Is your church accessible and open to all persons? 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 form will help you identify your strengths and weaknesses. Take a few minutes to walk through your church building. What do you see?

(Check all questions that apply to your local church facilities.)

**Church Entrance & Halls**

- Is there a ramp or level entrance to the church door? □ Yes □ No
- Are the sides of ramps adequately protected with handrails? □ Yes □ No
- Are there directional signs that clearly direct persons to ramps and accessible entrances? □ Yes □ No
- Are there directional signs so people know where to go upon entering the church building? □ Yes □ No
- Is there a church directory to help visitors find the church office/ sanctuary/ meeting rooms, etc.? □ Yes □ No
- Are there handrails at the church entrance? □ Yes □ No
- Are there handrails in the church halls? □ Yes □ No
- Are Braille signs and textured doorknobs provided at appropriate places? □ Yes □ No
- Are water fountains/ payphones/ bulletin boards, etc., accessible to persons in wheelchairs? □ Yes □ No
- Are fire extinguishers/ water fountains/ payphones, etc., recessed so as not to create obstacles? □ Yes □ No
- Is snow and ice adequately removed from walkways during the winter months? □ Yes □ No
- Are ramps protected from rain and winter icing or snow? □ 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? □ Yes □ No
- Is there a sound amplification system for the hard of hearing? □ Yes □ No
- Are individual hearing devices for the hearing impaired available? □ Yes □ No
- Is sign language provided during worship services? □ Yes □ No
- Are pews cushioned for added comfort? □ Yes □ No
- Are guide dogs permitted in the church sanctuary? □ Yes □ No
- Is there a temperature controlled heating and cooling system? □ Yes □ No
- Is the altar and chancel area open and without steps for persons receiving the sacrament of holy communion? □ Yes □ No

- Is the altar and chancel area open and without steps for persons receiving the sacrament of holy baptism? □ Yes □ No
- Is the altar and chancel area accessible for all leadership during the worship service? □ Yes □ No

**Comments:**

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### Elevators

- Is there an elevator or chair lift in the building? □ Yes □ No
- Does the elevator have buttons low enough for wheelchair reach? □ Yes □ No
- Are Braille signs utilized and placed 4.5 to 5.5 feet from the floor? □ Yes □ No

**Comments:**

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### Transportation

- Does the church provide transportation for worship and church-related activities? □ Yes □ 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: ____________________________

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If you would like for us to continue this awareness series, and want to support the continued work of the Center on Aging and Older Adult Ministries, send your check made payable to General Board of Discipleship to the above address.

Thank you!