

First Presbyterian Church Building/Emergency Procedures Drill
Adult Forum Presentation November 5, 2023

Key message: Be prepared!

Situational Awareness - Take 30 seconds to assess what you would do at a location such as the church, the mall, a restaurant, the office or your home.

Three stages of disaster response: Denial, Deliberation & Decisive Moment

Deliberation –

1. Where are exits in church? Do a walk through, not just your usual route from and to the parking lot.
2. Where are the fire extinguishers and AEDs?

Exits – there are 8 exit areas at our church.

Decisive Moment - it depends on each type of situation.

Active Shooter Preparedness – Run, Hide, Fight

Run – Always try to evacuate. Leave belongings behind. #1 priority evacuate whether others agree or not. Don't restrict yourself from exits or escape routes. Disperse when outside – don't be a target.

Hide – If you can't get out safely, then hide. Turn out the lights, silence your phone, hide behind large objects.

Fight – Attempt to incapacitate the shooter. Act with aggression. Improvise weapons i.e. flag poles, books, fire extinguishers.

Call 911 – when police arrive follow their commands.

Fire Emergency Essentials

Fire alarm system - our church does not have a fire alarm system. Or a public address system.

FPC has fire extinguishers everywhere.

Ushers and worship leadership would be instrumental in alerting people and getting people out during Sunday worship.

Get out and assemble at standard meeting point i.e. Community Garden area

Questions: Which exits would you use right now? Which exits for Litten Hall? The Chapel?

Tornado Emergency

Move to sheltered areas away from windows. Go to areas such as interior hallways downstairs, interior rooms without windows (example: the sacristy room), Food Pantry rooms downstairs and on the main level.