

RESOURCES

BOOKLETS/BOOKS

From the National Organization on Disability, Washington, DC.

That All May Worship: An Interfaith Welcome To People With Disabilities (seventh edition), 2005.

This book promotes full participation of people with disabilities in the worship, study, service and leadership of their congregations.

From Barriers to Bridges: A Community Action Guide for Congregations and People With Disabilities, 2001.

“*From Barriers to Bridges* is designed to foster dialogue among people with disabilities, their family members, religious leadership and the larger community.

Loving Justice: The ADA and the Religious Community, 1996.

“Beyond the legal mandate of the ADA stands a moral mandate that the House of God should welcome everyone. Thus, this publication provides both legal and moral guidelines.”

Signs of Solidarity: Ministries with People Who Are Deaf, Late-Deafened, Hard of Hearing and Deaf-Blind (second edition). Kingsley, Nancy, ed. New York, NY: The National Committee on Ministries with Deaf, Late-Deafened, Hard of Hearing, and Deaf-Blind People, 2003.

In 1992, the General Conference of the United Methodist Church established the National Committee on Deaf Ministries as a mission initiative. As its mission expanded to include all people with hearing loss, the committee broadened its name to reflect the diversity of the population it represents, and it is now known as the National Committee on Ministries with Deaf, Late-Deafened, Hard of Hearing, and Deaf-Blind People.

Accessible Faith: A Technical Guide for Accessibility in Houses of Worship. Patterson, Elizabeth A. and Neal A. Vogel. The Retirement Research Foundation, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Suite 430, Chicago, Ill. 60631-4170. (773) 714-8080. Email info@rrf.org.

This booklet is invaluable for congregations who want to take the next step in making their physical space more accessible. It deals with the nuts and bolts of accessibility issues such as eliminating physical, auditory, and visual barriers. It also walks you through the design process, funding, and the construction process itself. It also has a wonderful bibliography.

Theology Without Words: Theology in the Deaf Community. Morris, Wayne. (Hampshire, England: Ashgate Publishing Limited, 2008).

For those who wish to explore the theological implications of service with and to the born-Deaf community, this is a wonderful and important contribution. While most Western theology is word-centered, expressed through or dependent on written texts, theology in the Deaf Community is largely non-written. This can, and must, be seen as a vital difference which can add much to those whose worship and prayer experience is only word-centered.

Including People with Disabilities in Faith Communities: A guide for service providers, families, and congregations. Carter, Erik W. (Baltimore: Paul H. Brookes Publishing Co., Inc., 2007).

“A congregational community is an ideal place to share and strengthen faith, form lasting relationships, and develop special gifts and talents. Too often, though, people with developmental and other disabilities lack the supports they need to fully participate in the faith community of their choice. With this innovative guide, congregations will get the realistic how-to strategies they need to become places of welcome and belonging for people with a wide range of disabilities.” (*back cover*).

CONSULTANTS:

Ephphatha Ministry is a ministry of Journeyroad Ministries, a corporation formed by Rev. Sheryl Butler and Rev. Mary Heron Dyer.

Rev. Sheryl Butler, M.Div., (Christian Church Disciples of Christ) is a former control systems engineer whose expertise was brought to bear when her spouse, Rev. Mary Heron Dyer, M.S., M.A. (Unity), became deaf in 2008. This experience has led them to raising awareness and developing programs for communities of faith to open their hearts, their minds, their doors to those who have been long excluded from welcome and inclusion.



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