

Local Church Accessibility Survey

Is your church accessible and open to all people?

Are you concerned that you might inadvertently be keeping some people from participating fully in the spiritual and social life of your congregation?

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

Church Entrance & Halls

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Is there a ramp or level entrance to the church door? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Are the sides of ramps adequately protected with handrails? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Are there directional signs that clearly direct people to ramps and accessible entrances? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Are there directional signs so people know where to go upon entering the building? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Is there a church directory to help visitors find the church office/sanctuary/meeting rooms, etc.? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Are there handrails at the church entrance? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Are there handrails in the church halls? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Are Braille signs and textured doorknobs provided at appropriate places? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Are water fountains/payphones/bulletin boards, etc., accessible to persons in wheelchairs? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Are fire extinguishers/water fountains/payphones, etc., recessed so as not to create obstacles? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Is snow and ice adequately removed from walkways during the winter months? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Are ramps protected from rain and winter icing or snow? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |

Are open stairs fitted with a means of warning the blind; e.g., slightly raised abrasive strips? Yes No

Comments:

Parking

Are there parking spaces marked "Handicapped Parking"? Yes No

Do you provide valet parking service? Yes No

Are handicap parking spaces 1.5 times the usual width? Yes No

Is there a level approach to the church building from the parking area or street? Yes No

Is the parking lot well lighted at night? Yes No

Are snow and ice adequately removed from parking areas during 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

Are the sinks 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 slippery round 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? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Is there a sound amplification system for the hard of hearing? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Are individual hearing devices for the hearing impaired available? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Is sign language provided during worship services? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Are pews cushioned for added comfort? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Are guide dogs permitted in the church sanctuary? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Is there a temperature controlled heating and cooling system? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Is the altar and chancel area open and without steps for persons receiving the sacrament of Holy Communion? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Is the altar and chancel area open and without steps for persons receiving the sacrament of holy baptism? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |
| Is the altar and chancel area accessible for all leadership during the worship service? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | Yes | No |

Comments:

Elevators

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|----|
| Is there an elevator or chair lift in the building? | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| Does the elevator have buttons low enough for wheelchair reach? | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
| Are Braille signs utilized and placed 4.5 to 5.5 feet from the floor? | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |

Comments:

Transportation

- | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|----|
| Does the church provide transportation for worship and church-related activities? | <input type="checkbox"/> | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | No |
|---|--------------------------|-----|--------------------------|----|

- Does the church have a van capable of transporting persons in wheelchairs? Yes No
- Does the church have arrangements in place 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? Yes No

Effective communication techniques? Yes No

Style of program presentation and content of material? Yes No

Accessibility issues when holding a program or event? Yes No

Are worship services and other special programs recorded 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 speakers? Yes No

Church school teachers? Yes No

Class officers/leaders? Yes No

Comments:

Thank You. We hope this survey has been helpful in your ministry.

http://www.gbod.org/coa/articles.asp?act=reader&item_id=3777