

Local Church Accessibility Survey

Is your church accessible and open to all persons? Are you concerned that you might inadvertently be keeping some people from fully participating in the spiritual and social life of your congregation?

This brief survey will help you identify your strengths and weaknesses. Take a few minutes and walk through your church building. What do you see?

(Check all questions that apply to your local church facilities.)

Church Entrance and Halls:

- Is there a ramp or level entrance to the church door? Yes No
- Are the sides of ramps adequately protected with handrails? Yes No
- Are there directional signs which clearly direct persons to ramps and accessible entrances? Yes No
- Are there directional signs so people know where to go upon entering the church building? Yes No
- Is there a church directory to assist visitors in locating the church office, sanctuary, meeting rooms, restrooms, etc.? Yes No
- Are there handrails at the church entrance? Yes No
- Are there handrails in the church halls? Yes No
- Are Braille signs utilized and placed between 4'6" to 5'6" from floor? Yes No
- Are water fountains and bulletin boards, etc. at a height accessible to persons in wheelchairs? Yes No
- Are fire extinguishers and drinking fountains, etc. recessed into the wall so as not to create obstacles? Yes No
- Is snow and ice adequately removed from walkways during the winter months? Yes No
- Are ramps protected from rain and winter icing or snow? Yes No
- Are open stairs provided with a means of warning the blind, such as slightly raised abrasive strips? Yes No

Comments: _____

Parking:

- Are there parking spaces marked, “Handicapped Parking” or “Senior Parking”? Yes No
- Do you provide valet parking service? Yes No
- Are handicapped parking spaces 1½ times the usual width? Yes No
- Is there a level approach to the church building from the parking area or the street? Yes No
- Is the parking lot well lighted at night? Yes No
- Is snow and ice adequately removed from parking areas during the winter months? Yes No
- Do you provide security patrol in the parking lot at night? Yes No

Comments: _____

Restrooms:

- Do restrooms (especially toilet areas) have handrails? Yes No
- Are restrooms wheelchair accessible? Yes No
- Are toilet stalls large enough to accommodate a wheelchair? Yes No
- Is the sink wheelchair accessible? Yes No
- Are faucet controls easy to operate, requiring no difficult finger or hand action? Yes No
- Are mirrors, soap, and towels accessible to persons in wheelchairs? Yes No
- Are restrooms accessible to church sanctuary? Yes No
- Are restrooms accessible to classrooms and meeting rooms? Yes No

Comments: _____

Doors:

- Are exterior and interior doors easy to open? Yes No
- Do church doors swing without conflict to wheelchairs? Yes No
- Are there vertical door handles or horizontal door bars rather than round door knobs? Yes No

Comments: _____

Sanctuary:

- Can the sanctuary accommodate wheelchairs? Yes No
- Are several places for wheelchairs provided so that wheelchair users have a choice of seating? Yes No
- Is there adequate lighting on speaker's face to facilitate speech/lip reading? Yes No
- Is there adequate lighting for reading in all pews? Yes No
- Are large print Bibles available? Yes No
- Are large print Hymnals or Song Books available? Yes No
- Are large print worship materials (bulletins, etc.) available? Yes No
- Is the sound system of good quality and without dead spots? Yes No
- Is there a sound amplification system for the hard of hearing? Yes No
- Are individual hearing devices for the hearing impaired available? Yes No
- Is sign language provided during worship services? Yes No
- Are pews cushioned for added comfort? Yes No
- Are guide dogs permitted in the church sanctuary? Yes No
- Is there a temperature controlled heating and cooling system? Yes No
- Is the altar and chancel area open and without steps for persons receiving the sacrament of holy communion? Yes No
- Is the altar and chancel area open and without steps for persons receiving the sacrament of holy baptism? Yes No
- Is the altar and chancel area accessible for all leadership during the worship service? Yes No

Comments: _____

Elevators:

- Is there an elevator or chair lift in the building? Yes No
- Does the elevator have buttons low enough for wheelchair reach? Yes No
- Does the elevator have Braille along with buttons for easy access? Yes No

Comments: _____

Transportation:

- Does the church provide transportation for worship and church-related activities? Yes No
- Does the church have a van capable of transporting persons in wheelchairs? Yes No
- Does the church have arrangements with any agency to help transport persons with disabilities? Yes No

Comments: _____

Church Administration, Leadership, Worship & Church School:

- Do persons with disabilities participate in and provide leadership for any of the following:
 - Church Council? Yes No
 - Committees and Boards? Yes No
- Does your church take seriously the following:
 - Time of day in planning programs and meetings? Yes No
 - Effective communication techniques? Yes No
 - Style of program presentation and content of material? Yes No
 - Accessibility issues when holding a program or meeting? Yes No
- Are worship services and other special events taped and provided for the use of homebound and other members? Yes No
- Do persons with disabilities participate in worship and church school as:
 - Greeters and Ushers? Yes No
 - Liturgists or lay readers? Yes No
 - Choir members/soloists? Yes No
 - Lay servant ministries? Yes No
 - Church school teachers? Yes No
 - Class officers/leaders? Yes No

Comments: _____



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©Center on Aging & Older Adult Ministries
General Board of Discipleship - UMC
Richard H. Gentzler, Jr., D.Min.
P.O. Box 340003
Nashville, TN 37203-0003
Toll-free 877-899-2780 ext. 7173
E-mail rgentzler@gbod.org
www.aging-umc.org