



# City of Cottonwood Fire & Medical Department



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## For Immediate Release

Date: March 24, 2016  
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## Cottonwood Fire & Medical Department responds to church fire

Shortly after 1:00 am on Thursday morning, March 24, 2016, the Cottonwood Fire and Medical Department responded to a report of a structure fire involving a church in the 700 block of south Willard Street. Upon arrival fire personnel found the structure on fire with flames visible from over a block away. The main body of the fire was located in a sub-structure containing heating and cooling system ductwork that was attached to the main structure of the church building. The fire had breached the wall of the sub-structure and extended into the sanctuary of the church where further fire spread was controlled by the fire sprinkler system. The fire was controlled by firefighters within 30 minutes of their arrival, however the fire took about an hour to fully extinguish. Fire damage was extensive to the HVAC sub-structure and there was additional fire damage to walls and adjacent roof and ceiling areas of the sanctuary. There was also smoke damage throughout the structure as well as some water damage to furnishings. The fire cause is currently under investigation. Assistance was provided by Clarkdale Fire District and Verde Valley Ambulance Company.

For more information please contact Cottonwood Fire & Medical Department at 928-634-2741.

