

Evangelism and Accessibility Tips for Churches

Welcoming people who are blind or have low vision

Christian Record Services (CRS) helps churches connect people who are blind or have low vision with accessible Christian resources and community support.

Extend Your Ministry to People Experiencing Vision Loss

Available CRS Resources and Programs

- Free Bibles in audio, braille, and large print formats
- Bible study lessons in accessible formats
- Inspirational books and magazines, including the *Adult Sabbath School Bible Study Guide*
- PhoneFaith connects blind and low-vision adults daily by phone for fellowship, health seminars, and spiritual encouragement.
- Camps for blind and low-vision children and adults

To refer someone or learn more: Call 402-488-0981, option 3, or email services@christianrecord.org.

PhoneFaith: Visit PhoneFaith.org or call 209-399-9465.

Simple Ways to Connect

- Introduce yourself and start a conversation.
- Ask how much a person sees rather than assuming that the person is totally blind.
- Remember that each person's experience with vision loss is different.
- Ask before offering assistance and follow the person's instructions.
- Speak directly to the person, not only to their companion.
- Make natural eye contact and face the person while speaking.
- If you need to leave a conversation, let the person know.
- Respect service animals while they are working. Do not pet, feed, or distract them.





Building a More Accessible Church

Small changes can help people with vision loss participate more fully in worship, fellowship, and service.

Ideas to Consider

- Invite people with vision loss to share their gifts through worship, leadership, service, and fellowship.
- Include people with vision loss in community outreach planning and invitations.
- Offer church materials in large print, audio, braille, and accessible digital formats.
- Use clear, readable type with strong color contrast in print and on screens.
- Describe important visual information during worship, presentations, and church activities.
- Improve lighting and reduce glare in entrances, hallways, worship spaces, and classrooms.
- Keep walkways clear and provide verbal directions or sighted guide assistance when requested.
- Train greeters, ushers, teachers, and ministry leaders in respectful disability etiquette.
- Support transportation needs for members and visitors who cannot drive.
- Partner with local organizations that serve people who are blind or have low vision.

A helpful question: “What would make it easier for you to participate?” Ask, listen, and respond to the person’s stated needs.

Additional church resources:

<https://ChristianRecord.org/info/resources.html>

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