



"Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you" [Hebrews 13:7].

The WELS Support Committee has been established by the synod to carry out Christ's love for the faithful servants of the church who are now retired but do not have the financial resources to meet normal living expenses. The District Board of Support passes on the names of those who need support to the Support Committee. Our District Board of Support consists of one person, the first vice president of the district.

You can assist our District Board of Support and the WELS Support Committee. Identify family units that may need special help and then inform the first vice president. Such family units may include:

- A full-time worker who has retired and is in need or a called worker who has been incapacitated in his/her call (pastors, teachers, professors, missionaries, staff ministers, etc.).
- A widow and/or dependent children of such full-time workers

In the Report to the Twelve Districts the synod Board of Support offers the following considerations to show the limitations of this support.

- The fund is not an entitlement program.
- The fund is not an extension of the synod's pension plan.
- The fund is not established to provide temporary assistance to those who resigned from the ministry.
- The fund does not grant financial assistance to those who need assisted living and nursing care.
- The fund is not intended to be the main source of income.

At the beginning of 2014 there were 27 family units receiving support, calling for a monthly expenditure of \$19,630 with an annual budget for approving requests of \$235,560. Three family units from our district have requested support for 2014.

We encourage our called workers to make adequate plans for retirement by utilizing the WELS pension plan, Social Security, and their own investment or savings plan.

Pastor Steven Degner  
AZ-CA District First Vice President