

SECOND CHANCE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

530 Village Court, Garner, NC 27529

November 8, 2017

From: Pastor Ed Maxwell

To: Second Chance Disciples

Subject: **Security**

1. **Don't be in denial.** With Church shootings increasing in America, and while the percentage of churches with shootings is relatively small, we must be prepared to stay safe. The downside is just too great.
2. **Develop a church security plan.** This plan will include all issues of security, from active shooters to child abuse. We will work with GPD on a plan and to get some recommendations.
3. **We will make church security a ministry, not just an expense.** The church doors should not be open if we can't afford to keep members safe and secure. The church may have to pay for a training seminar, and assign someone to security every weekend. These are investments in security, not expenses.
4. **We will keep security as an item of prayer in your church.** While we should work as hard as possible to make our church as secure as possible, let's never forget that we should seek **God's power, strength, and protection.**
5. **We will organize a church security ministry team.** We need leaders who are passionate about this issue. We will look for leaders with a background or experience in security, safety, or law enforcement.
6. **We will keep our facilities secure.** We will control and track members with keys and access to the church. It is not unusual for doors to be left open and utilities running. I've been told of a church where a former member had a key and decided to have a meeting at the church without asking anyone. We will establish a Facilities Manager to establish controlled hours of operation and clear guidelines on access. We will change the locks each time there is a departure of a key holder. Ideally, we may move to digital access and a security system that can be changed at any time.
7. **Strive for total member awareness.** Every member should watch for anything unusual at the church. At each event there will be an Usher on the door. For large events there will be a parking lot attendant and they will be trained toward awareness as well. Those with keen eyes and discernment can save lives.

***All entry and exit to the church must be through the main entrance.** No one should unlock a door from the inside to let someone in from the outside. On Bible Study nights the door will be locked at 7:30pm. (A doorbell will be installed)