

The Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions

For the Wholeness of Church Workers

“

I am so very grateful for your help. I could not have stayed in my home, near my children and grandchildren, but for this blessing. It changed my life!

– *Housing Supplement recipient*”



THE BOARD OF PENSIONS
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

When Church Workers Need Our Help

Those who help others often are the last to seek help themselves, especially monetary help. But sometimes faithful Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) workers find they need not only to give but also to receive. Thanks to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions, they have somewhere they can turn for **help with significant financial needs.**

An expression of God's desire for the wholeness and well-being of all creation, not least those who serve the Church, the Assistance Program provides more than 1,000 grants to eligible PC(USA) church workers and their families each year. To qualify, applicants must meet the criteria established for specific grants, which generally include length-of-service and financial need.

No dues support the Assistance Program; it is funded solely by gifts, bequests, endowment income, and half the Christmas Joy Offering. One hundred percent of each gift received supports the program.

A Tradition of Caring

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has long been concerned with the well-being of its pastors. The Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions springs from this rich tradition of caring, which dates back to 1717, when Presbyterians in America established the Fund for Pious Uses to support ministers and their widows and children.

Today, providing assistance to Presbyterian church workers and their families through the Assistance Program is a **key part of the Board's mission.**

**I came that they may have life,
and have it abundantly.**

John 10:10

Types of Grants

A variety of grants, broadly categorized here, are available to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) pastors, other church workers, and their families. For a detailed list of grants, eligibility requirements, and how to apply, visit pensions.org or call the Board of Pensions at 800-773-7752 (800-PRESPLAN).

Retired Church Workers with Financial and Housing Needs

Some church workers, particularly those who served small congregations, have difficulty meeting their living expenses and housing costs when they retire, despite their best efforts to prepare for retirement. The Assistance Program **supplements the monthly income** of eligible, retired church workers with demonstrated needs. **Housing Supplements** also help eligible, retired church workers or their surviving spouses remain in their own homes or move to retirement or assisted living facilities, helping to keep them whole.

Church Workers with Financial and Vocational Needs

Those pastors and other church workers who earn modest salaries sometimes need a helping hand — to assist with extraordinary medical bills, for instance, or to repair a roof damaged by a storm. The Assistance Program offers grants to help church workers with such unexpected financial needs, often working closely with mid councils, churches, and other PC(USA) employers.

How You Can Help

The Assistance Program offers a meaningful way for the Church to care for its ministers, other church workers, and their families. To support the ministry of the Assistance Program:

- Make a personal gift and/or include the Assistance Program in your will.
- Increase your support of the Christmas Joy Offering.
- Make a gift of your appreciated stocks, if in a position to do so.

Your gift to the Assistance Program will help people who have dedicated their lives to the PC(USA).

“This grant came through just in time to help pay mounting medical bills for our special needs daughter. I am humbled by the compassion you’ve shown us!”

– *Shared Grant recipient*

Make a Gift or Learn More

To make an immediate donation, go to **pensions.org/giveassistance**, where you can make a one-time or recurring gift online.

For information about different gifts you can give to benefit church workers in need, visit pensions.org or call the Board of Pensions at 800-773-7752 (800-PRESPLAN), ext. 7300.

On behalf of all who serve the Church, **thank you!**



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