



First Baptist Church

102 West Barton Avenue

This church started as Pleasant Hill Baptist Church in 1874, in Birdsdale, about one mile west of present-day Temple. The Rev. Anderson Clark (1829- 1925) was the first pastor. A cyclone destroyed the church in 1881. Members voted to move and take the name First Baptist Church of Temple. In 1882, a wood frame worship hall was built from the shattered church lumber at the corner of North Main Street & Barton Avenue. By 1895, the building was replaced with a brick and stone structure with financial help from Hone D. Rockefeller. The church installed the city's first pipe organ in 1903. After a fire in 1938, the congregation relocated north one block to 102 West Barton Ave. The first service in the new building was held on August 20, 1939. The chapel was destroyed by fire in 2009.