



ACCESSIBILITY

You may not think of accessibility as being a sanctuary or safe congregation issue, but if you do here is a sample from a local church that felt that “feeling safe” included feeling that feeling welcomed as a whole person regardless of physical, mental or medical differences.

SAMPLE POLICY TEXT BELOW



Accessibility Standards

St. Sanctuary Church welcomes people of all abilities into the life and ministry of the church. We work toward dismantling the barriers that may otherwise deter persons with disabilities from participation in worship and church events. To that end, we will maintain the following standards and continue to evaluate accessibility from various perspectives, making adjustments and additions as indicated.

Persons with disabilities are invited to participate in determining needs and establishing standards for accessibility.

Removing Barriers to Mobility

- Accessible parking spaces
- Curb cuts in sidewalks
- Ramps at entrances
- International accessibility signs posted
- Accessible rest rooms
- Accessible water fountains
- Accessible elevators
- Wide aisles in sanctuary and meeting rooms
- Shortened pews to accommodate wheelchairs in worship venues
- Lift to chancel area planned for sanctuary remodel

Removing Barriers to the Senses

- Worship services and meetings interpreted in American Sign Language (ASL)
- Assisted listening devices available for worship

- Video screen displays Order of Worship, including words to hymns and congregational prayers
- Large print bulletins available for worship
- Multi-sensory elements included in meetings and worship services: kinesthetic, auditory, visual, tactile, olfactory, and gustatory elements utilized
- Worship and activity participants are encouraged not to wear fragrances.