

Torsten's Daily Prayer

By Torsten Carlson, L'Arche Erie



Good Morning Jesus.

I give you me.

Forgive me my sins.

Come into my heart and live.

Give me your Power and your Holy Spirit for today.

Think through my mind.

See through my eyes.

Hear through my lips.

Love through my heart.

Touch through my hands.

Walk through my feet.

Stand tall in me Jesus and do great things through me
as You did here on earth.

Thank you for healing me and making me whole.

Thank you for helping me talk and use correct speech.

Thank you for helping me to read and write.

Thank you Jesus for your Love.

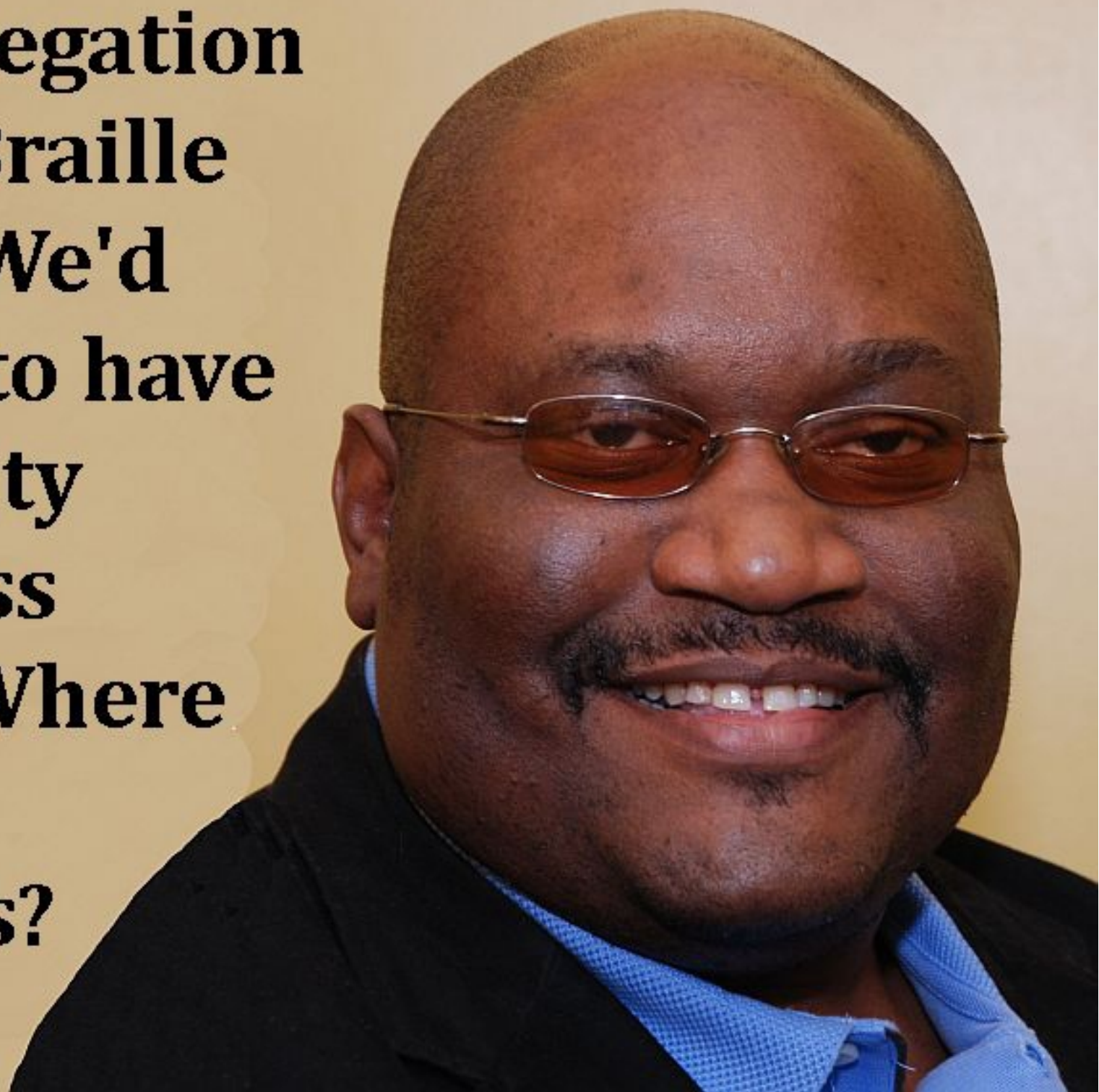
Amen.





**I feel like I'm all
alone here. Is
there anyone
else out there in
this ministry?
Where do I find
them?**

**My congregation
needs a Braille
hymnal. We'd
also like to have
a Disability
Awareness
service. Where
can I find
resources?**





I'm supposed to
do an
accessibility
audit in my
congregation . . .
what is that, and
how do I do it?

How I can I lead
my congregation
into being more
inclusive and
accepting of
people with
disabilities?







I look upon all the
world as my parish . . .

I judge it . . . right. . .
to declare unto all that
are willing to hear. . . .





In what manner didst
thou employ that
comprehensive talent,
money? . . . restoring
the remainder to me,
through the poor,
whom I had appointed
to receive it; . . . Wast
thou eyes to the blind,
and feet to the lame?

If a man had hands and eyes and feet that he could give to those that wanted them; if he should lock them up in a chest [. . .] instead of giving them to his brethren that were blind and lame, should we not justly reckon him an inhuman wretch?





See where
the lame,
the halt, the blind ...
Flock to the
Friend of humankind,
And freely all
accept their cure.
To whom doth he
his help deny?
Whom in his days
of flesh pass by?

The BOOK *of*
DISCIPLINE
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



2008

¶ 162:
We recognize and
affirm the full
humanity and
personhood of all
individuals
with . . .
disabilities as full
members of the
family of God.



no pigeon-holes!





ministry with . . .





Where we've been:

- 1992, founded as UM Task Force on Developmental Disabilities by Pat Cook, a mother who wanted a place for her son with Down syndrome.

Where we've been

- 2009, expanded focus as United Methodist National Task Force on Disability Ministries
- 2010, United Methodist Task Force on Disability Ministries, started web and social media sites.



Where
we're
going:

GC
2012



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Each year, United Methodist Women members prepare for faithful living and action by studying mission studies. Mission studies are offered each year - a **geographical, topical, and spiritual growth** study. These studies motivate, inform, and enrich our commitment to global ministry.

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2012 Mission Studies

- **Spiritual Growth Study:** Immigration and the Bible
- **Geographic Study:** Haiti
- **Issue Study:** Poverty

2013 Mission Studies

- **Spiritual growth:** Living Sacramentally and Walking Justly
- **Geographic:** The Roma of Europe
- **Issue study:** Poverty

Past Mission Studies

Select Language

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► Schools start on June 29. Learn more and find your conference school.

2014: The Church and People with Disabilities: Awareness, Accessibility, and Advocacy

disability awareness theme



2013-2016 annual conference

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WE CAN HELP!

Resources Available: An extensive website with many resources relating to disabilities, including the *Church Accessibility Audit and Mini Audit*: www.umdissabilityministries.org.



A "Train the trainer" 6-hour Disability Concerns workshop on CD or to download.

A consultant and webmaster available at UMTFDM@gmail.com.

Current Initiatives:

- ◇ Publishing a free monthly electronic newsletter about all facets of disability ministry. (*Sign up at our web site.*)
- ◇ Helping conferences and churches develop disability awareness training.
- ◇ Equipping leaders through a lay speaking advanced course.
- ◇ Teaching camps to audit their programs and sites for accessibility and inclusion.
- ◇ Advocating around issues faced by pastors with disabilities, both those in active ministry and on leave.
- ◇ Compiling a Resource Bank of speakers, consultants, ministries, and Disability Connection committees.
- ◇ Networking with global disability ministries and missions.
- ◇ Providing current information through our Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest posts.

Dedicated to opening hearts, minds, and doors
for people of all abilities in the United Methodist Church



Ministry in Action

Resources and Guides

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[Widening the Circle](#)

[Using Technology](#)

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Who and Why?

Theology: God's call to the church

- [Who are People with Disabilities?](#)



United Methodist National Task Force on Disability Ministries

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Message



Church/Religious Organization

The United Methodist Task Force on Disability Ministries is devoted to making the United Methodist Church known for welcoming the gifts and graces of people of all ages with all types of abilities.

About



437

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United Methodist National Task Force on Disability Ministries shared a link.

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UM Disability

The United Methodist Task Force on Disability Ministries. Visit our website at www.umdisministries.org



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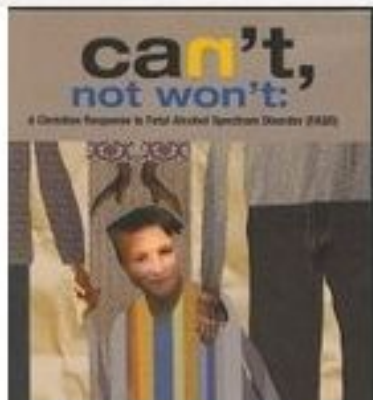
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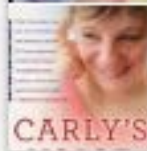
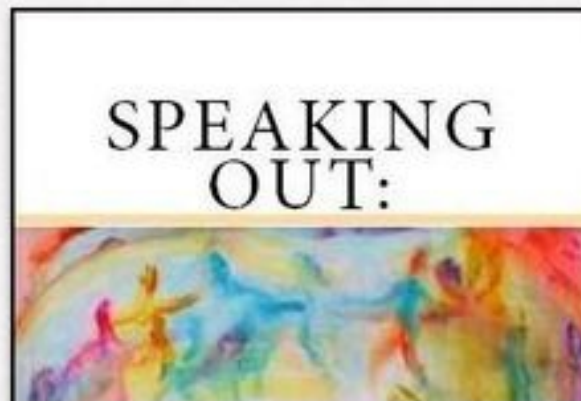
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UM Disability

@UMDisability

<http://www.umdissabilityministries.org>

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Word" from UMR and the UM Committee on Deaf and Hard-of-



February 2012

Vol. 2 No. 2



Health Loan Closet of First UMC
of Park Ridge, IL

The **VOICE** of the United Methodist Disability Connection

Greetings in Christ!

This issue marks the end of the inaugural year for the newsletter. Thanks for your enthusiastic support of this venture! I've learned from every person I interviewed, and am so grateful for the incredible ministries I'm discovering.

In This Issue

Medical Equipment Loan
Programs Address
Common Unmet Need
Occupational Therapy
Practitioners Strengthen
Local and
Conference wide

Disability Concerns Workshop

DISABILITY CONCERNS WORKSHOP



PREPARED BY
JENNIFER R. YOUNG, OTD, OTR/L
FOR UNCOR HEALTH

UNCOR
The Children's University of Colorado

DISABILITY CONCERNS WORKSHOP



Instructions

Access

Attitudes

Disability and the Church

Disability Basics

Language

Programming

Start-up articles



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"For what they were not told, they will see, and what they have not heard, they will understand."
—Isaiah 52:15b (NIV)

Deaf Ministry Events

Read about [Deaf Camps](#) for summer 2012.

Read about and see the performance of the [Lovers Lane Sign Choir at 2012 General Conference](#).

Read [Lisa Jordan's report on access at 2012 General Conference](#).

Read about [The Mardy Walker Memorial Assistive Listening System](#), including how to borrow it for evaluation in your church.

June Devotional



Tom Hudspeth

1 Corinthians 12.12-13

You Belong

The UMCDHM offers grants and scholarships. [Click here](#) for more information.

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"Truly I say to you, as you do it to one of the least of these my brothers, you do it for me." Matthew 25:40



Breaking The Sound Barrier In Your Church



**Ministry & Mission
With People Who Are
Hard of Hearing or
Late-Deafened**

It is estimated that in the United States there are 28 million children, women and men who live with hearing loss (10% of the population).

Of that number approximately a half million are "culturally Deaf" people who rely on American Sign Language (ASL) or English Signing for communication.

One and a half million (.53%) are "late-deafened" people, while the largest number is that of "hard of hearing" people (26 million or 8% of the population). Nearly all in these two groups function in the hearing rather than the Deaf culture. That means their primary means of communication is not by signing, but by use of speech, speech-reading, visual aids, hearing aids and/or assistive listening systems. And, these people are to be found in your church.

To visualize their presence, we suggest that you do a little arithmetic. Multiply 8% (.08) into the number of your church members. That will represent the approximate number of hard of hearing people in your congregation. About one half of one percent (.0053) multiplied into the church membership count gives you an estimated number of late-deafened people in your church. Statistically you might have a culturally deaf member, but realistically, most Deaf people are not in your church, unless you currently provide an ASL interpreter for all church events.

Preface



**How Does A
Community of Faith
SPEAK To Those
Who Can Not HEAR?**

As an example, in a church of five hundred members, forty members might be hard of hearing while two or three may be late-deafened. The numbers will increase as your congregation ages. One in four persons over the age of 65 will experience increasing difficulty in hearing well. Noise-pollution and other environmental factors are increasingly damaging people's ability to hear.

It is sobering to learn that other studies indicate some 90% of church members unable to hear well have or are likely to drop out of church participation. And what about those who have never joined the church due to it not being hearing accessible? They, too, need to hear the

good news of God's gracious love, and find wholeness, nurture and opportunities for ministry within a hospitable body of Christ.

It is the conviction of the United Methodist Congress of the Deaf and its Standing Committee on Church Accessibility Promotion: Hard of Hearing and Late-deafened People, that God is calling the United Methodist Church to engage in ministry and mission with hard of hearing and late-deafened people. This booklet is provided to encourage and enable obedience to God's call in every agency, general board, conference, district and local body of the United Methodist Church.

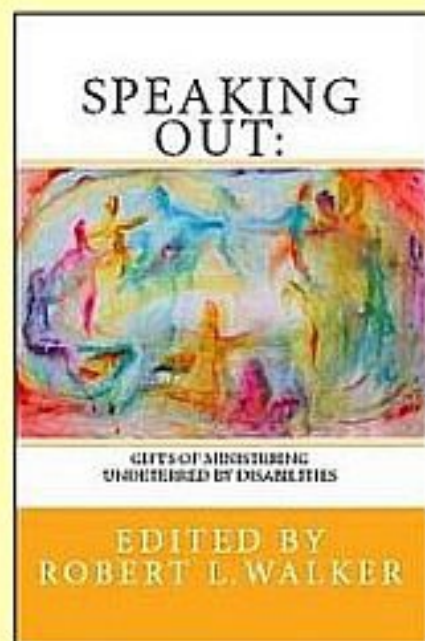
In This Booklet You Will Find

	On Page
† Introduction to the Problem	1
† Glossary of Terms	2
† Let All Who Will, Hear! A Theological Statement for Hearing Accessibility	3-4
† Understanding the Conditions & Needs of Hard of Hearing & Late-Deafened People	5
† An Introduction to Assistive Listening Systems & Where To Get Them	6-7
† Hearing Visually: Using Visual Aids for Better Understanding of Speech	8-10
† Tips & Points to Ponder	11
† How Accessible Is Your Church: A Model Audit Form	12-13

The United Methodist Congress of the Deaf Standing Committee on Church Accessibility Promotion: Hard of Hearing and Late-Deafened People

Committee Members: Holly Elliott, Laurel Glass (ex officio), Paula Hernandez, Nancy Kingsley, Michelle Martin, Shanti Parker and Robert Walker, Chairperson (1999-2001)

Note To Readers: We compiled this booklet in 2001 as an information source for churches wishing to look at accessibility issues for people with hearing loss, but unsure of how and where to start. The booklet is not extensive in scope. Some of the information included is time sensitive. The technologies mentioned are evolving and changing rapidly. We hope this proves helpful as a starting point — but you must do your own research and determine what course is right for your church. God Bless.

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THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



MINISTERS WITH DISABILITIES



[Wings](#), a faithletter for, by, and about United
Methodists with disabilities

sitemeter 
1,075

Advocating, educating, and supporting ministers in the United Methodist Church
and ecumenical associates who have disabilities

SPEAKING OUT:



GIFTS OF MINISTERING
UNDETERRED BY DISABILITIES

EDITED BY
ROBERT L. WALKER



GENERAL BOARD OF PENSION AND HEALTH BENEFITS OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Today is June 1, 2012

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UMC Health Ministry Network

Connecting Parish/Faith Community Nurses, Health Advocates and Others with a Passion for Health Across the Denomination

Churches play a significant role in the lives of their congregants and the community. They have a unique ability to impact individuals' health and well-being directly, in many different ways. The church can also promote health in a more wholistic* way than modern medical establishments—embracing wellness in all its forms—and serving as strategic place where all elements of health can be discussed. Essential to flourishing churches, **health ministry** describes the variety of ways that churches can become involved in promoting health to their clergy, congregants and communities.

To help build and sustain your ministry efforts, the *Center for Health* has partnered with the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR Health) to establish the UMC Health Ministry Network. This unique initiative connects and educates individuals with existing health ministries or those interested in creating health ministries in congregations across the United States.

The resources below will help you create, implement and grow a health ministry initiative in your congregation. Resources are also available for ministries to support and improve the health and well-being of your pastor. A healthy clergyperson benefits the congregation and vice versa.

UMC Health Ministry Network



in collaboration with

United Methodist Committee on Relief

Center for Health

YOU CAN HELP!

- ◇ Let us know about your programs, needs and dreams for the future.
- ◇ Notify us of disability-related workshops, camps, and worship services so we can help publicize them.
- ◇ Give through the **Advance #3021054**.
- ◇ Sign up for our newsletter.
- ◇ Volunteer as a resource person.
- ◇ Tell others about us!

Contact Information

Mailing address: c/o GBGM, UMCOR
Health, 475 Riverside Dr., 15th Floor
New York, NY 10115
Attention: Patricia Magyar

E-mail: UMTFDM@gmail.com

Web: www.umdismabilityministries.org



MISSION STATEMENT: *Through advocacy, education and empowerment, the United Methodist Task Force on Disability Ministries will lead the UMC in creating a culture where people with disabilities are fully included in all aspects of worship, leadership and ministry.*

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The Advance

Advancing hope in Christ's name

Task Force: 3021054

Deaf ministries: 982562



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



MINISTERS WITH DISABILITIES

Torsten's Daily Prayer

By Torsten Carlson, L'Arche Erie



Good Morning Jesus.
I give you me.
Forgive me my sins.
Come into my heart and live.
Give me your Power and your Holy Spirit for today.
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as You did here on earth.
Thank you for healing me and making me whole.
Thank you for helping me talk and use correct speech.
Thank you for helping me to read and write.
Thank you Jesus for your Love.
Amen.



Welcome to presentation! I represent the Task Force, and will be discussing several UM disability and health ministry groups.

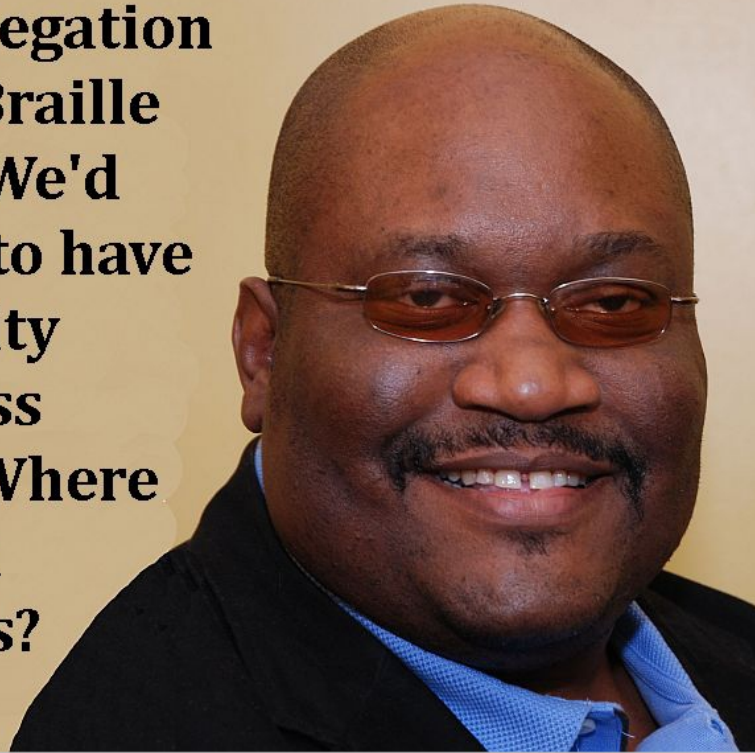
Credits for individual photos, etc. as noted. All other material copyright 2012 United Methodist Committee on Relief / United Methodist Committee on Disability Ministries, subject to any CC-SA terms when applicable.



Four slides: where can I connect, find out what else is being done, learn best practices in the Wesleyan tradition, and keep up with new developments?

(Tim Vermande)

**My congregation
needs a Braille
hymnal. We'd
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How I can I lead
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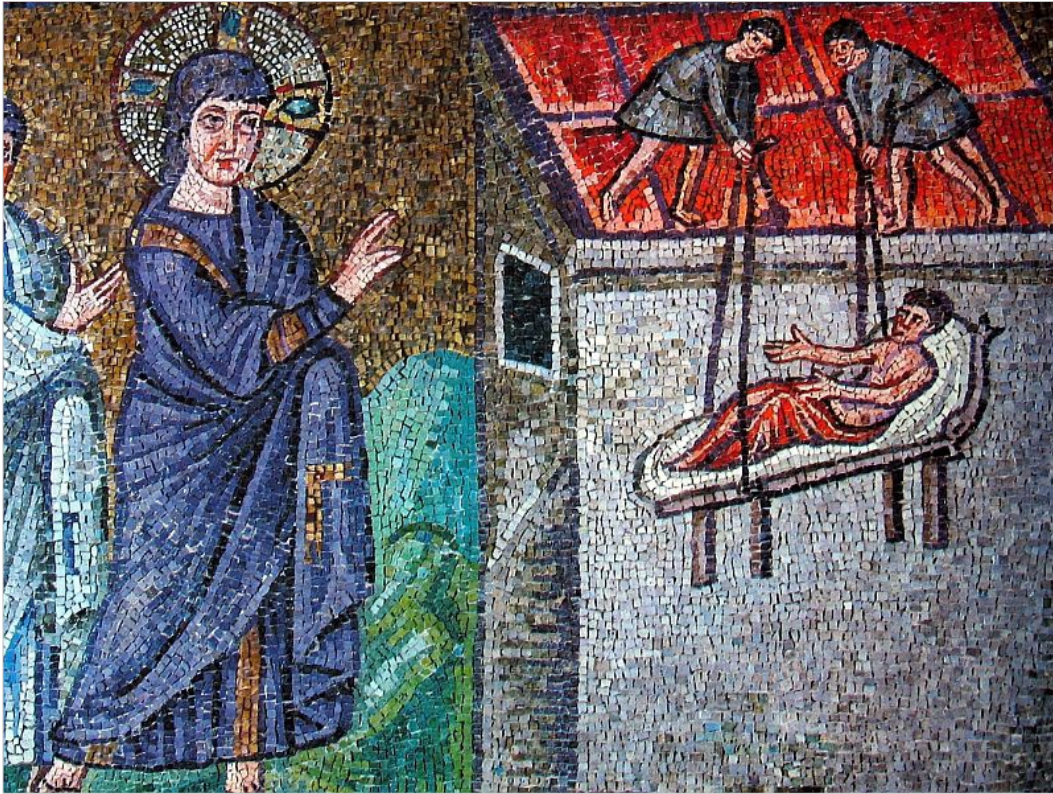
The Task Force in 2011, but what are we?

Beyond “a bunch of people who meet once in a while,” the Task Force is a group of United Methodist lay and clergy who have a passion for Disability Ministries. We meet as a group or in committee by conference call, e-mail, and every year we gather for an in-person meeting.

Our membership includes two representatives from each jurisdiction, partner-group liaisons, and consultants.

Our mission is to try and find answers to the questions related to persons with disabilities and the church so that our great denomination can truly experience "Open hearts, open minds AND OPEN DOORS."

(Sherrie Vermande)



We start with a theology of inclusion from Jesus, who reached out to everyone. The story of the man healed after being let through the roof is one of our favorites (and is featured on the web site), because it shows the role of community in healing and acceptance.

(Mosaic in Basilica of Sant'Apollinare Nuovo,
http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/d/d7/S._Apollinare_Nuovo_Paralitico.jpg, PD)

I look upon all the
world as my parish . . .

I judge it . . . right. . .
to declare unto all that
are willing to hear. . . .



Our theology of inclusion also looks to the Wesleys. John Wesley clearly believed that that everyone in the world is reached by prevenient grace, and there are no boundaries to whom we speak.

(*JWJ*, June 11, 1738/9).

(Adam Davenport,

http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/0/0f/Wesley_at_asbury.jpg, CC-SA)



In what manner didst
thou employ that
comprehensive talent,
money? . . . restoring
the remainder to me,
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whom I had appointed
to receive it; . . . Wast
thou eyes to the blind,
and feet to the lame?

Wesley also enjoins us to aid people with disabilities, and points to this as a channel of grace.

Note that he asks to be “eyes” and “feet”: not just to give a little money and hope they go away, but to enable them to function fully.

(Sermon 51: The good steward)

(<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Johnwesleystatue.jpg>, PD)

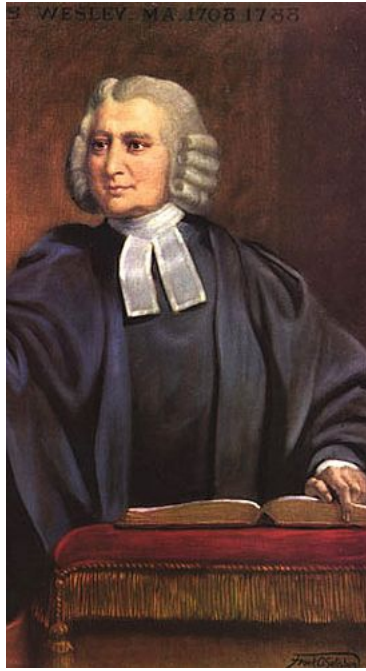
If a man had hands and eyes and feet that he could give to those that wanted them; if he should lock them up in a chest [. . .] instead of giving them to his brethren that were blind and lame, should we not justly reckon him an inhuman wretch?



Wesley also charges us to share what we have freely with those who need assistance. All people are fully human and should be the object of our interests.

(Sermon 28: Upon Our Lord's Sermon on the Mount)

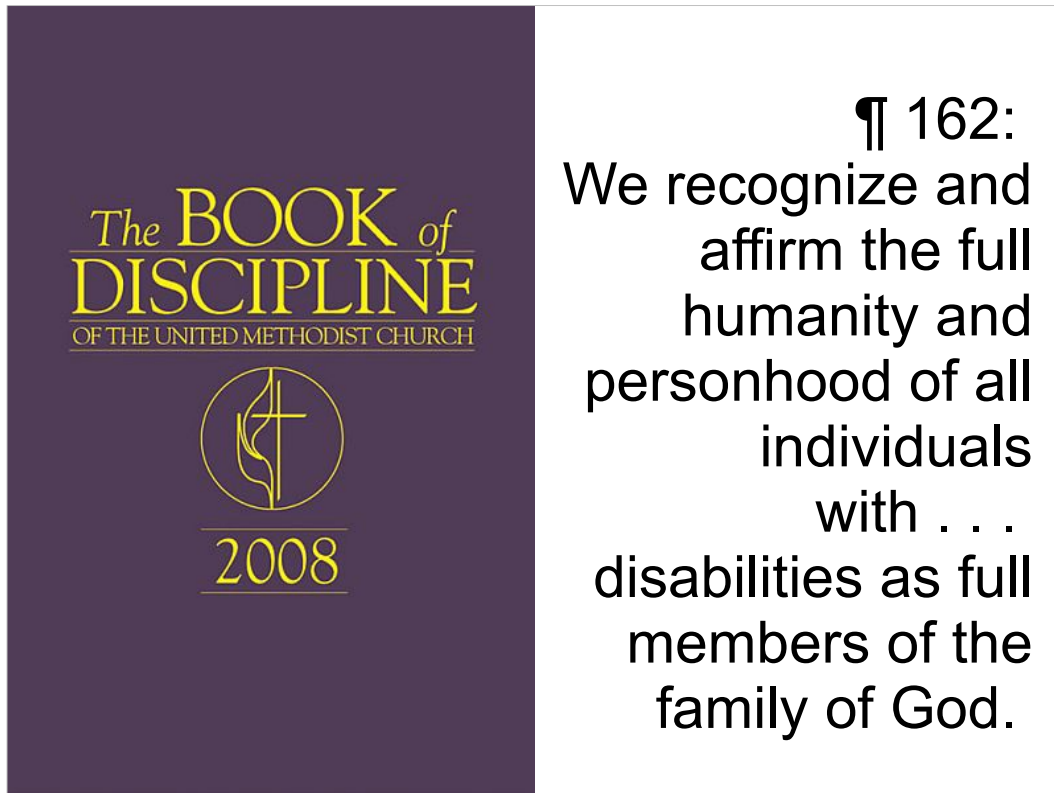
(<http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Iwujohnwesleystatue.jpg>, PD)



See where
the lame,
the halt, the blind ...
Flock to the
Friend of humankind,
And freely all
accept their cure.
To whom doth he
his help deny?
Whom in his days
of flesh pass by?

Charles Wesley, in his hymns, presses similar points.

(Hymn 31, Describing the Goodness of God, from A collection of hymns...)
((http://www.umc.org/atf/cf/%7BDB6A45E4-C446-4248-82C8-E131B6424741%7D/umns_628_071233_468.jpg), PD)



Church law affirms these principles. The *Discipline* contains many provisions affirming people with disabilities, and measures that strive to include them in congregational life.



no pigeon-holes!



Disabilities come in many forms, visible and otherwise, and reach across all ages and other categories of human existence.

(1, l to r: Myra Monroe, Lynn Swedberg, Tim Vermande, Myra Monroe)
 (2, all: Tim Vermande)



ministry with . . .



The focus of our ministry is inclusion, so we prefer to speak of “ministry with” rather than “ministry to.”

In this way, we do not view people as objects, but as equal members of the body of Christ, with their own contributions to make.

(Tim Vermande)



Where we've
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(Lynn Swedberg)

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(Lynn Swedberg)

Where
we're
going:

GC
2012



General Conference 2012 approved our petition to become a standing committee!

It also approved most of our related petitions, such as using “disability leave” instead of “incapacity leave,” and members at GC assisted with a resolution implementing U.N. disability access standards.



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- Issue Study: Poverty

2013 Mission Studies

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- Geographic: The Roma of Europe
- Issue study: Poverty

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SCHOOLS OF CHRISTIAN MISSION



► Schools start on June 29. Learn more and find your conference school.

2014: The Church and People with Disabilities: Awareness, Accessibility, and Advocacy

In 2014, the UMW will have a study theme on disabilities and the church.

disability awareness theme



2013-2016 annual conference

One of our petitions approved by GC 2012 requires that each annual conference have a disability awareness theme in the next quadrennium.

(Lynn Swedberg)

Does your congregation desire to reach people affected by disability to share God's love and to bring them into your church family?

Do you need ideas and information on how to make your programs more inclusive and your building more accessible?

Do you want to empower children, youth, and adults with autism, intellectual/ developmental disabilities, physical disabilities, decreased mobility, and/or vision or hearing loss to fully participate and share their gifts?

WE CAN HELP!

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A "Train the trainer" 6-hour Disability Concerns workshop on CD or to download.

A consultant and webmaster available at UMTFDM@gmail.com.

Current Initiatives:

- ◇ Publishing a free monthly electronic newsletter about all facets of disability ministry. (*Sign up at our web site.*)
- ◇ Helping conferences and churches develop disability awareness training.
- ◇ Equipping leaders through a lay speaking advanced course.
- ◇ Teaching camps to audit their programs and sites for accessibility and inclusion.
- ◇ Advocating around issues faced by pastors with disabilities, both those in active ministry and on leave.
- ◇ Compiling a Resource Bank of speakers, consultants, ministries, and Disability Connection committees.
- ◇ Networking with global disability ministries and missions.
- ◇ Providing current information through our Facebook, Twitter, and Pinterest posts.

Our Task Force / Committee is intended to support those who take these concerns into today's world. We offer a variety of resources. We'll survey these resources.

(TF Palm Card, May 2012)

Dedicated to opening hearts, minds, and doors
for people of all abilities in the United Methodist Church



Ministry in Action

Resources and Guides

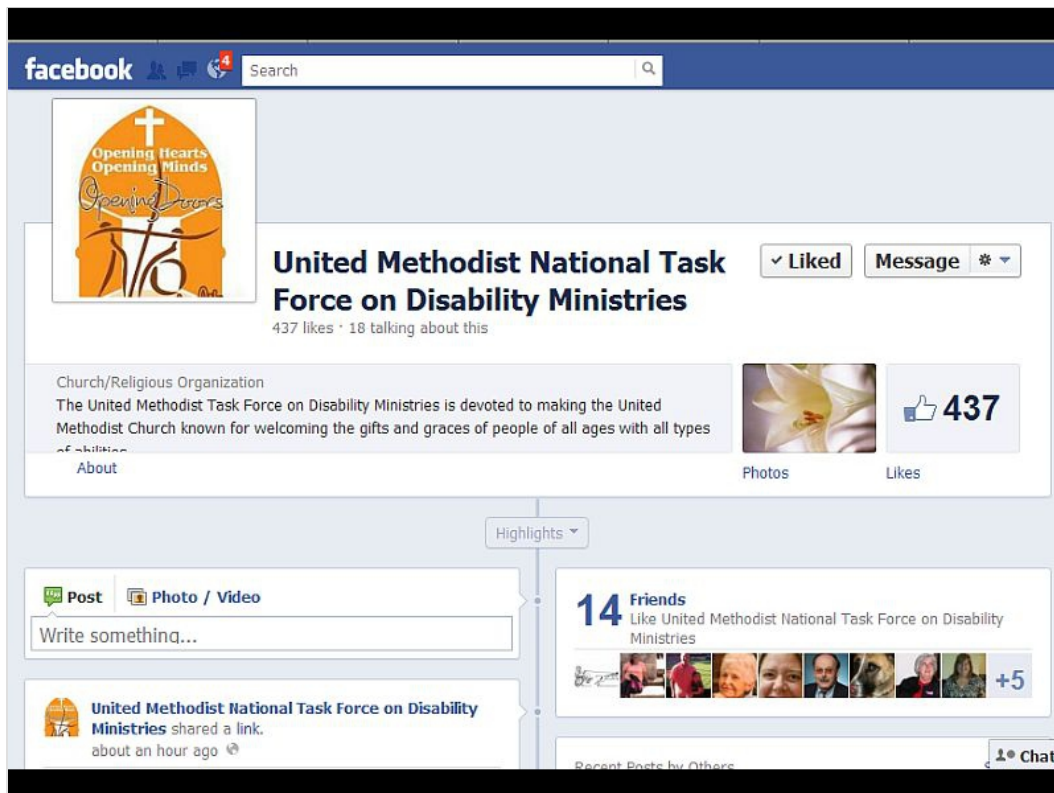
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Who and Why?

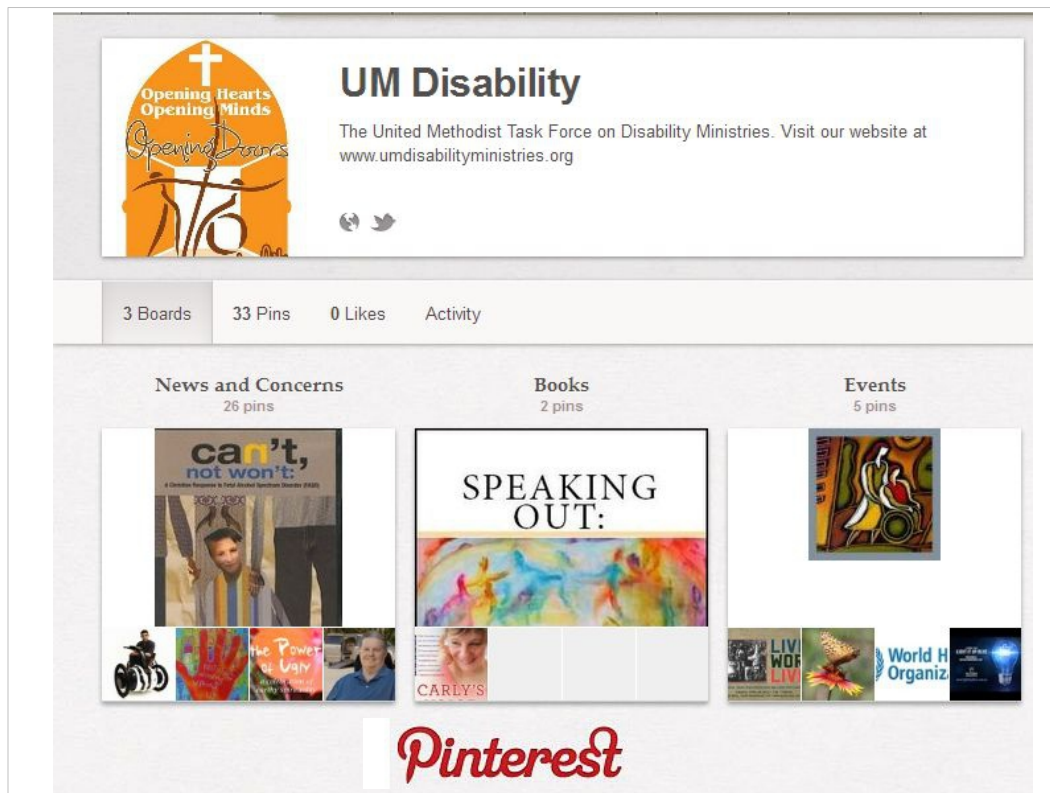
Theology: God's call to the church

- [Who are People with Disabilities?](#)

Our website offers theological considerations, articles on how to get started, places to find assistance, and much other information.



Our Facebook page offers news and an opportunity to share information or ask questions.



We've recently added a set of Pinterest boards for news items. Pinterest requires an image, so we can't share everything there.





UM Disability

@UMDisability

<http://www.umdissabilityministries.org>

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pinterest.com/pin/1056939224... "Loop helps worshippers hear the Word" from UMR and the UM Committee on Deaf and Hard-of-...

We also are on Twitter.



February 2012

Vol. 2 No. 2



Health Loan Closet of First UMC
of Park Ridge, IL

The **VOICE** of the United Methodist Disability Connection

In This Issue

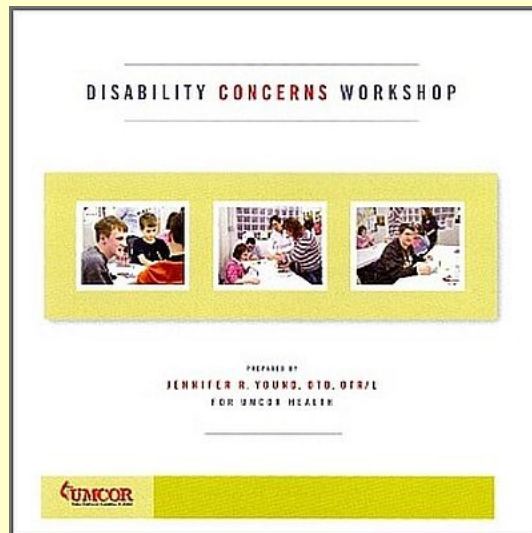
Greetings in Christ!

This issue marks the end of the inaugural year for the newsletter. Thanks for your enthusiastic support of this venture! I've learned from every person I interviewed, and am so grateful for the incredible ministries I'm discovering.

Medical Equipment Loan
Programs Address
Common Unmet Need
Occupational Therapy
Practitioners Strengthen
Local and
Conference-wide

We publish (electronically) a monthly newsletter. Subscriptions are free. You can sign up at the web site.

Disability Concerns Workshop



One of our resources is the Disability Concerns Workshop. While supplies last, it's available on CD, and can also be downloaded from the web site.

DISABILITY CONCERNS WORKSHOP



Instructions

Access

Attitudes

Disability and the Church

Disability Basics

Language

Programming

Start-up articles

The workshop provides materials to create, start, and develop a disability ministry.

The
United Methodist Committee
on



**Deaf and
Hard-of-Hearing
Ministries**

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"For what they were not told, they will see, and what they have not heard, they will understand."
—Isaiah 52:15b (NIV)

Deaf Ministry Events

Read about [Deaf Camps](#) for summer 2012.

Read about and see the performance of the [Lovers Lane Sign Choir at 2012 General Conference](#).

Read [Lisa Jordan's report on access at 2012 General Conference](#).

Read about [The Mardy Walker Memorial Assistive Listening System](#), including how to borrow it for evaluation in your church.

June Devotional

June Devotional
Share
More info



Tom Hudspeth

1 Corinthians 12:12-13

You Belong

The UMCDHM offers grants and scholarships. [Click here](#) for more information.



[Join us on Facebook](#)

"Truly I say to you, as you do it to one of the least of these my brothers, you do it for me." Matthew 25:40



We would also like to mention some of our friends at related ministries. The Committee on Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Ministries.

Breaking The Sound Barrier In Your Church



Ministry & Mission With People Who Are Hard of Hearing or Late-Deafened

Preface



How Does A Community of Faith SPEAK To Those Who Can Not HEAR?

It is estimated that in the United States there are 28 million children, women and men who live with hearing loss (10% of the population).

Of that number approximately a half million are "culturally Deaf" people who rely on American Sign Language (ASL) or English Signing for communication.

One and a half million (.53%) are "late-deafened" people, while the largest number is that of "hard of hearing" people (26 million or 8% of the population). Nearly all in these two groups function in the hearing rather than the Deaf culture. That means their primary means of communication is not by signing, but by use of speech, speech-reading, visual aids, hearing aids and/or assistive listening systems. And, these people are to be found in your church.

To visualize their presence, we suggest that you do a little arithmetic. Multiply 8% (.08) into the number of your church members. That will represent the approximate number of hard of hearing people in your congregation. About one half of one percent (.005) multiplied into the church membership count gives you an estimated number of late-deafened people in your church. Statistically you might have a culturally deaf member, but realistically, most Deaf people are not in your church, unless you currently provide an ASL interpreter for all church events.

As an example, in a church of five hundred members, forty members might be hard of hearing while two or three may be late-deafened. The numbers will increase as your congregation ages. One in four persons over the age of 65 will experience increasing difficulty in hearing well. Noise-pollution and other environmental factors are increasingly damaging people's ability to hear.

It is sobering to learn that other studies indicate some 90% of church members unable to hear well have or are likely to drop out of church participation. And what about those who have never joined the church due to it not being hearing accessible? They, too, need to hear the good news of God's gracious love, and find wholeness, nurture and opportunities for ministry within a hospitable body of Christ.

It is the conviction of the United Methodist Congress of the Deaf and its Standing Committee on Church Accessibility Promotion: Hard of Hearing and Late-deafened People, that God is calling the United Methodist Church to engage in ministry and mission with hard of hearing and late-deafened people. This booklet is provided to encourage and enable obedience to God's call in every agency, general board, conference, district and local body of the United Methodist Church.

In This Booklet You Will Find	On Page
† Introduction to the Problem	1
† Glossary of Terms	2
† Let All Who Will, Hear! A Theological Statement for Hearing Accessibility	3-4
† Understanding the Conditions & Needs of Hard of Hearing & Late-Deafened People	5
† An Introduction to Assistive Listening Systems & Where To Get Them	6-7
† Hearing Visually: Using Visual Aids for Better Understanding of Speech	8-10
† Tips & Points to Ponder	11
† How Accessible Is Your Church: A Model Audit Form	12-13

The United Methodist Congress of the Deaf Standing Committee on Church Accessibility Promotion: Hard of Hearing and Late-Deafened People

Committee Members: Holly Elliott, Laurel Glass (ex officio), Paula Hernandez, Nancy Kingsley, Michelle Martin, Shanti Parker and Robert Walker, Chairperson (1999-2001)

Note To Readers: We compiled this booklet in 2001 as an informative source for churches wishing to look at accessibility issues for people with hearing loss, but unsure of how and where to start. The booklet is not extensive in scope. Some of the information included is time sensitive. The technologies mentioned are evolving and changing rapidly. We hope this proves helpful as a starting point — but you must do your own research and determine what course is right for your church. God Bless.

One of the DHM resources available from the website.

[Who we are](#)
[What we do](#)
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Learn about our book
[Speaking Out: The Gifts of Ministering Undeterred by Disabilities](#)


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THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



MINISTERS WITH DISABILITIES

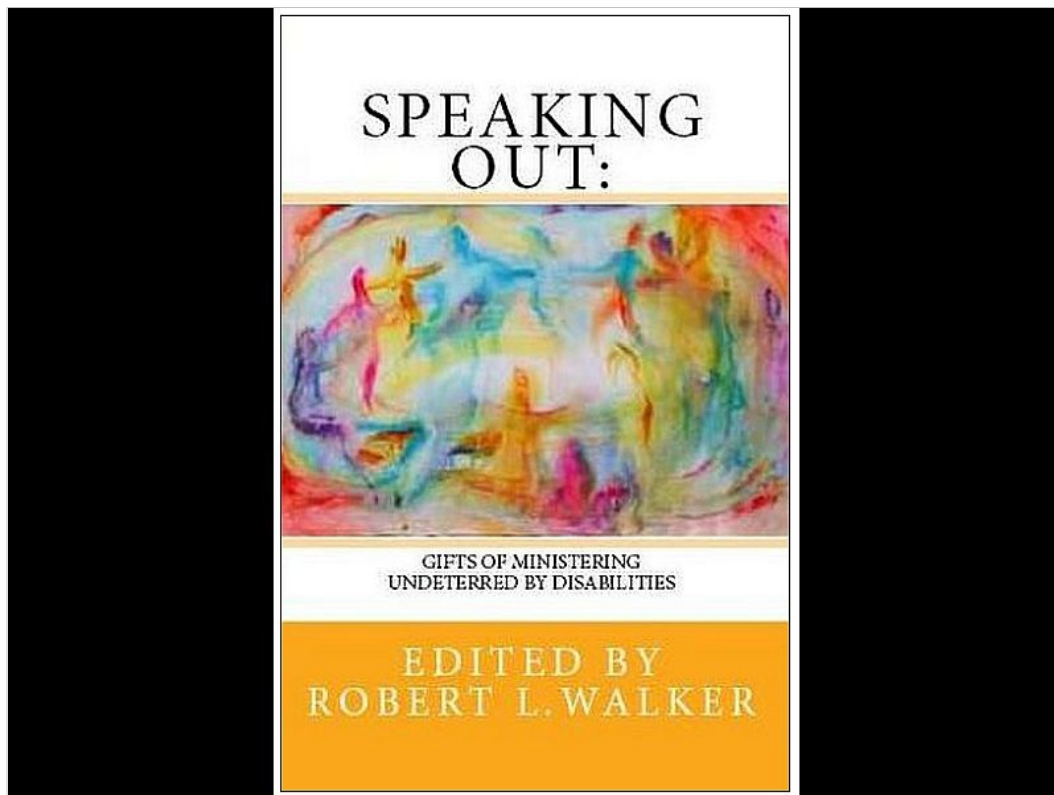


[Wings, a faithletter for, by, and about United Methodists with disabilities](#)



Advocating, educating, and supporting ministers in the United Methodist Church and ecumenical associates who have disabilities

UM Association of Ministers with Disabilities is open to all “ministers,” ordained or otherwise. This is an official UM caucus.



Association's recent book, with 25 stories of ministry.



GENERAL BOARD OF PENSION AND HEALTH BENEFITS
OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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HOME > CENTER FOR HEALTH > UMC HEALTH MINISTRY NETWORK >



UMC Health Ministry Network

Connecting Parish/Faith Community Nurses, Health Advocates and Others with a Passion for Health Across the Denomination

Churches play a significant role in the lives of their congregants and the community. They have a unique ability to impact individuals' health and well-being directly, in many different ways. The church can also promote health in a more *wholistic* way than modern medical establishments—embracing wellness in all its forms—and serving as strategic place where all elements of health can be discussed. Essential to flourishing churches, **health ministry** describes the variety of ways that churches can become involved in promoting health to their clergy, congregants and communities.

To help build and sustain your ministry efforts, the *Center for Health* has partnered with the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR Health) to establish the UMC Health Ministry Network. This unique initiative connects and educates individuals with existing health ministries or those interested in creating health ministries in congregations across the United States.

The resources below will help you create, implement and grow a health ministry initiative in your congregation. Resources are also available for ministries to support and improve the health and well-being of your pastor. A healthy clergy person benefits the congregation and vice versa.



UMC Health Ministry Network

Center for Health

In collaboration with
United Methodist Committee on Relief

Parish Nursing, Community Health, now are UMC Health Ministry Network

YOU CAN HELP!

- ◇ Let us know about your programs, needs and dreams for the future.
- ◇ Notify us of disability-related workshops, camps, and worship services so we can help publicize them.
- ◇ Give through the **Advance #3021054**.
- ◇ Sign up for our newsletter.
- ◇ Volunteer as a resource person.
- ◇ Tell others about us!

Contact Information

Mailing address: c/o GBGM, UMCOR
Health, 475 Riverside Dr., 15th Floor

New York, NY 10115

Attention: Patricia Magyar

E-mail: UMTFDM@gmail.com

Web: www.umdissabilityministries.org



MISSION STATEMENT: *Through advocacy, education and empowerment, the United Methodist Task Force on Disability Ministries will lead the UMC in creating a culture where people with disabilities are fully included in all aspects of worship, leadership and ministry.*

How can you help?



As you have noticed, we are working to establish a network of people who can share resources.

The Task Force has a Resource Network of people with expertise in various areas, and we often draw on these people for advice and assistance.

(Gary Dillensnyder for UMTFDM)



Task Force: 3021054

Deaf ministries: 982562

As with any ministry, we can always use money. We strive to keep costs low (e.g., meeting at churches, universities, by conference call), and receive some funding from UMCOR, but contributions help with other costs.



THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



MINISTERS WITH DISABILITIES