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Subject: Former Riverside Chapel Burns

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For Immediate Release

Around midnight tonight, March 29, the former Riverside Chapel was gutted by a fire that kept more than thirty firefighters and a dozen fire trucks busy until after 2 o'clock a.m.

News of the blaze spread quickly through the Adventist Community bringing out James Ward, Charles Terrell, James Jarrett, Gus Mayes. Pastors who responded included Pastor Randolph Stafford, pastor of the new Riverside Chapel SDA Church, Xavier Butler who was the last pastor to serve in the former building, George I. Pearson, and Carlton P. Byrd.

Pastor Stafford who stood watching with his daughter, April, said, "I am disappointed that this has happened, but it does make a decision for us."

The cause of the fire was not known at the time of this report. A more complete report will be published later today.