

# Christ CHURCH

*Real People • Real Faith • Real Life*

August 25, 2020

To Whom it May Concern:

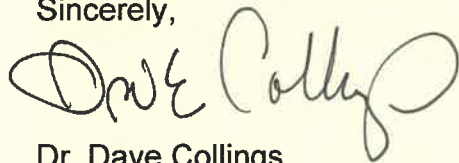
I recommend to you Charles Lyons without reservation. I met Charles when we were both boys going to Bible College. I recognized in him at that time a divine calling and a personal passion for urban ministry. After Bible College, Charles went to inner city Chicago and I went to suburban Cleveland. Over the years, I watched Charles build a thriving congregation with a multiethnic ministry. Charles demonstrated a deep faith in the redeeming work of Jesus Christ, a remarkable courage to do ministry where gangs often prevailed, and a patient perseverance to do four decades of ministry at one location.

Charles also created an impressive track record of mentoring other young men for ministry—many who now pastor thriving urban churches. He has a rare gift for bringing the best of the church to bear in the most difficult challenges generated by urban life.

Charles' ministry received recognition from city and state leaders. President Obama acknowledged Charles' unique ministry in Chicago with a personal call.

I have very high standards for who preaches in my church. And I have invited Charles to preach often. I recognize his unquestionable faith in Christ, his moral integrity, and his unselfish service. In the last 40 years I also observed Charles lives by a very high Christian standard. I saw it when we were young and I still see it to this day. I believe in Charles as a man of God and recommend him to you with highest acclamation.

Sincerely,



Dr. Dave Collings

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