



Cedarbrook Church

To Whom It May Concern:

Last year, a woman stood up in the middle of my sermon and started addressing the audience. At first it was harmless, but then it turned angry. Thankfully she decided to leave, but it left the audience in shock. From a leadership standpoint, we realized that we had no plan to deal with a situation like this, and we asked ourselves... "What if she had a gun?"

We decided that we needed to develop a Safety and Security Team. We invited Applied Countermeasures Group (ACG) to help us identify vulnerabilities within our church and create solutions to address them. Through this process ACG consultants have helped organize, develop, train and maintain our Safety and Security Team. ACG's Co-Founder, Troy Sotkowski, serves as one of our Safety and Security Team Directors.

Our Safety and Security Team is made up of volunteers from our church. I have to tell you that I was very surprised to see how quickly this team came into place. We immediately had twenty people volunteer to be trained. The team itself provided a means for many people to find a place of service in the church. They take pride in protecting the church.

This team not only offers security for the church but has also been trained to deal with weather and medical emergencies. I can't tell you what this means to me as a pastor. This team has eliminated a great deal of concern on my part. I'm confident that if trouble arises on a Sunday, this team knows what to do.

Our church recently hosted a Church Safety and Security Forum, hosted by ACG, providing training for other local churches which generated positive feedback and interest in creating safety and security teams/ ministries. I'm thankful that our situation has inspired others to take action.

This past summer ACG was also part of our Mission Possible fundraising campaign in which they hosted a security class and donated the proceeds to the Mission Possible campaign. We appreciate their support.

I highly recommend partnering with ACG if you are looking to enhance your safety and security efforts at your church. You'll sleep better knowing that you have a plan in place with trained volunteers.

Sincerely,



F. Remy Diederich
Lead Pastor
Cedarbrook Church