

Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

Inclusion In Worship Newsletter

Congregations Gear Up for Inclusion Awareness Day!

On September 28, 2008 Chicago area congregations will celebrate Inclusion Awareness Day with special worship services, bulletin articles and activities that highlight their efforts to include worshippers of all abilities. Inclusion Awareness Day Workbooks, sheet music for the song *Open Doors*, bulletin covers and letters from religious leaders are available at www.inclusioninworship.org. In the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago, 196 volunteer parish Inclusion Representatives are assisting their pastors to observe the day.

Chicago area congregations are celebrating Inclusion Awareness Day this fall to highlight their inclusion efforts!

If September 28 is not a convenient date, congregations are choosing alternate dates this fall to draw attention to the accommodations needed so that all may worship.

The Greek Orthodox Diocese is joining the effort with St. Andrew Greek Orthodox parish in Chicago celebrating Inclusion Awareness Day on October 26th. St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church in Des Plaines will celebrate on December 7th.

It's not too late to plan your Inclusion Awareness Day celebration. Choose a date for your congregation to celebrate and visit www.inclusioninworship.org, to download 2008 planning materials.



St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church will celebrate their second annual Inclusion Awareness Day on December 7, 2008.

ABOUT PATHWAYS AWARENESS

Pathways Awareness was established in 1988 to raise awareness about early detection and early therapy for infants with motor delays and the importance of inclusion in all aspects of life. The *Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors* program provides information and educational materials about inclusion in worship. For more information please call 1-800-955-2445, write to Pathways Awareness, 150 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 2100, Chicago, IL 60601, email friends@pathwaysawareness.org or visit www.inclusioninworship.org.

Inclusion Representatives Attend Trainings

Inclusion Reps networked and shared inclusion strategies at two meetings held this spring and summer at Chicago area accessible churches. After the Inclusion Rep meeting in May, Ken Miksta of Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic Church stated, "I am all fired up to continue to work for inclusion at my parish." Inspiration at

"I am all fired up to continue to work for inclusion at my parish."

Ken Miksta

Inclusion Representative

Our Lady of the Wayside, Arlington Hts.

the Church of the Holy Spirit meeting in Schaumburg, IL came from Pastor William Tkachuk and Inclusion Reps Reggie and Leonard Buchino who spoke eloquently of the many gifts their congregation receives as a result of their inclusion efforts.

Tekki Lomnicki, Inclusion Rep from Old St. Mary's Church, Chicago, shared her personal story with a June

screening of the film, *The Miracle*. After viewing the film, Inclusion Reps discussed ways their church could better welcome and include worshippers of all abilities.

The last meeting of the year will be a panel presentation on Friday, November 14, 2008 at Catholic Theological Union, 5416 S. Cornell, Chicago, IL 60615 from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Lunch will be served. Space is limited to 50 attendees.

Inclusion Reps are also invited to tune in to web seminars on inclusion in worship topics at www.ncpd.org.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

INCLUSION AWARENESS DAY

Weekend of September 28, 2008 or an alternate date this fall

Congregations are invited to celebrate their access and inclusion efforts!

INCLUSION REP MEETING

Friday, November 14, 2008

"That All May Worship: Creating the Inclusive Community", Catholic Theological Union, 5416 S. Cornell, Chicago, IL 60615, 11:30 to 2:30 p.m., RSVP jmeyer@pathwaysawareness.org

Pathways Awareness Foundation
150 N. Michigan Ave.
Suite 2100
Chicago, IL 60601

| |
|--|
| Non-Profit Org U.S. Postage Paid Chicago, IL Permit No. 6765 |
|--|

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

- **Inclusion Awareness Day**
- **Inclusion Rep Trainings a Success**
- **Nov. 14 Inclusion Rep Meeting**