

Expectations & Abilities audit

Is everyone experiencing our gathered times as we intend? Do our stated values match what is actually happening when we are together?

Our expectations: _____ Everyone can see the typed words/projections/the speaker.
_____ Everyone can hear the message/the worship.
_____ Everyone feels they are welcome.

Are we considering some may need:

Physical Sight..... Large Print
 Print Alternative to screen
 Better contrast on screens/avoid distracting backgrounds
Hearing..... Microphones used all the time, even for informal gatherings
 Portable microphone for outside/non-wired rooms
 Word captions for videos
 Hearing Aid interface
Mobility..... Ramp access across thresholds
 Elevators for multiple levels
 Wheelchair turn around space within bathrooms
Permission to move/stand/fidget in *all* spaces

Attitude Is our attention drawn to what is happening next to us?
 Do we expect others to respond like we would?
 Do we measure our words to be encouraging?
 Are we willing to partner with other organizations to support a specific population?

Commitment Are we able to set aside personal preferences to help another?
 Will we plan/attend, even require, training programs to prepare everyone well?
 Will we seek opportunities to meet varied needs?

As you think about these things, it may surprise you whom among you may need support on one or more of these points, but have never spoken up. Any medical procedure or crisis can cause these needs. There are many reasons why people do not speak up. They may suffer through or worse, stay home. We can be proactive by asking our friends at church if any of these would be helpful. They may not even realize they have such a need!