

Architectural Interior:	Yes	No	I
Do all doors clear opening of at least 36 inches?			
Entry accessible to the church/facility, ramp or level entrance to facility door?			
Are doors easy to open?			
Is the floor level for at least 60 inches on each side of all doorways?			
Are fire extinguishers, coin telephones, bulletin boards, etc. at a height accessible to persons in wheelchairs?			
Are Braille signs and textured doorknobs provided at appropriate places?			
Are fire extinguishers, drinking fountains, phones and etc., recessed into the wall so as not to create obstacles?			
Is adequate lighting, for reading in the pew, on speakers face to facilitate speech/lip reading, and in the corridors?			
Does at least one telephone have a volume control?			
Are telephone cords at least four feet long?			
Water foundations accessible?			
Are there handrails available?			
Is there a church directory to help visitors find the church office/sanctuary/meeting rooms etc?			
Are open stairs fitted with a means of warning the visual impaired, e.g., slightly raised abrasion strips?			
Do you provide security in the parking lot at night?			
Restrooms:	Yes	No	I
Are restrooms accessible to church sanctuary?			
Are restrooms accessible to class and meeting rooms?			
Can persons using wheelchairs reach the restrooms easily and without assistance?			
Are toilet stalls large enough for a wheelchair (with a minimum of a five foot turning circle for turning a wheelchair completely)?			
Do they have grab bars or handrails?			
Are the sinks (29) inches of clearance from the floor to bottom of the sink) and towel dispensers accessible?			
Are the pipes under the sink insulated to prevent hot pipes from burning the legs of a wheelchair user?			
Are the faucet controls easy to operate?			
Are mirrors, soap, and towels accessible to persons using wheelchairs (no higher than 40 inches)?			

Sanctuary:	Yes	No	I
Are there several places for wheelchairs provided so that wheelchair users have a choice of seating? (Such area should be at least 36 inches wide and 52 inches long)?			
Are aisles wide enough for wheelchairs to pass?			
Is there an assisted listening system for persons with hearing impairments?			
Is the chancel area (space around the altar of the church for clergy & choir) accessible for wheelchairs? (Lifts and ramps)?			
Are Braille and or large print Bibles, Hymnals and Bulletins provided?			
Choir area allowing wheelchair users to participate?			
Adequate lighting directed on the face of the speaker for those who read lips, as well as adequate general lighting in the sanctuary?			
Bookstands or lapboards available for those unable to hold Bibles or Hymnals?			
Are pews cushioned for added comfort?			
Elevators or Lifts:	Yes	No	I
Can the elevators or lifts be used without assistance? If not, is a call button provided?			
Is there at least 30 by 48 inches of clear space for a person using a wheelchair to reach and use the controls?			
Are controls between 15 and 48 inches high (up to 54 inches if a side approach is possible)?			
Does the elevator have buttons low enough for wheelchair reach?			
Are Braille signs utilized and placed 4.5 to 5.5 feet from the floor?			
Attitudinal Barriers:	Yes	No	I
Are people with disabilities welcome to worship with you?			
Do you have a committee on disability issues?			
Are there members with not apparent challenges?			
Do we recognize the gifts of people with unique needs and are they fully involved in the life of the congregation?			
Are people with unique needs given opportunities to serve within the congregation and in the outreach programs?			

Attitudinal Barriers Continued	Yes	No	I
Do persons with disabilities participate in worship and church schools: Greeter and Usher? Worship Leader or lay reader? Choir member or soloist? Speaker? Church School teacher Minister? Class officer or leader?			
Are positions of leadership offered to individuals who happen to have a unique need?			
How does the congregation respond to Spiritual or lay leaders who acquire a serious disability?			
Communication Barriers:	Yes	No	I
Are services and messages presented verbally, visually dramatically and musically?			
Large print prayer books, hymnals and Bibles used?			
Braille materials available?			
Sermons or entire services are on tape or video available?			
Amplifying sound system, in good order			
Microphones used and positioned away from speaker's mouth?			
TV sets and VCR units equipped with closed-caption circuitry, remote control available, and instructions or attendant on hand to operate the system.			
Real-time captioned used?			
Words of hymns, anthems, litanies, prayers, scriptures available?			
Sign language interpreted services provided?			
Adequate lighting used to help lip readers?			
Is a Text Telephone (TTY) or Telecommunication Device for the hearing Impaired (TDD) provided for hearing and speech unique individuals?			
Website adheres to standards set forth by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)?			
Are guide dogs permitted in the church sanctuary?			
Does your church have hearing assistive devices?			
Transportation	Yes	No	I
Does the church provide transportation for worship?			
Does the church have a van (s) capable of transporting persons in wheelchairs?			
Does the church have arrangements in place to help transport persons with disabilities?			

Environmental Friendly	Yes	No	I
Informs congregation about allergies and encourages members to refrain from wearing perfume and aftershave lotions?			
Worship center has a “fragrance free: section.			
Purchases unscented candles, soaps, detergents, cleaning supplies, air fresheners, facial tissues. Does not use incense and potpourri pots.			
Has air filters on furnace/air conditioning units			

Juanita V. Williams 1/09 MDiv, RN, MA
 Copyrights

Sources:

Access: It Begins in the Heart Pamphlet, (Free), from National Organization on Disabilities.

National Council of Churches, Committee on Disabilities (212) 870-2673

National Organization on Disability, Religion and Disability Christian Council on Persons with Disabilities

Snow, Kaythie, Disability is Natural, Braveheart Press, Woodland Park, Colorado 2001 pp.243; 356-358 &362-371

Individual Accessible Survey

The purpose of this survey is to identify and to accommodate the unique needs of our members. Statistics show that one-out-of-five families have a member with a unique need. We would like to learn more about our member's unique needs and the barriers that may prevent full participation in your family community. If you, a family member, or an acquaintance has a unique need, please take this time to complete the following survey

1. Who is the person with a unique need you know? (Circle all that apply):

Self Family Acquaintance None

2. Please check the area(s) of their need:

Vision (loss or Blind) Mobility (wheelchair or scooter)

Mobility (Ambulatory using cane, walker, crutches or other aides)

Speech Hearing (loss r deafness)

Intellectual/Cognitive Other specify

3. What would enhance your (their) ability to participate fully in the church?

Invitation to participate in the service and sacraments/ordinances.

Automatic door at front of the church

Ramp to altar or sanctuary

Audio device for person with unique hearing needs

Video recording of service

Large print bulletins

Brighter light on speakers for lip reading

Sign language interpreter

Wheelchair spaces throughout church

Front pew without kneelers

- _____ Greeters who could assist you
- _____ Communion brought to you
- _____ Appropriate curriculum materials for the developmental delayed
- _____ other, specify: _____

4. What are the things at our church that make it hard to participate fully in church activities?

- _____ Altar or sanctuary
- _____ Church doors
- _____ Church sound system
- _____ Choir
- _____ Accessible Parking
- _____ Accessible Restroom
- _____ Sunday School Classes
- _____ Bible Study
- _____ Meetings
- _____ Ministry, specify: _____
- _____ Other, specify: _____

5. Please check any activity you (the person) would like to participate in , but have not been able to:

- _____ Choir Member
- _____ Usher
- _____ Greeter
- _____ Teacher
- _____ Ministry
- _____ Youth Group
- _____ Sunday School
- _____ Speaker
- _____ Prayer
- _____ Announcements
- _____ Employee
- Other, specify: _____

Additional Comments: _____

Optional Name: _____

Address: _____

Thank you for taking time to complete this survey!

Juanita V. Williams M Div, RN, MA
 Copyrights 1/09