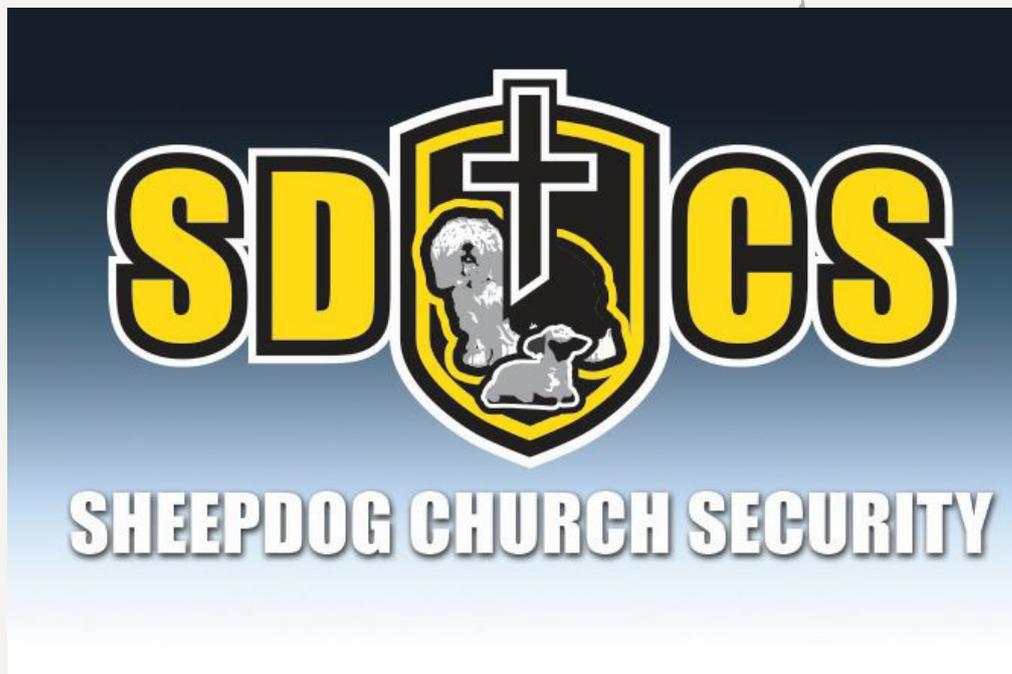


CHURCH GUARDIAN



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ARMED PASTOR STOPS CHURCH BURGLAR

TOP NEWS STORY

An armed pastor stopped a burglar who had broken into his church by holding him at gunpoint until police arrived. The pastor responded to an alarm that went off at the church just past 1 a.m. The pastor and a deacon went to the church and found the suspect going through several church offices. The burglar

broke a window to gain entrance to the building. "I didn't know what he had in his hand, so I pulled the gun through the window," the pastor said. "I took the gun, pointed it at him, and told him to get down. I yelled at him and said, 'Hey, get down!' He put his hands up, went to the ground." Police arrived a few minutes later. The man had left a trail of blood through the church from injuries when he climbed



through the broken window. "There's so many things that we try to do to help people," the pastor said. "If he would've just, come to the back door and knocked and asked for something said, 'I need some food.' We would've given him some food." [Click the link to read more]

TRAINING SPOTLIGHT

Safety Ministry Proposal Kit

While God is in control, He also works through His people. It is up to us to protect our churches and congregations from threats, whether those are human-derived, natural disasters, or related to technology. It is the responsibility of the leaders within every church, as well as the church congregation, to take the steps necessary to mitigate threats and improve the safety and security of those who set foot on the property to worship or partake in any type of activity. Ensuring security is the job of the Safety Ministry.

Without a Safety Ministry, you have no overarching authority guiding the Church Safety Team – no leadership, no accountability. Of course, it can be challenging to convey the information needed to convince church leadership of the need for such a ministry or the need for a formal Church Safety Team. This bundle helps to alleviate that challenge.

Our Safety Ministry Proposal Kit bundle offers essential information that can be used to highlight key needs within the church in the areas of security and safety. Crime is one of the most obvious threats that should be addressed. For instance, in 2009 alone, almost 8,000 thefts occurred on church grounds across the nation. However, crime is only one threat. Others include natural disasters, such as fires and earthquakes, technological disasters like computer hacking or power failures, weather-related emergencies such as heat waves or severe storms, and many more.

Our Safety Ministry Proposal Kit bundle delivers information that can be used to create a proposal on developing a Safety Ministry customized to your church's specific needs.



GEARING UP FOR SAFETY



And he gave [several kinds of ministers] to equip the saints for the work of ministry ... with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly ... (Ephesians 4:11-12,16).

When God calls the church to do his work, he equips it for the task.

July's Articles

The Sheepdog Church Security articles in July - themed "Gearing Up for Safety" - are about being properly equipped for service as a Church Safety Ministry and being personally equipped for use of the gear. The series begins with reading about the work of Church Safety & Security and ends with training and certification. The articles in this series are: "Read Up, Put On" - Manuals and Clothing; "In Your Hand" - Tools for Safety Ministry; "Get the Message, Get Out" - Equipped for Communication and Evacuation; "Defensive Gear" - Detection and Defense; and "Ready to Use the Gear" - Trained, Qualified, and Certified. Equipment and supplies for medical emergencies were covered in May articles.

Needed Items

Many, but not all, key resources throughout the series are in the Sheepdog Church Security Store on Amazon [1] and the Sheepdog Church Security Training Courses[2]. Equipment which is not in the SDCS Store - such as the Security Banner named in "Read Up, Put On" - may be purchased elsewhere.

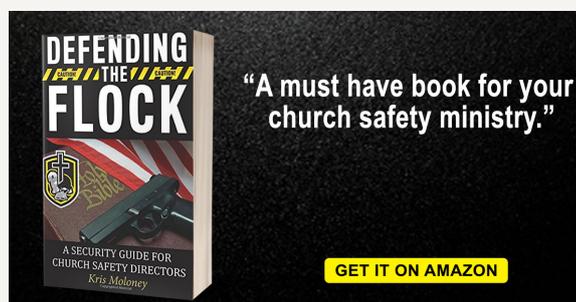
No matter what kind of work we do, we need to know what to do and be properly equipped. Can you imagine hammering nails with a rock, plowing a field with a stick, or cutting grass with a preschooler's blunt scissors?

Action Points

- Read all the articles and listen to the podcasts.
- Evaluate the needs for the Safety Ministry in your church.
- What does your church have? What does it need to get?
- What do you need personally? What do you need to get?
- What training have you had?
- What more do you need?
- Is your training up-to-date?

Resources

1. Sheepdog Church Security Store [https://www.amazon.com/shop/instructor_moloney].
2. Kris Moloney, Sheepdog Church Security Training Courses [<https://sheepdog-church-security.thinkific.com/>].



DIRECTOR'S FORUM

RESEARCHED AND WRITTEN BY WESLEY VAUGHN

Read Up, Put On Manuals and Clothing

GEARING UP FOR SAFETY

In the Bible

... to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ (Ephesians 4:12).

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it (Joshua 1:8).

... Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth ... and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. (Ephesians 6:11, 14-15).

Equipping Both Mind and Body

All jobs have work requirements. We need to know how to do the job. We also need to be properly dressed for the work that is done. Being a part of a Church Safety Ministry is no exception. In Ephesians 4:11-12, Paul named several types of gifted persons (including pastors, evangelists, and teachers) who were to "equip the saints for the work of ministry." In his letters, especially 1 Timothy and Titus, he gives requirements for working in ministry. Taking off and putting on clothing is used as an analogy for changing our habits and attitudes.

Equip the Mind

In the King James Version and the Jerusalem Bible, 2 Timothy 2:15 begins with "Study to show yourself approved." There are biblical examples of studying and reading (such as Ezra). More explicitly, there are many commands to read and follow God's instructions, both for how to live and for how to conduct the jobs of priest (religious work) and judge (civic work).

For our jobs, we need to know what to do, how to do it, and what is expected. For instance, if the job entails meeting customers, we need to have a good public persona. If you are operating a

drill press, you need to know how to run the machine. You also need to know the specifications of the product you are producing. If you are a contractor, you must honor the wishes of your client/customer.

Some general and specific requirements are listed when advertising a position, and others may be covered in an interview. More often than not, there is more. The company has written guidelines, manuals, procedures, specifications, etc. Some study related to job skills and regulations may also be needed to remain qualified for the work we are doing.

There may be legal requirements for our work. For instance, when working in the construction industries, we have to follow state and local building codes, which means we should know them, and have the codes available for reference.

Most of this applies to joining and serving in a Church Safety Ministry. The Church Safety and Security Volunteer Academy[1] lists and describes the qualifications and requirements for serving on a Church Safety Team. These should be learned and refreshed by every member of the team. However, there is room to learn more. There are books, articles, studies, classes, and other resources out there which Safety Team members and Safety Directors can use to deepen their understanding of church safety and security. This includes two books (so far) written by Sheepdog Church Security founder Kris Moloney. Both are available on the Sheepdog Church Security Store on Amazon[2]: *Defending the Flock: A Security Guide for Church Safety Directors*[3] and *Active Shooter Mitigation: A Training Guide for Houses of Worship*[4].

Dressed for Safety



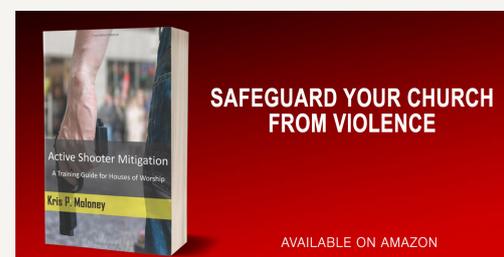
Being equipped for a job - any job - includes being dressed for the job.

Some jobs require uniforms. Many have dress codes. And for most jobs without uniforms or dress codes, there is clothing which is suitable for the work, while other clothing may be unsuitable. For instance, can you imagine operating heavy excavation equipment while wearing a tuxedo? Probably not. You would expect heavy-duty clothing you're not afraid of getting dirty.

What is appropriate clothing for a Church Safety Team? Considering that our role is defending the church and those who meet there, let's look at Ephesians 6:13-17 (ESV) -

Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Here's a list of components of the armor: belt, breastplate, shoes, shield, helmet, sword. Except for the shield and the sword, these are items which are worn. In today's terms, belt and shoes are the same. The breastplate



SAFEGUARD YOUR CHURCH FROM VIOLENCE

AVAILABLE ON AMAZON

Read Up, Put On Continued...

would be body armor, and the helmet would be headgear (cap, hat, or hood). So what do we recommend for safety team members? Shoes, belts, safety ID clothing, reflective clothing, warm clothing for cold weather, impact-resistant clothing.

Shoes

Of course we wear shoes while on duty with the Safety Team. But our shoes should meet certain criteria.

Shoes should be sturdy, protecting our feet from sharp objects on the floor or ground (such as broken glass) and protecting them from certain objects (such as a lightweight knife) falling on the foot.

Shoes should have good traction. Neoprene soles with treads are preferred over hard, smooth soles. Most dress shoes have smooth hard leather soles, which are great for dancing but do not hold on slick surfaces. However, there are dress shoes with safety soles made for security personnel, medical responders, and others who need sure traction to perform their duties safely and effectively.

Shoes should keep the feet dry when the floor or pavement is wet.

Belts

For most of us, belts secure our clothing. When suspenders were widely used, belts would tighten coats, but now suspenders are rarely used and belts hold trousers and skirts in place.

However, for a safety team member, there is another kind of belt to consider: the tool belt. It does not have to have the huge pockets and loops as the belt used by a carpenter or electrician. But it can be a place to hold your radio, flashlight, pepper spray, tactical knife, or weapon. It can also hold CPR masks and a pouch for exam gloves. The belt needs to be sturdy enough for what you will carry on it.

Safety ID Clothing

Identification is important for a few reasons.

First, it is a way for members and visitors in church or at a church-sponsored event to know you are part of the Safety Team. If you have to step in to help in a situation, the people know who you are. Then too, if someone needs help or directions, they know who to go to. This t

ype of identification may be done with special shirts or jackets that have the Safety Team name and/or emblem on them.

Second, the first level on the Use of Force Continuum is presence. Identifying Safety Team members lets would-be disrupters know that they are being watched.

Then, when law enforcement arrives, they need to know who the Safety Team members are so they are not mistaken for offenders. For instance, police arrived as an usher held the downed Tennessee church shooter at gunpoint[5]. The police almost mistook him for the attacker, but his father told them the shooter was on the floor.

There is a way to avoid mistaken identity when law enforcement arrives in response to a violent disruption. It is the DSM Security Banner (DSM stands for "Don't Shoot Me")[6]. Folded up in a 3½" pouch, it can be unfurled and draped diagonally across the back and the chest with SECURITY on it, front and back, in bold letters. Those on a medical response team can get banners saying, MEDICAL.

Reflective Clothing

Reflective clothing with safety colors (which are immediately visible in daylight) is commonly worn by persons working on or alongside streets and roads, as well as by many bicyclists and joggers. This is recommended for Safety Team members working the parking lot, whether they are directing traffic, rendering assistance, cleaning walkways, or other duties which take them outside. The safety colors are easily spotted during the day, and a special material reflects headlights at night.

Warm Clothing

This is a given in areas with cold weather, especially in the north. Those in the South should at least have warm outerwear on hand, since cold weather can head South, as it did this past Winter. Even if you are stationed inside while on Safety Team duty, you may be where cold comes in through the door, or you may have to go outside. If it is very cold, hoods or caps are recommended.

Impact-Resistant Clothing.

Clothing which is impact-resistant and projectile resistant is optional. Police

officers and licensed security guards are more likely to have them. The best known are Kevlar vests. Collectively they are called "body armor." Some people find them too heavy or confining, but current models are easier to wear than the bulky "bullet-proof vest" of generations ago. The reason they are optional is that firearm and knife attacks are not as common as other disruptive situations. In most cases, responding team members will defend from cover. If you already have impact-resistant clothing, are comfortable wearing it, and it is not a distraction, go ahead.

There Is More

Other articles in this series are "In Your Hand" (tools for Safety Teams), "Get the Message" (communication equipment), "Defensive Gear" (lethal and less-than-lethal weapons), and "Trained and Certified" (getting trained, qualified, and certified in use of safety and security equipment in light of laws and regulations as well as liability).

Check website for references:

<https://sheepdogchurchsecurity.net/articles/read-up-put-on/>

In Your Hand Tools for Safety Ministry

GEARING UP FOR SAFETY



The Lord said to him, "What is that in your hand?" He said, "A staff" (Exodus 4:2). And he made all the utensils of the altar, the pots, the shovels, the basins, the forks, and the fire pans. He made all its utensils of bronze (Exodus 38:3) The ironsmith takes a cutting tool and works it over the coals. He fashions it with hammers and works it with his strong arm (Isaiah 44:12a). So I went down to the potter's house, and there he was working at his wheel (Jeremiah 18:3). She puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle (Proverbs 31:19). My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle (Job 7:6).

Tools for the Work

In the verses above are a few of the many tools used for different tasks in Bible times. Uses of these tools ranged from handling sacrifices in the Tabernacle and Temple, to making pottery, thread, and fabric, to fashioning tools. When the Lord asked Moses what that was in his hand, he answered, "A staff." That might not mean much to us today, but 3,500 years ago the staff was an all-purpose tool. Besides being a walking stick, it was an animal prod, a long reach, a pry bar, and a defensive weapon, among other uses. Today, there are several tools and supplies which prove useful in a Church Safety Ministry. Medical equipment and supplies were covered in May. Weapons (lethal and less-than-lethal), educational materials, clothing, communication equipment, and evacuation aids are covered in other articles in this series. Equipment ranges from basic supplies to items Church Safety Team members can carry with them. Not all, but some of these are available in the Sheepdog Church Security Store on Amazon[1].

Basic Supplies

While team members focus on what they use while covering their jobs on a weekly basis, it is easy to overlook basic supplies which are out of mind until they are needed. Among these are office supplies, housekeeping items, and basic

safety supplies.

Office

Safety Ministry office supplies include applications and forms. Also needed is a place to keep blank applications/forms and a secure cabinet or drawer in which to keep those which are filled out.

Each person joining a Safety Ministry must fill out an application. Background reports and reference check results will be attached to or filed with these applications. These need to be kept as long as they are relevant or required.

Since they are confidential, they must be kept secure, safe from casual curiosity, while available if needed. Blank forms are needed for filling out and filing reports, taking inventory, and conducting evaluations, and inspections. Since these will be used from time to time, especially incident reports, the Safety Director should be aware of how many there are in order to know when to get or print more. Those that are filled out need a place to be filed. They may have to be brought out for insurance claims or legal cases following an incident, such as an accident with injury or a citizen's arrest.

Housekeeping and Basic Safety
Some tools and supplies relate to housekeeping. The Safety Team is not replacing custodial staff, but the team does have some housekeeping interest related to safety. First of all, if the Safety Team has an office, then they should be keeping it clean. This means they need a broom and dustpan or a vacuum cleaner to pick up loose dirt on the floor, and paper towels or rags for dusting. Of course, every office needs a wastebasket. Also needed on hand are safety signage and cleanup items for public areas (such as paper towels, brooms, and a mop) to take care of short-term hazards. Winter may necessitate salt and/or sand as well as water-catcher doormats for entries. The mats are also needed for rainy days. These items and others must be covered in the Safety Ministry budget unless they (for instance, cleaning items) are already included in other budgets, such as

custodial.

Handy Tools

There are items we usually think of as tools, such as saws, hammers, and screwdrivers. A few tools useful for church safety include pry bar, cutter, tech knife, tech light, and glass breaker. There are others which may come to mind, so this list is not all-inclusive. For now, let's see how these may be used in protecting the flock.

Pry Bar

This may sound like an odd tool to keep on hand for church safety and security, but there are situations when a pry bar, or something to take its place, is vital. Think natural disaster, such as an earthquake, tornado, or hurricane. Think human-caused disaster, such as an explosion, a vehicle crashing into the building, or a bombing. Now remember news scenes of such disasters, with rescuers pulling debris out of the way to free survivors. If you and others are trapped by debris from a collapse - such as might block the door of a storm shelter - a pry bar may help you open the way for survivors to get out and responders to get in. For some it may be the difference between life and death. A pry bar may also open the jammed door on a wrecked vehicle to rescue its occupants.

Cutter

Everyone knows dozens of uses for cutters. A safety team member could use one to quickly open a box of emergency supplies. It could cut the seat & shoulder belt of someone trapped in a car if they need immediate treatment (such as bleeding control) or if the vehicle is starting to burn. It could cut cloth into

		RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT FOR SAFETY MINISTRIES
		
		
<small>VISIT THE SDCS ONLINE STORE</small>		



In Your Hand Continued...

emergency bandages or wrappings if medical supplies have run out or are not on hand.

Tech Knife

A tech knife can do what a cutter does and more. The Schrade Knife[2] in the Sheepdog Church Security Store has a serrated part of the blade which can be used as a saw. Being sturdier, it can cut things which are too hard or too thick for a cutter. It can also double as a glass breaker for emergency evacuations. Being a knife with a 2.9" blade, the Schrade is also a defensive weapon. There are other multi-purpose knives available. Many have so many features that they are called "multi-tools," with knife blades, pliers, screwdrivers, can openers, etc. However, most multi-tools take a while to open for use. The Schrade has the advantage of self-opening with the push of a button, then locking in place so the blade does not close while being used. Also available in the SDCS Store is the Gerber Zombie Apocalypse Survival Kit[3], which has three knives, two machetes, a parang (back-hook knife), and a hatchet. This may be handy in severe emergencies, but it costs much more than the Schrade. However, it does provide versatility and can supply several team members at once.

Tech Light

Flashlights are key items for security and safety. For one thing, they enable you to see when the power is out. For another, they light up dark corners and unlit rooms. You can also guide responders to where you are. Tech lights are more than just flashlights. They were first developed for mounting on rifles to light up targets. A key feature is being able to narrow the beam to a pinpoint for a greater precision. Most now have LED illumination and control chips. Many can flash in a number of ways: slow-paced flashes, Morse Code signals (such as SOS), strobe flashes, etc. The UltraFire LED Flashlight[4] in the SDCS Store has 5 modes of light: high, medium, low, strobe, and SOS (... --- ...). It has a military grade body, weighs 2.4 ounces, is pocket-sized, and is powered by a rechargeable lithium ion battery. A key feature is the detachable traffic control wand for use in directing traffic or an evacuation.

Glass Breaker

If someone is trapped in a car and cannot open the window, or if you are in a room and have to evacuate, but the hallway is unusable, a glass breaker is essential. If you have one in your pocket - it may be part of another tool - you can break a window.

What's in Your Hand?

The Lord asked Moses, "What's that in your hand?" Moses would need his staff for the work ahead. For Church Safety Team members, situations arise when we need something in our hands. It may not be a staff, but it should be the right tool for protecting the flock.

There Is More

Other articles in this series are "Read Up, Put On" (manuals and clothing), "Get the Message, Get Out" (communication equipment and evacuation aids), "Defensive Gear" (lethal and less-than-lethal weapons), and "Trained and Certified" (getting trained, qualified, and certified for using needed equipment safely and legally).

Check website for references:

<https://sheepdogchurchsecurity.net/articles/in-your-hand/>

Get the Message, Get Out Tools for Safety Ministry

GEARING UP FOR SAFETY



In the Bible

A Signal for Coordinated Action

So the people shouted, and the trumpets were blown. As soon as the people heard the sound of the trumpet, the people shouted a great shout, and the wall fell down flat (Joshua 6:20).

A Call for Help

And the men of Gibeon sent to Joshua at the camp in Gilgal, saying, "Do not relax your hand from your servants. Come up to us quickly and save us and help us" (Joshua 10:6).

A Warning

"Now therefore send quickly and tell David, 'Do not stay tonight at the fords of the wilderness, but by all means pass over, lest the king and all the people who are with him be swallowed up'" (2 Samuel 17:16).

Warn the nations that he is coming; announce to Jerusalem, "Besiegers come from a distant land; they shout against the cities of Judah" (Jeremiah 4:16).

Preparing to Communicate

For thus the Lord said to me: "Go, set a watchman; let him announce what he sees" (Isaiah 21:6).

A Call to Evacuate

So Lot went out and said to his sons-in-law, who were to marry his daughters, "Up! Get out of this place, for the Lord is about to destroy the city" (Genesis 19:14).

Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a Sabbath" (Matthew 24:20).

An Intelligence Report

Now the son of Paul's sister heard of their ambush, so he went and entered the barracks and told Paul. Paul called one of the centurions and said, "Take this young man to the tribune, for he has something to tell him" (Acts 23:16-17).

In the News

Warning Not Received

Sri Lanka, Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019 - National police received intelligence that Muslim extremists were planning attacks on churches and hotels in Sri Lanka. On April 11, the police notified the national government, but the warning

was not passed on. Local police and intended targets were not alerted. Ten days later, on Easter morning, suicide bombers attacked three churches and three hotels, killing 290 people and injuring hundreds more. [1]

Warnings Heeded

Southwest Ohio, Memorial Day, May 27, 2019 - As a storm system was developing, the National Weather Service issued tornado watches for a large swath extending from Southeast Indiana through Southwest Ohio. The watches became warnings, and people in the targeted areas sought shelter. At least 20 tornadoes, including several strong ones, pounded the area from Dayton to the center of Ohio, inflicting widespread damage. Thanks to heeded warnings, there was only one fatality when a car was picked up and dropped on a home. [2]

Difficult Evacuations

New Orleans, August 29, 2005, and following days - When category 5 Hurricane Katrina hit New Orleans, several levees were breached, unleashing massive flooding in the city. Helicopters were used to evacuate hundreds of patients from hospitals. Through heroic efforts of staff and volunteers, most patients made it, but many did not. [3]

Communication - Key to Information and Coordination

Communication is the key to several functions of a Church Safety Team. Team members need to be in touch at all times, whether it is routine business or a dire emergency. Other than face-to-face conversation, we need tools to communicate. Some of the applications of communication are intra-team interaction (routine operations, calls for assistance, team notification, coordinating emergency responses), mass notification, alerts (watches and warnings), and communicating with authorities and emergency services. For thousands of years, people have used means of projecting their voices over extended distances. The simplest

has been cupping one's hands around the mouth, followed by various forms of megaphones. Beginning with the telegraph, we have had ways of communicating in real time beyond the range of a megaphone, and without shouting. With radio, microwave, laser, and infra-red technology, we no longer have to be connected with wires.

Intra-Team Interaction

To work together as a team, we have to communicate. This begins with recruitment, the application process, orientation, instruction, and assignment. Most of this is face-to-face, by telephone and email, and through written materials. The supplies for paperwork in this area are covered under "Basic Supplies - Office" in another article in this series, "In Your Hand."

Two-way radios are the recommended means of intra-team field (on-the-job) communication. This can be across the room (if you don't want to be loud or discretion is desired), throughout the building(s), or in an extended area (these radios are effective over several miles). The Sheepdog Church Security [SDCS] Store has two two-way radios by Midland, the GXT1000VP4 and the MXT115.

The GXT1000VP4 [4] is a walkie-talkie GMRS two-way radio with 50 channels. It has a range of up to 36 miles, 142 privacy codes, and a NOAA Weather Scan with alert. The batteries are rechargeable. It is available in a 3-pack, as a pair, or as single units for adding to the system. The handset can be clipped onto a belt. These belong to the Church Safety Ministry and are picked up at the beginning of a shift and turned in at the end.

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- Classroom Door Locks
- Bleed Control Kits
- First Aid Supplies
- Emergency Supplies

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Coupon Code: Sheepdog

Get the Message Continued...

The use of headsets is recommended for privacy and for not disturbing services, classes, and events. Also on the SDCS Store is the Midland AVPH3 Transparent Security Headset with PTT/VOX [5], available in pairs. Also on hand is a 3-pack of Semi-Custom Open Ear Inserts [6]. These are configured for the right ear and come in three sizes (Small, Medium, Large). Besides replacing worn-out earpieces, they may provide the right size if the one coming with the headset is too large or too small.

Especially for a Safety Director or Safety Team Leader who needs to be available even when not at the church is a mobile radio. The MXT115 MicroMobile Two-Way Radio [7] can be used in a vehicle, in another location, or set in the office as a base station. It has a push-to-speak speaker/microphone. The external antenna has a magnetic mount. The MTX115 has 8 repeater channels, 142 privacy codes and a NOAA Weather Scan with alert.

Mass Notification

In emergencies requiring evacuation, sheltering, or staying in place, we need a means of notifying all involved.

Sometimes we need to call for specific persons or groups, such as physicians or nurses on the premises during a medical emergency. Some of the systems used for this are intercoms, public address systems, and internal telephone systems. Individual classes, such as those for young children, could have two-way radios on channels separate from intra-team communication. That way a team member could alert the nursery attendants (for instance to the presence of a non-custodial parent).

If services and events are changed or canceled, the church needs a way to notify all members which is faster than calling everyone in the church directory one-by-one. Suppose you need to call all the Safety Team members? Or a road near the church is closed, necessitating detours for some members. Notification systems can be configured for those needs. A fairly new notification service specifically designed for use by worship communities is Alert.Church [8]. Specific church members, such as medical professionals, could be notified of a need, choir members could be reminded of a special rehearsal, etc. And it is super easy for people to be added to the

call list.

Emergency and Weather Alerts

True as ever is the saying, "Forewarned is forearmed." This includes severe weather and hazardous conditions.

Church Safety Team leaders could have local law enforcement alerts on their mobile phones or have emergency band scanners. For being alert to developing weather conditions, the best option is a weather radio. The Midland WR300, Deluxe NOAA Emergency Weather Alert Radio [9] is on the SDCS Store. It has S.A.M.E. (Specific Area Message Encoding) localized programming (including civil dangers), plus over 60 emergency alerts, an alarm clock, and an AM/FM Radio. The GXT1000VP4 and MXT115 (above) have NOAA weather scanning, but civil alerts are a plus. Sitting in the office where anyone in there can hear it means it can be used during office hours if no Safety Team members are present.

Communicating with Emergency Services

Church landline or VOIP telephones, emergency services radios, and cell/satellite phones can be used to send and receive calls to/from local emergency services, including law enforcement, fire departments, emergency medical responders, hospitals, and utilities. This is important not only for notification of an emergency, but also for updating authorities on a situation, such as an active shooter attack. First, program not only 911, but specific emergency numbers for speed dialing on mobile phones and the office phone. That way, when a situation changes, you can contact the responding service directly. Coordination is better when the responders know what to expect.

Evacuation Aids

As a general rule, not everyone can get out on their own when there is an order to either evacuate the building (as with a fire) or to move to shelter (as in case of a tornado). Some will need help, such as the very young and the mobility impaired. Jesus not only said to pray that the need to evacuate Jerusalem would not come during winter (Matt. 24:20), but also said that it would be very difficult for those who were pregnant or taking care of infants (v. 19). Evacuation is much harder for some than for others. There is

equipment to help with these situations.

Three of these items are in the SDCS Store.

When moving several young children, it can be a challenge to keep them all together heading the same direction. Most of us have seen teachers and their assistants leading a bunch of toddlers or kindergarteners up the street with all of them hanging onto a rope. That is the concept of the Brand New World WR99 Safety Walking Rope [10]. It has a handhold loop on each end and six pairs of handhold loops along its length, enough for two leaders and twelve children.

What about those who are too young to walk or to walk well enough to keep up? The Condo Metal Evacuation Window Crib by LA Baby [11] has wheels which can be locked for keeping the crib in one place and unlocked for moving it. An occupied crib can be rolled out the door and down the hall to head either outside or to the designated safe area (storm shelter).

Mobility-impaired and injured persons also need help evacuating or going to shelter, especially if the route goes up or down stairs. The LINE2design Stair Chair [12] is designed for this. Anyone who has helped get an ordinary wheelchair up or down stairs will appreciate this. First of all, it is a wheelchair which can be rolled through a hallway. It also has extendable low-set side rails so someone in front can help carry it down stairs walking forward. If they have to go up stairs, the person holding the extended rails follows. The Stair Chair has retaining straps for the safety of the occupant.

Stretchers are valuable for moving people who cannot even sit up. There are several kinds of stretchers listed on Amazon [12][13]. Those with poles extending from each end can be used by two persons. They are narrower, making it easier to go through hallways and doors. Those without poles are less expensive and can be stored more easily, but they are harder to move through narrow passages and usually need more carriers.

For those who just need assistance in walking, there are buddy (walk-along) straps. These enable a helper to keep the person upright while walking with him or her.

Get the Message Continued...

There Is More

Other articles in this series are "Read Up, Put On" (manuals and clothing), "In Your Hand" (tools for safety ministry), "Defensive Gear" (lethal and less-than-lethal weapons), and "Trained and Certified" (getting trained, qualified, and certified for using needed equipment safely and legally).

Check the website for references:

<https://sheepdogchurchsecurity.net/articles/get-the-message-get-out/>

Defensive Gear Detection and Defense

GEARED UP FOR SAFETY



In the Bible

We have devices for detection and defense which were unavailable in Bible times, but they did have means of knowing about threats and defending against them.

Detection and Information

In those days, as Mordecai was sitting at the king's gate, Bigthan and Teresh, two of the king's eunuchs, who guarded the threshold, became angry and sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus. And this came to the knowledge of Mordecai, and he told it to Queen Esther, and Esther told the king in the name of Mordecai (Esther 2:21-22).

And Jonathan said, "Far be it from you! If I knew that it was determined by my father that harm should come to you, would I not tell you?" (1 Samuel 20:9).

Weapons for Defense

And they said, "Look, Lord, here are two swords." And he said to them, "It is enough" (Luke 22:38).

From that day on, half of my servants worked on construction, and half held the spears, shields, bows, and coats of mail (Nehemiah 4:16).

In the News

Caught in the Act by Cameras

Kansas City, Missouri, February through April 2019 - A man who used a pry bar to open a door and burglarize a church was identified from surveillance video footage and arrested. This was shared with other churches and places of business using the same surveillance systems in a network set up by the producer of the cameras. The same man has been identified in other church break-ins in the Kansas City area going back to February [1].

Akron, Ohio, April 14, 2019 - Akron police have released surveillance videos of a church break-in, hoping to identify the thief [2].

Pepper Spray and Taser Used in Removing Disrupter

Edmond, Oklahoma, June 27, 2012 - During a Wednesday evening service in a church, one woman began playing the tambourine loudly. She continued even

during the sermon, making it impossible for members to hear what was being said. A deputy was called to remove her. She resisted and had to be subdued with pepper spray and a Taser. Prescription pain medications were found in her purse [3].

Intruder Held at Gunpoint

Boiling Springs, South Carolina, March 25, 2012 - A man who had come into a church before the Sunday morning service, then left, returned during the service. A member who was watching from another building saw him get a shotgun from his truck. He went into the main building and locked all the doors.

The man with the shotgun kicked in a side door, came in, and pointed the weapon at the pastor, who was in the pulpit. The member who saw him was waiting beside the door with his concealed-carry handgun. He held the intruder at gunpoint while the pastor took the shotgun. When deputies came they arrested the would-be assailant. They also arrested his sister in the truck, who had provided the shotgun [4].

Detection Devices and Systems

The first step in self-defense is awareness. Likewise, the first line of defensive gear is items which aid our awareness: detection equipment. These range from very simple to extremely sophisticated. There are literally hundreds of detection devices of many types, but not all are feasible for most churches.

Cameras

Surveillance cameras have come a long way from film cameras operated by trip wires or door mechanisms. Now they can be extremely small and practically invisible, operating continuously or in response to motion detectors. With long-life batteries, even charged by solar cells, they relay images to remote recorders. They can even communicate with mobile phones in the hands of homeowners, managers, and security personnel.

Far less expensive and more reliable and versatile than they were 40 years

ago, surveillance cameras are an affordable option for church safety ministries seeking to guard the church all through the week. In the news stories above, camera images are used to identify suspects. However, in other cases they have alerted church staff and/or safety directors that an attempted break-in was in progress, and authorities were alerted.

Cameras can be used in real-time to extend the view of Safety Team members on duty during classes, services, and events. They can monitor the parking lot and other entrances, hallways, meeting rooms, etc. Team members can monitor the cameras and receive alerts on their mobile phones via Bluetooth or local restricted WiFi from the surveillance base station.

Sound Detectors

When the church building is not in use, sound detectors can trigger alerts that someone (or something) is in the place. A sound alert system can be programmed to ignore routine sounds, such as the HVAC system, a phone ringing, and street traffic.

Mirrors

Discrete mirrors can let Safety Team members see around corners. Many business and institutions have these mirrors in place to avoid corridor collisions when pushing carts. A Safety Team member can also monitor activity around the corner.

Contact Devices

Contact devices are put on doors and windows. When the window or door is opened, the contact is broken, interrupting a circuit. This sends an alert to a monitor or triggers an alarm. Many times, a would-be intruder leaves when an alarm sounds to avoid being caught in the act. The alarm could be sent to a security service, which would investigate and/or notify local law enforcement. A Safety Director or team member could receive an alert on a mobile phone when not at the church.

Motion Detector

Motion detectors are now very common.

Defensive Gear Continued...

For instance, the lights in many public restrooms come on when someone enters, and they let store staff know when a customer comes in or leaves.

Motion detectors are also used for security, alerting guards that someone is in a supposedly vacant area. During an active killer incident an assailant going through corridors may be located using motion detectors. The safety team could then know which camera to monitor.

Photo Beam

Light beams have been used for security for many decades, being fairly common as far back as the 1960s. A beam of light across an opening to a photo sensor is broken when someone enters. A common use is a safety feature of elevator doors. Using invisible (ultraviolet or infrared) light hides the presence of the beam, making it difficult for intruders to find and circumvent it.

Passive Infrared

Even if someone hiding in a room is still enough to not trigger a motion detector, they still emit infrared radiation from body heat. Some large business buildings use passive infrared detectors to detect intruders. They are also used during evacuations to find incapacitated persons who could not make it out on their own. This is the one use which may justify the expense of passive infrared detectors for a large church.

Weapons

A defensive weapon is any object used in defending oneself or others. It can be anything at hand or something specifically designed for defense. Not all weapons are the same. Not all are essentially lethal. Some were designed to be lethal, but others were designed to be non-lethal alternatives.

Less than Lethal

This class of weapons was originally classified as non-lethal. Even though non-lethality was the intent of these defensive weapons, untrained, careless, or excessively forceful use has resulted in some cases in serious injury and death. Re-labeling these as "less-than-lethal" is to remind us of both the intent and the danger.

Pepper Spray

Think "red pepper," The active ingredient is oleoresin capsicum (OC), the "heat" of hot peppers. For this reason, pepper spray is often referred to as "OC spray." OC is an irritant of eyes and mucus

membranes. Undiluted OC is also a skin irritant. Sprayed on the face of an attacker, the subject will be temporarily blinded, have a burning sensation in the nose, and have oral pain if his/her mouth was open. Since OC stimulates tear glands, pepper spray is also classified as a tear gas (see below). And you thought habaneros were hot!!

If too much OC is sprayed directly into the eyes, serious damage could result. If the defense was against a deadly attack - defend or die - that is the consequence of attacking with intent to kill.

Regulations of pepper spray vary by state and locality, so check your state and local laws before getting and using it.

The one less-than-lethal weapon in the Sheepdog Church Security Store on Amazon [5] is the Sabre Advanced Compact Pepper Spray [6].

Tear Gas

An old pun says, "Peeling onions educates your vision by making your eyes smart." Onion juice induces tears, and may be an ingredient in some tear gas sprays.

Tear gas is any liquid or gas used to cause the eyes to produce tears. There are several liquids which can be used to bring people to tears, some natural, many chemical. When deployed, the liquid is dispersed as either a mist or a spray. Some of these liquids are volatile, quickly evaporating. Mace was originally just tear gas, but now is a major brand of OC spray.

Electric Discharge Devices

A teacher in a rough school district was asked if he was getting an "E-D-D" (Ed.D). He smiled, said, "I already have one," and pulled out a Taser.

An electric discharge device (EDD) operates by delivering an electric shock to a subject. The two most common EDDs are stun guns and Tasers. EDDs are also known as electroshock weapons and conducted electrical weapons.

The stun gun was so named because the shock was just enough to momentarily stun most people, giving the user time to either get away (as used for personal defense) or gain control (as used by law enforcement). A stun gun has two electrodes protruding. When these are pressed against a subject, the body completes an electric circuit.

Related to the stun gun is the stun baton (or stun prod), a device similar to a cattle prod. Shaped like a baton, it has two protruding electrodes at one end with the handle and switch at the other.

Taser is the brand name of projectile EDDs. The name "Taser" was coined by Jack Cover, its inventor. It fires two electrode darts connected to the hand-held gun by thin wires. The darts penetrate clothing to make contact with the suspect's skin. The user of a Taser used to have to change the cartridge after each shot. Now Taser International has the X3 with three cartridges in one, so the user has three shots before reloading.

EDDs are subject to regulation and required training in several states.

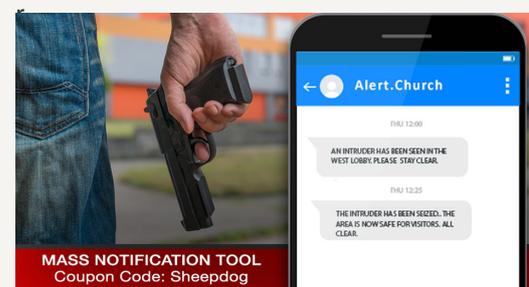
Although they have greatly lowered rates of injuries for both law enforcement officers and suspects, individuals with certain conditions (especially heart problems) have suffered serious injury, sometimes death. Also, some suspects have lost their balance and been injured in falls.

.Tripping Devices

Common tripping devices are objects of opportunity, such as canes, broom handles, electric cords, loose rope, etc. A law enforcement officer or licensed security guard with a baton, especially a telescoping one, can use it to trip a suspect. However, batons are not usually recommended for church safety teams. For one thing, the appearance of a baton hanging from a team member's belt can be disconcerting to many churchgoers. For another thing, because of the lethal potential of a baton if used carelessly or with excessive force, its use is restricted in several states and localities.

Entanglement Devices

Entanglement devices are nothing new. In fact, the concept is ancient. A South American entanglement device, the bola, dates back thousands of years. It is two or three cords tied together at one end with weights on the loose ends. Used for



Defensive Gear Continued...

ounding up individual livestock (much as the lariat is used in North America) or in hunting, it is thrown at the legs of an animal. The weights swing around in opposite directions, wrapping the cords around the legs.

A new entanglement device designed for law enforcement is the BolaWrap [7], a remote restraint device. The BolaWrap is a thin line with a weight at each end. The weights are launched Taser-like from a cartridge in a hand-held gun. They pull the line behind them. When the line hits the suspect, the weights swing around bola-style, wrapping the subject. This was designed to capture a suspect with no injury and little-to-no pain. It is still in the process of developing distribution channels. For now, the target market is law enforcement, so it is not yet available for church security.

Lethal

These are weapons designed to be lethal, developed from instruments of war.

Firearms

Firearms use an explosion to propel a projectile over a distance. They are called "firearms" because originally the explosion was initiated with a spark of fire. Modern firearms trigger the explosion with a sharp impact. They are collectively called guns. The firearms most used by armed church safety teams are handguns (pistols). They can be small, easy to conceal (such as a .22 or a .38 snub), but can also be bulky (such as a .45).

Whether a Church Safety Team is armed or not is first a matter of law in that state and local jurisdiction. If armed volunteer security/safety personnel are legal, then it is a matter of church bylaws and policy.

Edged weapons

Edged weapons are among the oldest kinds. We are not likely to be carrying swords in church, but we may have a knife (such as the Schrade [7]) on us for other purposes. Whatever the purpose of the knife, it can be used for self-defense.

Legal Issues

Most legal issues around detection devices concern privacy, meaning that surveillance camera images are to be kept confidential except when needed for investigations.

There are more legal issues concerning the possession, carrying, and use of weapons, whether lethal or less-than-

lethal. The use of weapons may also lead to civil liability with lawsuits over injury and death. Federal, state, and local laws may restrict how and where weapons are used, and may require permits, registration, background checks, and/or training.

There Is More

Other articles in this series cover manuals & clothing, tools, communication & evacuation, and training & qualification/certification.

Check the website for references:

<https://sheepdogchurchsecurity.net/articles/defensive-gear/>

Ready to Use the Gear Trained, Qualified, and Certified

GEARED UP FOR SAFETY



In the Bible
When Abram heard that his kinsman had been taken captive, he led forth his trained men, born in his house, 318 of them, and went in pursuit as far as Dan (Genesis 14:14).

Abram's men were trained warriors. The next verse shows how he used good military tactics to engage the invaders and pursue them even further. This resulted in the rescue of the captives and the recovery of the loot.

He trains my hands for war, so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze (2 Samuel 22:35 and Psalm 18:34).

As David was trained for war, we should be trained for defense.

A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone when he is fully trained will be like his teacher (Luke 6:40).

Jesus referred to trained students gaining the skills of their teachers. The sincerest compliment teachers can receive is for their students to learn well enough to be like them.

All these were of the sons of Obed-edom with their sons and brothers, able men qualified for the service; sixty-two of Obed-edom (1 Chronicles 26:8).

Likewise, we should be qualified for our service in Church Safety Ministry.

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you (Psalm 32:8).
Hear instruction and be wise, and do not neglect it (Proverbs 8:33).

In the News

United States, 2013-2014 - CNN Investigations and The Center for Investigative Reporting spent a year investigating how armed security guards are trained and licensed in the United States. They concluded that for most, security guard training and supervision are lax. This includes the licensing requirements in several states. For instance, "In 15 states, no firearms training is required at all."

In their report they cited two cases of the mishandling of firearms, then narrated two cases of shootings by guards who should not have had weapons to begin

with [1].

Chicago, Illinois, November 11, 2018 - A police officer called to respond to an active shooter incident in a nightclub mistakenly shot and killed a security guard. The officer had been trained in responding to active shooter situations, but the courses did not include how to identify the actual shooter [2].

United States Armed Forces, 2018-2019 - The U.S. Department of Defense is carrying out its Non-Lethal Weapons Program among the services. According to the Pentagon, "Non-lethal weapons training is vital to their successful operational use." A sample of courses conducted so far includes OC spray training on the aircraft carrier USS John C. Stennis, "Keep the Peace" training for the 716th Military Police Battalion Peacekeepers at Fort Campbell, and a "Directed Energy Experimentation Campaign" led by the 704th Test Group [3].

Rawlins, Wyoming, November 21, 2018 - The Marshall of Hanna, WY, told the Rawlins Times that he had received training in Cheyenne for "alternative tools" (non-lethal weapons) then trained his deputies. He has offered to train other local law enforcement departments [4]

Nationwide - Several institutions and firms are providing training in video surveillance. These courses are designed for security professionals. "Read Instructions before Using" The doorbell rings. A delivery driver is at the door with a box from Amazon. You sign the digital pad and take the box. In it you find equipment you ordered. Also in the box are an owner's manual and a card that says, "Read all the instructions before using."

There are still many people who have the attitude that instructions are what you read when something doesn't work. Then they find out they should have read them first, because now it not only doesn't work, but it cannot be fixed. This is true for driving automobiles. Not only do we have to learn how a vehicle

works, we have to know the rules of the road and pass tests on both our knowledge and our driving skills to get a motor vehicle operator's license. We must be trained (taking driving lessons), qualified (as shown by testing), and certified (issued a driver's license).

More than "Load, Point, Fire" When using devices which have the potential of causing serious injury or death, especially those designed for that purpose, we have the stewardship of other persons' lives and health. Training in the use of firearms, for instance, should go beyond knowing how to load the weapon, aim it, and pull the trigger. It goes far beyond target practice.

Lethal Weapons Proper firearms training includes firearms safety, care of the weapon, and knowing when to use or not use it. This should also include federal, state, and local laws pertaining to firearms, other weapons (lethal and less-than-lethal), and the use of force. The National Rifle Association began with firearms safety education for hunters, which now also covers self defense.

Law enforcement officers have to undergo background checks, psychological evaluations, and intense training before they can be commissioned for duty. Even then, critical questions may go unanswered in specialized training, as in the second news story above, when an active shooter response course failed to tell how to identify the actual active shooter. The first news story showed that licensed armed security guards need training. Also, close screening is needed to ensure that only qualified applicants will be hired to carry guns. In church safety & security ministries, we need to do the necessary checking of applicants' records and references before adding them to our safety teams. New members also need to be trained. Sheepdog Church Security has training courses [5] including the use of defensive devices, such as Protecting Yourself and the Church with Use of Force Laws [6] and

Ready to Use the Gear Continued...

Active Shooter Neutralization and Lock Down Drills [7].

Firearms qualification includes proficiency. Sharpen your aim with time on the firing range. If you have to shoot, it is important to hit your target. First of all, you need to immobilize an attacker as soon as possible. Secondly, and just as important, you don't want to hit innocent people. On the firing range, aim for more than a circular bull's eye.

Include pop-up targets and shooting between neutral images.

More than marksmanship, proficiency includes keeping your gun clean and in good condition. Military and paramilitary services tell you, "Take care of your weapon, and it will take care of you." A clean barrel gives you a clean shot. Keeping a firearm clean and in good repair makes gun jams and misfires less likely.

Less-than-Lethal Weapons

Less-than-lethal weapons are those which were designed to not be lethal. Since there is a chance of lethality, even if very remote, they are no longer generally called "non-lethal." Preferring to err on the side of caution, some authorities now call them "less lethal" weapons.

Several less-than-lethal weapons have been used by criminals to intentionally inflict serious bodily injury, even death. Some weapons, such as black jacks, are illegal in several states and cities. Non-criminals have misused less-than-lethal weapons carelessly, ignorantly, or with excessive force, seriously injuring subjects unintentionally. For these reasons, some of these devices are regulated by a number of states. For instance, in many places training and certification is required for using batons. Even pepper spray has restrictions in some states and localities.

Before getting and using a less-than-lethal weapon, check your state and local laws. If training and certification is required, get it. Even if training is not required, get competent instruction so that you know how to use these properly and effectively.

General Qualifications

More than using devices, there is other training for Church Safety Team members, beginning with the Church Safety and Security Volunteer Academy [8].

There Is More

Other articles in this series cover manuals & clothing, tools, communication & evacuation, and defensive devices.

Check website for references:

<https://sheepdogchurchsecurity.net/articles/ready-to-use-the-gear/>



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



Read Up, Put On: Manuals and Clothing

All jobs have work requirements. We need to know how to do the job. We also need to be properly dressed for the work that is done. Being a part of a Church Safety Ministry is no exception.

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)



Starting a Safety Ministry

Kris Moloney shares some tips on how to get your church on board with starting a safety ministry.

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)



Get the Message, Get Out: Equipped for Communication and Evacuation

Communication is the key to several functions of a Church Safety Team. Team members need to be in touch at all times, whether it is routine business or a dire emergency. Other than face-to-face conversation, we need tools to communicate.

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)



Defensive Gear: Detection and Defense

The first step in self-defense is awareness. Likewise, the first line of defensive gear is items which aid our awareness: detection equipment. These range from very simple to extremely sophisticated. There are literally hundreds of detection devices of many types, but not all are feasible for most churches.

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)



Ready to Use the Gear: Trained, Qualified, and Certified

He trains my hands for war, so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze (2 Samuel 22:35 and Psalm 18:34). As David was trained for war, we should be trained for defense.

[CLICK HERE TO LISTEN](#)

MAIL CALL

Messages from
Sheepdogs across the
country

LEWIS R.

Hello Kris,

Thank you for all your insights. I look forward to your newsletters, I am security coordinator at our church and i rely and use a lot of the information you pass down. With your useful information we have a strong team with on going training throughout the year. Thank you sir.

EARL H.

Good evening Kris,

I was very pleased when I heard of Sheepdog Church Security and have taken advantage of the discounted Church Safety Ministry Proposal Kit. I have downloaded it as I will use to launch our new Security Team here at Cassville Baptist Church in Ga. I am a retired LEO with 26 years service and currently act as a R&R relief Security Manager for a prime contractor with a DoD contract in Afghanistan. Since retirement from Law Enforcement, I have been fortunate in being able to expand my knowledge base on DoS and DoJ contracts in Bosnia, a DoS contract in Kosovo and DoD contracts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Thank you for your service Sir and know that it is reassuring having Sheepdog Church Security as a resource as our team develops.

Stay safe always,

FREE MONTHLY DOWNLOAD

7 Must-Have Equipment Items for Your Church Safety Team



Your Safety ministry will need a number of essential items to make the execution of its Safety Team's duties safer and more efficient. To help you choose the right tools to get you started, we offer this quick overview..

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

SHEEPDOG'S MONTHLY GUEST ARTICLE

INTRODUCING MEDICAL PERSONNEL TO THE SAFETY TEAM

BY TERRY BERRINGER, CRRN

Church Safety Teams are no longer something to be debated, they are an absolute must. As we develop and learn, and even dare I say “evolve”, we are seeing church Safety Teams becoming mainstay ministries of the church and better trained.

As we improve the dynamics of these teams, one big advancement that we are seeing is to have multi-functional personnel on the teams. Some serve as security, some work on the parking team and some serve to provide emergency medical care to the church as part of the safety team.

As your Safety Team develops, you will quickly learn that each one of your members has different talents and experience. Not everyone is wired to serve in a security type role. In my experience, some people would be ill prepared to engage a violent intruder but would serve the Safety Team extremely well during a medical emergency. And of course this goes both ways. Some members have a horrible bed side manner or would freeze at the sight of blood. I would follow them into battle but I would never subject an injured child to their calloused persona. Ultimately, what I am trying to say is that your Safety Team members are wired differently and a good leader will work to maximize each person's strengths.

The experienced medical personnel that you already have in your congregation are excellent people to tap to provide care during emergent medical or traumatic situations that may develop in the church by either accident, intentional, or natural disasters. The big thing is to get them scheduled, trained, and equipped to serve in a church setting.

While everyone on the Safety Team should have some level of medical training like CPR/AED use, control the bleed and probably basic First-Aid, you will want some trained to a higher level. The experienced medically trained team members will be able to provide a greater level of care. These people include emergency medical technicians, paramedics, firefighters, physicians, nurses, nursing students, and others that are currently working in or recently retired from the medical field. These are people that will be well trained to provide emergency medical care that they have been trained to provide.

I started out developing a church medical team at my home church in South Western, PA some 20 years ago after attending service with about 700 people (now up to 5000 people per weekend) and realizing that as a nurse I was being called upon to help those in need of medical attention. I had received my Emergency Medical Technician Certification at the age of 16, completed paramedic school by 19 and enrolled in nursing school 21. After nursing school I continued on to become a CRRN. All this brought me back to working with the skills to help those in need within the church. There are many great stories that I am hoping to bring to you about how God has used myself and other medical professionals to

Terry Berringer

GUEST ARTICLE CONTINUED...

bring glory to His kingdom.

Here are some Reasons for bringing trained medical professionals into your safety team as Medical Response Personnel...

1. People are able to use the gifts that God has blessed them with to bring honor and glory to His Kingdom.
2. More people involved in ministry, and the family members of someone serving in one ministry potentially can get involved in other ministry teams
(“Since we have to be out early for you to be on medical team, I will volunteer for the parking team”)
All enlarging involvement in the church body and fighting the dreaded 80/20 rule of volunteers.
3. Specialization in serving your congregation...(You wouldn’t want your electrician to check your plumbing?)
4. Training specific duties but holistically all serving as one team.
5. With enough volunteers, people only serve one service a month allowing all of the team members to all be fed.
(Never starve your team from Gods teaching. They are useless if they never hear His word because they are always serving)
6. Medical team members on radio can go into church service, Sunday school or whatever else while serving with an earpiece in.
7. Medical still helps out as eyes and ears to security while serving. Specially during events such as lost children.

I am planning on expanding on many of these, as well as many other subjects regarding medical teams in churches, as we continue to explore a subset of the Safety Team to work with the emergent needs of the congregation at your local church.

I look forward to expanding on the possibilities of how we can better serve our churches.

CERTIFIED ONSITE INSTRUCTORS

We are excited to announce that we have launched our Certified Sheepdog Instructor program! I can't tell you how many times, I have been asked about onsite instructors from both churches looking for training and from instructors wanting to use our materials. Right now, we have two fully qualified instructors that can train your volunteers to serve on a Safety Team. AND, get them to the point of certification.



MAINE

MICHAEL MERCER

Michael Mercer is a retired police officer with over thirty years of crime-prevention experience. He is a nationally certified chemical agent specialist, an expert witness, and a national practitioner in crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED.) He is also a US Navy Veteran and the Past President of the Maine Association of Police, Retired. He is the Founder of Michael Mercer Consulting L.L.C. and specializes in House of Worship safety, security, and emergency operations.

Website: <https://michaelmercerconsulting.com>



MINNESOTA

BRIAN STOLT

My name is Brian Stolt. I am a certified NRA Basic Pistol Instructor, NRA Range Safety Officer and a MN DNR Hunter Safety Instructor. Prior to being a Firearms Instructor, I was a Police Officer for 18 years, with 14 of those years as a K-9 Officer. After I retired from policing, I began work as a firearms instructor where my experience and skills are used to help train others in the real world use of firearms and personal defense. I am currently working as an Account Manager for a private security company.

Website: <https://stolttacticaldefense.com/>



NEW JERSEY

MICHAEL & DESERÉE KENNEY

My name is Michael A. Kenney, the founder of The Kenney Protective Agency LLC, providing private security services in NJ. I have over 35 years experience in professional law enforcement and private security management. My wife Deserée is our Security Manager and Training Coordinator who has over 10 years experience supervising adult offenders and parolees in a community corrections setting. I am a NJ State Police Certified Security Officer Instructor, and we are both Certified Instructors for the SABRE Civilian Safety Awareness & College Safety Training Programs. We also specialize in Private Security and Safety Team Training for Houses of Worship.

<https://www.kenneyprotectiveagency.com/>

SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

CHURCH SAFETY AND SECURITY EVENTS

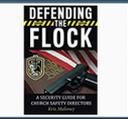


SHEEPDOG SEMINARS

EL DORADO, AK - AUGUST 19-20

TULSA, OK - SEPTEMBER 10-11

CAMARILLO, CA - SEPTEMBER 16

		RECOMMENDED EQUIPMENT FOR SAFETY MINISTRIES
		
		

VISIT THE SDCS ONLINE STORE 

SHEEPDOG CORNER

Hi Sheepdog,

Summer is coming to an end and it won't be long until the kids are back in school. For a lot of us, that means people will start coming back to church in larger numbers. And it also means we are approaching the Battle over Volunteers. Hahaha

Have you started or prepared for recruiting the next batch of new Safety Team members?

This year I am planning a more cooperative approach to recruitment. I'm working with the church to develop a Volunteer Opportunities brochure. It will have all the different ministries where people are needed with a contact person. My thought is a brochure can be handed out to people as they enter the sanctuary for a one-time push and then they can be placed at the Welcome Desk for continued recruitment during the year.

My hope is the normal Battle Royal for volunteers will be replaced by mutual support. Often times, I talk with people that would serve better in another ministry and I'm guessing other ministry leaders have the same experience. Instead of accepting them just because our need is high, we should be directing them toward the best fit.

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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