

**Episcopal Diocese of New Jersey
Corporation for the Relief of Widows, Widowers, & Children of Members of the Clergy
of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of New Jersey**

Report to the 230th Annual Diocesan Convention

The Corporation for the Relief of Widows, Widowers and Children of the Clergy (CWWC) of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the State of New Jersey was established in 1807 to provide financial assistance to widows, widowers and children upon the death of clergy in the Diocese of Newark and the Diocese of New Jersey.

All clergy - presbyters and deacons - of the church, not over 55 years of age, who have been for not less than one year canonically and actually resident within the State of New Jersey can participate. The annual contribution is \$20. Membership continues even if you move out of state, as long as the first three years of membership occurred within the State of New Jersey.

Benefits are paid to a surviving spouse/domestic partner/civil union partner. The beneficiary receives an annual annuity of \$120 for life, with additional payment of \$60 each for minor children to the age of 21. In addition, the surplus income of the Fund is divided among the beneficiaries of deceased contributors. In 2013, the total payment per beneficiary was \$843.

Building upon the effort started in 2013 to publicize the program in the Diocese of New Jersey, all the clergy eligible for the program were sent an email in September describing the program and suggesting that they join. In addition, the program was once again presented in February 2014 at a Fresh Start meeting to recently appointed clergy in the Diocese. The program is described on the diocesan website, along with the application form. This information can be found in the clergy section of the website.

The Diocese of Newark and the Diocese of New Jersey jointly manage this program. The Diocese of New Jersey assumed responsibility for the program in the summer of 2011 after many years of administration by the Diocese of Newark. Duties include billing for annual contributions, distribution of benefits, and supporting the corporation board.

The 2014 Annual Meeting of the governing board will be held on Tuesday, June 3 to approve new contributors and to conduct the business of the Corporation. At the 2013 Board meeting, the staff of the Diocese of New Jersey presented revisions to the program's fundamental laws, which have not been updated in some time, to reflect current practices and potential administration streamlining. These recommendations will be shared with the contributors in the announcement of the 2014 meeting at which the bylaw changes will be voted upon.

February 2014

Canon Phyllis Jones, Chief Financial Officer
Canon Constance White, Corporation Secretary