Expectations & Abilities audit

Is everyone experiencing our gathered times as we intend? Do our stated values match what is actually happening when we are together?

Our expectations: _____ Everyone can see the typed words/projections/the speaker. Everyone can hear the message/the worship. Everyone feels they are welcome.

Are we considering some may need:

Sight..... Large Print Physical Print Alternative to screenBetter contrast on screens/avoid distracting backgrounds Hearing....... Microphones used all the time, even for informal gatheringsPortable microphone for outside/non-wired rooms Word captions for videosHearing Aid interface Mobility...... Ramp access across thresholds Elevators for multiple levels Wheelchair turn around space within bathrooms Permission to move/stand/fidget in all spaces Attitude Is our attention drawn to what is happing next to us? Do we expect others to respond like we would? Do we measure our words to be encouraging? Are we willing to partner with other organizations to support a specific population? Commitment Are we able to set aside personal preferences to help another?

Will we plan/attend, even require, training programs to prepare everyone well? Will we seek opportunities to meet varied needs?

As you think about these things, it may surprise you whom among you may need support on one or more of these points, but have never spoken up. Any medical procedure or crisis can cause these needs. There are many reasons why people do not speak up. They may suffer through or worse, stay home. We can be proactive by asking our friends at church if any of these would be helpful. They may not even realize they have such a need!