



THE PARISH PAPER

May 2018

How to Balance Hospitality and Church Security

When Jack picked up his car after repairs at the local dealership, he noticed instructions securely taped on the main desk where all customers could easily read it.

What to do if an alarm goes off:

Everyone **MUST** leave the building immediately. Provide assistance to people to find exits. Designate where people are to gather outside, so a volunteer leader can do a head count.

EXIT away from rooms with hazardous materials.

Do **NOT** use the elevator if your building has one.

Do not allow people to enter the building until instructed by the fire/police department or a staff member.

Jack immediately thought of his church and wondered if such a clear plan existed and, if so, could staff and visitors follow such instructions. As a governing board member, he felt some responsibility to follow up on possible steps the church might take to be better prepared for an emergency.

Reducing Risk and Maximizing Hospitality

[Read more here...](#)



WHEN THE PASTOR DETERMINES
THE CHURCH'S SECURITY CODE.

The Parish Paper:

Ideas and Insights for Active Congregations, is a monthly resource for local church clergy and lay leaders to use to help their local churches engage in dynamic and fruitful ministry. We encourage you to share The Parish Paper with appropriate boards, committees, teams, or interested members within your congregation.

The Vermont Conference has subscribed to this resource on behalf of all Vermont UCC churches. Each monthly issue of The Parish Paper provides ideas, insights, research-findings, and practical methods that strengthen the effectiveness of congregations in accomplishing God's purposes through their various ministries. Not every suggestion included in The Parish Paper will be right for every church.

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