

Faith Watch

Crime Prevention Tips for Churches:

- Key Control is very important, make sure you have a system in place to know who has keys and why.
- Exterior Lighting is Very Important! Check your building at night to see how effective the current lighting is.
- Never leave the Church Building unlocked and unsupervised. If the building needs to be open, use Ushers, Deacons, or Trustees to supervise it.
- Create a Church Security Plan and a Crisis Plan for those “What If” moments that might occur.
- Ask a Law Enforcement Professional to complete a Security Assessment on your Church Building and Property.
- Ensure that Landscaping around the building does not create hiding spots or blind spots to the building access.
- Avoid creating patterns with Money Collection. (If you do something the same way every time, it sets a pattern a criminal could use against you.) Use more than one person to count and collect.
- Church Records and Archives should be stored in a “Fire Resistant Safe” or Off Site.
- Create a Property Inventory for the Church. Be sure to keep track of Serial Numbers for electronics. Keep a list and store it in a Fire Safe or Off Site.

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