

Former church could become pickleball club



Pompano Pickle is proposed in a former church at 217 N.E. Third Street.

CORONEL ASSOCIATES



By [Brian Bandell](#) – Real Estate Editor, South Florida Business Journal
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A former church in Pompano Beach could be converted into a pickleball facility, with even more courts on the surrounding lot.

The city's Development Review Committee will consider plans for Pompano Pickle on the 1.74-acre site at 217 N.E. Third Street on Nov. 6. It currently has a 12,250-square-foot building that previously served as a United Methodist Church.

In 2023, OT Property Group LLC, led by Adam Adache of local developer Cavache Properties, [acquired five acres](#) from the church for \$8.4 million, inclusive of this 1.74-acre site. The developers [filed plans](#) for the Old Town Towers apartments on most of the property, so this sports project would cover land not involved in the development.

Adache confirmed he's in talks with Pompano Pickle LLC about building a pickleball facility there, but there's quite a ways to go and more due diligence to conduct before the plans become definitive.

According to state records, Fort Lauderdale-based Pompano Pickle LLC is managed by Scott Wehr, Molly Wehr, Theodore Melfi, Kimberly Quinn, Scott Bodenweber, and Holly Bodenweber. Scott Wehr couldn't be reached for comment.

According to the application, the church building would be retrofitted with three indoor pickleball courts, along with a lobby, office, lockers and restrooms with showers. There would be another 14 outdoor pickleball courts, with a canopy covering them for shade, along with 52 parking spaces. The application states the club would sell memberships but also allow a la carte games through reservations.

Altamonte Springs-based Coronel Associates designed the project.

Pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports in the United States with more than 48 million players, according to the Association of Pickleball Professionals. While there is a growing number of pickleball courts in Broward County, hot and rainy weather can make playing outdoors a challenge. That's why some serious players may pay for guaranteed court time with shelter from the weather.

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