

COMMISSIONER EDMONSON, DEAR FRIENDS...

GOOD MORNING!

THE GREAT MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. TAUGHT US THAT "EVERYBODY CAN BE GREAT...BECAUSE ANYBODY CAN SERVE...

YOU ONLY NEED A HEART FULL OF GRACE.

A SOUL GENERATED BY LOVE."

TODAY, WE CELEBRATE A TRUE GREAT ONE...

A MAN WHOSE SERVICE, GRACE AND LOVE LIVE ON IN OUR COMMUNITY.

THIS BUILDING IS NAMED AFTER THE LATE JOSEPH CALEB, WHO IS DEPICTED IN THE SECOND FLOOR MOSAIC ABOVE US

A TRUE COMMUNITY PIONEER AND SERVANT, MR. CALEB WAS RAISED BY HIS GRANDPARENTS IN ALABAMA AND LATER MOVED TO THE MIAMI'S OVERTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD.

HE MARRIED YVONNE CALEB AND HAD 4 CHILDREN WHO ARE HERE TODAY.

IN THE LATE 1960'S EARLY 1970'S JOSEPH CALEB FOUGHT FOR THE RIGHTS OF HIS FELLOW WORKERS, BECOMING A LABOR LEADER AND THEN PRESIDENT OF LABOR UNION #478.

HE WAS A LEADER IN THE COMMUNITY, AND HE ALWAYS GAVE OF HIMSELF THROUGH HIS PHILANTHROPY AND INVOLVEMENT WITH DIFFERENT CHARITIES, SUCH AS THE TACOLCY CENTER AND THE YMCA.

MR. CALEB SERVED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF THE MODEL CITY PROGRAM AND IN 1971 HE WAS VOTED OUTSTANDING CITIZEN BY THE DADE BETTER GOVERNMENT LEAGUE

HIS LIFE WAS TRAGICALLY CUT SHORT ON FEB. 6, 1972, AND TODAY 42 YEARS LATER WE STAND ON THE SHOULDERS OF THIS GIANT, HONORING HIM DURING THIS GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY.

TODAY, THE CALEB CENTER IS A NEIGHBORHOOD GATHERING PLACE THAT CONSISTS OF A DAY CARE CENTER, BLACK ARCHIVES, AN AUDITORIUM, AND AN OFFICE TOWER WHICH ALL SUPPORT DIFFERENT SERVICE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

THE NEW JOSEPH CALEB CENTER PROJECT WILL EXPAND THE LEVEL OF AVAILABLE SERVICES AND CONSISTS OF DIFFERENT PHASES:

THE FIRST PHASE CELEBRATES THE START OF CONSTRUCTION FOR THE MULTI-STORIED PARKING GARAGE FACILITY.

THIS NEW GARAGE WILL PROVIDE 324 PARKING SPACES TO PATRONS ALONG WITH A NEW UPCOMING FOOD SERVICE AND RETAIL AREA LOCATED ON THE FIRST FLOOR THAT WILL COMPLEMENT THE FOOD SERVICE AREA LOCATED AT THE ATRIUM

THE PARKING GARAGE WILL REPLACE THE FOUR ACRE SURFACE PARKING LOTS AND WILL BE SURROUNDED ALONG ITS PERIMETER WITH AESTHETICALLY PLEASING GREENERY.

TO ENHANCE THE PARKING GARAGE FACILITY, IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE MADE TO THE ENTRANCE OF THE SITE, THE INTERNAL ENTRY DRIVE, AND A NEW LEFT-HAND TURN LANE INTO THE CENTER FROM NW 54TH STREET.

PUBLIC ART IMPROVEMENTS WILL BE MADE TO THE CAMPUS BY WAY OF ENHANCING THE MATERIAL FINISHES ON THE INTER-CONNECTING WALKWAYS CONNECTING ALL BUILDINGS, THE ADDITION OF NEW LIGHTING, SEATING AND LANDSCAPING.

THE SECOND PART OF THE PROJECT IS SET TO START NEXT YEAR.

IT WILL INCLUDE THE FULL RENOVATION OF THE MAIN ENTRANCE TO THE JOSEPH CALEB CENTER OFFICE TOWER, THE AESTHETIC IMPROVEMENT OF ALL GROUND FLOOR PUBLIC AREAS WITHIN THE EXISTING ATRIUM...

THE ADDITION OF ADA RESTROOMS, AND A REDESIGNED CORNER SURFACE PARKING ON THE SOUTHWEST SECTION.

THE EXISTING GATES IN THE GROUND FLOOR ATRIUM WILL BE REPLACED WITH GLASS STOREFRONTS AND A NEW MECHANICAL SYSTEM WILL PROVIDE AIR CONDITIONING TO THE TWO-STORIED ATRIUM.

AND, THE OFFICE TOWER IMPROVEMENTS WILL INCLUDE RENOVATION OF THE SECOND, THIRD AND SEVENTH FLOOR...

WITH TWO NEW COURTROOM FACILITIES FOR THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS.

ALL IN ALL, THE NEW AND IMPROVED CALEB CENTER WILL CONTINUE ITS TRADITION OF SERVING THIS COMMUNITY.

AND TO THE CALEB FAMILY, WE HOPE THAT THE CALEB CENTER WILL ALWAYS CARRY THE GRACE AND LOVE WITH WHICH YOUR FATHER SERVED OTHERS.

THANK YOU!

