

CLIFFORD B. COLEMAN

Clifford B. Coleman was born and raised in Washington County. He attended the Washington County Public School System. In 1993 he graduated in the top five percent of class. After high school, Coleman enrolled into Valdosta State University to pursue a degree in Pre-Med Biology with a minor in Chemistry. It was there that he realized his passion to motivate and empower others. He involved himself in activities such as campus ministry, minority leadership programs, tutoring and mentoring programs. While in college, Coleman tried to be involved in the community, he volunteered at the local Hospital at night, and mentored and tutored students at the local high schools and middle schools. He also was a supporter of Habitat for Humanity. Amongst other things, Coleman was instrumental in establishing the first chapter of Florida Georgia Alliance for Minority Participation at VSU. He also served as the first Vice President and second President.

Coleman was dedicated not only to minority leadership and community outreach; he strived to achieve academic excellence. In his first year Clifford was awarded President's First Year Scholar. For two consecutive years, Coleman remained on the Dean's List. Coleman was also inducted into the Delta Lambda Honor Society. His love for the science field granted him membership into the American Chemical Society. Although Coleman was busy working toward his career, he still found time to involve himself in his local church. During breaks and holidays he served faithfully as a youth coordinator and choir director for several years. To help advance his career, Coleman worked part-time at IMERYS in the Analytical and Research and Development Lab, as a lab assistant. Upon graduating from VSU in 1998 he was offered a full time position as a Materials Analyst in the Minerals Technology Center at IMERYS. Later in 2004 Mr. Coleman transferred to the Quality Assurance Lab where he continued to work up to his departure.

Still working faithfully in the church he served as the Pastor's Aide for several years. In January 2007 Clifford was ordained as an elder and very first youth pastor of New Birth Christian Ministries. In May 3, 2008 Clifford married his life long friend Sharon James. In their union God blessed them with a son Clifford Jr., affectionately know as CJ. After being employed with IMERYS Kaolin industries for nearly 15 years, Clifford transitioned into the teaching field career and is now employed with Sandersville Technical College as an Adult Education Instructor, and as the Career Pathways Specialist.