# Safer Congregations 2

DENNIS STROUBLE OCT, 7, 2023

# Agenda

- Warnings
  - Communications
- Weather
- Fire
- Other Safety
  - Building, Grounds, Playgrounds
  - Accident, trips, falls
  - Cybersecurity
  - Bomb threat

# Warnings (weather and hazards)

Emergency Notification System | City of Carrollton, TX

### CarrolltonAlert.com or Everbridge Mobile Application

City of Carrollton Sirens (26 sirens)

Tested on the first Wednesday at 1:00 PM

Outdoor warning system- (not tornado sirens)

Severe weather

Hazardous materials releases

Other outdoor hazards

- North Central Texas Council of Governments Outdoor Warning Sirens (nctcog.org)
- Smart phone notifications and apps (Wunderground, Accuweather, the Weather Channel, Lightning, radar apps, Local TV stations apps.
- Commercial TV and Radio Stations

### **National Weather Service**

The **National Weather Service** (**NWS**) is an <u>agency</u> of the <u>United States federal</u> <u>government</u> that is tasked with providing weather forecasts, warnings of hazardous weather, and other weather-related products to organizations and the public for the purposes of protection, safety, and general information. It is a part of the <u>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration</u> (NOAA) branch of the <u>Department of Commerce</u>

National Weather Service. (2023). Retrieved from <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National\_Weather\_Service">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National\_Weather\_Service</a>

### Forecasters get information from:

- NOAA collects and distributes weather observations from NOAA and non-NOAA organizations:
  - Doppler Radar (159 towers)
  - Satellites
  - Radiosondes (weather balloon and buoys)
  - Automated Surface Observing Systems (about 2,000 located near airports)
  - Weather and Climate Operational Supercomputer System (WCOSS) models
  - Advanced Weather Information Processing System (AWIPS) combine into graphical interface
  - Commercial aircraft
  - ARES & storm spotters
  - Privately owned personal weather stations (Weather Underground)
- Commercial sources (The Weather Channel is owned by IBM)
- Other radar and sensors

### NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

PAST WEATHER

**ABOUT** 

SEARCH

**NEWS** 

Local forecast by

HOME

"City, St" or ZIP code Enter location

Location Help

**FORECAST** 

Go

INFORMATION

Severe Thunderstorm And Flood Threat For The Southern Plains

SAFETY

A cold front arriving into the southern Plains and Arklatex will produce severe thunderstorms, excessive rainfall and flooding today. The severe thunderstorms will produce large to very large hail, damaging winds and perhaps a tornado in parts of Oklahoma and Texas. The heavy rain and flood threat (moderate risk) will impact the Arklatex area, especially northeast Texas and southeast Oklahoma. Read More >

**EDUCATION** 



ACTIVE ALERTS FORECAST MAPS RADAR RIVERS, LAKES, RAINFALL AIR QUALITY SATELLITE PAST WEATHER

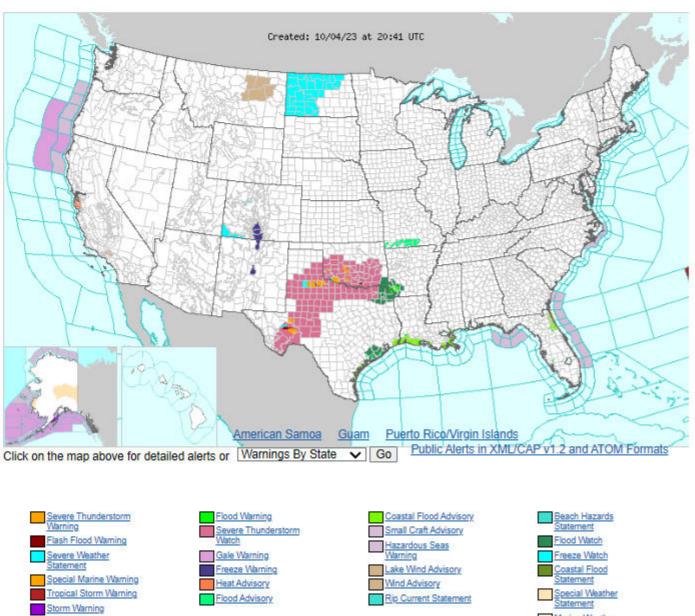
### Customize Your Weather.gov

City, ST

Enter Your City, ST or ZIP Code

Remember Me

Get Weather



Marine Weather Statement

### https://www.weather.gov/





FALL PREPAREDNESS

Follow us on YouTube



TURN AROUND DONT DROWN

LIGHTNING SAFETY

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Maps Rivers Marine Offshore and High Seas Hurricanes Aviation Weather Climatic Outlook

NWS Education
Be A Force of
NOAA Education

NWS RSS Feet



Comments? Questions? Please Contact Us



### NOAA Weather Radio

NOAA Weather Radio (NWR), also known as NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards, is an automated 24-hour network of VHF FM weather radio stations in the United States that broadcast weather information directly from a nearby National Weather Service office.

#### **Weather Channel Frequencies**

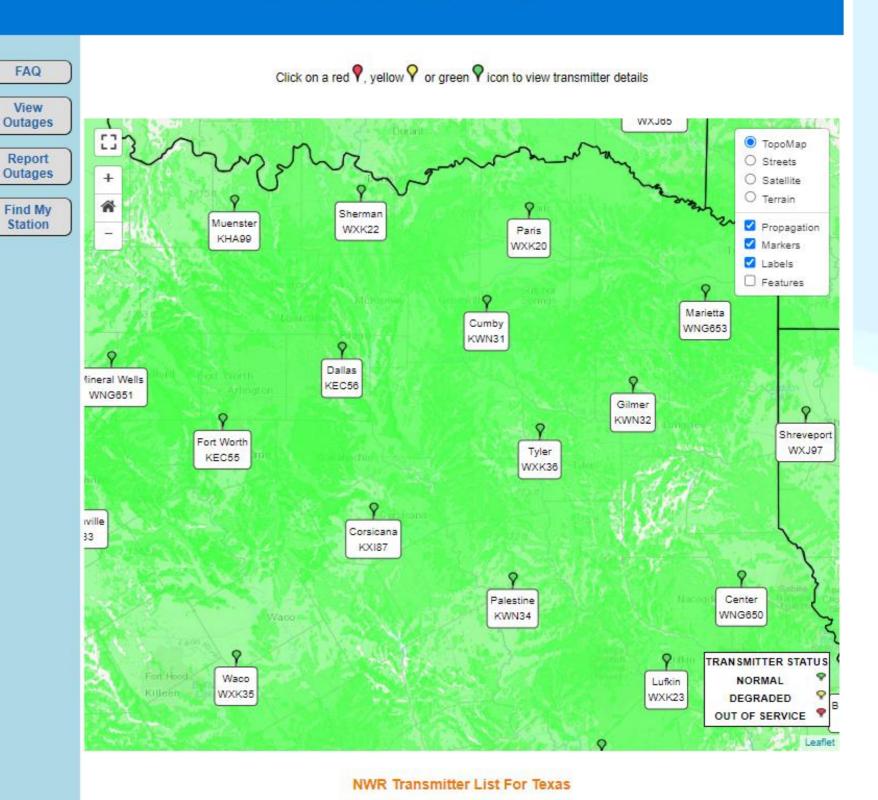
Channel Number	Frequency (MHz)
1	162.400
2	162.425
3	162.450
4	162.475
5	162.500
6	162.525
7	162.550

To get the S.A.M.E. code and weather channel for your area, call 1-888-697-7263 or visit

www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr/coverage/county\_coverage.html

### NWR Coverage Maps (weather.gov)

### **NWR Transmitters for Texas**



## Weather Alert Radio



# Product highlights:

•AM/FM weather alert radio •receives 7 NOAA or **Environment Canada** weather channels with flood, tornado, and thunderstorm alerts •store up to 10 different previously received alerts •SAME (Specific Area Message Encoding) for EAS, NOAA, and **Environment Canada** weather radio •25-county/provinces memory system •selectable 85 dB siren, voice alert, or LED flasher Color-coded alert level indicators •80 different emergency alerts (some cannot be disabled)

### **Weather Alerts**

### NOAA All Hazards Radio FIPS Codes

Collin: 048085

Dallas: 048113

Denton: 048121

Fannin: 048147

Grayson: 048181

Hunt: 048231

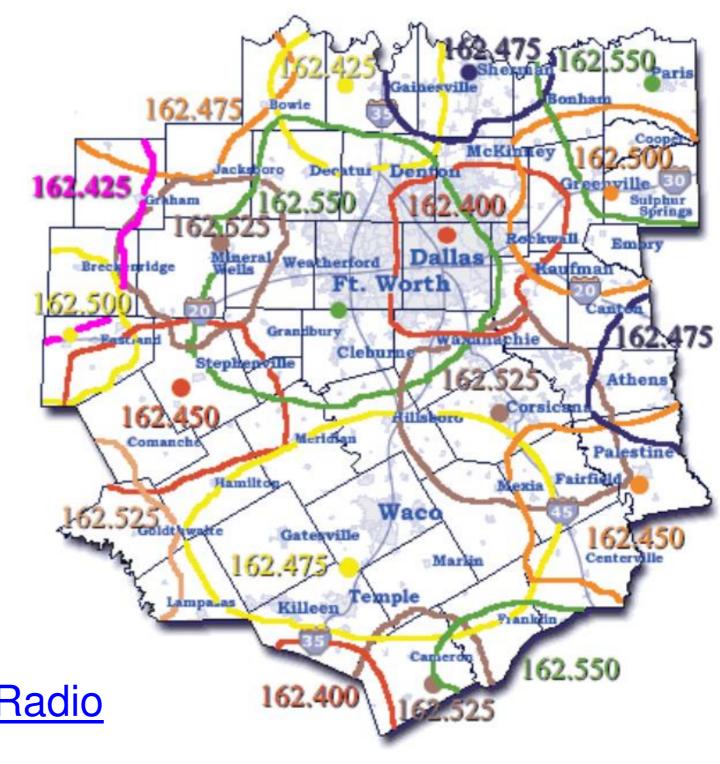
Rockwall: 048397

Tarrant: 048439

### **NOAA** Weather Radio

NOAA All Hazards Weather Radio (noaaweatherradio.org)

NWR Receivers (weather.gov) consumer info & list of radios



### **National Neather** <u>Service</u>

NWS Ft. Worth North Texas Skywarn Repeater **Directory** (weather.gov)

In most years. thunderstorms, tornadoes and lightning cause hundreds of injuries and deaths and billions in property and crop damages. To obtain critical weather information, the National Weather Service (NWS) established SKYWARN® with partner organizations. SKYWARN® is a volunteer program with between 350,000 and 400,000 trained severe weather spotters. These volunteers help keep their local communities safe by providing timely and accurate reports of severe weather to the National Weather Service.





**ABOUT** 

Local forecast by

Location Help

HOME

"City, St" or ZIP code Enter location Go

**FORECAST** 

**News Headlines** 

**PAST WEATHER** 

New Graphical Drought Information Statement

### NWS Ft. Worth North Texas Skywarn Repeater Directory

SAFETY

Weather.gov > Fort Worth/Dallas, TX > NWS Ft. Worth North Texas Skywarn Repeater Directory

Fort Worth/Dallas, TX Weather Forecast Office

**SEARCH** 

Current Hazards **Current Conditions** Radar Forecasts

### Skywarn Repeater Directory

INFORMATION

National Weather Service, Fort Worth/Dallas, Texas

### Skywarn Frequency List

clickable map

Follow us on Twitter



Follow us on Facebook



Follow us on YouTube

Rivers and Lakes



FWD RSS Feed

#### **CURRENT HAZARDS**

Local Storm Reports Hazardous Weather Outlook Severe Thunderstorm Warnings Storm Reports (Graphical) National Outlooks Flash Flood Warnings Submit Storm Report Tornado Warnings

#### CURRENT CONDITIONS

Hourly Weather Roundup Mesonet Observations Drought Monitor Rivers/Lakes

#### **FORECASTS**

Hazard Planner Graphical Forecast Air Quality (DFW) N. Texas Convective Parameters Aviation Forecasts Air Quality (Waco) Fire Weather Forecast Discussion

#### **CLIMATE AND PAST** WEATHER

Tornado Climatology Daily Rainfall Maps Waco Climatology Preliminary Storm Data Climate Data from Airports DFW Climatology North Texas Climatology Tropical Cyclone Reports

#### WEATHER SAFETY

NOAA Weather Radio Get Prepared Turn Around Don't Drown

**NEWS** 

**EDUCATION** 

Climate and Past Weather Local Programs

#### **ABOUTUS**

Contact Us Volunteer Information

#### **EDUCATION**

Jetstream Weather School Local Science and Research

#### SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Storm Ready Storm Spotters Schedule

# **NWS Skywarn map**

https://wx5fwd.org/CWAMap

Send updates or corrections via our Contact Form or email to radiodesk@wx5fwd.org Denton ate your own. name Wichita Falls Denton State Abbr TX Texarkana Denton Repeater Flano 146.9200 (110.9) Dallas nyder 49 AlternateRepeater Fort Worth 20 Shreveport Longview Abilene weetwaters Tyler 145.1700 (110.9) 35W 35E TertiaryRepeater 147.3800 (110.9) Waco fillColor San Angelo TEXAS #00FF0030 Killeen labelLatLng 33.2,-97.12 Google Mydyapsation Round Rock URL

CWA SKYWARN Frequencies Table

# Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)

Denton ARES Web Site (denton-ares.org)

Primary emergency/SKYWARN frequency is 146.920 (offset -0.600 MHz, Tone 110.9 Hz)

May listen but need a license from the FCC to transmit

Can also be monitored on the internet at

W5NGU 146.9200 MHz Denton County ARA (broadcastify.com)

- http://nctc.info/ North Central Texas Connection (Linked repeaters)
- <a href="https://www.lightningmaps.org/">https://www.lightningmaps.org/</a> Lighting maps and apps
- Local Weather Forecast, News and Conditions | Weather Underground (wunderground.com) Maps w/local stations
- Note: The city of Dallas uses Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) <u>USRACES.ORG</u>

### **Know the Difference**

• Tornado Watch - Conditions favor the development of tornadoes. Stay alert, be ready to act should a tornado threaten. Watch the sky and have a way to receive warnings (smart phone apps, NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio or television).

 Tornado Warning - A tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar. Take shelter immediately if in the warned area.

# Family Radio Service To communicate with classrooms & portables

Choices for radios:

- Amateur Radio (HAM) Individuals must pass a licensing exam, most flexibility, (\$20 to thousands of dollars) Can transmit up to 1500 watts
  BaoFeng
- CB Radio Generally a limit of 4 watts, HF, AM, FM, SSB (\$50 to \$200)
- Family Radio Service (FRS) UHF, no license (\$20 \$60) 22 channels, (2 watts or .5 watts)



Midland Walkie Talkie



BTECH FRS-A1 Monitors two channels UV-5R

VHF/UHF

- General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) UHF More expensive, require license (\$70 \$140)
- Multi-Use Radio Services (MURS) VHF, better privacy, does not require a license (\$45 \$90)

# Safety Team, Ushers, Greeters

- Assess Notify Action
- **❖ IF THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE DANGER CALL 911**
- Know locations for Shelter or evacuation
- Be alert situational awareness
- Be aware of fire extinguishers, all exits, red bags, AED, First aid kits.
- In normal operations last person to leave checks to see all doors are closed and outside doors are locked.
- Horizon has a Safety Plan Workbook with procedures located at the Welcome Desk.

### Weather

- Monitor
- **❖** Alert
- **SHELTER IN PLACE**
- Assist people to shelters (with red bags)
- Close windows coverings, doors, sweep all rooms
  - Severe Weather Preparedness Assessment (Church Mutual)
  - https://cmgroup.widen.net/s/chfgslxbgn/severe-weatherassessment-rc-cm0073-2020-11?utm source=sendgrid.com&utm medium=email&utm c ampaign=website

### **Fire**

- Small fire use fire extinguisher to extinguish Pull, Aim, Squeeze, Sweep (PASS)
- **Large fire**
- Alert Instruct someone to call 911
- **\*** EVACULATE
- Assist people to designated locations (with Red bags)
- Sweep rooms

# Other safety measures

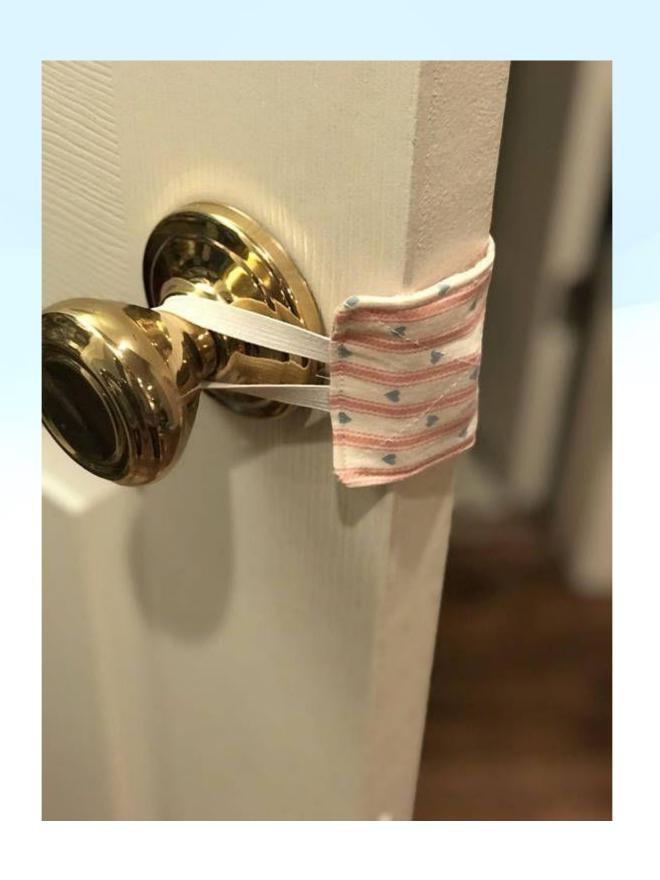
Falls and accident prevention

Routinely check for hazards in the building and perimeter

Routinely check for hazards in the RE classrooms & playgrounds

- Personnel background checks & Safety of Children
- Good accounting procedures (Example: 2 people handing money)
- https://www.churchmutual.com/media/pdf/Self\_Inspection\_Checklist.pdf
- RRSpring2016.pdf (churchmutual.com)
- https://www.churchmutual.com/17522/Slip,-Trip-and-Fall-Prevention

# Latch Cover for RE classrooms



# Other safety measures

Cybersecurity

October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month

Cybersecurity Awareness Month | CISA

Resources + Guides - National Cybersecurity Alliance (staysafeonline.org)

The Campaign | CISA

# Other safety measures

Bomb threat checklist

DHS Bomb Threat Checklist | CISA

#### **BOMB THREAT PROCEDURES**

This quick reference checklist is designed to help employees and decision makers of commercial facilities, schools, etc. respond to a bomb threat in an orderly and controlled manner with the first responders and other stakeholders.

Most bomb threats are received by phone. Bomb threats are serious until proven otherwise. Act quickly, but remain calm and obtain information with the checklist on the reverse of this card.

If a bomb threat is received by phone:

- 1. Remain calm. Keep the caller on the line for as long as possible. DO NOT HANG UP, even if the caller does.
- 2. Listen carefully. Be polite and show interest.
- 3. Try to keep the caller talking to learn more information.
- 4. If possible, write a note to a colleague to call the authorities or, as soon as the caller hangs up, immediately notify them yourself.
- 5. If your phone has a display, copy the number and/or letters on the window display.
- 6. Complete the Bomb Threat Checklist immediately. Write down as much detail as you can remember. Try to get exact words.
- 7. Immediately upon termination of call, DO NOT HANG UP, but from a different phone, contact authorities immediately with information and await instructions.

If a bomb threat is received by handwritten note:

- · Call
- · Handle note as minimally as possible.

If a bomb threat is received by e-mail:

- · Call\_
- . Do not delete the message.

Signs of a suspicious package:

- · No return address
- · Poorly handwritten
- · Excessive postage
- Misspelled words
- · Stains
- · Incorrect titles
- · Strange odor
- · Foreign postage
- · Strange sounds
- · Restrictive notes
- · Unexpected delivery
- \* Refer to your local bomb threat emergency response plan for evacuation

- . Use two-way radios or cellular phone. Radio signals have the potential to detonate a bomb.
- · Touch or move a suspicious package.

#### WHO TO CONTACT (Select One)

- 911
- Follow your local guidelines

For more information about this form contact the Office for Bombing Prevention at: OBP@cise.dhs.gov



#### **BOMB THREAT CHECKLIST**

DATE:

PHONE NUMBER WHERE TIME CALLER CALL RECEIVED: HUNG UP:

#### Ask Caller:

- · Where is the bomb located? (building, floor, room, etc.)
- . When will it go off?
- · What does it look like?
- · What kind of bomb is it?
- . What will make it explode?
- . Did you place the bomb? Yes No
- Why?
- · What is your name?

#### **Exact Words of Threat:**

#### Information About Caller:

Threat Language

□ Message read

□ Taped message

☐ Incoherent

□ Instional

C) Professe

□ Well-spoken

- . Where is the caller located? (background/level of noise)
- · Estimated age:
- . Is voice familiar? If so, who does it sound like?
- · Other points:

Caller's Voice Background Seunds ☐ Female ☐ Animal noises C Male ☐ Accent ☐ Angry ☐ Calin El Booth ☐ Clearing throat ☐ PA system □ Coughing □ Conversation

[] House noises Cl fütchen noises ☐ Street noises.

[] Static

☐ Office machinery.

☐ Factory machinery

☐ Long distance

Other Information:

☐ Cracking Voice IT Music ☐ Crying ☐ Motor C Clear

□ Deep ☐ Deep breathing ☐ Disguised ☐ Distinct

☐ Excited

☐ Laughter ☐ Lise □ Loud

☐ Nasai ☐ Normal

☐ Regged C Repid

□ Respy □ Slew ☐ Slurred

□ Soft

☐ Stutter

V2

# Safety Resources

- Unitarian Universalist Association
- Safe Congregations | UUA.org
- Becoming a Safer Congregation | Safe Congregagtions Handbook | UUA.org
- https://www.uua.org/safe/buildings/active-shooter
- Side with Love (sponsored by the UUA)

Responding to Far Right/White Christian Nationalist Threats — Side With Love

- Federal Government Department of Justice
- Protecting Places of Worship (justice.gov)
- United States Department of Justice-Hate Crimes
- Federal Government Department of Homeland Security
- <u>Safety for Faith-Based Events and Houses of Worship (dhs.gov)</u> (lots of resources)
- <a href="https://www.hsdl.org/c/about/">https://www.hsdl.org/c/about/</a> Homeland Security Digital Library
- Federal Government Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (Houses of Worship) This is an agency of the Department of Homeland Security.
- <a href="https://www.cisa.gov/resources-tools/resources/security-planning-workbook">https://www.cisa.gov/resources-tools/resources/security-planning-workbook</a> Sept 19, 2023
- Houses of Worship | CISA
- Protecting Houses of Worship Video | CISA
- Protecting Houses of Worship | Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency CISA
- Mitigating Attacks on Houses on Worship Security Guide Fact Sheet (cisa.gov)
- Protecting Places of Worship: Six Steps to Enhance Security Against Targeted Violence Fact Sheet | CISA
- DHS Bomb Threat Checklist | CISA

# Safety Resources 2

- Federal Emergency Management Agency (Dept. of Homeland Security)
  - <a href="https://www.fema.gov/blog/5-ways-improve-safety-and-security-your-place-worship-or-community-spaces">https://www.fema.gov/blog/5-ways-improve-safety-and-security-your-place-worship-or-community-spaces</a>
  - https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-07/developing-eops-for-houses-of-worship.pdf
  - Nonprofit Security Grant Program | FEMA.gov GRANT PROGRAM
- US Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
  - https://www.samhsa.gov/resource/dbhis/houses-worship-security-practices-guide
- Texas
  - Preparedness (texas.gov)
  - <u>Disaster Preparedness (texas.gov)</u>
  - <u>Texas Emergency Portal | The Official Website of the State of Texas</u>
  - Emergency Management | Office of the Texas Governor | Greg Abbott
  - https://guides.sll.texas.gov/weather-emergencies/nonprofits-houses-of-worship
  - <u>Security Teams for Houses of Worship | Office of the Attorney General</u> (texasattorneygeneral.gov)
  - Religious Property Gun Laws Guides at Texas State Law Library

# Safety Resources 3

- Church Mutual Insurance Company
- https://www.churchmutual.com/17529/Safety-Resources-for-Houses-of-Worship
- https://cmgroup.widen.net/s/z8jmcbvlz9/cm0117-2020-04-rc-self-inspection-checklist-for-how
- RRSpring2016.pdf (churchmutual.com)
- https://www.churchmutual.com/17522/Slip,-Trip-and-Fall-Prevention
- <a href="https://cmgroup.widen.net/s/chfgslxbgn/severe-weather-assessment-rc-cm0073-2020-11?utm\_source=sendgrid.com&utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=website">https://cmgroup.widen.net/s/chfgslxbgn/severe-weather-assessment-rc-cm0073-2020-11?utm\_source=sendgrid.com&utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=website</a>
- https://cmgroup.widen.net/s/qbvbxvtfqw/10-essentials-of-severe-weather-rc-cm0054-2020-11?utm\_source=sendgrid.com&utm\_medium=email&utm\_campaign=website
- Other Sources
- A 5-Step Plan for House of Worship Security | 2018-11-05 | Security Magazine
- https://www.brotherhoodmutual.com/resources/church-security/church-security-resources/
- How To Protect Houses of Worship (protectioncircle.org)
- Protecting Houses of Worship: Grant Programs (ravemobilesafety.com)
- [Insert House of Worship Name] Emergency operations plan Template (pcsda.org)
- Fire Safety in Churches, Temples, Mosques, and Synagogues (qrfs.com)
- https://www.jeffco.us/DocumentCenter/View/29610/SIF---WORSHIP-WITHOUT-WORRY--155-pages-2020-Tina-Rowe
- <a href="https://www.youtube.com/">https://www.youtube.com/</a> search for church security, safety, etc. (Some are better than others)