

Inclusion in Worship

When Carolyn's congregation created clearly marked, accessible parking spaces and moved the location of her religious education classes to an accessible room, Carolyn felt welcomed and affirmed. She submitted a children's **Junior Open Hearts Award** application to **Pathways.org**.

Carolyn's essay and drawing received a \$1,000 grant that offset the cost of making the exterior entrance of the church accessible. Carolyn's faith community dedicated the newly ramped entrance on **Inclusion Awareness Day**.

What You Can Do

Carolyn's faith community participates in Inclusion in Worship. Your congregation can too. Look inside for ways **Inclusion In Worship** can help your house of faith welcome worshippers of all abilities.



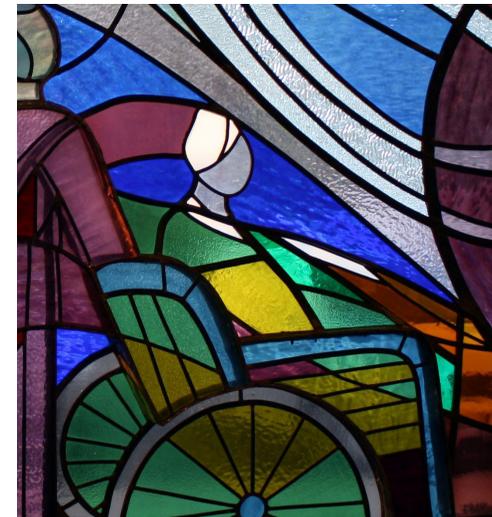
Pathways.org is dedicated to promoting and advancing infants' and children's motor, sensory and communication development to all parents and healthcare providers.

Inclusion In Worship, a program of Pathways.org, provides information and educational materials to houses of faith to help them welcome and include worshippers of all abilities as active participants.

Pathways.org
2591 Compass Road
Suite 100
Glenview, Illinois 60026
Phone 1-800-955-2445
Fax 1-888-795-5884
www.InclusionInWorship.org
and
www.Pathways.org

Inclusion in Worship

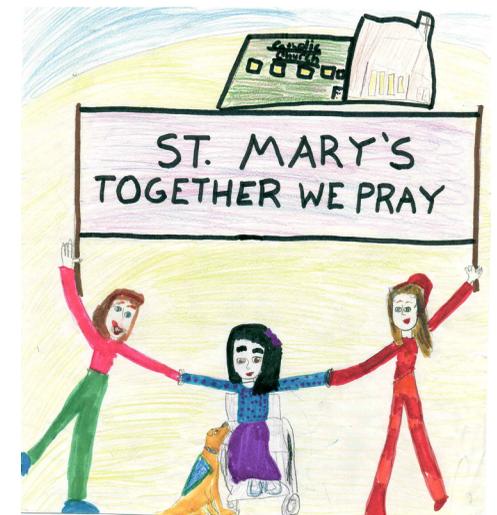
Opening Hearts, Minds and Doors to Individuals of All Abilities at Your House of Faith



www.InclusionInWorship.org
1-800-955-2445

One Congregation's Story

"Hi, my name is Carolyn. I am nine years old. I have muscular dystrophy. I use a wheelchair. I love to go to church. I know I am accepted. I go to religious education classes and have friends. There are close parking spots for my dad to park the car. My classroom is on the first floor and I get to go in a special door with a ramp. My church makes it easier for me so I can go and learn and praise God."



Children's Junior Open Hearts Award winning essay and drawing.

Visit Our Website

www.InclusionInWorship.org

Our website provides interfaith educational materials to assist your congregation or religious school to welcome individuals of all abilities. Watch our videos, download handouts and apply for grants to achieve access and inclusion at your house of faith.

Watch Our Videos Online

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Learn practical ways your congregation can reach out to welcome worshippers of all abilities.

Celebrating Inclusion in a Jewish Synagogue

Experience the power and joy of inclusion in a Jewish synagogue.

The Vulnerable Journey

Author and theologian, Father Henri Nouwen, teaches about the gifts received when we include the most vulnerable in our worshipping communities.



Help Fund Access and Inclusion Projects



Accessible Design by Tortorelli Creations

Open Hearts Awards

Our *Open Hearts Awards* grants of up to \$1,000 help congregations and religious schools across the U.S. fund access and inclusion projects.

Children's Junior Open Hearts Awards

Junior Open Hearts Awards applicants are children and youth ages 5 -18. Grants of up to \$1,000 help congregations and religious schools across the U.S. fund access and inclusion projects.

Visit our website for application forms and annual deadline.

Celebrate Inclusion Awareness Day

Inclusion Awareness Day keeps hearts and minds open to the spirit of access and inclusion. It's easy and fun to plan an annual event! Visit our website for interfaith Inclusion Awareness Day Workbooks, prayer cards and more.



Promote Inclusive Religious Education

Use our *Different Gifts, Same Spirit* lesson plans to prepare children and youth ages 8-18 to welcome children of all abilities into their classrooms. Now available from Loyola Press or download from our website.

Start an Inclusion Ministry

Organize an inclusion ministry to educate your congregation about accessibility and how to welcome worshippers of all abilities and their families. Visit our website for tips and handouts to help you and your religious leaders get started.