

CORRIDORS

- ___ 72" minimum width
- ___ Handrails on both sides

STAIRS

- ___ Handrails on both sides
- ___ Non-slip surface
- ___ Minimum of 44" wide
- ___ Well lighted

WALKS

- ___ 48" minimum width
- ___ Curb cut ramps at least 36" wide
- ___ Firm, non-slip surface
- ___ Well lighted and marked
- ___ Grate openings 3/8" maximum

TELEPHONE

- ___ At least one number with volume control and 48" to 54" maximum height from floor
- ___ TDD (Telephone Device for Deaf available)

USHERS TRAINED TO WELCOME PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

- ___ Be friendly and helpful
- ___ Be prepared to provide appropriate seating
- ___ Know how to handle an emergency such as a seizure

Did your church participate in Disability Awareness Sunday? Yes ___ No ___

During Disability Sunday at our Church (check all that apply)

- ___ The sermon related to disabilities
- ___ A display of disability resource books & pamphlets was available.
- ___ Persons with disabilities participated in the service.

HOW WELL DID YOUR CHURCH DO?

What was your score for Charge/Church Conference 2005? _____

What is your score for Charge/Church Conference 2006? _____

What do you anticipate your score to be for Charge/Church Conference 2007?

WHEN COMPLETE

- I. Make a copy for:
 - A. Your committee
 - B. The Trustees Chairperson
 - C. **Inclusion in the 2006 Charge/Church Conference Report**
 - D. Mail to us at address on front
- II. Create your goals for the remainder of 2006 and 2007 (see below)
- III. Begin Upgrades

GOAL SETTING

What our church needs to do for 2006:

What our church needs to do for 2007:

How to Conduct an Accessibility Audit in Your Church



**Memphis Conference
 Disability Concerns Design Team
 24 Corporate Blvd.
 Jackson, TN 38305-2315
 731-664-8480
 731-660-5712 (fax)**

**Coordinator:
 Berta Dickerson
 270-442-4005**

The Book of Resolutions of The United Methodist Church

The Social Community ACCESSIBILITY/EQUAL ACCESS 37. Annual Accessibility Audit

Whereas, our Social Principles state, "We affirm the responsibility of the church and society to be in ministry with children, youth and adults with mental, physical, developmental and/or psychological disabilities" (*The Book of Discipline* ¶162G): and

Whereas, the Americans with Disabilities Act calls for all public buildings to be made accessible to people with disabilities, *Therefore, be it resolved*, that all United Methodist churches shall conduct an annual audit of their facilities to discover what barriers impede full participation of people with disabilities. Plans shall be made and priorities determined for the elimination of all barriers, including architectural, communication and attitudinal barriers. The Accessibility Audit for Churches, available from the Service Center, shall be used in filling out the annual church/charge conference reports.

Is Our Church Accessible?

DIRECTIONS:

1. Assign teams of two (2) to particular areas as designated in this audit. Be sure that your church is well represented: women, men, youth, aging, persons with disabilities, trustees, administrative council, etc.
2. Set one time where all teams come together to do their work.

3. Make copies of this sheet for team members.
4. Send out teams with tape measure, copy of Accessibility Audit for Churches, pen/pencil and fishscale in hand.
5. Place a check mark next to items with which your facility is in compliance.
6. Gather back as one large group and tally all areas. Add up the number of checks to determine your score for 2005. Place that score on the proper line on the back.
7. As a group set goals for 2006 and 2007.

ACCESSIBLE PARKING

- ___ Close to entrance
- ___ Clearly marked/verticle sign
- ___ Level surface, paved and well lighted
- ___ Spaces at least 144" wide
- ___ Clearly marked access aisle 60" wide and 96" long for vans

ACCESSIBLE RAMPS AND CURB CUTS

- ___ Maximum incline of 1:12 with 1:20 preferred
- ___ Ramp at least 36"- 48" wide
- ___ Ramp has non-slip surface
- ___ Handrail that extends the length of ramp

ACCESSIBLE DOORS AND THRESHOLDS

- ___ 36" minimum clear opening
- ___ 18" to 24" space to the side of the door
- ___ Lever type hardware with push plates and panic bars
- ___ Threshold no higher than 3/4" for exterior doors and 1/2" for others

ATTITUDE

- ___ Accepting, Caring and Loving
- ___ Offer Special classes when needed and open classes for mainstreaming
- ___ Include persons with disabilities in leadership positions

RESTROOMS

- ___ At least one wheelchair accessible restroom (may be unisex)
- ___ Lever type faucets
- ___ At least 5' x 5' clear floor space
- ___ Grab bars on both sides of stall(s)
- ___ 29" clear space below lavatory

SIGNS AND SYMBOLS

- ___ Handicapped symbols displayed
- ___ High-contrast color signs
- ___ Letters on signs raised or recessed 4-1/2' to 5-1/2' above the floor

COMMUNICATIONS

- ___ Large type bulletins, hymnals and other worship or study materials
- ___ Cassette tapes of service available
- ___ Interpreters for deaf persons
- ___ Church School and Worship materials in Braille
- ___ Assistive listening devices for the hard of hearing
- ___ Adequate lighting for reading and on speaker

ASSEMBLY SEATING

- ___ Aisles at least 36" to 48" wide
- ___ Wheelchair seating spaces 30" x 48" distributed thru-out, not just in the front or in the rear
- ___ The communion table accessible to persons using wheelchairs

FLOOR SURFACE

- ___ Smooth, hard, slip-resistant surface
- ___ Non-glare surface finish
- ___ Tightly woven carpet

(continued on back)