

## **Rev. John Holland**

1907 – 1911

Rev. John Holland began his pastorate of First Baptist Church on January 1, 1907. He and his family, moving from Winnsboro, Texas, where he had pastored the First Baptist Church, arrived during very cold weather. The parsonage, a two-story frame dwelling erected on land donated by the father of Mr. Joe Black, was not complete and the family spent their first week at Hotel Morris, which was on the corner of Jefferson and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

Rev. Holland was noted for his strong preaching and pastoral work in the five years of service to the church. During his pastorate the church became a member of the newly organized Pittsburg Baptist Association.

Rev. Holland was an artist and painted the baptistery scene used in the first church building and also used in the brick auditorium.

He resigned in 1911 and moved to Tyler. Some years later he and his wife moved back to Mt. Pleasant where a son, John D. Holland, and a daughter, Mrs. Lois Morton, lived. He died in 1940 and his funeral was conducted by Rev. L. E. Lamb and the editor of the Baptist Standard at that time, Dr. F. M. McConnell.