Violence in Places of Worship
248 Deadly force incidents in 2015 at Faith Based Organizations
76 deaths

Charleston South Carolina
June 17, 2015

Emanuel (AME) Church
Nine people Murdered
Motive

Igniting a Race War

The Alter Church
Coeur d’Alene Idaho
March 6, 2016

Pastor
Tim Remington
Killed
Motive

Pastor believed to be an Alien from Mars

ST. Peter’s Missionary Baptist
Dayton, Ohio
February 28, 2016

Pastor
William Schooler
Killed
Motive

Family Inheritance

Keystone Fellowship Church
North Wales, Pennsylvania
April 24, 2016

Congregant
Robert Braxton III
Killed
Motive

Seating Dispute

CCW

Bellevue Baptist Church
Memphis, Tennessee
Easter March 27, 2016

Rifle and Handguns
To Worship Service
Motive

"people in society are a threat to him and that he must be vigilant."

Profile

SYNOPSIS
20 cases
GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS

EVERYWHERE

Day of the Week

Everyday
Time of Occurrence

Ranges from
12:30 AM
To
12:00 AM

Size of Congregation

Ranges
from 12 members
To
10,000 members
Type of Congregation

Ranges from
Store Front
To
Mega Church

Age and Sex of Victim

16 year old female
To
78 year old male
Age of Shooter

Males:
Range from 16 - 79
Female:
Range from 32 - 65

Sex of Shooter

Predominately Males
Some Females
Ethnicity of Shooter

Caucasians, Black, Pacific Islander, Hispanic, Middle Eastern

Background of Shooter

- Pastor
- Pastor’s wife
- Pastor’s son
- Former Church contract employee
- Neighbor to the church
- Energetic Volunteer
- Zealot
Motives

- Jealousy
- Politics
- Sermon content
- Domestic issues
- Revenge
- Abuse
- Parking
- Race
- Mental Illness

CONCLUSION

THE SHOOTER CAN BE **ANYONE**

THE VICTIM CAN BE **ANYONE**

IT CAN HAPPEN AT **ANYTIME**
Statistics

FBI Uniform Crime Reports

• National Incident Based Reporting System

• Summary Reporting System

• Hate Crime Statistics
  (Race, religion, disability, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender or gender identity)

2014

• 1,014 Religious hate crimes in U.S.
  15.6% Inside Houses of Worship

  158 incidents
  Anti-Jewish, Anti-Muslim, Anti-Catholic

• 21,372 crimes occurring at
  Church/synagogue/Temple/Mosque
Offenses

- 5787 Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of property
- 7063 Larceny/Theft
- 3886 Burglary/Breaking and Entering
- 1931 Assaults
- 947 Fraud Offenses
- 674 Drug/Narcotics violations
- 377 Motor Vehicle Thefts
- 249 Sex Offenses
- 88 Arson
- 74 Counterfeiting/Forgery

Offenses

- 71 Robbery
- 68 Weapons Offenses
- 58 Stolen Property Offenses (buying/selling)
- 48 Embezzlement
- 17 Kidnapping/Abduction
- 14 Pornography/Obscene Material
- 9 Prostitution
- 5 Extortion/Blackmail
- 5 Sex Offenses (non-forcible)
- 1 Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter

21,372 Total Crimes
Choices

- Hope for God’s Grace and Protection
- Paid security guards
- Off duty police
- Paid Security Staff member
- All volunteer security team
- Combo meal

Creating a Security Team

The “Go-To People”
Duties and Responsibilities

- Background checks
- Offering security
- Mission trip threat assessment
- Personal Safety
- Protect Church property
- Medical First Responder
Team Makeup

- Staff member/ Volunteers
- All Laity Volunteers
- Security Guards
- Off-duty Law Enforcement

Considerations

- Liability
- Weapons / Concealed carry
- Visibility.......Deterrent
- Training
- Rules of Engagement
Liaison Partnerships

- Other Internal Ministries
  - Missions
  - Ushers
  - Children / Youth
  - Parking / Greeters
  - Congregational Care

- Other Churches
  - Share lessons learned

Tools

- Surveillance Cameras
- Radios
- Flash lights
- AED
- First aid kits
- Panic Buttons
- ID/Access Cards
Plans and Procedures

- Put it in writing
- Practice the Plan
- Review periodically
- Amend and Adapt

Suspicious Behavior?

What does it look like?
Suspicious Behavior

• Appears to be nervous and looking around.
• Has on inappropriate clothing or wearing sunglasses indoors.
• Carrying bags, backpack or oversized purse.
• Is not focusing on the service and does not participate in the activities.
• Leaves the service to wander through the facility.
• Is not friendly.
• Does not make eye contact.
• Appears to be angry.

Suspicious Behavior

• Someone wearing a hat or hooded sweatshirt.
• Someone who is not focusing on the service, but on the congregation or offering.
• Someone who walks briskly.
• Individual talks to themselves.
• Does not pray during communal prayer.
• Exaggerated gesturing.
• Someone who arrives late and/or leaves early.
• Someone who has the “1000 yard stare”.
• Intuition – Someone who makes the hair stand up on the back of your neck.
• Anything that Just Doesn’t Look Right (JDLR).
PICK THE SERIAL KILLERS
Suspicious Religious motives?

SUSPICIOUS OR INNOCENT BEHAVIOR?
Now what?

- Notify Law Enforcement
- Document what was observed
- List witnesses present with contact information
- Preserve any physical or photographic evidence for Law Enforcement.

- Be a Good Witness
Warnings

• "There will be a terrorist diaspora sometime in the next two to five years like we’ve never seen before."
  - FBI Director James Comey 9/27/2016

• "Recent attacks indicate that extremist remain interested in attacking “soft” targets, such as: ...places of worship...”

QUESTIONS AND IDEAS