



### **De'Amon Harges - Roving Listener**

Many of you already know De'Amon Harges or have seen him bustling around the church and out in the surrounding community. You may wonder or have asked someone "What does he do?" De'Amon's role as a Roving Listener is a vital component of the Miracle on 29th Street initiative.

In 2005, after recognizing De'Amon's talents in listening and engaging with people, Pastor Mike Mather asked De'Amon to join the Miracle on 29th Street team as the Roving Listener. De'Amon reaches past the idle chit chat and has a way (rather a gift) of pulling people out of their shells and putting them at ease so that what develops is a heart-to-heart conversation. His demeanor invites people to share with him their stories and dreams. What is unique about De'Amon's listening is his ability to draw people, both from in the neighborhood and from the church community, into conversations that provide a window into the miracle of naming, blessing and connecting. In addition, De'Amon continues to learn about individuals even after their personal conversation is over. He understands that people have a hard time bragging about themselves, so, he follows up his conversations by speaking with neighbors, friends and co-workers who might know these people to get a well-rounded and complete picture.

The gifts and talents that individuals share with De'Amon and his fellow Roving Listeners are the building blocks of what makes up the Miracle on 29th Street. The Miracle on 29th Street is an initiative surrounding the church and community and connecting individuals and their talents together to strengthen our neighborhood and eventually build up the area's sense of community and economy.

In his role as a Roving Listener, De'Amon serves as one of our connections to the community. He has gathered unbelievable stories of courage, strength and dreams, which will impact you and your life in ways you may not understand or recognize right away. These stories will be shared and utilized to encourage growth, strengthen our bonds with each other and to help fulfill the dreams we all have, but perhaps never thought could be reached. Allow yourself to take part in the Miracle and see how it will affect you and how you can pass it along to others in the spirit of community and fellowship.

