

United Churches of Florida

The Fort Harrison, 210 South Fort Harrison Avenue, Clearwater, Florida 33517

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 2378
Clearwater Station
Clearwater, Florida
33517

Telephone:

(813) 447-6258

Directors:

David Foster
John G. Eastment
Richard W. Cohen

12 January 1976

Dear Mayor Cezares,

Regarding the conversation we had in your office last Tuesday, here is a brief rundown on the information you requested on the Prelude 80 building.

I am happy to say that the United Churches of Florida and our programs have been expanding even more rapidly than we had expected. As I mentioned we are already at nearly two thirds capacity at the Fort Harrison, and it appears that full capacity will occur within the next few months. For this reason we have already spoken to a Representative of Southern Land Development and Leasing Corporation about the possibility of their acquiring additional facilities for us.

While touring about the city, gathering data for the upcoming re-beautification program that we are designing for the Clearwater Downtown Development Board, I observed a building near the Fort Harrison which I felt could be ideal for us. This building, The Prelude 80 Condominium, is currently sitting empty, and is something of an eye sore due to its unfinished condition.

I talked with Mr. Merwin of SLD&LC about this building and its potential and he informed me that they had already made two offers to the FDIC who currently have the building. It appears that the FDIC, having already put more money into the building than they feel is worthwhile, have no immediate intention of completing the building in the near future. This of course means that the building will remain an eye sore and a financial liability to the city of Clearwater until at such time in the future, as the FDIC may decide to act.

"The problems of Man can be handled through the religions of Man."

A non-denominational religious organization.

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Per your request here are some details regarding the Prelude 80 building: It has 54 units (2 bedroom each), 15 stories, not completed, and unpaid impact taxes of approximately \$50,000. There are also approximately 35 sub-contractors who are owed money and some walked off their jobs leaving them incomplete.

It is my hope that a letter from you as Mayor of this Community to the Lawyer representing FDIC, a Mr. Leonard Gilbert, at 610 North Florida Ave., Tampa Florida, might initiate some response to any future reasonable offer that SLD&LC might make to obtain this property for the use of United Churches.

I am certain that you will agree this would be of benefit not only to United Churches of Florida, but to the City of Clearwater as well. Your attention and action on this matter will be deeply appreciated.

Sincerely,



Sorel Allen

Director of Memberships
and Public Affairs

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