

Bethel Business Committee

Policy and Procedure #25

Date: March 13, 2017 – Revision April 15, 2019

Accessibility for People with Disabilities

Purpose:

The purpose of this procedure/policy is to provide guidance concerning accessibility for people with disabilities to Bethel Bible Chapel's premises and sanctioned activities.

Policies and Procedures of Bethel Bible Chapel:

The following are the policies of Bethel Bible Chapel concerning people with disabilities:

1. All people are considered equal in the eyes of God and all people are welcomed to Bethel Bible Chapel regardless of any disability they may have as long as such disability does not interfere with worship service or ministries or impair the safety of other people.
2. Bethel Bible Chapel at 686 Black Rd. was renovated to meet or exceed the handicap accessibility requirements of the Ontario Building Code in 2007. The facilities will be maintained in such a manner that said requirements will continue to be met.
3. The south main entrance is designated as the entrance for people with mobility disabilities and designated handicap parking spaces will be maintained near this entrance.
4. All routine maintenance will be scheduled in such a way as not to interfere with accessibility to the facilities during scheduled worship and ministry services.
5. Personal assistive devices such as FM receivers for the hearing impaired are welcome. Bethel Bible Chapel does not provide these devices, but the audio/visual technician on duty will assist in tuning such devices to receive signals from Bethel's equipment, if possible. Any such assistance must be asked for prior to the beginning the service.
6. Trained guide dogs or other service animals are permitted to areas of public access. Bethel Bible Chapel reserves the right to require documentation to prove that the animal has been certified, trained, or licensed as a service animal, as a condition for entry.
7. The seating arrangement in Bethel Bible Chapel is designed to accommodate wheelchairs. Reserved seating spaces may be requested in advance so that a support person can sit next to a wheelchair.
8. Ushers will be trained to assist people taking into consideration the desire of people with disabilities for independence, dignity, integration and equality of opportunity and to communicate with people with a disability in a manner that takes into account his or her disability.
9. People with disabilities or their representatives may communicate special needs, feedback, etc. to any Elder/Trustee, member of the Business Committee or appropriate Ministry Leader. Any such need or specific complaint that cannot be

immediately resolved must be communicated to either the Elders or the Business Committee, depending on the nature of the matter.

- a. Items of a private and confidential nature should be communicated only to the Elders. The minutes of their meeting are considered private and confidential and as such are not made public. The Elders may request that any appropriate non-confidential information pertaining to their discussions or generalized follow-up action be included in the minutes of the Business Meeting.
- b. Items which are not of a private and confidential nature should be communicated to the Business Committee for resolution and follow-up action. The minutes of the Business Committee are not considered confidential and copies of minutes pertaining to any items discussed at the Business Meeting will be provided upon request.