

STRATEGOS INTERNATIONAL

CHURCH SECURITY TRAINING COMING TO GOSHEN, IN

In an era of active shooters, people of faith must be prepared.

We used to think it could never happen here.

But deadly violence at churches is happening everywhere and with increasing frequency.

Strategos International is leading a two-day training for First Baptist Church of Goshen on April 27-28th at 1011 South Indiana Ave. Goshen, IN 46526. The training is open to all area churches and ministries, but registration is required at intruderresponse.com

Violent incidents at churches have increased by 2400% since 1999 and 590% since 2005. Another record increase occurred in 2015, exceeding the previous high set in 2014 by more than 40%.

“Behind the statistics are real people who have been killed or injured, with many more experiencing the trauma of having their house of worship turned into a zone of violence,” said Vaughn Baker, president of Strategos, a Kansas City-based security training and consulting organization.

What can churches do?

Strategos’ Church Security Planning and Intruder Response training equips faith-based organizations to:

1. Identify suspicious people and activities and defuse violence before it starts.
2. Empower church volunteers, such as ushers and greeters, to be on the alert for unusual activity.
3. Choose and train a paid or volunteer security team.
4. Lockdown a facility and respond to intruders.
5. Evaluate their ministry and create a written plan that works specifically in their culture and facility.

One size does not fit all churches. Some may opt for armed security while others choose to have an unarmed team.

“The good news is that churches don’t have to compromise on a welcoming environment,” Baker said. “In fact, training volunteers to be alert can have the effect of making them more engaged with people on every level. It allows pastors and church staff to be more relaxed and focused, knowing that a team has security in mind.”

Strategos has trained more than 17,000 church personnel representing more than 1,000 churches in the United States and overseas. In addition to serving churches and schools, Strategos consults with businesses, provides tactical training for law enforcement and personal protection for CEOs and VIPs.

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WHAT OTHERS HAVE SAID ABOUT CHURCH SECURITY TRAINING

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