



# Water Leak Prevention Tip Sheet Water Leak Risk Management for Churches

The threat of water leaks, burst pipes, and freezing pipes poses a constant risk to churches. The potential for severe damage to buildings and valuable contents can have significant emotional and financial impacts on congregations. While minor leaks may be easily remedied, major losses can strain resources and operations.

### **Case in Point**

Consider a scenario where a toilet line fails overnight, flooding the floor below until discovered the next morning. As a result, you need to temporarily relocate your office for immediate mold prevention. Later, you discover that the water not only damaged the building and office equipment but also destroyed important church documents and archives. While insurance can cover the replacement of damaged property, the emotional and financial impact runs deep.

# **Automatic Water Shut Off Protection**

### **How Does It Work?**

An automatic water shut-off valve detects water flow irregularities or moisture in the building. When detected, the valve shuts off the water supply, significantly minimizing water leak damage. Many of these systems offer compatibility with smartphones, adding convenience and accessibility.

# **Types of Automatic Water Shut-Off Valves**

- Moisture Sensor Automatic Water Shutoff Systems: These systems rely on moisture sensors placed around the building. If water or moisture is detected, the system alerts you and/or shuts off the water.
- 2. Flow-Based Leak Detection Systems with Automatic Water Shutoffs: These systems shut off water based on continuous flow. For example, if water runs continuously for 20 minutes, it triggers the shut-off. These systems help detect both minor leaks that increase water bills (like a leaky toilet) and catastrophic leaks that can cause extensive damage (such as a burst pipe).

# **How to Add This Protection?**

To learn more about the various options, features, and reviews of products and services available, consult a trusted service provider or search online. While we cannot endorse any specific product or provider, we highly recommend considering this approach as a way to safeguard your valuables from sudden plumbing-related losses.

