

**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 2006? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your score for Charge/Church Conference 2007? \_\_\_\_\_

What do you anticipate your score to be for Charge/Church Conference 2008?  
\_\_\_\_\_

**WHEN COMPLETE**

- I. Make a copy for:
  - A. Your committee
  - B. The Trustees Chairperson
  - C. **Inclusion in the 2007 Charge/Church Conference Report**
  - D. Mail to us at address on front
- II. Create your goals for the remainder of 2007 and 2008 (see below)
- III. Begin Upgrades

**GOAL SETTING**

What our church needs to do for 2007:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What our church needs to do for 2008:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**How to Conduct an Accessibility Audit in Your Church**



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## ***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 2006. Place that score on the proper line on the back.
7. As a group set goals for 2007 and 2008.

##### **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)