

Suspected Lightning Strike Sparks Devastating Fire at Ohio Church

Two fires. Two suspected lightning strikes. And one morning that left a Columbus-area church severely damaged.

Firefighters in Columbus, Ohio, responded to two separate fires believed to have been sparked by lightning as storms moved through the region, including a blaze that ripped through a local church.

According to WBNS 10TV, large flames tore through the church early Monday morning, leaving extensive damage behind.

Crews were called to Cherry Creek Church of Christ in southwest Columbus, where firefighters encountered a significant blaze at the building. Columbus Fire Battalion Chief Brian Barnhart told 10TV that officials believe a lightning strike may have caused the fire.

The church's pastor, Bob Peterson, told the network, "I was shocked. I went into the living room, turned on the news and saw our church was on fire."



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Yet the church was not the only place where firefighters encountered a potentially lightning-related blaze.

10TV reported that another fire involving a home in the Columbus area was also suspected of being connected to lightning. Columbus fire officials noted that experiencing two such incidents in the area was unusual. In that fire, a dog

and two cats died.

For Cherry Creek Church of Christ, the immediate concern is not speculation but recovery after a devastating fire. During this time, pray for the church and for the homeowners who also experienced loss due to this most uncanny storm.

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