

## Family loses 2 daughters in New Life Church shooting; guard 'saved hundreds'

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COLORADO SPRINGS – A family is grieving Monday after their two teenage girls were killed in Sunday's shooting spree at the New Life Church.

"I'm asking Colorado Springs and the country to please pray for that family this morning because they're going through a very difficult time," said Reverend Brady Boyd, the senior pastor at New Life Church.

Authorities say 18-year-old Stephanie Works and 16-year-old Rachael Works died from their injuries after a gunman opened fire outside New Life Church on Sunday.

The girls' father, 51-year-old David Works is hospitalized with two gunshot wounds to the abdomen and groin area, and is listed in fair condition.

Works is an IT employee at First Data's Denver office. They issued the following statement on Monday:

"We cannot express how saddened we are by this terrible tragedy. Our thoughts and prayers are with David and his family as they cope with the loss of their two daughters. We are doing everything possible to help them during this extremely difficult time. First Data will be creating a family fund to offer support to David and his family."

One of the girls had just returned from overseas where she had been on a missionary service trip. Boyd says he spent Sunday evening in the hospital praying with the parents of the two girls.

"Our hearts are grieving this morning for them," said Boyd. "You can imagine, as parents, losing two children while coming to church, just showing up for a worship service, not bothering anyone."

Boyd says the church is incredibly strong and has a history of surviving trauma and will recover from this attack, which he called random.

Additionally, Boyd says the others who were injured in the shooting are expected to survive their injuries.

Two other people were treated and released from a hospital. They're identified as

40-year-old Judy Purcell and 59-year-old Larry Bourbannais.

Purcell suffered a gunshot wound to the right shoulder.

Bourbannais was hit with a gunshot in his left forearm.

The gunman, 24-year-old Matthew Murray, was shot and killed at the scene.

Boyd says the gunman, who fired about 40 rounds in the foyer of the worship center, was not related to the church community in any way and called his attack "senseless" and "random."

"I just got my first tour of the building since yesterday's shooting and walking through, it looks like a war scene in there," said Boyd.

The pastor went on to say that because of the actions of the armed security guard "hundreds of lives were saved" and he acknowledged that it could have been much worse.

Boyd says his head of security came to him Sunday morning after the news of the shooting at Youth With a Mission in which two people were killed and two were injured and the gunman fled the scene. The head of security suggested ramping up security for the day, according to Boyd.

He says the armed guard, who has a law enforcement background and was dressed in plain clothes, is a regular worshipper at New Life Church and generally attends one service to worship and then provides security at the second service. He says she is normally assigned to defend him as his personal bodyguard during the service.

Boyd says the church will be closed on Monday for repairs but is expected to reopen on Tuesday.

"Our biggest concern this morning is not the building," said Boyd. "It's the family that lost two teenage daughters."

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