

The 5-Ps of Your Place of Worship:

What it takes to keep the 5-Ps
secure and safe:

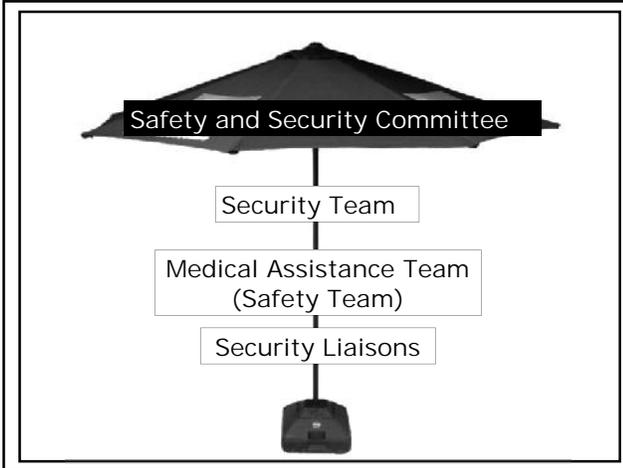
Insp
Prevent
Detect
Protect
Action

How a whole-church
focus can help:

Insp
Prevent
Protect
Detect
Readiness for Action

Whole-Church Program Components

- 1.** A Safety and Security Coordinating Group
 - *Security Team
 - *Safety Team or Medical Team
 - *Security Liaisons
- 2.** Security and Safety Inspections
- 3.** Procedures, Plans and Checklists
- 4.** A Manual or Folder.
- 5.** Whole-Church Involvement:



Security Volunteers

- Police officers, military, firefighters, (current or retired).
- **OR, may be a team of alert adults who are ready to respond directly to problems and to get assistance when appropriate.**
- Works with Security and Safety committee or church leadership regarding activities, apparel, equipment, etc.

Be clear and specific about participation, no matter who are members of the Team:

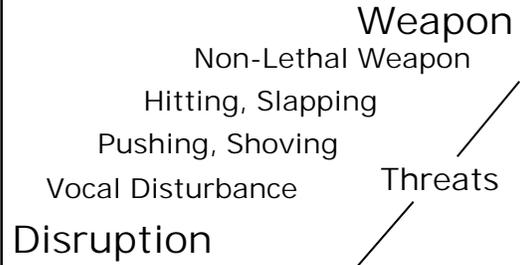
1. Background investigation.
2. Attitudes and approaches to situations.
3. Scheduling and attendance.
4. Attire, grooming and overall demeanor.
5. Responsibilities and tasks (and limitations and prohibitions.)
6. Weapons and non-lethal items—training and qualification activities.

- Don't set a number, so there are no "vacancies" to fill. Invite members, after discussion and careful consideration.
- Develop a few tasks to which you can assign a volunteer who isn't optimal for a protective role.
- Rotate an Intelligence Officer role to stay aware of trends and events.
- Have a leadership role in keeping a whole-church focus.

Main Service Tasks

- Focus on the worship leader and platform team/choir/musicians.
- Focus on the congregation.
- Focus on the lobby and exterior.
- Patrolling through the building, to check entry points, restrooms, children’s areas, etc.
- Ready to evaluate situations quickly and either call 911 or handle on-site.
- Assistance in any kind of emergency.

Research and understand your legal options



Weapons?

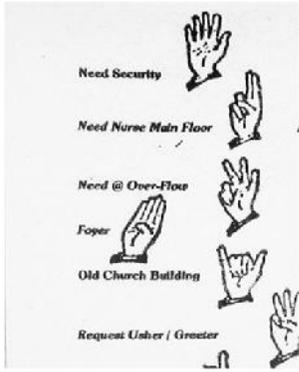
Legality for the individuals involved.

Leadership preferences.

Training/Capabilities/Judgment.

Other important training:

- Reducing (de-escalating)conflict.
- Recognizing and responding to mental health and emotional issues.
- Recognizing and responding to indicators of domestic violence, child or elder abuse, sex crimes and improprieties.
- Methods and plans for handling a variety of disruptions.
- Recognizing explosives.
- Recognizing indicators of concealed weapons.



Need Security

Need Nurse Main Floor

Need @ Over-Flow

Foyer

Old Church Building

Request Usher / Greeter

Develop a duress word or code words, known by the team, leaders, greeters, ushers and others.

Expand the Role of the Security Team

- A leadership role in whole-church efforts: support, encourage and train.
- Research situations and use as scenarios for discussion and training.
- Training, briefings, consulting for pastors, staff and members. Be an active resource for safety.



Briefings:
 Conferences and camps
 Travel--domestic and foreign
 Mission trips
 Food pantry staff, money handling,
 vehicle safety, personal safety.

Before they leave.....

Vehicle safety?
Driving requirements and restrictions?
Behaviors that are not allowed?
Safety tips for the situation or location?
Other advice?

**Include a Safety Team or
Medical Assistance Team
(EMR Team)**

- *Minor first aid. CPR, AED.
- *Assistance while waiting for 911 response.
- *Trained responses if appropriate.
- *A wide range of other activities can be developed.....

Other activities and projects.

- *Blood drives.
- *Health Fairs.
- *Safety talks for children.
(Playground, classroom, etc.)
- *Health and Fitness.
- *Newsletter quarterly.
- *Website articles.

Safety and Security Liaison

- *Be responsible for keys, open-up and lock-down, final look-around.
- *Be aware and alert.
- *Ensure that safety procedures are followed.
- *Be ready to give and get assistance.
- *Report concerns and problems in a timely manner. 911.



The Committee and Teams can provide leadership about traditional Crime Prevention

- Burglary**
- Robbery**
- Theft**
- Embezzlement**
- Vandalism**

Most frequently stolen items:

- 1. Sound systems**
- 2. Audiovisual equipment**
- 3. Computers**
- 4. Art objects**
- 5. Cash**
- 6. Copper fittings/sprinklers and ACs**

An average of 1,300 church fires are reported each year, causing \$40 million in property loss.

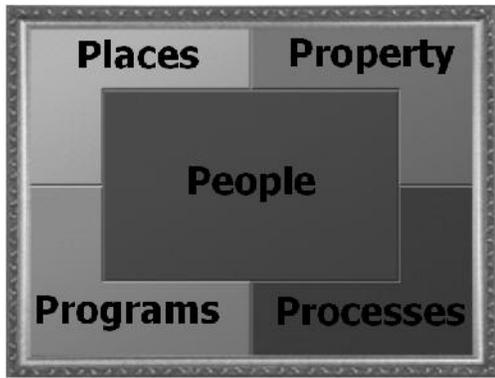
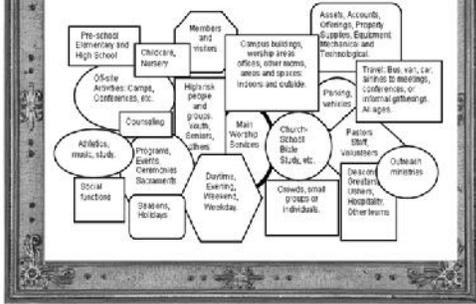


- 15% Arson.
- 30% Mechanical failures/faulty wiring and improperly functioning heating systems.
- 40% caused by stoves (primarily burners.)
- 65% had no smoke alarms.

- Develop the Security Team and Safety Team to be:**
- Leadership Teams**
 - Information Teams**
 - Guidance Teams**
 - Guardian Teams**
 - Assistance Teams**
 - Protective Teams**
 - Defending Teams**

2. Inspect and Assess the BIG Picture

The Big Picture of Safety and Security in a Place of Worship



Inspect the 5-Ps

You can conduct a thorough and effective inspection and assessment:

1. Use the guidelines in the Inspection portion of the large download document.
2. Is anything worrisome? Could it lead to something else?
What could go wrong?
Could it be detected? Could it be prevented?
What protection would help?
3. What needs to be done right now to make this better?

Assign people to observe, inspect and assess, many times during a year.





Inspect mechanical, plumbing, appliances, general maintenance and anything that might cause a problem when no one is around to detect it.

A church that is very, very clean is much more likely to be maintained in other ways as well.

**In addition to more formal inspections-
-take a Walk-About.**

- *Before, during and after services
- *Before during and after meetings, parties or events.
- *At irregular times during the week.

"Walk about and check things out."

Written policies, procedures, plans

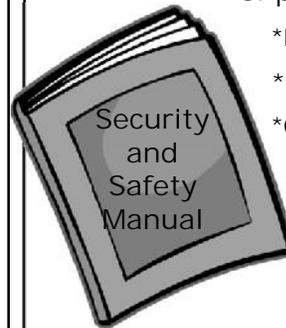
1. High risk activities and situations.
2. High liability activities and situations.
3. Things that are not done very often.
4. Things that are done by different people over time.
5. Activities or tasks where you know there is a tendency to cut corners or to do according to personal preference.

**Checklists
for special services and events:**

- Equipment needed/status**
- Safety issues and risks and how to prevent/respond**
- Set-up/Break down**
- What must be done/can't be done.**

Policies, procedures and checklists especially apply to working with youth, from infants to young adult.

Adults with children?
Children in an activity?
Counseling?



The Plan is really a group of plans and procedures

- *Hard copy and computer file.
- *Contact numbers
- *Checklists and lists

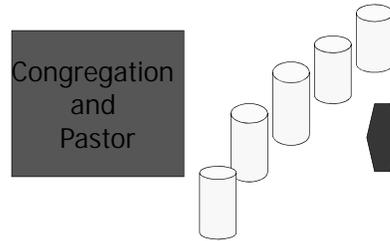
The important thing is to start, then keep adding to it.

Plan for these two options for what seems to be *non-violent* disturbances and disruptions

- 1. Shield and Guard
- 2. Divert and Direct

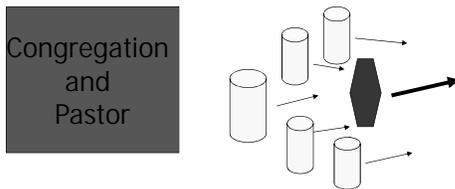
Shield and Guard

Put a barrier between the threat and the protected person or group.



Divert and Direct

- *Distract and delay.
- *Guide the disturbance away and outside.
- *Leave a way out, in the direction of an exit.
- *Do not prevent the person from leaving.



Security Team members should plan general actions each will take.

- *Who will call 911?
- *Who will talk to the problem person?
- *If it gets physical who will grab legs, feet, arms, head?
- *Who will shield the congregation and/or pastor and platform team?



**Buddy Bar
Door Jammer:**

\$75 or so,
but much, much
stronger than
similar products.

buddybardoorjammer.com

Lockdownshades.com

The Assailant's Advantage

This applies to anyone who plans aggression, with or without a weapon.

Firearm

Knife

Fists

Improvised weapon

Sexual assault, business robbery, street robbery, home or church invasion.

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November 5, 2016 :
Eugene O'Donnell
(Professor at John Jay College)
in the New York News:

“The bad or deranged guy chooses the time, place and manner of his attack on the police.

The first shots are often fired by the assailant, narrowing the options cops have and leaving their survival to luck or chance.”



The Assailant's Advantage:

•He knows what he intends to do, when he intends to do it and how he will do it.

•He is prepared for it, with weapons out or close at hand.

•When he attacks, he is the only one who is not surprised and confused.

•He is not deterred or distracted by the results of his attack and he has no one to protect.

By using components of a Whole-Church security and safety program, we can reduce some of the assailant's advantage and keep him from gaining more.

Having a weapon is only one aspect of reducing an assailant's advantage.

A reminder: Almost 100% of police officers killed by the use of a weapon are armed—and many have their weapons drawn.

What advantages can we take from an assailant?

- His ability to catch everyone off-guard.
- His ability to arrive and blend in, without being observed and monitored.
- His ability to find unsecured or unmonitored exterior or interior entry points.
- His access to vulnerable people or targeted areas or people.

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What advantages can be taken from an assailant?

- His ability to have time on-site to prepare.
- His ability to hide inside or outside and wait.
- His ability to act without being detected.
- His ability to be anonymous or unidentifiable.
- His ability to sustain an attack.
- His ability to know the exact location and capabilities of the security team.

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On-going security measures can take away the assailant's advantage. .

- Cannot catch everyone off-guard.
- Cannot arrive and blend in, without being monitored.
- Cannot gain access to vulnerable or targeted areas or people.
- Cannot find unmonitored exterior or interior entry points. (No security measures or measures being used.)
- Cannot have time on-site to prepare for an attack.
- Cannot hide inside or outside and wait.
- Eliminate or Reduce the Assailant's Advantage. Cannot act without being detected.
- Cannot be anonymous or unidentifiable.
- Cannot know the exact location and capabilities of the security team.
- Cannot sustain an attack.

How can individuals and groups make a difference?

- Family and friends of angry, threatening, troubled or mentally or emotionally dysfunctional people. (Legal or civil action; warn likely targets, make police reports, etc.)
- Church staff or volunteers who have counseled or conversed with someone who discusses a potentially threatening situation. (Notifications to security team and others, notifications to law enforcement, warnings to targets.)

What resources can make a difference?

- Law enforcement resources who hear of concerns that might be linked to the congregation or pastor. (Warnings to all area churches, identifying information, further investigation, additional protective resources)
- Anyone who hears rumors, notices something disturbing or thinks there could be an incident. (Congregation, security teams, church neighbors, church network.)

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What resources can make a difference?

- Security team members (staff or volunteers) (armed or unarmed) who:
 - Monitor parking areas and the area leading up to church entrances. Ready to call 911 and warn those inside the church.
 - Posted in the lobby, sanctuary and other locations and are alert and ready to keep an assailant out or respond to an assailant inside, while calling for 911 assistance.

**A Phone and Email
Network of Churches**

- Contact about suspicious situations.**
- Contact if a property crime was attempted or committed.**
- Contact about threats.**
- Contact about strangers who exhibit odd behaviors.**
- Contact about disruptions.**
- Contact to share information.**

Be aware of anything that might indicate the church is being targeted.

- Someone is seen observing the church.
- Odd behaviors of a visitor.
- Public criticism of the church or members.
- Threats about intentions toward the church.

1. Security and Safety Committee,
Security Team
Safety Team
Security Liaisons
2. Inspections (An ongoing program)
3. Plans, procedures, checklists.
4. Hard copy manual and computer folder.

5. Involve the Whole Church

1. **Be consistent, persistent and insistent. Exceptions weaken the safety and security of your whole church.**
2. **Be creative: Quizzes, surveys, handouts, home and church safety, etc.**
3. **Make it part of every activity. "What could go wrong?" Or, "How could this be made more safe?"**

Training doesn't have to be complicated.

Explain: Describe the use of equipment or supplies for emergencies. Describe suggested actions.

Discuss: Use scenarios you apply to specific people, places, property, programs and processes in your church.

Provide visual material: Draw diagrams or have photos, to show locations of mechanical parts (dials, turn-off valves, etc.), emergency equipment, exit routes, etc.

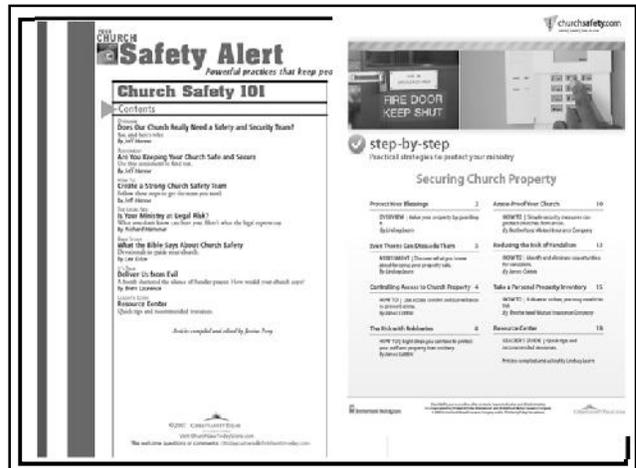
Training doesn't have to be complicated.

Discuss

Explain

Provide visual material

- **Youth:** General safety and security (on-site and off-site), trends, vehicle safety, quick exit information and walk-through.
- **Children and Infant:** Staff briefings, safety coloring pages, playground safety, awards, etc.
- **Senior/elderly age:** General issues, phone scams and mail fraud, elder abuse, location of medical equipment, etc.



step-by-step
Practical strategies to protect your ministry

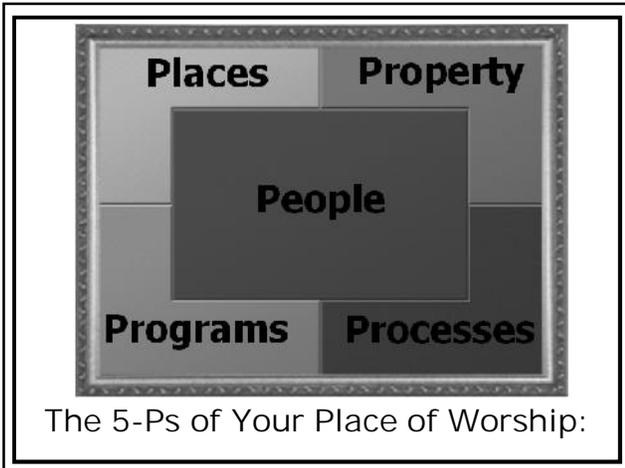
Dealing with Dangerous People

Dangerous or Disturbed? 2 <small>OVERVIEW What to do when your church or staff confronts people displaying behavior. By Lindsey Ann and Amanda Kuhn</small>	Dealing with Sex Offenders 18 <small>HOW TO At some point, you may learn that a sex offender attends your church or meets in your neighborhood. Mutual Insurance Company</small>
Can We Handle a Dangerous Person? 3 <small>ASSESSMENT Stay alert to possible threats. By Lindsey Ann</small>	Handling Obnoxious People 22 <small>THE LEGAL SIDE Can a church legally keep someone from playing services? By Richard Hammar</small>
Drawing the Line on Danger 4 <small>HOW TO What to do when someone stays behind your church. By Lisa A. Dean</small>	The Challenge of Unpredictable Behavior 24 <small>IT'S TRUE How one church attempted to create boundaries for an autistic teenager. By Lindsey Ann</small>
Secure Your Sanctuary in an Insecure World 12 <small>HOW TO Five ways to welcome strangers without being worried by them. By Jeff Hirsch</small>	Resource Center 27 <small>LEADER'S GUIDE Check lists and recommended resources.</small>
Responding to Transients 16 <small>HOW TO Five ways to help church staff with. By Janet F. Calkins, D.</small>	

step-by-step
Practical strategies to protect your ministry

Managing Church Facility Use

Ground Rules for Sharing Church Space 3 <small>OVERVIEW What members and visitors need to know about your facilities. By Lindsey Ann</small>	Pre-Event Policies 18 <small>HOW TO Set the expectations for facilities during a wedding. At Home and Community Church</small>
Developing a Policy for Outside Groups 8 <small>ASSESSMENT Check your understanding for facilities. By Ann Tracy</small>	Before You Share Your Space 21 <small>THE LEGAL SIDE What you need to know to avoid jeopardizing your non-profit status. By Paul Sorenson, D.D. CM</small>
Managing Church Facility Use 9 <small>HOW TO Use these principles to guide your policies. By Ann Tracy</small>	Tax and Liability Issues with Sharing Your Facilities 25 <small>THE LEGAL SIDE Know your risks. By Bruce C. Blomster</small>
Guidelines for Sharing Church Space 9 <small>HOW TO Customize this sample for your own facilities use policy. By Staffing Church Solutions.com</small>	Resource Center 28 <small>LEADER'S GUIDE Checklist and recommended resources. Includes sample and related to Lindsey Burns.</small>



To keep the 5-Ps secure and safe:

Inspection
Prevention
Detection
Protection
Readiness for Action

You can have a leadership role:

- 1. Balance concern with reason, logic and optimism.**
- 2. Keep a dual focus: Security *and* Safety.**
- 3. Keep your entire place of worship in mind.**
- 4. Think basic before high tech or high cost. Start with *people solutions*.**
- 5. Think and talk of safety and security as something *you and everyone* can help achieve.**

