

After Devastating Fire, First Baptist Dallas Begins Rebuilding Its Historic Sanctuary

The sound of shovels breaking ground marked not only the beginning of a construction project for First Baptist Dallas—it also marked the next step in the congregation’s recovery after a fire that devastated one of the church’s most treasured landmarks.

Church leaders and members gathered on June 7 to celebrate the groundbreaking of a new Historic Sanctuary, nearly two years after a four-alarm fire destroyed much of the original 1890 building.

According to The Christian Post, the replacement sanctuary is being designed to preserve the architectural character that made the historic structure a recognizable fixture in downtown Dallas while equipping it for years of future ministry.

When the fire erupted on July 19, 2024, thick smoke billowed above the city as firefighters worked for hours to contain the blaze. As Charisma previously reported, although the sanctuary sustained extensive damage, everyone on campus was safely evacuated.



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In the aftermath of the fire, Senior Pastor Robert Jeffress reminded the congregation that the church’s foundation extends far beyond its buildings, quoting Romans 8:28 for encouragement.

Now the congregation is preparing to rebuild a sanctuary that has served generations of believers.

According to The Christian Post, the new design will incorporate many of the historic features church members remember, including stained-glass windows and a carved Bible with an anchor that was restored from the original building. Right now, the hope is that the new sanctuary will be completed for Easter of 2028.

This rebuilding effort reflects a biblical pattern seen throughout Scripture. Time and again, God meets His people in seasons of loss with the promise of renewal. While bricks and beams can be restored, the greater testimony is the faithfulness of believers who continue serving Christ through every trial.

As construction moves forward, First Baptist Dallas is offering a reminder that even after devastating loss, God continues to build His church and write new stories of hope for generations to come.

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