Presenter: Barbara J. Newman

**Sunday School Where Everyone Is Welcome: Universal Design for**

**Religious Education**

What DOES your congregation DO?

Lesson from the Boy Scouts: Always Be Prepared!

Prep Work

* Congregational Attitudes
	+ True/False Quiz
	+ Tools: CLC’s Free DVD &
* Accessibility
	+ [www.CRCNA.org](http://www.CRCNA.org)
* Give Information:
	+ Church Welcome Story & Adaptations: Youth Group Event Story, Communion Story, How do you worship? What do you wear? How many questions are appropriate?
* Your congregation’s website or printed materials
	+ Tour of children’s area, people engaged in worship, what do you wear, printed welcome for children with disabilities, etc.
* Training for Leaders and Peers
* Intake System
	+ Registration: WORDING is critical!
* Special Needs Coordinator
* Awareness of G.L.U.E. process (because, ASAP)
* You MUST get to know the CHILD
	+ So you can make a specific plan
* Be prepared to have conversations with parents
* Have a local resources list

Meet and Greet

* Parking Passes
* Data Collection –intake system signals a process
* Instant Buddies (have them available!)
* For that tough customer…it’s OK to ask parents to wait until you get some things in place (1-2 weeks)

In-Room Supports

* Pictures, pictures, pictures!
	+ Visual Schedules
	+ Story apron, Story stick
	+ Speech buttons
	+ Curriculum
* Items to address unique sensory systems
	+ Hand tools (fidgets), Fidget pencils
	+ Varied seating
	+ Lap buddies
	+ Wiggle cushions
	+ Parking Spots
* Fine Motor Tools
	+ Varied pencils & grips
	+ Paper options
	+ Scissors options
* Stations, multisensory, Choices! Choices! Choices!
* Invaluable Items
	+ Time Timer
	+ Break Tickets and Break Area
	+ Concrete items & bins to go with stories and lessons
	+ YouVersion (kids)

What WILL your congregation DO?

Why? Adam’s story