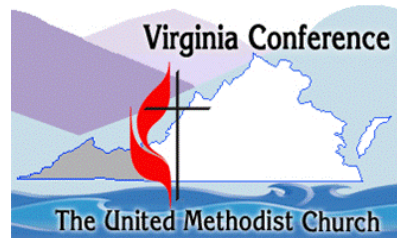


The Virginia Conference Commission on Disabilities (COD) affirms the responsibility of the Church to be in ministry with **all** persons, regardless of their physical and/or mental conditions. The Commission seeks to fulfill this responsibility through advocacy and education, in the belief that **ALL PEOPLE** are **ONE** in the Body of Christ.

Among the programs of the COD are:

- **Accessibility Grants** — which assist local churches toward total accessibility in both church facilities and parsonages.
- **Program Grants** — which assist any church and/or church-related organization wanting to develop new ministries with persons with disabilities.
- **Respite Grants** — established as part of the conference-wide initiative to encourage churches to become involved in providing or supporting opportunities for respite care for their members and communities.



Commission on Disabilities

Virginia Conference of
The United Methodist Church
PO Box 1719
10330 Staples Mill Road
Glen Allen, VA 23060

Phone: 800-768-6040 or
804-521-1100

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www.vaumc.org > "Ministries" >
"Disabilities"

Commission on Disabilities

That
All
May
Worship...





The mission of *That All May Worship* – To educate churches to meet the needs of persons with challenges of mobility, hearing, vision, cognitive and intellectual disabilities as well as those who are aging in our churches and communities.

When: ASAP

Why: To make the Word available to all so that as disciples of Jesus we can transform the world

How: Evangelism through accessibility

Where: Parking lot, sidewalk, church sanctuary, chancel areas, choir loft, fellowship hall, educational building, offices, rest-rooms, and parsonage

IS YOUR CHURCH WELCOMING TO ALL?

How does your church rate on meeting the needs of...?

Persons with Physical Challenges

Can they get in the door – go to the bathroom?

Persons with Hearing Challenges

Can they hear the Word as it's spoken, sung, and preached?

Persons with Vision Challenges

Can they read the music - read the Word? Are large print materials available?

Persons with Cognitive and Intellectual Challenges

Are appropriate Sunday School and Vacation Bible School curriculum materials and activities available?

AS A FIRST STEP, THINK ABOUT THESE FOUR GROUPS

1. Those persons you know who, based upon current programs and services as well as accessibility, cannot participate at all – who are excluded completely.
2. Those persons who participate in part, but not to their full extent

possible.

3. Those members or regular attendees who have not been seen for a while.
4. Those persons in attendance, but with challenges.

As you consider how your church can respond to the proclamation ***That All May Worship***, assistance may be available from the following:

- District Board of Missions—For information about financial assistance and program design, contact your district office.
- Virginia Conference Commission on Disabilities—For information on grants and program assistance, contact the Office of Lay Life and Work, Disabilities, and Older Adult Ministries at the address on the back of the brochure or visit the “Disabilities” section of the Conference website.
- Eagle Scout Projects—Contact local Scout troops for more information.