

**(COPY & PASTE THE TEXT BELOW INTO THE BODY OF YOUR EMAIL)**

Hello,

I am reaching out to you about the construction of the new Redeemer East Side Worship Ministry Center at 150 East 91st Street.

Redeemer Presbyterian Church is proposing to construct a 12-story megachurch at 150 East 91st Street, a mid-block lot on a quiet residential street. If their project goes forward as planned, they will build across the full width of the lot and eliminate an 18-foot lightwell that has separated their lot from the adjacent residential building, 160 East 91st Street "160E91", for nearly 120 years. This means that their walls will come within three feet of the windows and fire escapes at 160E91 and could block the air, light, and fire exits in 24 apartments in 160E91 building. Residents of these apartments could be trapped with no light, no ventilation, and no way to safely exit the building in the event of a fire.

To add insult to injury, Redeemer has filed error-riddled drawings with the Department of Buildings, omitting the light and air well, claiming more square footage than permitted by law, and proposing to erect a gigantic cross that will top out at 200 feet above street level when zoning laws do not allow signs, religious or otherwise, more than 25 feet above street level.

Redeemer has been asked to add a modest 5-foot setback to their building to allow sufficient light and air and fire safety in these 24 apartments, but Redeemer has refused. Representatives from Redeemer declined even to enter 160E91's building to see firsthand what their aggressive plans would do. They would rather turn apartments into dark, airless deathtraps than scale back their project a measly five feet...all so they can make their megachurch even more mega!

Would you treat your neighbor this way? Apparently Redeemer, which claims "Neighborhood: we are sent into the Neighborhoods in which we are rooted, to love people where they are, serve the community and seek justice for all who are nearby and those in need" as a value, does not include its immediate neighbors in its declaration of love and justice!

The plea of the residents and shareholders of 160E91, is not unreasonable: they request that the Church provide a modest 5-foot recess (not the original 15 feet that existed for more than a century) so as to provide for a decent amount of light and air for 24 apartments in the N, O and P lines.

As Redeemer has been part of the Upper East Side community for decades, we ask for consideration.

Residents of 160E91 street require light, air, and access to fire escapes. With the shift to remote and hybrid work since covid, many of our apartments have also become our offices. The numerous hours spent in our homes would not be possible without access to air and light. The last pandemic has also given a new impetus to the need for air (especially when a virus is airborne).

We impress upon Redeemer that a Church can only be built on love and respect for its neighbors.

For more information about the impact to 160E91, please visit [www.justfivefeet.com](http://www.justfivefeet.com). Thank you for supporting your neighbors.

Respectfully,