



Church Security

Much has changed in the past year. Has your church made any changes to security procedures?

Here are some important questions you need to think about.

- How safe do you feel at worship and at church sponsored activities?
- Do you have control of the keys? Do you know who is in the church now?
- Who is on your security response team? Concealed carry parishioners, Pre-service plan coordination
- Who is trained to take charge during an emergency? Who is responsible to call 911?
- Does your church have a written plan to protect against: Fire, Bomb threats, Single and multiple shooter incidents?
- Does your church have a current vulnerability assessment?
- Have your members with a law enforcement and EMS background taught classes on emergency preparedness?
- Who are your medical response team members?
- Is everyone on the church staff trained to perform basic first aid, CPR, treat gunshot wounds and use the AED?
- Do you have a trauma kit? Does everyone know where it is located?
- How often do you rehearse your plan?
- Does the A/V person have security responsibilities?
- How will you communicate to staff and parishioners during an emergency? How do you account for everyone?
- Do you have a lockdown procedure? Activation signal, Actions, Verification, Status and All Clear
- Does each staff member have a duress code for the alarm? Do you use portable panic buttons or panic FOB's?
- Will doors be unlocked or locked during a service? Who is monitoring unlocked doors?
- Who is monitoring the parking lot?
- Do you have security cameras recording during services? If so, is someone monitoring the video?

Use the ideas immediately to improve the security in your church before an emergency situation occurs.

For additional information on active shooter response and faith based emergency plans go to these web sites:

U. S Department of Homeland Security <http://dhs.gov>

Faith Based Emergency Plan: https://knoxcounty.org/health/pdfs/ep/FaithBasedEmergencyPlan2013_kchd_arc.pdf

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