



South-Central Synod of Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
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SPEAKER'S BUREAU CONTACT INFORMATION

TOPIC: Disabilities and the Church: Creating communities of belonging for people with disabilities and their families

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DESCRIPTION OF YOUR OFFERING:

People with disabilities make up the largest minority group in the US; yet, many congregations continue to say, "we don't have any people with disabilities here." In a 2013 study, more than half of families reported changing places of worship because their child with a disability was not included. Congregational self-reflection is encouraged in order to create more welcoming Christian education, outreach, evangelism, and encourage the stewardship of talent and insight that people with disabilities have to offer.

Disabilities and the Church aims to provide information on:

- The bumpy relationship of the church and people with disabilities
- Creating accessible worship
- Improving *welcoming* language and practice
- Discovering assets people with disabilities bring
- The journey from inclusion to belonging