LifeLine, Inc.

LifeLine is a Christian non-profit ministry organization serving families of those with special needs. LifeLine provides education, training, and resources to churches as they seek to reach the disability community so that all may come to the knowledge of Jesus Christ. LifeLine serves Bible-believing churches who are interested in beginning, maintaining, or expanding a ministry to those with special needs.

We believe that the Biblical vision of Special Needs Ministry is that churches will include all people, regardless of ability, in congregational worship, as well as educational programming and fellowship activities. We believe that everyone should have access to their local church and its programs and activities regardless of level of ability. We believe that all people have a purpose and value in God; and that all persons with disabilities should be fully included in the programs and activities in their local congregation.

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Jude 1:22

“And of Some Have Compassion, Making A Difference.”

Other Resources

Joni Eareckson Tada—International Special Needs Ministry, Church Training
http://www.joniandfriends.org/church-relations/

http://theinclusivechurch.wordpress.com/
Blog by Amy Fenton Lee

“When God’s Gift Comes Specially Wrapped”
Audio Resource and Booklet
by Chuck Swindoll, Insight for Living.
http://www.insight.org/topical/special-needs/

Awana for Me...Guide to Working with Children with Special Needs www.AWANA.org

Presbyterian Churches of America, Ministry to North America, Special Needs Ministries
http://www.pca-mna.org/specialneeds/
Resources to Help You Begin a Special Needs Ministry

We have often been asked what were the most valuable resources to us when we were beginning our special needs ministry. We have compiled here a list of those resources that been the greatest help and encouragement. We hope that you will find them useful as well.

Resource For Parents of Children with Special Needs

A Special Kind of Love—Authors Susan Titus Osborn & Janet Lynn Mitchell
Angel Behind the Rocking Chair—Pam Vredevelt
Differences in Common—Marilyn Trainer
Extraordinary Kids—Cheri Fuller & Louise Tucker Jones
Different Dream—Jolene Philo
Different Dream Parenting—Jolene Philo
Disability & The Gospel—How God Uses Our Brokenness to Display His Grace—Michael S. Beates
Unexpected Journey—When Special Needs Change Our Course—Joe & Cindi Ferrini

Books

The Bible—Our purpose and our example come from this book, especially the Gospels which outline Jesus’ response to those with special needs.

Same Lake, Different Boat — Stephanie Hubach - shares the Biblical example of Christ and the church’s role in special needs ministry. *DVD Bible Study Now Available! http://www.stephaniehubach.com

Special Needs, Special Ministry—By Jim Pierson, Louise Tucker Jones, Pat Verbal—Examples and Ideas

The Lost Mandate—A Christ Comman Revealed—Dan’l C. Markham with Nick Vujicic

When Helping Hurts—How to Alleviate Poverty without Hurting the Poor & Yourself by Steve Corbett & Brain Fikkert

Strong at the Broken Places: Persons with Disabilities and the Church—Stuart Govig

Sundays with Scottie—Milton Jones—a Pastor writes about Scottie’s impact during 20 years in his congregation.

More Than Shared Classrooms - Michael Remus, Bev Adcock—Making Curriculum Accessible (secular)

Autism & Your Church—Barbara J. Newman

Other Resources

Light from Lucas—lessons in faith from a fragile life—Bob Vander Plaats

His Name is Joel—Searching for God in a Son’s Disability—Kathleen Deyer Bolduc

Mockingbird—Kathryn Erskine—Processing Loss and change through Asperger’s Syndrome (secular)

LifeLine provides church-specific training and consultation on inclusion of church members with special needs as well as specific diagnoses. Training is available to churches who reflect the Biblical doctrines upon which LifeLine is founded. Contact us for more information about custom presentations to train and equip your church’s leadership.

Topics include: Autism Spectrum Disorders, ADD/ADHD, Sensory Integration Disorders, Spina Bifida, Students with Significant Disabilities, Intentionally Parenting Your Child with Special Needs, and others. AWANA Leadership Training on Inclusion, Curriculum Modifications and Accommodations (for Council, Handbook, and Game Time), Coming Alongside Families (Examples from the Gospels), and the Story of LifeLine (How a Special Needs Ministry Got Started.) Conference Options Available.