



*~Rev. & Mrs. J.W. Shaw~
Pastor & First Lady of St. John Missionary Baptist Church*

Biographical Sketch for
Pastor J. W. Shaw

Rev. Johnny Wilson Shaw is the pastor of St. John Baptist Church in Stanton, Tennessee and has provided pastoralship to this congregation for over 30 years. Not only is he a pastor, but he is also a vocalist of the world renowned Shaw Singers.

Pastor Shaw is co-owner of Shaw Broadcasting Company (WOJG) and has over 40 years of experience in broadcasting.

He is currently serving his 7th term as Representative of the 80th District in the 108th General Assembly. **He is the first African American elected to a Rural West Tennessee Legislative District since Reconstruction.**

Pastor Shaw received his degree in Theology from the American Baptist Theological Seminar of Nashville, Tennessee and is a licensed ordained minister.

His community involvement includes; Chair of The West Tennessee River Basin Authority Board, West Tennessee Mental Healthcare Board of Trustees member, past County Commissioner for Hardeman County, member of The 100 Black Men of Jackson; Chamber of Commerce; Rotary Club of Bolivar; chair of the Mayor's Character First Program for Brownsville/Haywood County; lifelong member of the NAACP.

He has received numerous awards including; the 2012 Tennessee Association of Broadcaster's Distinguished Service Award, the 2012 Impact on Aging Award from the Southeast Region Association of Agencies on Aging, the West Tennessee African American Entrepreneurs; C. A. Rawls Bridge Builder Award; the William Henry Miles Outstanding Community Service Award and 2002 Legislator of the Year Award.

He has also received the Legislator of the Year Award from Tennessee Development District Association, the University of Tennessee at Martin Civil Rights Conference Outstanding Contribution to West Tennessee General Assembly Award and other numerous awards for community services and community achievement.

In June of 2013, Pastor and First Lady Opal Shaw celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary. They are the parents of six children.

Church Motto: *"We are judged by what we finish, not by what start"*