

Disabilities Ministries in Your Church

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Resource List

Books (Most are available on Amazon.com)

- *Resurrecting the person: friendship and the care of people with mental health problems* (John Swinton)
- *Living well and dying faithfully: Christian practices for end-of-life care* (John Swinton)
- *Disability in the Christian tradition: A reader* (Brian Brock & John Swinton)
- *Critical reflections on Stanley Hauerwas' Theology of Disability: Disabling Society, Enabling Theology* (John Swinton)
- *Theology, disability and the new genetics: Why science needs the Church* (Brian Brock & John Swinton)
- *Special Needs, Special Ministry* (Joni Eareckson-Tada)
- *Let All the Children Come to Me* (Malesa Breeding and Jerry E. Whitworth)
- *Why, O God: Suffering and Disability in the Bible and the Church* (Larry J. Waters and Roy B. Zuck)
- *The Special Needs Ministry Handbook: A Church's Guide to Reaching Children with Disabilities and Their Families* (Amy Rapada)
- *Steps, Forming a Disability Ministry* (Shelli Allen and Dr. Linda Barboa)
- *Making Church Accessible to All: Including Disabled People in Church Life* (Tony Phelps-Jones)
- *How to Make Your Church Autism Friendly* (Stephen J. Bedard)
- *Dancing with Disabilities Opening the Church to All God's Children* (Brett Webb-Mitchell)
- *The weblog disabled Christianity: The Church and disability* (Jeff McNair)
- *Including People with Disabilities in Faith Communities* (Erik Carter)
- *Leading Special Needs Ministry and DVD titled Surviving to Thriving: Successfully Including the Child with Special Needs* (Amy Fenton Lee, available at whatisorange.org, under "Resources" > "Orange Store" > "Special Needs Selection")
- *Helping Kids Include Kids with Disabilities and Autism and Your Church: Nurturing the Spiritual Growth of People with Autism Spectrum Disorders* (Barbara J. Newman)
- *JayJo Books* (www.jayjo.com) offers about 16 books to promote understanding and acceptance of children with disabilities, chronic illnesses and other special needs

Curriculum Resources

- **Friendship Series** (friendship.org) is a three-year curriculum for youth and adults. It includes a group leader's kit, teacher's manual, and student resources. Shorter topical series are also available.
- **Bethesda Lutheran Communities, Inc. Exploring Faith and Life Bible Study Curriculum** provides twenty four Bible study lesson plans designed for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. **Cross Road Journey** includes lessons on the parables of Jesus; **Building on the Rock: Preparing for First Communion and Confirmation** (www.blhs.org)
- **Family Bible Study: Access Learner Guide** (at lifewaystores.com) —special education curriculum for adults who have intellectual disabilities. Resource of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Products, Organizations & Websites

- **LS&S** (lssproducts.com, 800.468.4789) offers products for individuals who are visually impaired and hard of hearing.
- **Learning Ally** (Formally Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic, learningally.org) provides print material, including academic titles to all educational levels. Children with reading challenges may benefit when audio material is combined with the printed text. Services are beneficial to student with limited use of hands and arms. Services available for parents, students, educators and adult learners.
- **California State Department of Rehabilitation** (www.rehab.cahwnet.gov/): Employment and independent living resource for persons with disabilities. With the goal of obtaining gainful employment, DOR provides financial support for individuals with disabilities to complete postsecondary educational programs.
- **Regional Center- State of California Department of Developmental Services:** Non-profit private corporations that contract with the Department of Developmental Services to provide or coordinate services and supports for individuals with developmental disabilities.
- **American Advocacy Group** (americanadvocacygroup.com/services/educational-advocacy/): Advocacy group for the elderly and individuals with disabilities, including educational advocacy.
- **Braille Institute of America** (brailleinstitute.org): Provides free services to blind and visually impaired individuals from infancy to adulthood.
- **Joni & Friends Christian Institute on Disability** (<http://www.joniandfriends.org/christian-institute-on-disability/>) oni and Friends is an advocate for the sanctity of human life. To that end, Joni and Friends has established a key department, The Christian Institute on Disability (CID). The CID is aggressively promoting life, human dignity and the value of all individuals, despite their disabling condition, from a biblical perspective through coursework such as *Beyond Suffering*.
- Dayle McIntosh Disability Resource Center (501 N. Brookhurst Ave. Suite # 102 Anaheim, CA 92801, 714-621-3300, <http://daylemc.org/>) is California's leading Independent Living Center named after the late Ms. Dayle McIntosh, who was a person with quadriplegia. She only had use of her fingers and thumbs, yet she lived independently, held a job and volunteered her time to help others. Since we opened our doors in 1977, we have provided people with disabilities — of all ages and from all walks of life—with the knowledge, support, skills and tools to live richer, fuller and more independent lives.
- **The Inclusion Church** (theinclusionchurch.wordpress.com) is an excellent blog by Amy Fenton Lee to help churches successfully include children with special needs. Sign up to receive posts.
- **Gospel Light's Special Needs Smart Pages** created by Joni and Friends (joniandfriends.org). Advice, answers and articles about ministering to children with special needs. This and several other excellent resources are available online.
- **Christian Churches Disability Ministry** (www.ccdmonline.org) offers free download brochures, lesson materials and pamphlets on line on various topics relating to disabilities ministry (see "Resources" on their website).

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