**No-cost steps to become**

**more accessible and welcoming**

**1. Worship**

• Make sermon manuscripts available before worship so those who are hard of hearing can follow along.

• Provide large-print bulletins and song sheets for people with visual impairments.

**2. Parking**

• Offer valet parking for people with disabilities and older church members, especially during inclement weather.

• Provide ample accessible parking, and keep accessible parking and entrances clear of snow, clean, smooth, and well lit.

• Organize transportation.

**No-cost steps to become**

**more accessible and**

**welcoming**

**3. Allergies, chemical sensitivities**

• Offer gluten-free bread and grape juice for those who need alternatives to regular bread and wine during communion.

• Encourage your congregation to become a scent-free zone to help people with asthma, emphysema, or others who have chemical sensitivities.

• Label foods at potlucks, especially those containing peanuts and tree nuts.

**4. Indoor mobility**

• Provide pew cutouts in a variety of locations for people using wheelchairs or walkers.

• Remove sections from two rows of pews to allow ample space for power wheelchairs to maneuver.

**No-cost steps to become**

**more accessible and welcoming**

**5. Respect**

• Talk with people with disabilities and with their families. They know their needs and gifts best!

• Ask what accommodations would help them participate more fully and offer their gifts in service to others.

***What is your church doing to be a place where people with disabilities know they belong?***