

Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area Disability Concerns Task Force

**Resource People**

September 2010

*Key:*

- 1. Will speak to groups on disability issues*
- 2. Will consult with church leaders, pastors, or church school teachers*
- 3. Will consult with individuals seeking resources on adjusting to life with a disability*
- 4. May need assistance with transportation*

Bebe Baldwin (1,2,3) is a retired minister and member of the Leadership Team for PDC (Presbyterians for Disability Concerns), our denominational disability awareness organization. She is legally blind.

Special interests:

The Bible and disabilities  
Faith and disabilities  
Adapting to life with a disability; “healing when there is no cure”  
Mental illness and the church

Louis Bouchard (1,2,3) lives with Asperger Syndrome, is active in the Autism Society of Minnesota, and has been a bus driver for children with special needs. Louis is a member of Rochester Community Presbyterian Church.

Special interests:

Autism spectrum disorders  
Advocacy for persons with ASD

Lynn Cox (1,2,3) is a special education teacher and the mother of an Air Force chaplain. She is co-coordinator/trainer for Befrienders and a member of the Leadership Team for Presbyterians for Disability Concerns. Lynn is a deacon and an elder at St. Luke Presbyterian Church.

Special interests:

Special education with children  
Mental health issues of military personnel (past and present) and their families

Roger Ezell is a retired minister and a Vietnam War veteran.

Special interests:

Mental health issues of veterans

Inez Gantz (1,2,3) lives with bi-polar disorder and has been active in the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Minnesota. She is a member of Westminster, Minneapolis.

Special interests:

Advocacy with and for people who live with mental illness

Lorie Ludwig (1,2,3) is a hymn writer and a music therapist with a neurological condition that prevents her from singing. Lorie is a member of Westminster, Minneapolis.

Special interests:

Music with patients in long-term care

Don Milloy (1,2,3,4) is a retired minister with impaired mobility.

Special interests:

Mobility issues –making churches accessible

David Moseman (1,2,3,4) is a physician who left clinical medicine due to legal blindness. He has been active with accessibility and in the American Council of the Blind of Minnesota. David is an elder at North Como Presbyterian Church.

Special interests:

- Living with blindness
- Spirituality and healing

Manley Olson (1,2,3) served as chair of disability committees for the Presbyterian church at presbytery and national levels. As a college dean he helped to establish an extensive program for students with disabilities. He is an elder at North Como Presbyterian Church.

Special interests:

- Determining accessibility needs
- Helping to find creative ways to meet accessibility needs

Julie Nygren (1,2,3) is a retired staff member of the Alzheimer's Association and a retired nurse. Julie is a member of Westminster, Minneapolis.

Special interests:

- Alzheimer's and other dementias
- Concerns and needs of caregivers

Joanne Shingledecker is the Director of Children's Ministries at Presbyterian Church of the Way. She is the liaison between the Disability Concerns Task Force and the Presbyterian church educators and the Resource Center for Churches.

Special interest:

- Consulting with churches using the Congregational Audit of Disability Accessibility and Inclusion at: [www.pcusa.org/phewa/pdc](http://www.pcusa.org/phewa/pdc)

Cathy Smith (1,2,3) lives with mental illness and is the mother of a child with Duchenne muscular dystrophy (a neuro muscular disorder). Cathy is an elder at Westminster, Minneapolis.

Special interests:

- Living with mental health/mental illness
- The church and mental illness
- Developing an IEP (Individual Education Plan) with the church school

Tom Swedien (1,2,3,4) lives with impaired mobility because of West Nile disease. He has been involved with the Kenny Institute and the Courage Center. He is a member of Westminster, Minneapolis.

Special interests:

- Life change with a disability
- Coping with a disability
- Concerns of caregiver/spouse
- Traveling with assistance

Jo Tollivero is a minister member of PTCA and a former chaplain. She has been blind since birth. She will be accompanied by her service dog.

Special interests:

- Living with blindness
- Aging and vision loss
- Service dogs

Linda Wold (1,2,3) teaches classes for adults with developmental disabilities. Linda is an elder at Valley Community Presbyterian Church.

Special interests:

Teaching adults with developmental disabilities (will demonstrate)

Adapting/writing curriculum for adults who are developmentally delayed

*The Ten Commandments of Communicating with People with Disabilities. Several speakers are prepared to facilitate discussion of this 26 minute DVD with 10 vignettes that give helpful hints for comfortable communication with people who have limited mobility, speech, hearing, or vision. Solid information is presented in a way that is clear, respectful, and humorous. This DVD is available through the Church Resource Center.*

*Breaking Barriers: Stories of Hope*

*A panel of persons who live with disabilities share personal stories and challenge the church to move beyond stereotypes and barriers*

Contact Bebe Baldwin for speaker information at:

[disabilityconcerns@ptcaweb.org](mailto:disabilityconcerns@ptcaweb.org)