

Our “One In the Spirit” Disability Awareness Workshop held at Peace Lutheran Church in Natomas was a big success! Speakers represented five organizations, which included Bethesda, CNH Task Force, Joni & Friends, Down Syndrome Information Alliance, and Friday Friends of Pleasant Hill. We also had four personal testimonies about experiences with disabilities. Lunch time allowed attendees to spend time learning more from the presenters. A question and answer panel was held before closing with everyone singing, “We are One in the Spirit” with sign language.

Our congregation and guests learned disability etiquette, as well as suggestions for including those with disabilities in our worship service. The comment made that “Disability could happen to anyone at any time through accident or illness” made an impact on all of us.

We sent out fliers to 80 Lutheran Churches in the Sacramento area. In the future, we would work with a contact (such as a Stephen’s Minister) in each congregation to ensure that the event is being well publicized.

The next step in our disability ministry will be to have an event for adults with disabilities living near our church--probably a movie, light supper, craft and singing. Our goal will be to do so on a quarterly basis.

Your \$750.00 mini-grant made this workshop possible. How surprised we were when we learned that we spent \$751.00. We thank you for providing the funds to get this exciting ministry started!