

ANNUAL ACCESSIBILITY AUDIT FOR UNITED METHODIST CHURCHES (¶12533)



Church _____ District _____

Date Form Completed _____ Charge Conference Date _____

GETTING INTO THE CHURCH				COMMENTS
Yes	No	N/A	Description/Guidelines	Explain "NO" Answers
			Clearly visible signs direct people to accessible entrances	
			Designated parking spaces on level ground are close to entrance and do not require crossing traffic or moving behind parked cars	
			At least 1 per 25 spaces is clearly marked with access symbol on vertical signs and on pavement (# of accessible spaces: _____)	
			36" wide curb cuts (curb ramps) are provided	
			Sidewalks are smooth, flat, and at least 36" wide providing an access route to an accessible entrance into the church	
			Ramp has minimum width of 36" between handrails (width: _____) and has non-slip surface	
			Handrails are 34-38" high on both sides of ramp/stairs and extend 12" beyond; lower railing is no higher than 4" above deck	
			There is a 60" x 60" level platform at entry door and at least 18" on pull side of door	
			Entrance door is 36" wide; threshold no more than ½" high	
GETTING AROUND THE CHURCH				
YES	NO	N/A	Description/Guidelines	Explain "NO" Answers
			Corridors are at least 36" wide with 60" passing spaces every 200' and non-glare floor surface	
			No objects protrude more than 4", and lowest part of protruding object is no more than 27" above floor height to allow a person who is blind to detect the object with a cane and avoid injuries	
			Multi-level building has interior elevator, lift and/or ramp to allow access to all common/program areas	
			Doorways have a minimum of 32" clearance and thresholds are level or no more than ½" high and beveled	
			Door handles are easy to grasp and operate with one hand/single effort, using no more than 5 lbs. force	
			Carpet pile is level and no more than ½" thick, with no or firm padding; all floor mats have rubberized backing and are stable	
			Fire alarm controls and extinguishers are no more than 48" from floor; visual and auditory fire alarms are in place	
			At least one accessible marked unisex restroom (or both male and female restrooms) per floor has 60" turning space	
			Sink has 29" clearance from floor, controls easy to operate (lever style, automatic, etc.), drain pipes insulated, soap and paper towels no higher than 48", bottom edge of mirror 40" or lower	
			At least one stall is 66"x60" with 33"-36" high wall-mounted grab bars next to and at back of toilet; toilet height 17"-19"	
			Drinking fountain is no higher than 36" with easy hand controls and wheelchair clearance or paper cup dispenser	
			Stairs have handrails on both sides; surface is non-slip; leading edges are marked with contrasting color	

SANCTUARY, CLASSROOMS, FELLOWSHIP AREA				
YES	NO	N/A	Description/Guidelines	Explain "NO" Answers
			Level pew cuts / wheelchair spaces are next to aisles and distributed throughout the room for choice in seating. Spaces are 33"x48" forward approach, and/or 33"x60" side approach, with view of screen/pulpit when others stand	
			Chancel area and choir loft are accessible (via ramp, or platform lift if needed)	
			If there are steps to the chancel, handrails are provided	
			Aisleways are at least 36" in common areas	
			Fellowship area and one work area in kitchen are accessible	
			In fellowship area and classrooms, at least one table has minimum of 29-30" clearance on underside; some chairs have armrests and height of chair seat from floor of these chairs is 18" or more	
COMMUNICATIONS AND ENVIRONMENT				
YES	NO	N/A	Description/Guidelines	Explain "NO" Answers
			Members sensitized about need to minimize use of fragrances	
			All soaps, cleaning products and other chemicals fragrance free; candles are unscented and non-petroleum based	
			Lighting adequate for reading in meeting areas, for safety in halls	
			Large/bold print bulletin, songbook, and Bible available or large print words are projected on the screen; Braille bulletin or alternative media available upon request	
			Microphone used by all speakers or comments repeated; assisted listening devices provided; ASL interpreter provided upon request	
			Printed copies of sermon are available if requested	
			Videos and other media are clearly captioned	
ATTITUDES				
YES	NO	N/A	Description/Guidelines	Explain "NO" Answers
			Access described in church phone message, website, signage, etc.	
			Pastor(s) / usher(s) / greeters / leaders / members have had training in disability awareness and etiquette	
			Disruptions are accepted and incorporated into worship	
			Service animals or guide dogs are permitted within the church building including the sanctuary	
			Worship leader invites people to "rise in body or in spirit" and to "be in an attitude of prayer" or uses similar inclusive language	
			Educational programs are adapted as needed for inclusion of children and adults with disabilities	
			Disability Awareness Sunday was celebrated during past year	
			Persons with disabilities serve in worship and leadership roles and help plan ways to improve access	
			Needs of those on special diets considered when food is offered, including gluten free communion elements	
			Transportation; valet parking assistance; Buddy System (for those needing 1:1 assistance) offered if needed	

GOALS FOR ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENT FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR	Target Date
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	
YES _____ NO _____ Request consultation from Conference Disability Concerns Committee Comments:	
Signature of Pastor:	Date:
Signature of Trustees Chair:	Date:
Signature of District Superintendent	Date:

Form completed by _____ Contact Information: _____

Contact person for church _____ Contact Information: _____

PLEASE NOTE:

- This form is for use on existing buildings only; please refer to current ADA and state regulations for new construction or major remodeling projects: <http://www.ada.gov/regs2010/2010ADASTandards/>
- Anyone can complete the audit, e.g., it can be done by a youth group or the trustees, and does not require specialized skills. The best results come when you include persons with disabilities, especially someone who uses a wheelchair and someone with low vision, in the audit process.
- Interview individuals with disabilities and family members of children and adults with disabilities to learn how welcoming your congregation is and to help set priorities.
- This is not an all-inclusive listing of ADA guidelines, but rather represents basic first steps that a church may take to begin to implement accessibility measures.
- Resources are available through your conference Disability Concerns Committee and through the United Methodist Committee on Disability Ministry at <http://www.umdisabilityministries.org/2000.html#4> to help you plan and carry out improvements.