
Madison, WI 53703**



My husband and I are life-long residents of the City of Madison and life-long members of Luther Memorial Church. We wish to go on record to oppose the planned construction of a high-rise student housing unit on the virtual door-step of Luther Memorial.

This setting on University Avenue has long been a distinctive part of the urban landscape and will be ruined if our church is boxed in by this behemoth. My grandparents were part of the founding of this congregation, and father was a student when he became part of this church and met my mother there. This church was part of the University's encouragement to make this section of University Ave. a religious retreat for students, from St. Francis Episcopal, to First Congregational, with Luther Memorial & the Methodist Church between.

This proposed plan, as presented by the developer of the St. Francis site, would not only ruin the approach on University Avenue, but a tower on this site as planned would darken & dwarf the beautiful, historical edifice that is Luther Memorial.

Please consider this change and keep our distinctive city from looking like so many other cities. Madison is better than that.

Nancy & Jerry Miller