
DEKALB COUNTY

W. Burrell Ellis, Jr.
Chief Executive Officer



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CEO ELLIS PARTICIPATES IN DEDICATION CEREMONY FOR NEW ETHIOPIAN CATHEDRAL

DECATUR - DeKalb County CEO Burrell Ellis joined members of the Kidist Mariam Ethiopian Orthodox Church recently for the dedication ceremony for their new cathedral located at 1152 South Stone Mountain in Lithonia.

“We are proud that the Kidist Mariam Ethiopian Orthodox Cathedral—the largest Ethiopian Orthodox Church ever built outside of Ethiopia—now stands in our community. It will serve as a sanctuary for all of the citizens of DeKalb,” CEO Ellis said.

As the guest speaker for the event, CEO Ellis commented on DeKalb’s blend of cultures and traditions. “DeKalb County is one of the most diverse counties in Georgia and one of the most diverse metropolitan communities in the United States. When you come to DeKalb County, you get a global snapshot. What better environment could there be to live, work, play, worship, and raise a family?” said CEO Ellis. “We are committed to embracing diversity and we continue to seek opportunities to reach out to each group.”

In addition to traditional worship services, the Kidist Mariam Ethiopian Orthodox Church offers health and wellness classes; social, youth and senior activities; and educational and employment training opportunities and referrals. The services are open to everyone in the community.

The Kidist Mariam (St. Mary’s) Ethiopian Orthodox Church boasts 32,000 square feet and took one year to be complete.

(MORE)



Left to right: Archbishop of Georgia and Tennessee Ethiopian Orthodox Churches and Pastor of Kidist Mariam Church Abuna Yakob; Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church Patriarch Abune Merkorios; Board President Kidist Mariam Church Abate Zewdie; and DeKalb County CEO Burrell Ellis.

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