

Sheriff



Larry Ashley, Okaloosa County Sheriff

1250 Eglin Parkway • Shalimar, Florida 32579-1234
Phone: (850) 651-7410 • Email: sheriff@sheriff-okaloosa.org

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THIRD NORTH OKALOOSA CHURCH BURGLARIZED

The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office has received another report of a burglary to a church in North Okaloosa County. The most recent target is Antioch Baptist Church at 4796 Antioch Road in Crestview. A church member found evidence of a break-in that took place sometime between the evening hours of February 9th and early morning February 10th. One small item was reported missing.

It's the third reported church burglary in the north end since January 20th. The first took place at Pilgrim's Rest Baptist Church in Baker where the thief or thieves damaged the church and stole a very small amount of cash.

Deputies were then called to First United Methodist Church of Baker two days later after a church member arriving there January 22nd discovered a window unit air conditioner hanging outside an opened window.

Inside they found evidence of forced entry into the church office. A lock box had been taken, but church officials say it did not contain money.

Anyone with information on the church burglaries is asked to contact the Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office at 850-689-5705 or Emerald Coast Crime Stoppers at 850-863-TIPS.

In addition, the OCSO Crime Prevention Unit is working to upgrade all the emergency contact information for area churches. Please contact Ashley Bailey or Elizabeth Bingham at 651-7153 or email the information to abailey@sheriff-okaloosa.org or ebingham@sheriff-okaloosa.org.

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