

# INCLUSION IN WORSHIP

*A Ministry to Welcome Worshippers of All Abilities as Active Participants*

## COUNTDOWN TO INCLUSION AWARENESS DAY

Use the checklist below to plan for Inclusion Awareness Day:

- Mark your congregation's calendar for your Inclusion Awareness Day. Use the weekend designated by Pathways.org or choose an alternate date for your congregation's celebration.
- Start an inclusion committee and introduce committee members to the congregation on Inclusion Awareness Day. Use tips on starting an inclusion committee to get started.
- Download the sheet music for "Open Doors" and ask your music director to use it on Inclusion Awareness Day and for services throughout the year.
- Plan a series of bulletin articles about inclusion in worship. See the Inclusion Awareness Day Workbooks for articles.
- Plan a special worship service for Inclusion Awareness Day. Use the Inclusion Awareness Day Workbooks for ideas, prayers and homily hints.
- Survey your congregation on Inclusion Awareness Day to find out the needs of your members. Use our survey of needs to get started.
- Invite members of your congregation who happen to have disabilities to begin a ministry on Inclusion Awareness Day. Provide any accommodations needed and make sure their participation continues throughout the year.
- Invite members of your congregation who happen to have disabilities to speak at a worship service about what inclusion in your congregation means to them.
- Commit your congregation to intentionally including members with disabilities every day of the year.
- Draw up an action plan to create a caring, accessible and inclusive faith community and begin implementing your plan right away.

*Pathways.org announces Open Hearts Award grants on Inclusion Awareness Day to recognize and support accessible congregations.*