Church: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Local Church Accessibility Survey

*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: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**

*This survey is taken from a form developed by the General Board of Discipleship Older Adult Ministry. It has been reformatted to allow for electronic completion and filing. For further information, contact the GBOD, Center on Aging and Older Adult Ministries, P.O. Box 340003, Nashville, TN 37203-0003. The website is* [*www.aging-umc.org*](http://www.aging-umc.org)*.*