



# Pensions and Benefits USA

*and the Value of Connection*



and contributions to the 403(b) retirement accounts of active ministers, to life and disability insurance, emergency medical assistance, and benevolence.

In fact, during the past four years, P&B USA was privileged to oversee the *payment of more than \$176 million in benefits* through the plans and programs we administer. This would be impossible without the continuing effort of district superintendents, pastors, and congregations to support this work.

**T**HERE IS VALUE IN CONNECTION. In the church, it provides consistency and creates context in which to share common beliefs, values, and purpose. And being a part of this family called “Nazarenes” connects us to friendships from past congregations, colleges, mission trips, assemblies, and other events that transcend distance and time.

Pensions and Benefits USA depends on this spirit of connection in our efforts to serve those who serve. When districts and churches contribute to the P&B Fund, they connect with 17,000 ministers and church-employed laypersons through the distribution of benefits. In 2016, Nazarenes across the United States (80% of our churches) *gave almost \$14 million to the P&B Fund!* In return, we *distributed nearly \$45 million in benefits.* These range from monthly checks for retirees and widows,



*“You have been faithful to me over the many years since my husband passed away. Your dedication to the spouses of those who passed on is truly appreciated.”*

**– Widow of Retired Minister in Ohio**



*“Thank you and your staff for sending my pension check every month. I thank God for leading me to the Church of the Nazarene and the years I served in the ministry.”*  
– **Retired Minister in West Virginia**

## *For Almost a Century*

We’ve been doing this for almost a century. In the early days, ministers and churches periodically mailed a few dollars to Nazarene Headquarters. These were pooled to assist pastors or family members affected by accidents, illness, or death. Giving was never enough to cover all the needs, but it demonstrated the commitment of Nazarenes to care for their ministers.

## *Better Lives*

That tradition continues today. Ministers still grow old and retire, and they are not immune to accidents, sickness, disability, or death. Your giving to the P&B Fund makes a difference in their lives, as seen in the notes we receive daily.



*The office of Pensions and Benefits is a lifeline to those of us who pastored small churches. It is a great comfort to know that we have not been forgotten.”*  
– **Retired Minister in Florida**

## *The Need Remains*

The need remains, but we are convinced that as we continue to join together, lives will be blessed. As Mother Teresa said, “None of us... ever do great things. But we can all do small things, with great love, and together we can do something wonderful.”

God bless you for giving to the Pensions and Benefit Fund, and thank you for continuing to care for those who have dedicated their lives to the service of Christ and His Church.

## *During the 2013-2017 Quadrennium, Your Giving to the P&B Fund provided:*

- \$60 million for more than 5,300 retired ministers and spouses served by the Basic Pension Plan
- \$46 million in payments to the pension trust for current and future retiree benefits
- \$8.8 million in Annual Pension Supplement (APS) payments deposited to 403(b) accounts of 3,600 ministers
- \$3.5 million for no-cost life and disability insurance to 7,000 active pastors, evangelists, associates, and district employees, and life insurance benefits for retirees
- \$660,000 in benevolence assistance for 450 individuals



*“Serving Those Who Serve”*