

Pastor charged with murder in church shooting released on bond

Posted: Jul 28, 2013 10:40 PM CDT
Updated: Aug 07, 2013 10:40 PM CDT
By Agustin Garfias - [bio](#) | [email](#)

NEWTON COUNTY - A Newton County pastor is out on bond after family members say he shot and killed his nephew outside his church over the weekend.

The shooting happened around 10:30 a.m. Sunday at Belgrade Baptist Church in the 4400 of FM 1416 near Kirbyville in Newton County.

According to a news release issued by the Newton County Sheriff's Office, when deputies arrived at the church they found Curtis Paul Jones, 34, of Bon Wier, dead from gunshot wounds. Investigators say they determined he had been shot by Luther Jones, 64. Luther Jones, who is pastor at the church, was taken to the Newton County Sheriff's Office and charged with murder.

Paul Jones is a nephew of Luther Jones.

Another man at the church, not identified by authorities, was arrested on a charge of hindering apprehension or prosecution.

Family members say the second person arrested is the pastor's son and that he was trying to hide the gun. This has not been confirmed by authorities.

Juanita Jones, the victim's sister, told 12News that Curtis Jones was shot at least three times as he arrived at the church.

Many in the community surrounding the church know both the pastor and his nephew.

"It just don't make sense. Because they are both good people. For real, they're both real good people," James Hanks, a friend of the family said Sunday.

Family members of the Jones' said Curtis had recently been released from prison and that there had been a feud going on long before the shooting. They also said Curtis was going to church to get his life back on track.

A motive for the shooting has not been released by officials.

Luther Jones was arraigned and posted \$100,000 bond on Monday.

An autopsy has been ordered. The investigation is ongoing.

This is a developing story. Check back for updates.

Highlights

- The Belgrade Baptist Church pastor has been charged with murder
- Pastor posted \$100,000 bond
- Family have identified the victim as the pastor's nephew
- The victim was shot three times



Can't find what you're looking for?