

BE KIND AND
COMPASSIONATE TO ONE
ANOTHER, FORGIVING EACH
OTHER AS CHRIST, GOD,
FORGAVE YOU. EPH 4:32

ALWAYS BE HUMBLE AND
GENTLE. BE PATIENT WITH
EACH OTHER, MAKING
ALLOWANCES FOR EACH
OTHER'S FAULTS BECAUSE OF
YOUR LOVE. EPH 4:2

LOVE ONE ANOTHER. AS I HAVE LOVED YOU, SO YOU
MUST LOVE ONE ANOTHER. JOHN 13:34

MILWAUKEE MENNONITE CHURCH

Accessibility Checklist Report

FIRST STEP:

 Anabaptist Disabilities Network

ACCESSIBILITIES CHECK LISTS

This brief checklist is a starting point for measuring the barrier-free access here at MMC

[Brief Accessibility Checklist for MMC](#)

For more comprehensive audit guides, see the ADN website.

Barriers of attitude:

- People with disabilities and their caregivers have been asked whether they feel welcome in worship, leadership, and church programs.
- Our church is intentional about engaging people with disabilities in all aspects of church life. People with disabilities serve on church committees or in other leadership roles.
- Our church has a church disability advocate and/or committee. *Need to do this*
- Ushers, teachers, and youth leaders/mentors have been instructed regarding appropriate ways to greet and respond to the needs of people with disabilities. *Most are teachers anyway, but we should talk more*

Barriers of attitude: (Continued)

- Worship and other church functions are “fragrance free” and participants are urged to refrain from wearing perfume and aftershave. Unscented candles, soaps, detergents, cleaning supplies, air fresheners, and facial tissue are used exclusively. *We try, but do not own the building*
- Communion is accessible to everyone who wants to participate
- Transportation is offered for people with disabilities who cannot drive.
- Our church has adopted a Church Policy on Disabilities. *We need to do this*
- Church leaders work with people with disabilities and caregivers so that needs are addressed, including pastoral care. *This is sort of done, off and on*
- Precautions are taken for Covid-19 and other illnesses. *Masking, distancing, no meals together*

Notes: *We have worked through the ADN curriculum over the summer to bring this issue more to the front of our minds*

Barriers of communication:

- Our church has assistive listening devices (infrared, hearing loop, FM) available for people with hearing impairments. *Worked with Host church to buy these*
- Sign-language interpretation is provided when prior arrangements have been made.
- Overall lighting is adequate for signing and speech reading, or for individuals with low vision. *Worked with host church to replace light bulbs*
- Songbooks, Bibles, bulletins, newsletters, and handouts are available in alternative formats such as large print, audio, and digital (also Braille, when requested in advance), and information about them is prominently displayed and readily accessible. *We have a large print Hymnal*
- Copies of the day's sermon and spoken elements of worship are available for people with impaired hearing, and captioning is used with visual projection.
- There is always a ZOOM option.

Notes: *No one has asked for any of these other options.*

Barriers of facilities and architecture:

- Accessible parking is provided.
- Entrances and hallways are free from barriers that can impede a wheelchair (door bases, grates, thick mats).
- Door handles are lever style on all inside doors.
- A ramp (with a slope no greater than a 1:12 rise) is available for access into the building.
- Doors to rooms, especially washrooms, are at least 36 inches (0.91 meters) in width.
- Proper handrails are installed in all toilet areas for assisting in transfer and standing. All rails are at hospital fixture height. All sink fixtures allow for knee access and have insulated pipes and lever-style handles.
- At least one toilet stall has a raised seat and space next to the toilet for side transfer, and has room to turn around a large, power wheelchair. Even better: an accessible, unisex bathroom is available.

Front Door Solved with a switch



Barriers of facilities and architecture: (Continued)

- Coats racks can be accessed by all people. *(all are high)*
- All levels of the building are accessible from the inside.
- People who use wheelchairs have choices in where to sit in the sanctuary (besides the front and back rows). *With Chairs, not pews, we can move things around as needed*
- The pulpit area is accessible. *Host church has ramps to altar area, we use the floor in front of the altar area anyway*
- Church mailboxes are accessible. *We don't have mailboxes*

Notes:

The physical aspect of the building is very accessible, we just needed to be consistent with a greeter



Martin Luther Lutheran Church

TAKE AWAY:

- The physical space is fine
- We need to work on education and awareness of the needs with in our congregation
- We are planning to work through the ADN curriculum over the summer

CALL TO ACTION:

- Each MMC team should incorporate disabilities awareness into each meeting.
- Brainstorm, reflect, then pass along ideas to the Accessibility Advocates and other appropriate persons.