Update on the Accessible and Disability-Friendly Badge for Churches!

Would you like to let your community know that your church building is accessible and your congregation welcomes children and adults with disabilities? You just need to complete and score the Annual Accessibility Audit for United Methodist Churches. If you

score 85% or better on the items at each level you can receive a badge for use on your congregation's website so that people looking for an accessible place faith community will see it and learn about your commitment.



New! Honorable Mention – Now you can recognize churches that try hard but have buildings that can't be made fully accessible! They can earn an Honorable Mention copper badge based on completing the annual audit, setting goals for the coming year, and holding a Disability Awareness Sunday during the prior two years.



Bronze (Basic accessibility and accommodations) – The church is welcoming and offers basic amenities, e.g., a place to park, a way to get into the building, an accessible restroom, etc. Items at this level can be easily provided, e.g., ushers trained in disability etiquette, website information on access. (*Self-report based on Audit score.*)

Silver (Satisfactory accessibility and accommodations) – The church has many accessible features and offers accommodations for persons with disabilities including hearing loss and limited vision, but some areas are not yet fully accessible. (*Self-report based on Audit score*.)

Gold (Great accessibility and accommodations) – Receive a door decal and badge for going beyond ADA and striving to provide full accessibility, inclusion, and accommodations such as an accessible chancel and automatic door openers. (*The church needs a site review in addition to the Audit score.*)

For more information, contact us at <u>information@umcdmc.org</u> or see the Audit webpage at <u>https://umcdmc.org/resources/accessibility-and-united-methodist-churches/accessibility-audit/</u>.





A ministry partner of the General Commission on Religion and Race