**RISK MANAGEMENT**

We cannot share the love of God without first caring for all our people and ensuring their safety. Church security is taking the active step to steward the gift of God’s creation while keeping it safe.

*24 “Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. 26 But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.” Mathew 7:24-27 (NIV)*

**Risk Management for Church is intended to:**

1. **Raise Risk Awareness**
2. **Implement Processes to Monitor Risk and Report Risk**
3. **Establish Policies for Risk Management in Their Specific Context**

What is a church risk management plan?

* To help avoid and reduce risk of certain events occurring in the first place.
* Help navigate the solution when bad things happen.

How to create a church Risk Management Plan?

* Identify risks in **your** church environment such as:
	+ Accidents
	+ Accusations
	+ Assault
	+ Drugs
	+ Fights
	+ Fires
	+ Flooding
	+ Harassment
	+ Inebriated attendees
	+ Injuries
	+ Kidnapping
	+ Medical emergencies
	+ Lawsuits
	+ Self-harm
	+ Shooting
	+ Staling
	+ Vandalism

Assess Risks and Their Impacts:

1. Low Likelihood and Low Impact- rare, easy to deal with
2. Low Likelihood and High Impact- rare, devastating impact
3. High Likelihood and Low Impact- common, easy to handle
4. High Likelihood and High Impact- worst, detrimental impact

Document and Monitor Risks:

1. Create documents and formal risk management policies to note issues and action to prevent them.
2. For instance, last time the church rehearsed a fire drill. \* Create church security plants
3. Monitoring Risks- keeping track on passwords (changing them every few months)
4. Are your volunteers background checked?
5. Create bathroom policies
6. Make an emergency plan with clearly defined evacuation protocols

Who are the appointed people in an emergency? Where are the fire extinguishers, first aid kits, AED?

Risk Management Outline for Your Church:

**RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN**

Insert Risk Title or Category Here

**Purpose**

God calls our church to protect the lives of our church members in a loving and considerate way. Our church’s goal is to ensure that this is done in a safe, healthy, God-driven, and careful manner. This plan is part of that idea, giving you resources for how to deal with these risks in all areas from children’s ministry to church caretakers to youth to adults, outreaches, and more.

***Tip: When in doubt, consult with one of your fellow ministry members, leaders, or pastors. We wish to be unified in all of our decision-making.***

**Definitions**

Risks

Risks are any scenario in which there is a chance of a problem, danger, accident, or other issue occurring.

Risks Evaluation

The method in which our church assesses the various risks that exist in our church premises, organization, and structure. This is how we look for possible dangerous situations to prepare and prevent problems.

Risk Management

The process by which our church handles any and all risks. This encompasses every aspect from preventions to solutions to how to handle worst-case scenarios.

Risk Documentation

How our church keeps record of all minor and major risks. These records include what steps to take to avoid scenarios and proper documentation for if a situation occurs. This documentation includes proper dating, citation, and reports of what occurred, why, and what we did to prevent it from happening again.

**Our Church Management Plan**

Identify and Assess Risks

This is where we assess the various aspects of our church from structure to placement to all stations to find any risks. We examine what could happen, how, why, when, and to what degree. We will also determine the level of impact of the issue.

Mitigate Risks

Take measures to prevent the identified risks from happening. Also, ensure that if a situation occurs, we have preparations in place.

Document and Monitor Risks

Recording all relevant information regarding an unfortunate scenario. Make sure to include details about when, who, how, where, what, and why. Include what solutions were implemented and steps taken afterward. We also need to monitor the risk and prevent it from happening again.

**Reminder**

Remember to carefully document all issues, problems, and possible risks on a consistent schedule to keep everything properly updated.

Please contact [insert leader info here] at [insert email and/or phone number] for any questions, comments, concerns, or additional information.