CARRY CONCEALED CHURCH HANDGUN POLICY AND STATE LAW REGARDING THE CARRY AND CONCEALMENT OF HANDGUNS WHILE ON CHURCH PROPERTY AND DURING CHURCH EVENTS.

Church Policy

At no time is it permitted to OPEN carry a firearm of any type while on church property or during a church event, example Upward.

- No long guns, example, shotguns, rifles or muzzle loaders of any kind are permitted while on church property or during a church event.
- Carry concealed is permitted only after notifying the church leadership or their designated representative of the intention to carry while on church property and the person intending to carry concealed will then attend a meeting with church staff or their designee to ensure the following:
  1. Either the person has a carry concealed permit of which has been issued by the State of Delaware, or is a current Law Enforcement officer and is in good standing with COPT. (Council on Police Training)
  2. And the person maintains at a minimum, a basic CPR, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation certificate.
  3. And the person will attend a Church Carry Concealed meeting to establish a plan in the event of an active shooter incident.
- The handgun will be maintained with the person holding the permit and will not be left unsecured at the church for any reason.
- If a firearm is removed from a holster and or is displayed for any reason, church staff or their designee will be notified and an incident report will be completed.

Exception to the above listed rules are Law Enforcement/Police officers during the performance of their lawful duties.

It is not the intention of the Free Will Baptist Church of Townsend for a member, attendee, guest or visitor of the church to discharge a firearm toward another person in defense of themselves or other persons if they are not in IMMINENT danger of death or serious physical injury.
Serious physical injury is described in the Delaware Code, Title 11 Section 222 as:
Physical injury which creates a substantial risk of death or which causes serious and prolonged disfigurement, prolonged impairment of health or prolonged loss or impairment of the function of any body organ.

Delaware Code Online can be found at http://delcode.delaware.gov/

Use of force in self-protection in the Delaware Criminal Code. The entire sections are not listed below, however the entire sections can be found in the Delaware Criminal Code, Title 11, sections 464 and 465.

464 Justification — Use of force in self-protection.

(a) The use of force upon or toward another person is justifiable when the defendant believes that such force is immediately necessary for the purpose of protecting the defendant against the use of unlawful force by the other person on the present occasion.

(b) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (d) and (e) of this section, a person employing protective force may estimate the necessity thereof under the circumstances as the person believes them to be when the force is used, without retreating, surrendering possession, doing any other act which the person has no legal duty to do or abstaining from any lawful action.

(c) The use of deadly force is justifiable under this section if the defendant believes that such force is necessary to protect the defendant against death, serious physical injury, kidnapping or sexual intercourse compelled by force or threat.

(d) The use of force is not justifiable under this section to resist an arrest which the defendant knows or should know is being made by a peace officer, whether or not the arrest is lawful.

465 Justification — Use of force for the protection of other persons.

(a) The use of force upon or toward the person of another is justifiable to protect a third person when:

(1) The defendant would have been justified under § 464 of this title in using such force to protect the defendant against the injury the defendant believes to be threatened to the person whom the defendant seeks to protect; and

(2) Under the circumstances as the defendant believes them to be, the person whom the defendant seeks to protect would have been justified in using such protective force; and

(3) The defendant believes that intervention is necessary for the protection of the other person.