

BREAKING NEWS: 4-Alarm Fire at First Baptist Dallas Engulfs Historic Sanctuary

Friday evening, a four-alarm fire broke out in the historic secondary chapel at First Baptist Dallas, Texas, ultimately causing the structure to “largely” collapse, an official told the Dallas Morning News. Built in 1890, the chapel served as a place of worship until 2013, when the church opened a new facility.

Captain Robert Borse of the Dallas Fire-Rescue Department said crews were summoned at 6:05 p.m. and, by 9:46 p.m., had contained the fire. No injuries or damage to surrounding structures were reported, he said. Arson investigators will begin their work once they can access the scene.

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“We are grateful that no life has been lost that we know of even though we just had 2,000 children and volunteers on campus for Vacation Bible School,” Senior Pastor Robert Jeffress said in a statement late Friday. “As tragic as the loss of this old sanctuary is, we are grateful that the church is not bricks and wood but composed of over 16,000 people who are determined more than ever before to reach the world for the gospel of Christ. Please pray for all of First Baptist Dallas.”

While firefighters battled the blaze, Jeffress took to social media platform X to share the church’s urgent need for prayer:

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