



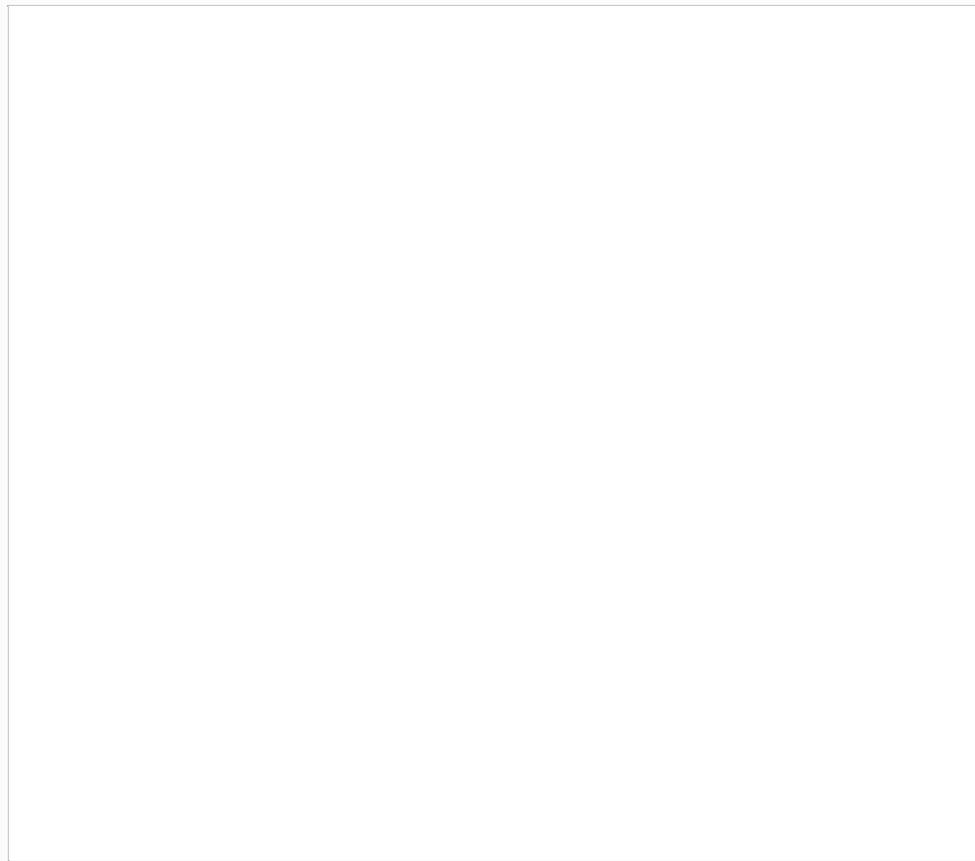
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DeSoto Co. Preacher Arrested For Child Porn

Preacher on leave from Southern Baptist church

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Stephanie Scurlock
12:39 p.m. CDT, April 3, 2011



FAST FACTS:

- DeSoto County preacher arrested for child porn
Preacher takes leave of absence from church
Arrested at his Hernando home Friday
(DeSoto Co., MS 04/03/2011) - A DeSoto county pastor faces a child pornography charge. The Southern Baptist preacher was

arrested Friday evening.

A DeSoto County sheriff's car and police tape separated our News Channel 3 camera from members of Oak

Grove Baptist heading to church this Sunday. Hernando police arrested their pastor, 63 year old Eddie Prince, at his home Friday on one count of possession of child pornography.

"The pastor has been placed on a leave of absence from the church at this time," said Bob Wright, church leader.

Wright added, "The congregation of Oak Grove Baptist Church is saddened by this incident. As a church we're coming together to support our pastor, his family, and each other with Christian love and prayers."

Wright and his wife, both retired chiefs of the Memphis Police Department, have attended the church since they moved to DeSoto County. Wright says he doesn't know details about the incident.

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He said, "I have no comment on that. I'm not privileged to the investigative information in the case. Obviously we live in a nation where a person is innocent until proven guilty."

Wright says Oak Grove started 159 years ago. The church leases space during the week to a daycare. He describes Oak Grove as a small country church with about 150 active members. He said they are struggling to come to grips with the arrest of their beloved pastor.

"We're saddened, dismayed. You have to know the person. It's just like any church. That would be hit in a situation like this. It's a troubling situation. As a body we're asking for people's prayers and understanding and we'll get through this," said Wright.

Prince's bond was set at \$60,000.

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ladeebanks at 4:28 PM April 04, 2011

At news conference this afternoon, it is reported that Prince used the public library to download child porn! So I guess now we do have some facts, and they are not looking good. So horribly tragic. Wake up America. Wake up citizens, men and women. Demand Congress put an end to porn altogether. If you are involved in it, get some help and get out of it. Our country is being destroyed.....men who otherwise seem upright are getting involved in this horrendous evil. As citizens, we need to step up and say enough! Hard to believe this man would not realize he could so easily be caught.

ladeebanks at 3:36 PM April 04, 2011

We don't know the facts yet. Did someone else have access to his computer? Did someone have a grudge against him or his family? How was this discovered? Did an online watch group report him or did somebody else report him to law enforcement? My prayers are with the family. If he is guilty, this is so very tragic. If not, it is still tragic once charges like these are filed, as he will be under a cloud from now on. I know lie detector tests are inadmissible and sometimes in error, but I'd be getting the best expert I could find to give me one if I were innocent.

jones9129 at 12:00 PM April 04, 2011

I have known this man for almost 40 years. I grew up in Oak Grove Church and went on many youth trips with him as our pastor, mentor and friend. Never once has he ever made ANYONE feel uncomfortable or given any signs of this type behavior. Let's point out one fact, he has been accused of 1 count of possession (looking at pictures on the WEB). He was NOT charged with distributing or solicitation of this material.

He has been an intricate part of the community for many, many years and has always been there to support any and everyone that needed help. IF it is determined that he did look at some websites like he is accused of then he needs HELP not PERSECUTION.

"Let he who is without sin cast the first stone" John 8:7



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