

ATTACK IN CHURCH KILLS WOMAN - DETROIT COPS FIND NO SUSPECT OR WITNESS

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Detroit police are investigating the slaying of a **woman** Wednesday **in** Greektown that began inside one of Detroit's most historic **churches**.

Police said they were called to the Second Baptist **Church** of Detroit, 441 Monroe St. at Beaubien, around 4:45 p.m.

The **woman**, who was not identified, was found bleeding **in** an alley behind the **church**.

Cmdr. James Tolbert said police considered a room **in** the **church's** lower basement an "obvious crime scene."

The **woman** died at Detroit Receiving Hospital hours later, police said.

The precise cause of death had not been determined Wednesday, and it was unclear whether the **woman** was a member of the **church**.

Police tape surrounded the perimeter of the **church** and the alley until about 10:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Police said they had no apparent witnesses to the crime and no suspect late Wednesday.

The **church** has a long and prominent history **in** Detroit.

Abolitionist Frederick Douglass spoke at the **church**. It served as an Underground Railroad station, aiding passage of about 5,000 slaves fleeing to Canada, from 1836 to 1865.

Anyone with information about the victim or the slaying is asked to call Detroit Police Homicide at 313-596-2260 or Michigan Crimestoppers at 800-773-2587 (800-SPEAKUP).

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ILLUSTRATION: Photo

CAPTION: Police said they found the victim bleeding **in** this alley behind the Second Baptist **Church** of Detroit. They said she apparently was attacked **in** the **church**, and she died at Detroit Receiving Hospital.

CAPTIONWRITER: WDIV-TV Local 4

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