Additional Fire Prevention Considerations

The following questions are provided for your planning team to generate additional discussion on fire prevention. These questions are not all inclusive, but intended only to help your team consider topics of fire prevention that may have been overlooked.

Fire Annex – Prevention (Before)

1. Are there an adequate number of fire extinguishers?
2. Can the fire extinguishers be easily located by staff, volunteers, and visitors? If not, can proper signage be added?
3. Are the fire extinguishers inspected and maintained?
4. Is electrical wiring in good condition?
5. Have the outlets been checked for proper wiring and condition?
6. Have GFCI receptacles been checked and tested for “trip”?
7. Are extension cords only used on a temporary basis?
8. Are power strips used appropriately? (Do not plug one power strip into another power strip). Are the power strips of good quality and do they have a built-in breaker?
9. Are all of the electrical panels in good condition, free from clutter, and the condition of the breakers checked regularly?
10. Are candles well protected and on a non-flammable surface? Are candles extinguished following services?
11. Are all of the smoke detectors tested regularly?
12. Does the building have fire alarms? Are they tested regularly?
13. Are chemicals labeled and stored properly?
14. Do you have an evacuation plan? This will be completed in the Evacuation Annex
15. Are the evacuation routes (primary and secondary) posted in every classroom, meeting room, kitchen, sanctuary, and office? Are exits clearly marked? Have you designated a rally point?
16. Are ushers trained on evacuation procedures? Can ushers assist with visitor traffic to avoid interference with incoming fire department vehicles?
17. Have ushers participated in a fire drill?

Arson Prevention

1. Are shrubbery and trees around the building trimmed to keep the areas around the building unobstructed?
2. Is there exterior lighting? Are there motion detectors?
3. Are there intrusion alarms on doors, windows, ventilator openings and roof access?
4. Are trash receptacles stored away from the building to reduce the danger of fire?
5. Are the doors locked and checked at the end of the day?
6. Are the neighbors encouraged to report signs of vandalism?