

Your Congregation Can Borrow a Listening Tool from the UUA Accessibilities Office



Ten percent of adults are hard of hearing, and one in four over the age of 65 experiences difficulty hearing spoken words clearly. Studies have shown that nine out of ten people who cannot hear what is being said during services drop out of congregational life.

A sound system is a good first step, but is not sufficient for some people who are hard of hearing, says the Rev. Devorah Greenstein, the UUA's accessibilities program associate. Signals from a conventional sound system travel through the air and can be distorted. The next step, an assistive listening system, costs about \$1,000 and enables more people to hear. Signals from such a system do not travel through the air and thus do not suffer distortion.

Congregations and other UU groups interested in a "demo" assistive listening kit can borrow one from the accessibilities office in order to determine if they wish to purchase their own. The kit is about the size of a large attaché case and can be used whether or not you have a sound system.

For more information contact the Rev. Devorah Greenstein at dgreenstein@uua.org.

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