



This seminar offers. . .

- Case studies of visible and hidden disabilities
- Strategies and suggestions for reaching out and teaching people with disabilities
- Guidelines and forms individualized to unique needs
- Curriculum suggestions and resources

Important and Necessary

- Many parents don't bring their child with a disability to church because they don't feel welcome in the church.
- The *Book of Discipline* urges the Church and society to recognize and receive the gifts of persons with disabilities to enable them to be full participants in the community (¶1265.1).
- "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but [his blindness] happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him." John 9:3

Why the Church?

Awareness of people with disabilities around us has been heightened in the secular arena. However, many churches still face walls of fear and ignorance when including people with disabilities. We are called to love one another and serve as the body of Christ. Yet many times people with disabilities are being left at the curb. Churches have progressed in including people with disabilities in the church even in the past 50 years, but churches need to continue developing ministries that include people with disabilities—from Sunday school to adult education to participation in the church service.



Person with a Disability and the Family

The family of the person with a disability has as many unique needs as the person with a disability. There are countless ways to minister to these needs. Some seem small and simple, like sitting with the person with a disability during services, being a buddy during Sunday school, or helping at meal time during a potluck. These seemingly small things can make a big impact and draw entire families deeper into the body of Christ.



Who has a Disability?

Visible Disability

A visible disability is apparent to others and also diagnosed by psychologist or physician. People with these disabilities receive individualized services at school, home, and the work place.

Hidden Disability

Not all disabilities are visible, diagnosed, or disclosed. Examples include behavioral, learning, and emotional disabilities.

Common Ground

As humans, children and adults are all unique intellectually, socially, emotionally, and behaviorally. People have off days. Strategies that work for people with disabilities also work for people without disabilities.

This Seminar is for. . .

- Churches of all denominations
- Conferences
- Organizations
- Camps
- Day Camps
- Leadership programs

Seminar Options

This seminar is flexible to meet many different needs. It can be an introductory seminar lasting 1-3 hours.

I also offer a long-term model for people seeking to implement a program. Over several visits, I will help with visioning, program implementation, and program evaluation.



All God's People Active in the Church



Seminary

I am completing a Masters of Arts in Christian Education in Chicago at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary.

College

In May 2008, I received a Bachelors of Arts in Elementary and Special Education from Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa.

Wesley Woods Camp and Retreat Center

Since the summer of 2008 I have been the Director of the Exceptional Persons Camp (EP). This camp gives adults with disabilities an opportunity to experience camp. EP campers have a wide range of abilities.

To schedule a seminar contact:

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Seminar for Inclusion of People with Disabilities

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**MA Christian Education
May 2010**

**BA Elementary and
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May 2008**

**Commission in Ministry for
People with Disabilities**
Young adult representative

Board of Camps
CMPD representative