



New Leadership Center Coming to Gwinnett and Metro Atlanta

12Stone Church connects National Leadership Icon John C. Maxwell to Ministerial Training Program, Breaks Ground on New 70,000 sq-ft facility

(GWINNETT- METRO ATLANTA) May 4, 2012—[Partnership Gwinnett](#), the Gwinnett Chamber and a host of organizations and leaders joined 12Stone® Church for the groundbreaking of its new state-of-the-art John C. Maxwell Leadership Center on Friday, May 4. The 70,000 square-foot facility will serve as the Sugarloaf campus of [12Stone Church](#) while also functioning as the headquarter location for John C. Maxwell’s training organization EQUIP®.

With more than a decade of personal mentoring with Maxwell, 12Stone’s Pastor Kevin Myers, experienced the impact of Maxwell’s leadership expertise firsthand. “We approached John to enter this partnership with us to honor his contribution to the international leadership landscape and the value of his legacy,” said 12Stone Pastor Kevin Myers. “As for location, Gwinnett County has been our home for almost 25 years. We are honored to expand here knowing the high value Gwinnett places on leadership.

Located at 2050 Sugarloaf Circle, Duluth, Georgia 30097, the soon-to-be-built facility will offer much needed space for 12Stone Church to develop the next generation of ministry leaders while enabling the aggressively growing organization to train future and present pastors and ministry leaders through partnerships with Wesley Seminary and Indiana Wesleyan University. It will also provide a location for John C. Maxwell to produce his digital leadership library for businesses and ministries. Currently, Equip and The John Maxwell Company have trained more than five million leaders worldwide.

“This center will carry my passion for training leaders and will create an expanding and enduring legacy of leadership for generations to come,” shared John Maxwell.

Special guest - Delta Airlines CEO, EQUIP Board Member and 12Stone Church member, Ed Bastian - added, “The success of the next generation hinges on our ability to reproduce leaders with competence and character.”

U.S. Congressman Rob Woodall who also spoke at the ceremony commented, “Among my many favorite John Maxwell quotes is, ‘Change is inevitable. Growth is optional.’ Change defines our future. This new center will grow the leaders who will mold it.”

In addition to founding the Center, 12Stone Church has a large impact on the Gwinnett community, adding 66 employees over the past 10 years and currently employing over 105. In 2011 alone, 12Stone Church contracted with 120 vendors, contractors and professional service providers, a majority Gwinnett-based

businesses and individuals, for services totaling over \$1.5 million. Presently ranking among the 30 largest churches in the United States, 12Stone Church was the fastest-growing church in Georgia in 2011.

Partnership Gwinnett, the community and economic development led by the Gwinnett Chamber and host of public and private partners, has been actively engaged in cultivating leadership development opportunities since its inception in 2007.

“Developing local leadership is important to Gwinnett in many ways, including economic development,” said Charlotte Nash, Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners Chairman. “Fostering the next generation of leaders is critical for Gwinnett’s future growth and success, as well as a key to enhancing our community’s vitality. I am pleased to welcome the John C. Maxwell Leadership Center, which will serve as a rich resource for leadership development for years to come.”

“Leadership is a defining aspect of Gwinnett that sets our County apart from all others,” said Jim Maran, President & CEO, Gwinnett Chamber. “The John C. Maxwell Leadership Center along with the expansion of 12Stone within Gwinnett will add to the richness of Gwinnett’s world-class community. We are truly honored that this dynamic institution has chosen to call Gwinnett home.”

Later this evening, EQUIP® a non-profit, global leadership development organization founded by John C. Maxwell, will host an event at 12Stone with Maxwell and NFL Quarterback [Tim Tebow](#) in an effort to bring more awareness to the work of EQUIP® around the world. More information about that event can be found [here](#).

For more information on The John C. Maxwell Leadership Center, visit maxwellcenter.com. And to learn about the local economic development efforts of Partnership Gwinnett, please visit partnershipgwinnett.com.

About Partnership Gwinnett

Partnership Gwinnett is Gwinnett’s economic and community development initiative. Led by the Gwinnett Chamber and a host of public and private partners, the initiative targets the retention and expansion of existing Gwinnett businesses in addition to the development of new business in five key market segments: Health Sciences & Services; Information Technology; Advanced Manufacturing/ Supply Chain Management; and Corporate Headquarters/Professional Services. The ultimate goal is to promote economic wealth & diversification, increase education and work force excellence, improve quality of life and heighten visibility through marketing and outreach programs for the entire Gwinnett community. For more information on Partnership Gwinnett, the internationally award-winning community and economic development initiative, please visit www.partnershipgwinnett.com.