

CHURCH GUARDIAN



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YOUTH PASTOR ASSAULTS GIRL IN CHURCH BATHROOM

TOP NEWS STORY

A youth pastor ambushed a 13-year-old girl in a church bathroom. The 57-year-old man had been making advances towards the girl since the beginning of the year. In March, he waited for her in the women's restroom. When she entered

he choked and sexually assaulted her. The man had been a youth pastor at the church for two years. The girl did not report the attack right away. The pastor mocked her in August and told her he would tell police that she invited the attack. The man has a long criminal history for robbery, burglary, criminal threats and narcotics violations. He has been arrested and faces



charges of aggravated sexual assault of a minor. [Click the link to read more]

TRAINING SPOTLIGHT

Arson Prevention & Fire Drills for Churches

What is the “Arson Prevention & Fire Drills for Churches” Training Bundle? Fires are always a major concern, no matter the circumstance. An accidental fire at your house of worship can be terrifying enough, but in the increasingly violent times we live in, imagine if it’s deliberately set. No matter how or why a fire starts, as part of your church safety & security ministry, what do you do? What’s your responsibility? What’s your team’s responsibility? The first step is safety education, & Sheepdog Church Security provides this vital training bundle to help

you with your church building fire safety inspections, planning fire drills & emergency procedures, response & evacuation techniques, use of fire fighting equipment such as extinguishers, & much more. Our training bundles use a Powerpoint Presentation that you can customize to accommodate your church’s size, setting, & policies. They also contain instructor notes & helpful resources like forms, cheat sheets, & examples of policies.



How to Plan & Carry Out a Church Fire Drill

10 Tips to Help You Do It Right

Prepared by
Sheepdog Church Security



Protect God’s People with Our Church Safety Resource
[Free Download]

To Get this Resource, Click the Picture (Link) and enter your Email Address.

You will receive an email with a Download Button. Click the Button in the Email to Download the Safety Ministry Resource. (The Download is in PDF format.)

Kris

FIRE SAFETY MONTH

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION MONTH



Can a man carry fire next to his chest and his clothes not be burned? (Proverbs 6:27)

Though they escape from the fire ...

(Ezekiel 15:7).

Save others by snatching them out of the fire (Jude 1:23).

October is National Fire Prevention Month. Our four articles on Fire Safety are based on the Sheepdog Church Security training course Arson Prevention and Fire Drills for Churches [1][2]:

- Fire Risk - Evaluating the risk of fire in the church
- Fire Readiness - Being Ready to Respond to Fire in the Church
- Fire Prevention - Stopping a Fire in the Church Before It Starts
- Fire Response & Drills - Safety under Fire

The Threat of Fire – Fire in churches is a threat to lives and property. Though most church fires begin with few or no staff and members present, some have started during services, classes, and other events with many persons present. Some of these fires have had horrific fatalities, such as 95 in the Our Lady of the Angels School fire in Chicago (1958), 118 in the Wooden Church Fire in Costești, Romania (1930), and over 2,000 in the Church of the Company of Jesus (Iglesia de la Compañía de Jesús) Fire in Santiago, Chile (1863). This is above property loss, which ranges from expensive to irreplaceable.

Importance of Fire Safety – This cost in lives and property underscores the importance of preventing fire and being ready to respond to fire in our churches. As can be seen in the subtitles of the articles, there are several aspects of fire safety in a local church.

Steps of Fire Safety – The first step is a Fire Safety Assessment, seeing what the risks for fire are in the church and how well it is (or is not) prepared to (1) prevent fire, (2) keep fire from spreading, (3) fight (contain and extinguish) fires, and (4) evacuate people in case of fire

Going on from there, we prepare to make the church safer from fire: building improvements (such as fire doors and fire walls), equipment (such as alarms, exit lights, and extinguishers), housekeeping, education (such as in fire-safe practices), and planning fire drills. Then we get to work fireproofing the church, training in how to respond (including fire extinguisher use), and conducting fire drills.

ACTION POINTS

For the Safety Committee and Director: Conduct a Fire Safety Assessment of your church and plan how to make more fire safe.

For everyone: Read the articles and listen to the related podcasts. Learn what you can about fire safety. Apply it at home and in your business. Participate in fire drills, and in fire safety training at church.

Get the Sheepdog Church Security resources on fire safety.

REFERENCES

1. Sheepdog Church Security, Online Training, “Arson Prevention and Fire Drills for Churches” [<https://sheepdog-church-security.thinkific.com/courses/arson-prevention-and-fire-drills-for-churches>].

2. Sheepdog Church Security, Training Bundles, “Arson Prevention and Fire Drills for Churches v3” [https://www.sheepdogchurchsecurity.com/shop/bundles/fire_safety.html].

DIRECTOR'S FORUM

RESEARCHED AND WRITTEN BY WESLEY VAUGHN

Fire Risk

Evaluating the risk of fire in the church and the readiness to respond



A few common causes of church fires are arson, faulty wiring, faulty furnaces and stoves, overheated organ motors, careless use of candles and holiday decorations, lightning, and carelessness with smoking materials. Does your team carry out regular fire risk assessments in your church? Check out this week's topic to learn how.

Read the Entire Article: [CLICK HERE](#).

Fire Readiness

Being Ready to Respond to Fire in the Church

Alarms, fire extinguishers, sprinklers, exit signs...No matter how well we try to prevent a fire, we must be ready ... just in case. Ready, not only in our homes, but in the schools, at our places of business, and in our churches.



Read the Entire Article: [CLICK HERE](#).

Fire Prevention

Keeping Church Fires from Starting



We have to admit that we cannot prevent all fires. However, most fires are preventable. That includes church fires. That is part of the responsibility of a Church Safety Ministry – preventing fire.

Read the Entire Article: [CLICK HERE](#).

DIRECTOR'S FORUM CONTINUED

Fire Response & Drills *Safety under Fire*

As a member of the Church Safety Team, are you prepared to respond if a fire broke out in your church while you are on duty? Smooth evacuations of burning buildings do not just happen. Most church fires begin when no one is there, or only a few people, but sometimes they start when there is a packed house. Your safety team should have a plan in place and prepare your congregation through practicing fire drills.

Read the Entire Article: [CLICK HERE](#).



CHURCH SECURITY ROLL PODCAST



Weekly Tips and Encouragement for Church Security Teams based on the research and experience of Kris Moloney and the Sheepdog Church Security Team.

Hosted by Ron Neeley and Kris Moloney

[CLICK TO LISTEN](#)

MAIL CALL

Messages from
Sheepdogs across the
country

PASTOR ROBERT

Thanks for all that you do. So many people inside the church never stop to think that they are indeed a flock of sheep in the midst of wolves.

Our church, Gospel Lighthouse in Dallas, has had a security (we call it eyes & ears for legal concerns) team for a long time. Currently we have an active constable and myself who are LEO with the rest comprised of civilian volunteers. We have had situations ranging from stolen cars in the parking lot to someone actually making it onto the platform with an object to attack on of the pastors.

Your articles and messages are helpful to show the importance in today's world to have a strategy, training and personel to maximize our protection efforts so that His people may worship with their whole heart, mind, body and strength knowing that we have their 6. Thanks again!

DEA. BOBBY STARNES

Thank you for the encouraging scriptures. They are sincerely appreciated, during this time of fear from possible active shooters in the church. I am in the process of putting an action/response plan together to educate our congregation as to what course of action that our Church security team will follow, in conjunction with the local police to ensure the safety of our members. Your insight in regards to Church safety is highly appreciated.

May the spirit of the Lord be with us all, that we may overcome a potential deadly situation. And we do believe that the Lord will protect us until He comes again.

PASTOR JIM

I have had a chance to look through the material we at First Baptist Clermont just purchased and I am so impressed with what you have assembled. We have started our Safety and Security ministry and are using your material which takes a lot of the guess work out of it. Thank you again for putting together a usable, Biblically based system for us to follow.

THE CHRISTIAN SHEEPDOG

CROSSING THE “GOAL”-LINE

“INSTEAD, YOU OUGHT TO SAY, ‘IF IT IS THE LORD’S WILL, WE WILL LIVE & DO THIS OR THAT.’” (JAMES 4:15 NIV)

Do you ever set personal or professional goals for your life? How about spiritual? Maybe you would like some growth in your walk with the Lord, or to study the Bible more, increase your prayer life, perhaps take on a project at your church? Being a valued member of your safety and security team, how about goals your team has set, such as continuing your training with Sheepdog Church Security? We set goals as we look forward to the future and strive to improve ourselves. However.....

James 4:13-16 shows that having a goal is great, but if it leaves God out of it we will end up disappointed! As we just noted, we set goals as we look to the future, but the Lord holds the future in His hands. You can plan all you want, but how will you react if God steps in and rearranges those plans for His great will and purpose? Of course we need to plan and have goals, just remember to put God at the center of them!

The late Scottish evangelist Oswald Chambers summed it up perfectly:

“The question of whether we arrive at a particular goal is of little importance, and reaching it merely becomes an episode along the way. What we see as only the process of reaching a particular end, God sees as the goal itself.”

As a believer, we must keep this important fact in mind; human goals are looking toward to the future, something we plan and train for. However, in our spiritual life, it’s just the opposite - - God’s training is for now, not later. As we just mentioned, what we call preparation, God sees as the goal itself!

It boils down to this; as a Christian, your goal is not to be uptight about the next step nor to be feel the heavy responsibilities of the future, but rather to obey the Master each moment, one step at a time!



A retired Army Sergeant, ordained pastor in both a non-denominational church and a professional chaplain’s association. Security industry experience as an operations manager, mall and city court security, as well as church safety and security teams. ~Ron Neeley

SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

CHURCH SAFETY AND SECURITY EVENTS



SHEEPDOG SEMINARS

MONROE, LA - NOV 8

PUEBLO, CO - NOV 16

SHEEPDOG CORNER

Hi Sheepdog,

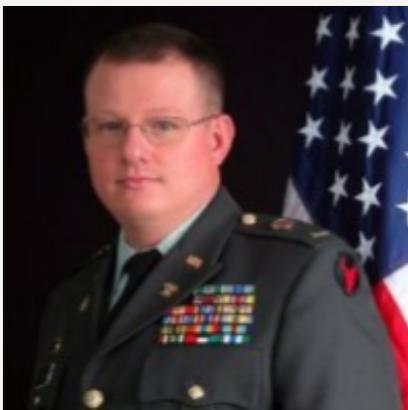
In the shadow of the Synagogue shooting in Pittsburg, I have been thinking about suffering in the world. This is a complex topic that I cannot fully unpack here, nor do I fully understand it, but I believe some things can be said. For starters, pain and suffering are inevitable. "...In this world you will have trouble..." -John 16:33- For us called to protect the Church, this means we will witness crimes committed toward and within our churches. We will see injuries and maybe even death among our families and friends. When this occurs, we should respond in two ways. First, we should turn to the LORD. It's okay to ask the LORD in prayer for the situation to pass. He has spared more people than we can know from pain and suffering. But keep in mind, sometimes the pain remains, and we must trust His will and submit to the work He is doing in us and/or others around us. God cares about character and sometimes He refines us like gold in a fire. (See 1 Peter 1:7)

Second, as Americans we are going to do everything in our power to avoid pain and suffering which is a good thing. For Safety Ministries, it means that we should do everything in our power to prevent these painful situations from occurring at our church. And, develop emergency action plans to reduce the amount of pain and suffering when tragedy strikes.

I know this is a theologically loaded topic, but I hope that you will read it with brotherly love; acknowledging we are all "Grow(ing) in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." -2 Peter 3:18-

Your loyal companion in Christ,

Kris P. Moloney



A Police Officer with over 15 years of experience and a retired Army Captain and Company Commander. He has certifications in Crime Prevention, Security Assessments, and the Crime Free Program. He also has a Bachelor's degree in Ministry and a Master's degree in Organizational Leadership.

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