

For being a hospitable church...

You might be surprised to hear the expression, a “hospitable” church. You might say, “Then, is there an inhospitable church?” When we say a “hospitable” church, we hope that our church is always hospitable to all who attend our service.

Here are some examples that show you how our church is trying to be hospitable, please let us know if you have some advice or opinion.

1. Our chapel is on the second floor of our hall. At the entrance of our church, there is a slope on which you can go upstairs and downstairs in a wheelchair. Now some people attend our service every week, using their wheelchairs. Moreover, in our chapel, there is some space in which you can stay in a wheelchair.
2. There is an elevator which you can ride to our second-floor chapel. This elevator is for three, but elderly people appreciate the elevator very much.
3. We prepare several sets of braille Bibles and hymn books. Now two visually-impaired people attend our service. For them, we put our “weekly report” into braille every week, enabling them to use it every Sunday.
4. For hearing-impaired persons, our church is equipped with a system for hearing aids. The number of the hearing aids is ten, and they are well received by elderly people.
5. For the disabled, we have a bathroom with handrails. You can turn your wheelchair in the bathroom.
6. For the people who come with little children, there is a tatami room at the back of our chapel. Through a front glass window, you can see the inside of the chapel from the tatami room. We also have a tatami room on the first floor.
7. Except tatami rooms and Olive Room (Kanran Room), you can walk all around our church without taking off your shoes.
 - * We have a second chapel on the first floor. This chapel is very spacious. In this chapel, you can attend our service through a TV monitor. If you are not in good shape or hesitate to attend a service among so many people, you can attend our service in this chapel without any embarrassment. Also in tatami rooms, you can attend our service, laying your body down.

Some members of our church are selected to guide you every Sunday. And this might be the most important thing to me; I try to give a sermon to help everyone understand the Bible. I prepare a sermon as hard as possible, waiting to see you!

Rev. Shinji Takeda