

SHCC EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN BOOKLET



SECURITY / USHER MINISTRIES MISSION STATEMENT FOR SHCC

Zechariah 9:8 "But I will defend my house against marauding forces. Never again will an oppressor overrun my people, for now I am keeping watch."

MAY GOD CONTINUE TO BLESS OUR CHURCH

PRESENTED: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2025

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SHELDON HEIGHTS CHURCH OF CHRIST

11325 S. HALSTED STREET | CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60628

ACTIVE SHOOTER AND RELATED INCIDENTS

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW



This booklet contains the following important information:

- A Few Things to Remember
- Confirmation of Gods Security
- Instructions on Being Wise of All Things
- Active Shooter Protocols
- Defining Mental Illness
- Critical Medical Care
- Emergency Action Plans (EAP)
- Concealed Carry Law/License (CCL)

A FEW THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- There is NO place Satan can't do his evil works. He uses those who believe in hate and are weak, who can't cope in the world as they see it.
- We must always yield to the safety God has promised us in a time of refuge.
- The Bible constantly gives scripture after scripture of His protection. Let's be wise to take heed.
- The scriptures tell us to beware of evildoers who walk the earth ready to devour us if we leave His circle of protection.
- He also gives sound minds to direct us in helping to keep ourselves safe from the evils of this world.
- It's a known fact that when people have lost hope, they've lost everything and are subject to harm those around them.

WE ARE NOT EXEMPT - JUST BLESSED!

CONFIRMATION OF HIS SECURITY

- Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. [John 14:27](#)
- But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one. [2 Thessalonians 3:3](#)
- For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. [2 Timothy 1:7](#)
- ...For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we may boldly say: "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?" [Hebrews 13:5-6](#)

INSTRUCTIONS ON BEING WISE OF ALL THINGS

In Proverbs, He tells us to become wise to His teachings, thirst for knowledge, Instruction, and direction.

- My son, do not let wisdom and understanding out of your sight, preserve sound judgment and discretion. **Proverbs 3:21**
- Listen to advice and accept discipline, and at the end you will be counted among the wise. **Proverbs 19:20**
- Discretion will protect you, and understanding will guard you. **Proverbs 2:11**

Finally, to know better, I believe we will do better.

When we worship, know that Satan is present - even in the Church!

If we believe in the security of God, then too we must believe in the things of this world. The things He secures us from.

We can overcome many things of this world if we only heed His warnings and the directions that our ministry has designed to help keep us safe.

The Security Ministry of SHCC has put great effort into helping us in situations such as those outlined in this booklet. Please read it and keep it near. Something here might save your life or someone else's.

As we've noticed in the world we live in, and the most recent mass shootings it reminds us how blessed we are. Yes, even the Church of Christ has been victimized by an active shooter event. Therefore, we are forced to move to a state of prepared awareness.

We've placed steps and procedures in this booklet that will help ensure our safety and well-being.

Finally, should such an attack ever occur we will do all we can to minimize the harm to our members and visitors. We need your cooperation and the use of common sense.

"OUR LOVE WILL DRAW YOU IN AND OUR LORD WILL LIFT YOU UP"

ACTIVE SHOOTER PROTOCOLS

Below are a few steps to follow in the event of a shooter/slasher incident

1. Stay as calm as possible, not to excite the shooter or draw attention to you or others. **DO NOT SCREAM!** This action will make you a target even if you weren't. A shooter has one main goal, which is to kill or maim as many people as possible. Don't be one of them. History dictates that the offender will flee if he can't achieve that goal.
2. Immediately stoop below the pews or lie on the floor and be as quiet as possible. (Play dead if necessary.) Once you find a safe place, stay there until help arrives.
3. Security team members will determine when and whether to initiate the ***Emergency Action Plan*** when the threat has ended.
4. Remember if you are fortunate to get out of the church **PLEASE call 911** and give as much information as possible, such as the shooter's type and color of clothing (from head to toe), race, skin color (dark, medium or light) approximate height and weight, tattoos or noticeable piercings, and finally the type of weapon (if known) and possible injuries.
5. **DO NOT RETURN** to the church (for any reason) until it has been deemed safe to do so!!!
6. Please **WAIT** for the all-clear before moving or talking to one another.
7. **NEVER** place yourself in danger of receiving injury, or put any other member/visitor at risk by taking action against an attacker. Don't be a hero! PLEASE allow the designated people to handle the situation.
8. Please cooperate with this team. It will prevent you from bringing harm to yourself and others.
9. Remember not to panic. This alone will jeopardize the precautions we have put into place.
10. Finally, let's have the assurance to know God is our refuge in the time of need.

DEFINING MENTAL ILLNESS

“Mental health is defined as a state of well-being in which every individual realizes his or her own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to her or his community.”

Concerned about a friend?

You might not be certain your friend is displaying worrisome signs regarding their mental health. Here are a few signs to look for as a guide:

- Impulsive behaviors or being more irritated than usual.
- Not functioning like their usual selves (i.e., change in habits of how they dress, general appearance, eating or sleep habits).
- Talking about feelings of loneliness or despair.
- Excessive worry.
- Trouble concentrating.
- Substance misuse.

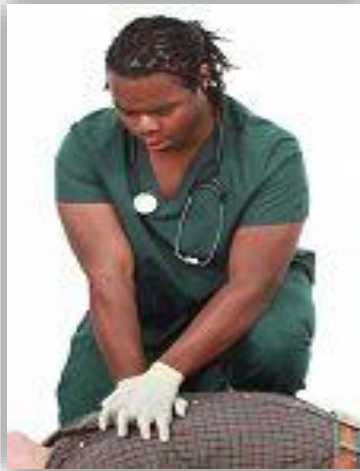
Keep an eye out for these signs that could indicate your friend is struggling with their mental health:

- Posting captions, hashtags, or emojis that are overtly sad or negative- they go beyond sarcastic jokes.
- Liking posts or following accounts that promote negative behaviors— even if they aren’t sharing it to their feeds.
- Writing posts or comments that show impulsive behavior, irritability, hostility, or indicate insomnia.

Whether it’s on social media, in group chats, or during a hangout – if you suspect your friend is struggling, trust your gut.

CRITICAL MEDICAL CARE

BASIC CPR AND IMMEDIATE CARE



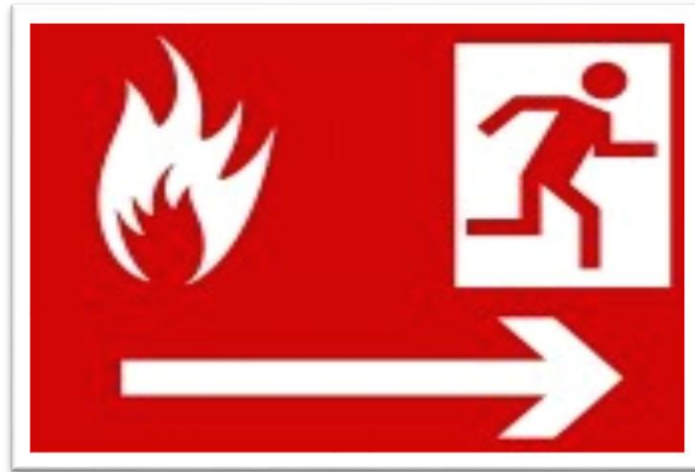
MEDICATION OR PRESCRIPTION CHECK



BLOOD AND SUGAR LEVELS



Emergency Action Plans (EAP)



BUILDING EVACUATION PROCEDURES

- Evacuate the building via the closest exit to you.
- Move quickly and assist anyone in your immediate area.
- Do not look for anyone.
- Do not crowd around exits once outside.
- Move at least 50 ft. from the building.
- Once outside, no one should leave until told to do so.

IF CLASSES ARE IN SESSION PLEASE ADHERE TO THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES:

- Teachers are responsible for their classes. Conduct a roll call to know who is present in the case of separation.
- Parents do not take your child from their teacher without notifying the teacher.

FOLLOW THE EAP PLAN DESIGNED TO HELP

- Ushers or a security team member will be posted at all doors
- A team member will notify the congregation over the sound system when an evacuation is necessary – alarm free event
- If the fire alarm goes off, immediately evacuate the building by following the exit drill plan in place please allow assistance from the team of security and ushers

- Do not re-enter the building until the official ok has been given
- Seniors and disabled members will be given first priority please be mindful and considerate



SEVERE WEATHER PROCEDURES

- Evacuate to the basement via the closest exit to you.
- Move quickly and assist anyone in your immediate area
- No one should leave the building, the basement is safer than outside...
- No one should drive in a storm. Stay in a safe space until help has arrived or the storm has passed.
- Ushers or a security team member will be posted at all doors to help the elderly and assist others to a safe area

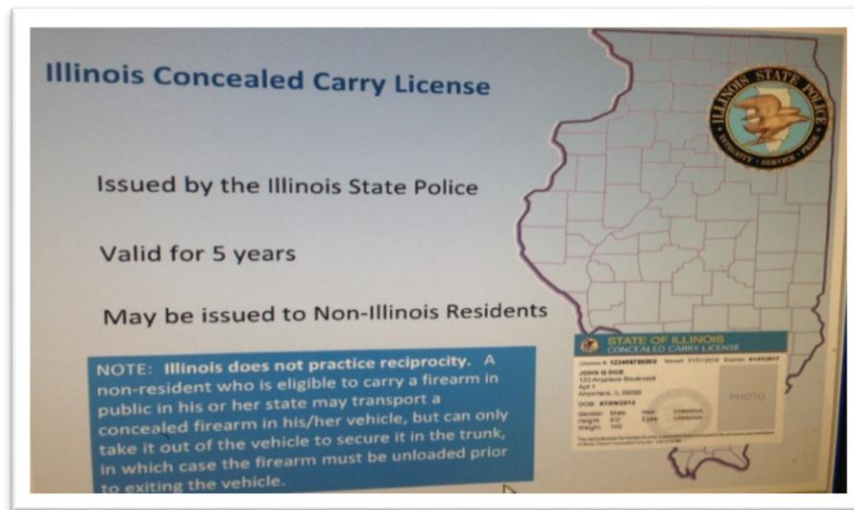
A team member will notify the congregation over the sound system when an evacuation to the basement is necessary and has ended.

NOTIFICATIONS OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

In all emergencies the proper city resources will be notified for assistance.



CONCEALED CARRY LAW/LICENSE (CCL)



As one of the last states to sign the bill that allows citizens to carry handguns *Illinois* has now joined other states.

This booklet gives certain awareness to this new law and its precautions. It also describes the procedures for Medical, Emergency, and Active shooter Action plans.

SHELDON HEIGHTS PROHIBITS WEAPONS OF ANY KIND ON ITS PREMISES!!!



In the interest of safety, liability, and security the decision has been made by the Sheldon Heights Security Ministry and Leadership to Prohibit weapons of any kind while in the Church and Administration Buildings.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE CCL



- CCLs will be issued by Illinois State Police not the City of Chicago.
- License holders must be 21 years of age.
- Applicants must possess a current valid Firearms Owners Identification (FOID) Card.
- Applicants must complete a 16 hour training course. Courses usually cost \$150.

PLACES WEAPONS ARE PROHIBITED

- **Anywhere on Sheldon Heights Property!!!**
- Public Transportation: CTA, Metra, Pace, Amtrak
- Airports: O'Hare or Midway
- Court Buildings and Detention Facilities
- Public Recreation Facilities: Libraries, Parks, Amusement Parks, Museums, Zoos etc....
- Public and Private Schools: Nursery, Pre-School, Elementary, High School, Colleges and Universities.
- Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Mental Health Facilities.
- You must have legally obtained a CCL in order to carry a weapon anywhere in Illinois.

DOWNLOAD A COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT AT:

[HTTPS://WWW.SHELDONHEIGHTS.COM](https://www.sheldonheights.com)

(BELOW THE CHURCH BULLETIN.)



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