



**BROWN
MEMORIAL
PARK AVENUE**

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

2016

Annual Report



— OUR MISSION —

Emboldened by the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, we strive to bear witness to the reconciling love of God by nurturing an inclusive community, wrestling with Scripture and tradition, and working for justice and peace.

Pastor's Message

A clergy friend's year-end Christmas letter closed by announcing that he and his spouse are hoping for a 2017 that is "less apocalyptic than what we are expecting." The obvious political reference in a Christmas card reminded me that this year we don't have the luxury of allowing our faith to be separated from the world around us.

Jesus' command to love your neighbor as yourself, and his teaching that this kind of love is inextricable from loving God, feels more political than ever, though not in the partisan tone that we've come to accept as the norm for how politics is to be conducted.

Thankfully, Brown Memorial has 148 years of experience nurturing Christians in the real world to lower our anxiety, and sharpen that mission for such a time as this. But frankly, it's not the 148 years that I'm counting on to ground us in 2017. It's the thousands of years of God's story of struggle, of liberation, and redemption, rooted in the memories of the biblical text that keeps me not fearful, but actually excited about our vocation in this time and place.

We've seen the fruits of that story working its way through our church in 2016. In last year's message, I indicated we would be exploring the feasibility of a capital campaign. More than 100 pledges and nearly \$1.2 million later, we celebrate God's generosity and move toward renovating our Fellowship Building to help us continue the growth of our church.

In our life together we experimented with Ignite Presentations as a new congregation-wide educational approach, and held three adult education classes simultaneously with substantial attendance. We welcomed new members—plus their children—into the fold. In the community, BUILD led the negotiations with Port Covington's Sagamore Development team to announce the largest community benefits agreement in Baltimore history, the most significant community win since the 2015 uprising. Our Dakota Partnership led the effort for our Presbyterian Church (USA) to officially apologize to Native Americans for past sins as we continue to deepen our relationship with American Indian friends in the Dakota Presbytery. And we continue to share our message farther and wider with new communications tools at our disposal.

The 2017 horizon includes some events and hopes that are just as exciting. We will round out our staff with our new youth "fellow," Chris Golden, to help Tim



solidify the substantial growth he has led in the youth program, allowing him to attend to broader associate pastor duties without losing any of these gains. We'll review a master plan for our Fellowship Building with construction expected to begin in June. We'll launch a new "community connections" team to make it easier for folks to connect with ministry and mission opportunities through the church. And we'll take the Port Covington win to the next level in addressing some of Baltimore's most persistent challenges with the faith community bringing people together for constructive change.

We'll do all that without losing the transformative worship, the mission programs, or the small group gatherings that we've come to celebrate as the heart of our congregation.

At the last Session meeting of 2016, as elders shared their struggles and need for prayer in different areas of their lives, we also shared a strong sense of anxiety about 2017. But we also shared our gratitude for the church as a primary centering space in our lives and our community. One of the elders said, pointedly, "Despite the unknowns ahead, there's no reason for us to lose heart. The church was made for this struggle. This is our time. This is our calling."

Andrew Foster Connors
Senior Pastor

Clerk's Report

We welcomed 22 new members: Manuel Alvarez, Christine Doughty Calderon, Omar Calderon, Amy Michele Apperson Dahl, Matthew Alan Dahl, Amos Christopher Dawson, Lucile Wood Dawson, Darrell Glaser, Kelly Knock Glaser, Roberta Heath, Lynn Heller, Buffy Johnness Lundgren Illum, Jacob Illum, Thomas Inglesby, Suejeanne Joy Koh-Parsons, Ryan Bruce Moran, Tida Rachel Nelson, Jeremy Snyder, Mary Maghan Snyder, Joshua Charles Thomas, Perry Williams and Charles Timothy Yates.

We mourned the deaths of friends Rob Baillie, Joan Perretti Christen, Helen Elorraga, Helen Graning, Robert Berry Haldeman, Alice Berney Hoffberger, James S. Johnston, Katherine Macy, Orwin Albert Rudolf "Orv" Marks, David Russell McPherson, Benjamin Elliott Norfleet, Magdalena Rentaria, Homer Schamp, William Scott, John Stem, Ernest Stevenson, Rebecca Young and Stephen Zamora.

We celebrated nine baptisms and a blessing: Helena June Boumgarden, Emmett Alan Dahl, Pierce John Flanigan V, Beverly Rose Hensley, Alexander Vilhelm Illum, Jackson Hyunsuk Koh-Parsons, Diego Martin Mota-Larson, William Jacob Schaller and Charles Timothy Yates were baptized; Anderson John Echols and Lila Ariel Fulton received blessings.

Elders Barbara Cook, Anne Heuisler and Grace Peng have completed their second terms on the Session after making major contributions to the church governance. Youth elders Nick Forward, Jackson Mills and Jake Schindler have completed a year of conscientious service.

Andrew Foster Connors continues to be an inspiring moderator, ably assisted by Tim Hughes. Sharon Holley provides invaluable clerical assistance.

Special thanks also to Evan Cunningham and Joseph Reichelt for computing the average attendance at worship.

Submitted by Anne Wilson Heuisler, Clerk of Session

Brown by the Numbers

318

Members on Active Role
December 31, 2015

22

New members

0

Deaths

2

Transfers

0

Resignations

0

Moved to inactive list

338

Active members as of
December 31, 2016

179

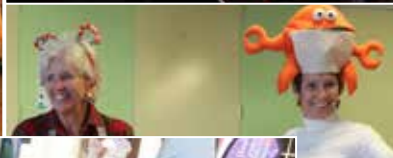
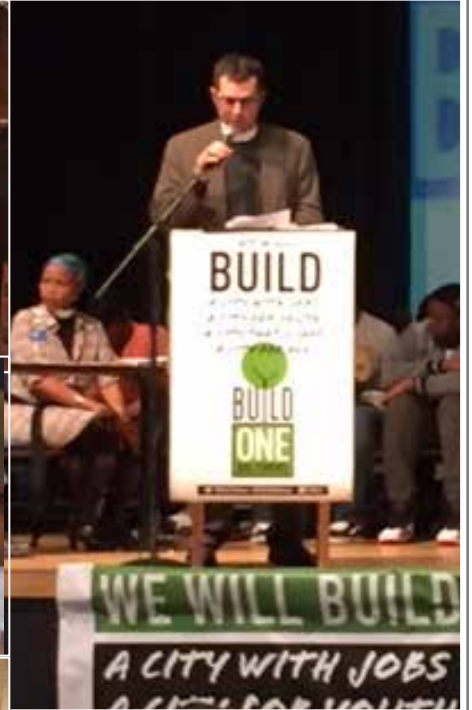
Average attendance at
worship services



Congregational Life

One of our goals in 2016 was to continue to create opportunities for intergenerational worship and community. We also wanted to cultivate spaces for innovation, art and deeper spiritual practice. The following is a snapshot of what we accomplished in those arenas:

- Two topical post-worship series brought us together. The City Love series offered panel discussions about challenges and opportunities in Baltimore. The Ignite series allowed Brown members to share seven-minute presentations on subjects that ignite their passion.
- Andrew and Tim departed from the lectionary for two sermon series, one about biblical “antiheroes,” and another about Christian insights from children’s literature.
- The Adult Education class diversified offerings, alternating between Bible Study and topical series, ranging from a survey of global partnerships to Advent music from the Negro Spiritual songbook. Meditation Circle also moved to the 9:45 Education Hour time slot.
- This fall we introduced two Confirmation classes—youth and adult! The youth class has 11 youth in grades 8-9, and the adult class has a similar size and curriculum. Both are discussing the basics of the Christian tradition and articulating personal faith statements.
- We hosted our first “Senior Dinner” to celebrate and pray for our graduating high schoolers.
- Our Elementary Sunday School created two art installations for our worship space during the liturgical seasons of Pentecost and Advent.
- After many attempts, our Elementary Sunday School kids finally got a party in at Rock-n-Jump trampoline park. They’re hoping more will follow.
- This spring our nursery families held gatherings of 3-4 families organized by geographical locations to get to know one another better.
- Our choirs and ensembles continue to grow and feed the liturgical life of our church through a rich and diverse repertoire.
- Our sidewalk summer concert series featured great talent within our music ministry and congregation and was well attended by church members and neighborhood residents.
- Our church commissioned and premiered four compositions (three choral, one organ).
- Theology on Tap met monthly throughout 2016, talking about subjects ranging from prison ministry to social media to Israel/Palestine.
- Feasting in Faith continued gathering for dinner and conversation, shifting their focus toward sermon discussions. A weekly Thursday evening Prayer Service was started at 5:30 p.m.
- We closed the year with another original, intergenerational Christmas pageant. The pageant was performed by our children and designed by the confirmation class. It included adult monologues from across history, and concluded with a performance by Soulful Sisters.



Mission in the City

Late in 2016, members hosted a gathering of leaders from Brown's ministries in Baltimore City. We were struck by the depth, diversity and interconnected nature of so much of the work represented there. Our urban witness in Baltimore extends from policy advocacy to monthly casseroles, but all of it is rooted in a sense of God's love for this city. Highlights include:

- One hundred members of Brown Memorial, including 18 middle and high school youth, attended a March 13 BUILD Action with the top six candidates for mayor. It was the largest turnout for a BUILD event Brown has ever achieved. Nearly 800 people attended the action overall, including 200 young people.
- From May to September, Andrew Foster Connors (as clergy co-chair of BUILD) and many members of Brown's congregation, were heavily involved in BUILD's organizing and negotiations that resulted in the historic \$100 million Community Benefits Agreement between Sagamore Development and the City of Baltimore for the Port Covington Development. The *Baltimore Sun* recognized Andrew and the other clergy co-chairs as "Marylanders of the Year, Honorable Mention" for their role in the negotiations.
- The Eutaw-Marshburn Elementary Choir grew to 40 members. Brown members continue to assist with music preparation at rehearsals, as well as homework help.
- The EMES Choir has also used our choir chimes in several performances. This past summer, Brown Memorial sponsored the first EMES Choir Camp, assisted by the music ministry from Abington Presbyterian Church outside of Philadelphia.
- In addition to the annual Soaring Eagles Learning Camp at Eutaw-Marshburn, we added a second week of choir camp, which culminated in a beautiful concert at Brown.
- A Holiday Boutique and Pictures with Santa event were held for EMES families.
- In the Tutoring Program—our largest and oldest mission—spring 2016 assessments demonstrated that 100 percent of the students improved their reading skills and 85 percent achieved either "significant" or "outstanding" gains. During the 2016/17 school year, the Tutoring Program is again serving 80 at-risk, low-income first- through fifth-graders. The Program reunited with Eutaw-Marshburn Elementary this fall, and continues to work with students from Baltimore Montessori Public Charter School, John Eager Howard at West-side and Mount Royal Elementary School.
- In spring 2016, the Tiffany Series presented an LGBT Choral Celebration featuring Baltimore's New Wave Singers, Washington's Potomac Fever and Philadelphia's SheWho. Legendary organist Frederick Swann also gave a concert. In fall 2016, Brown's own Minister of Music *Emeritus*, John Walker, was honored in a concert given by a star-studded lineup of organists.
- Our members continue to faithfully donate food to the Samaritan Community and Our Daily Bread, as well as volunteer with the Meals on Wheels office housed at the church.



Mission in the World

What does it mean to be in international, cross-cultural partnership? One thing we continue to learn at Brown Memorial is that it is complex, challenging, richly rewarding work. The Global Mission Committee has wrestled with these questions for years in the context of both historic and emerging partnerships. Look forward to exciting new opportunities in 2017! Highlights from the past year include:

■ Susan Saudek and Tim Hughes led a youth delegation to visit our sister parish in San Salvador—Maria Madre De Los Pobres on the 30th anniversary of our partnership. The delegation included four youth from Brown, two young people from Sandtown through the Baltimore Youth Organizing Project, and a college student from Woodbrook Baptist Church. The delegation met with young people from Madre, as well as youth from rural villages in Berlin.

■ This year marked the fourth year for the Pejuhutazizi Family Learning Camp with many of the participants having been there from the start. Participants and partners alike commented that this was the best camp yet.

■ After years of hard work spearheaded by Don Peebles and Chrystie Adams, an Overture of Apology to Native Peoples was sent from the Presbytery of Baltimore to General Assembly in Portland, Ore. The Overture was passed and the denomination is formally apologizing to Native Americans all over the country for their institutional participation in their oppression.

■ Deb Baer and others have been exploring new possibilities for partnership in Cuba and sent a delegation down to visit congregations with the Presbytery of Baltimore.

Member Anniversaries

50 YEARS AND MORE

Charles L. Wagandt, II (73 Years)
Jervis Finney (70 Years)
Margaret (Peggy) Obrecht (64 Years)
Nancy Warner (59 Years)
Ann Middaugh (Mrs. John) (58 Years)
Edna May Watts (Mrs. Fred) (53 Years)

John R. Burton (50 Years)
Lynda C. Burton (50 Years)
Juliette M. Hanks (50 Years)
Ernest F. Imhoff (50 Years)
Hilda K. Imhoff (50 Years)

45 YEARS

J. Courtland Robinson

Sally S. Robinson

40 YEARS

Paul J. Dagdigian

35 YEARS

L. June Carr

J. David Rollison

30 YEARS

John Robert Babb

Karen Nelson

Cynthia Tiftt

25 YEARS

Cheryl Finney

Stewart Finney

20 YEARS

Sara Nichole Artes
Barbara Cates

Rachel Cunningham
Patricia Flowers-Coulson

15 YEARS

Andrew Johnston

Kerry Johnston

Elena Kirkpatrick

10 YEARS

Arthur Brantley Davis
Barbara Hull Francis

Lisa C. Hoffberger
Robert Marshall

Henry Gordon Taylor
John Hickman Tucker

5 YEARS

Deborah Carol Baer Reed
Graham Wilson Bishai
James Wagner Cavallon
Julian Stewart Finney
Susan Wilson Flanigan
William Kerr Fletcher-Hill

Rachel Warner Forward
James Spencer Hammond
Monica Elizabeth Lemmon
Scott Andrew Lemmon
Andrew Christopher Liang
Horace K. Liang

Lorrie Welker Liang
Lucille Parkinson McCarthy
Eva Simone McNabney
Hannah Amelia Munds
Joyce Mitchell Price
Michael Wilson Reed

Capital Appeal 2016

It is the firm believe of the Session and the Trustees that important ministry happens in and through our facilities. Over time, our facilities have taken a beating and are not fully usable to anyone who is unable to climb the stairs. Therefore, 87% of our church families who responded to a survey in early 2016, offered a "yes" to move forward with a capital fund appeal.

In June, we launched our Capital Fund Appeal seeking to raise \$1.4 million over the next five years from commitments made over and above regular annual giving. We thank everyone for their enthusiastic response to the Appeal and the pledges, bringing us 80% closer to our goal.

DETAILS

Total raised (as of Jan. 13): \$1,186,047

Total household participants: 108

Capital Fund Appeal Core Team: David Bielenberg, Emily Brown, Rachel Clark, Beth Gregory, Jonathan Hensley, Taylor Stewart, Laura Urban

Capital Construction Team: George Brown, David Nyweide, Erika Brockman, Charles Reichelt, Betsy Nix

Design/Build firm selected: Murphy & Dittenhafer (architect), A.R. Marani (construction)

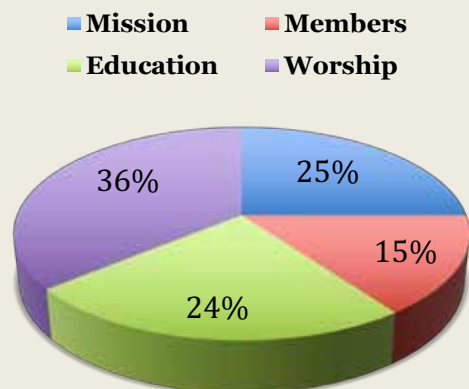
Work completed to date: New Chancel stair rails installed

Work scheduled to begin in June 2017: Renovation of Fellowship Building and South Tower.

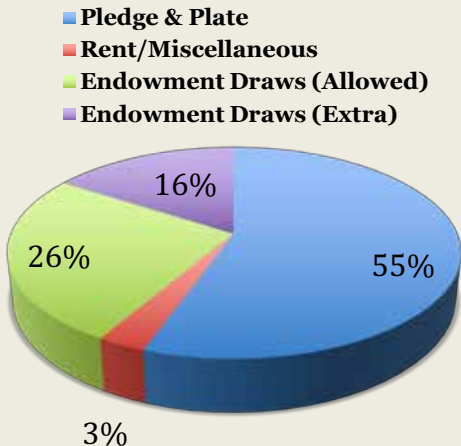


Narrative Budget 2017

Ministry Investment



Ministry Income



The two graphs above represent a breakdown of the 2017 budget by different areas of ministry investment. The chart to the right represents a breakdown of the major line items approved by the Session. These are two different ways of understanding the same budget. The "Endowment Draws (Allowed)" represents a 5% withdrawal from the endowment - the amount that provides for the long-term preservation of the corpus of Brown Memorial's approximate \$5.5 million endowment. The "Endowment Draws (Extra)" shows the additional withdrawal from the endowment, approved by Session, to support the continued growth of the church. (This amount could also be considered the "gap" or the "deficit" between our income and our expenses). The 2016 numbers represent actual income and expenditures, whereas the 2017 numbers represent budgeted expectations. The 2016 actual income figures exceeded 2016 budgeted expectations, resulting in a smaller "extra endowment draw" than anticipated.

Worship Ministry **\$382,748**

Worship ministries are provided by our pastors Andrew (50% of compensation) and Tim (25%); our Minister of Music (70%); Choristers and Section Leaders and Director of Handbells (100%). Worship would not be possible without office support (50% Sharon H. and 25% Sharon L.) and facilities staff (40%). Also, 50% of our utilities and insurance are included in this category.

Education Ministry **\$255,251**

These ministries are provided by Rachel, our Director of Children and Family Ministries (90%); Chris Golden, our new Youth Fellow (100%); and Tim, our Associate Pastor (45%). Nursery workers, the Financial Administrator (25%), and the Director of the Children's Choir support our educational activities, which take place in the Church House and the upper floors of our Fellowship Hall (25% utilities). The church continues to adapt to the fast-paced realities that are part of our modern lives, while providing resting spaces along the way. Administrative support is also provided by Sharon Holley (25%).

Caring for Our Members **\$167,144**

Pastoral care provided by Andrew (25%) and Tim (10%) is supported by the work of the deacons. This category also includes a significant proportion of the compensation for Jennifer Michael, our Communications Manager (50%). Sharon H. (25%) and Sharon L. (25%) provide admin. support. Rachel staffs our membership committee (10%). Emergency funds meet the extraordinary needs of those in our community.

Mission and Outreach Ministries **\$269,006**

Our church supports the Brown Memorial Tutorial Program in our building, the Baltimore Dakota Learning Camps, and a long-term sister relationship with Maria Madre de Los Pobres Church in El Salvador, and membership in various special agencies in the church. This category represents member contributions to trips and special offerings, Tiffany Series contributions and the time of Andrew (25%) - providing leadership in BUILD and NEXT Church, and Tim's leadership with our youth (20%). Admin. support is provided by Sharon L. (25%) and Jennifer (50%).

Description	2016 Actual	2017 Budget
INCOME	1,045,505	1,074,150
Pledge and Plate	573,020	602,000
Rent/Miscellaneous	44,662	27,260
Endowment Draws (Allowed)	282,823	276,700
Endowment Draws (Extra)	145,000	168,190
EXPENSES	974,475	1,074,150
Personnel	598,304	657,863
Christian Education	19,655	23,700
Congregation/Worship	21,848	26,235
Mission	75,068	84,914
Operations	259,600	281,438

Operating Budget 2017

	<u>2017 Budget</u>	<u>2016 Actual</u>	<u>2016 Budget</u>	<u>2015 Actual</u>	<u>2015 Budget</u>
INCOME					
Pledge and Plate	602,000	573,020	539,000	558,247	537,000
Rent/Use/Miscellaneous	27,260	44,662	42,460	42,086	42,100
Endowment Income/Draws	444,890	427,824	503,511	422,180	484,821
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 1,074,150	\$ 1,045,505	\$ 1,084,971	\$ 1,022,514	\$ 1,063,921
EXPENSES					
Personnel	657,863	598,304	615,600	576,944	583,340
Salaries	395,873	356,878	366,728	336,328	343,111
Health & Pension / Worker's Comp	139,467	129,060	128,862	124,078	124,025
Personnel Committee	-	738	2,000	2,500	1,000
Housing Allowances	73,050	70,000	70,000	70,000	70,000
Payroll Taxes	35,873	32,059	33,410	30,878	31,603
Professional Expenses	13,600	9,570	14,600	13,159	13,600
Christian Education	23,700	19,655	25,800	17,118	29,030
Children and Families	3,500	3,752	3,500	4,210	3,450
Wednesday Night At Brown					-
Youth	13,500	10,946	13,500	8,142	13,330
Shared Christian Ed	5,000	4,039	5,800	3,312	9,250
Adult Education	1,700	918	3,000	1,454	3,000
Congregation/Worship	26,235	21,848	24,435	26,751	31,085
Membership	4,400	4,253	4,500	4,487	3,850
Music	8,950	8,250	6,850	4,141	7,350
Worship	4,095	1,591	4,095	10,775	10,895
Tiffany	-	-	-	-	-
Diversity	8,790	7,754	8,990	7,347	8,990
Mission	84,914	75,068	76,179	74,131	75,038
Tutorial	28,000	22,000	22,000	21,640	21,640
General	26,894	26,750	26,279	26,248	26,248
Global	7,500	6,018	7,400	6,984	7,400
Urban	22,520	20,300	20,500	19,259	19,750
Operations	281,438	259,600	342,958	328,048	345,428
Session	3,500	-	3,500	656	3,500
Stewardship	-	-	-	-	-
Office	39,700	35,280	42,200	36,109	36,900
Communications	17,600	14,564	21,020	36,311	36,600
Building Maintenance	207,910	197,028	263,510	242,244	255,700
Debt Service	12,728	12,728	12,728	12,728	12,728
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,074,150	\$ 974,475	\$ 1,084,971	\$ 1,022,992	\$ 1,063,921
BALANCE	(0)	71,031	(0)	(478)	(0)

Officers

Session Elders

CLASS OF 2016

Barbara Cook
Anne Heuisler
Grace Peng
David Nyweide
Nick Forward (Youth)
Jackson Mills (Youth)
Jake Schindler (Youth)

CLASS OF 2017

Deborah Baer
Cheryl Finney
Taylor Stewart
John Walker
Elizabeth Cavallon (Youth)
Josephine Finney (Youth)
Grace Todd (Youth)

CLASS OF 2018

David Bielenberg
Stephen Ruckman
Liz Bowie Feserman
Laura Urban

CLASS OF 2019

David Nyweide
Elizabeth Reichelt
Kelsie Riegel Morgan
Paul Robie

Deacons

CLASS OF 2016

Lucille McCarthy
Nannette Mitchell
Betsey Todd

CLASS OF 2017

Adam Allen
Kirk Fulton
Geraldyn Schroth

CLASS OF 2018

Fred Cogswell
Bonnie Schneider
Rick Thomas

CLASS OF 2019

James Cox
Lucille McCarthy
Amy Munds

Trustees

CLASS OF 2016

Page Campbell
Evelyn Cogswell
Bill McConnell

CLASS OF 2017

Eric Echols
Matthew McNabney
Donna Senft

CLASS OF 2018

George Brown
Beth Goldsby-Allen
Betsy Nix

CLASS OF 2019

Bill McConnell
David Miller
Malinda Peebles

Treasurer

David Nyweide

Clergy & Staff

Clergy

Andrew Foster Conners
Senior Pastor

Tim Hughes
Associate Pastor

Staff

Michael Britt
Minister of Music

Mary Maldarelli
Director of Handbells

Rachel Cunningham
Christian Educator

Tamara Crooms
Caregiver

Chris Golden
Youth Fellow

Tida Nelson
Caregiver

Sharon Holley
Administrative Assistant

Henry Owens
Custodial

Sharon Lucas
Financial Administrator

Martha Socolar
Tutoring Program Director

Jennifer Michael
Communications Manager

Coppie MacFarlane
Tutoring Program Assistant Director

Rob Brown
Facilities Manager

Amy Munds
Tutoring Program Assistant Director

Robert Tracy
Director of Children's Music

More Information

Websites

Public: browndowntown.org
Internal: browndowntown.ccbchurch.com

Newsletters (sign up at browndowntown.org)

Weekly: This Week @ Brown
Bimonthly: Tidings

Social Media

Facebook: [BrowndowntownBaltimore](https://www.facebook.com/BrowndowntownBaltimore)



1316 Park Avenue,
Baltimore, MD, 21217. 410.523.1542.
browndowntown.org

*Alive in the City
and the World*

