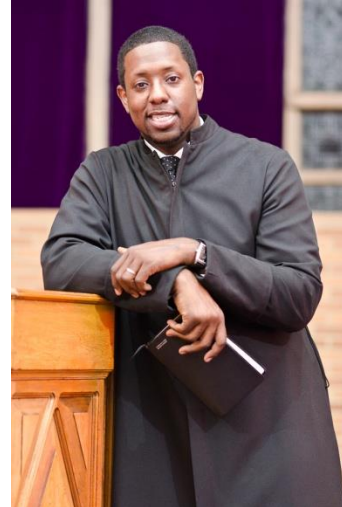


Pastor Semaj Y. Vanzant, Sr. is a trained theologian who brings to the pastorate an intimate commitment to his calling that is reasonably demonstrated through forward-thinking leadership, organizational and motivational skills. He graduated Magna Cum Laude, earning a *Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Minor in Psychology* from Gannon University, Erie, Pennsylvania, and his *Master of Divinity degree* from Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey. Pastor Vanzant is currently a candidate for the Doctorate of Ministry at St. Paul's School of Theology. His *Ordination for Ministry* was received at Church of the Redeemer Baptist in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania via the American Baptist Churches, USA, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Wayne E. Croft, Sr.



Pastor Vanzant served in a “Transition Into Ministry” program for two years at The Concord Baptist Church of Christ in Brooklyn, New York. During this time he was exposed to all aspects of pastoral responsibilities. He focused on evangelism, developed an assimilation process, successfully brokered relationships between the church and community organizations, established a young adult ministry, and worked extensively with youth. His repertoire of sermonic presentations is extensive having preached all across the United States as well as Liberia, Africa, and Jerusalem, Israel.

In 2011 Pastor Vanzant was asked by the Oklahoma Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church to pastor its first church re-start program. The journey as pastor and people began Christmas Day 2011. Since then, Christ Church in Oklahoma City has grown in leaps and bounds, seeing an increase of over 300% in multiple areas of ministry. Pastor Vanzant has been a true change agent bringing this ministry through a transition of its core values to one of relevance. As a result of the new direction, beginning January 1, 2014 he will pastor this church under the new banner of **The Christ Experience!** Our mission is and will be, the place where you are loved and not judged.

Pastor Vanzant is a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. He is a native of New Orleans, Louisiana, born to the union of Otis and Delecia Smith Vanzant. He is united in the bonds of Holy Matrimony with Carla Renee and is the proud father of Semaj Y. Vanzant, Jr. He is also the brother of Giaberto Vanzant.