MINISTRY STILL MATTERS
At Pension Fund, we’re passionate about working with those passionate about ministry. We recognize it takes courage to answer God’s call to ministry and continue to carry out your good work.

Week of the Ministry was created as a reminder to honor and celebrate the call to ministry. During Week of the Ministry, consider encouraging your peers or congregation to participate in Week of the Ministry activities or honor your pastor’s ordination.

We hope you will join us in celebrating Week of the Ministry, and supporting those in or interested in a career in ministry.

You can access resources for Week of the Ministry via Pension Fund’s home page, or learn more at www.pensionfund.org/week-of-ministry.
Rev. Julian DeShazier, featured in a new, Pension Fund-sponsored video, shares thought-provoking comments on why ministry still matters in our Q & A session.
Some years ago, my young family and I were active members of a growing congregation, and the lucky beneficiaries of our pastor’s preaching and leading skills. But, more personally, we were pastored by someone who visited our gravely ill six-year old each day he was hospitalized. With each visit he brought our son a silly, handmade get-well card and encouraged him (and his worried parents). As I look at what our son has become, I remember with deep gratitude the life and ministry of that pastor. And, I give thanks that through Pension Fund, the Church continues to honor his ministry through a lifetime pension for his surviving spouse. Ministry that is personal is worth celebrating.

Over my years of service to the Church I have heard, watched, admired and sometimes tried to emulate a number of ministers who brought their diverse talents into effective ministries. Of course, some were more administratively skilled, some more articulate, and others more sensitive to congregant needs or more programmatically adept. But, all brought the gift of God’s call on their lives to congregations and ministries in need of effective pastoral leadership. When passion, call, skill and leadership come together, wonderful, growing ministries emerge—something to celebrate, indeed.

Week of the Ministry

For nearly 100 years, Pension Fund has celebrated what has been known as “Week of the Ministry.” This annual celebration, scheduled for the third week of October, began as a special day offering to support the Board of Ministerial Relief (Pension Fund’s ministry predecessor). Week of the Ministry has been Pension Fund’s way of honoring those who have accepted the call to ministry, and encouraging them to invite others to explore whether Christ might be calling them to follow a faith journey.

We know programs like the Week of the Ministry fall victim to imperatives of church calendars and changes in generational attitudes, but I believe that every congregation needs to find a time to celebrate its minister’s service. Some may continue to do so through a Week of the Ministry format in October. Other congregations may
choose to celebrate the anniversary of their pastor’s calling or ordination. The timing is less important than the intentionality of the celebration. Equally important, it offers a special time to invite others to consider a call to ministry, because ministry still matters.

“Ministry Still Matters” Campaign
Pension Fund believes so strongly in supporting the health of ministry that we have produced a short video to emphasize this point. In our new “Ministry Still Matters” video, Disciples-UCC minister and spoken word artist, Julian DeShazier, shares his own ministry story and thought-provoking comments on why ministry still matters (for more from Julian, see our Ministry Still Matters feature article on pg. 14). I encourage you to view the video, posted on our website at www.pensionfund.org/ministrystillmatters, and share it with others you believe have the gifts and graces of ministry. Or, share your own ministry story with us via our website. We hope it’s a reminder for the reason you accepted the call to ministry or Christian service.

James P. Hamlett  
President  
jhamlett@pensionfund.org

Pension Fund is very close to launching its Employee Self-Service (ESS) online member portal. This portal will provide Pension Fund members with secure access to view their pension and defined contribution accounts via the Web, and the opportunity to create different projections for forecasting retirement income.

As a reminder, members must have a valid email address on file with Pension Fund in order to receive access to the ESS online member portal. You can update your email contact information with us today by emailing pfcc1@pensionfund.org or calling us at 866.495.7322.

Stay tuned to the Pension Fund website for more information coming soon!
Financial update as of June 30, 2014
Pension Fund net assets available for benefits as of June 30, 2014, were $3.1 million. This represents an increase of 12% from June 2013. The Pension Plan remains fully funded and within the guidelines as set forth by policy. The increase in assets year over year is largely related to the strong second half of 2013 investment returns. In 2014, investment returns have been more modest.

Retirement Planning Strategies
There are few set rules on when and how to plan for retirement. Much depends on what a person seeks to achieve in retirement; therefore, each retirement plan should be personalized.

Retirement planning is also a very confusing topic when it comes to understanding what options are available. At one time, it was commonly thought that retirement funds should transition from riskier to more secure investments as someone nears retirement. This meant moving out of stocks or equities and into fixed income investments, or increasing investments in stocks with higher dividends or “blue chip” companies that provide long-term value. But, it’s becoming more common to hear remaining in equities and stocks might provide the best option.

Given the recent challenges in the economy and job markets, the timing of when to get serious about retirement has also been changing. The well worn phrase, “the sooner the better,” comes to mind as being applicable.

I’d like to share two little-known features of retirement programs that may help build some assets in those final years of earning a paycheck, and leverage any disposable income. Both relate to defined contribution investments; which, at Pension Fund, includes our TDRA and Roth IRA programs:

1. The 15 Years of Service Catch-Up Limit:
The 15 Years of Service Catch-up provision provides the opportunity to increase annual contributions into your pre-tax accounts (TDRA, for example) for a maximum increase of $3,000 per year ($15,000 over your lifetime). It requires the contributor to have been employed by the same employer for at least 15 years. For ministers, service within the denomination is treated as being the same as employed by any one congregation or ministry. (Note: Other calculations may be required to confirm your eligibility under the 402(g)(1) regulation. Consult a tax expert if you think you qualify.)

2. The Age 50 Catch-Up Limit:
The Age 50 Catch-up provision allows a participant to make contributions in addition to those under the 402(g)(1) limits and 15 Years of Service Catch-Up Limit for the calendar year, if the member will be at least age 50 by the end of the calendar year. In 2014, the following applies: The lesser of a.) $5,500, or b.) 100% of the member’s includible compensation minus the total elective deferrals made by the member for that calendar year that are not elective deferrals under the Age 50 Catch-Up Limit (Code 414(v) (2)). (Similar to the Service Catch-up Limit, consult a tax expert. The IRS may adjust the actual limit based on cost of living. Please note that it is the sole responsibility of the contributor to understand each of these rules and how they apply in any specific case.)

If you have questions or comments, feel free to contact me at dgdraper@pensionfund.org.

Duncan Draper
Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer
dgdraper@pensionfund.org
ON THE MOVE

Pension Fund relocates ministry to new building

Pension Fund successfully moved from the Disciples Center at 130 E. Washington St. to the Landmark Center at 1099 N. Meridian St. in late August, along with other Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) ministries.

The move was initiated in part to consolidate all ministries into a smaller space, saving on long-term costs of facility usage and parking. The new building layout also allows for Pension Fund staff to share same-floor space (versus being split onto two different floors as before), which will help to improve communication and, ultimately, better serve our members.

Historic Headquarters
This wasn’t the first time that we boxed up everything and moved a few blocks down the street. Pension Fund was originally formed as the Board of Ministerial Relief, which at one time was located in the law offices of William Henry Harrison, the ninth President of the United States. The Board worked at this location until 1917.

After being officially formed in 1928, Pension Fund settled for many years on Meridian Street, just a few blocks from its current location.

Going Digital
Pension Fund employees were encouraged to convert many paper documents into digitally imaged files to store on our secure online filing system during the move. This reduced paper clutter and helped store information for easy access in the future. Moving forward, a majority of documents will be imaged for reference.

What to Know After the Move
Please update our mailing and physical address in your records, so that all important mailings reach us in adequate time (see new address information box). As a reminder, please destroy all envelopes and other material that lists our old address. There will be a brief forwarding period for mail addressed to our former location.

The post office boxes for payment processing will remain the same for retirement and health care remittances. Phone numbers will also remain unchanged.

New address:
NEW MAILING ADDRESS:
P.O. Box 6251
Indianapolis, IN 46206-6251

NEW PHYSICAL ADDRESS
(for overnight mail or visits):
1099 N. Meridian St. Suite 720
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Previous Pension Fund Offices


Union Trust Building 20 E. Market St. Lemcke Building* 59 E. Market St. Architects Building 333 N. Pennsylvania St. Chamber of Commerce Building* 320 N. Meridian St. Test Building* 54 Monument Circle (located on Indianapolis’ historic “Monument Circle”) Barrister Building 155 E. Market St. Disciples Center† 130 E. Washington St. (formerly the Meyer-Kiser Bank Building) Landmark Center 1099 N. Meridian St.

*JUPUI University Library Digital Collections †W.H. Bass Photo Company Collection, Indiana Historical Society
When you think about the cost of living in retirement, you may think of the cost of housing, food, clothing, even vacations and entertainment. However, one cost that may not be on your radar is the rising cost of technology. Technology is becoming a greater part of our lives in areas such as health care and communication…and can greatly impact how you should plan for retirement.

**Technological Trends**

Even just 15 short years ago, we couldn’t have imagined all the gadgets we use today. We’re currently living through the Information Age, where the evolution of the Internet and technology has shaped almost every aspect of our daily lives and how we communicate with others. In today’s society, we use technology in order to have medical examinations, get a new driver’s license or stay in touch with our loved ones.

Consider phones, for example: While it used to be common to have home phones, cell phones have become all but a necessity. A cell phone is useful in case of an emergency during travel and while running errands, and provides peace of mind for parents of children or relatives of older adults. And, smart phones have become standard to access the Internet on-the-go.

Another side effect of technological advances includes rising costs in health care. The cost of some medical exams has increased because of the cost to perform the procedures. The computers and equipment necessary are one of the underlying reasons for increased medical expenses.

On a fixed retirement income, it can be difficult to keep up with the rising cost of technology. This is made even more difficult because we can’t accurately predict the cost of future technology. Technology is unique in the fact that the very nature of technology is to keep up with the most recent trends and each change or upgrade results in an increased cost for consumers.
Ways to Prepare for Tech Costs

The challenges that come with the rising cost of technology in retirement do not have to come unexpectedly. There are some simple (and practical) ways we can prepare for the increasing technology costs:

1. Utilizing public resources such as public libraries and nearby schools is one way to reduce the cost of technology in retirement. Find out what would be necessary to access computers at the nearest university or community center to your home. It’s possible that these locations offer free or discounted access for local residents. Libraries may also have programs that will allow you to rent equipment or multimedia at a reduced price. Find out if schools, churches, or other non-profit organizations offer free courses in software programs that would be helpful in family budgeting, planning or even preparing for a vacation.

2. Consider bundling services or joining a family plan for cell phone service and other entertainment items. If you have home phone, internet or cable service, find out what services you’ll use and what plan or bundled services you would like, rather than letting your cable company determine what your services will be and the cost.

3. Anticipating the cost of medical procedures can help make your budgeting more manageable. Although you may not be able to avoid having certain medical tests and procedures, you can talk with your doctor to anticipate which types of exams may be more expensive because of what is involved.

4. Expecting an increase in the cost of technology from year to year will help you in your retirement budgeting. Considering these costs in advance will ensure that you don’t have to take money from another budget category after retirement.

Aaron Smith
Director of Employer Services

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

As the end of 2014 nears, you may be starting the process of evaluating 2015 budgets and salary increases. Don’t forget that any salary increases should be reflected in payment of pension dues.

An easy way to change pension dues amount to reflect a salary change is to mark the new dues amount on your Pension Fund invoice (see example). However, be sure to list the effective date on the notes at the bottom of your invoice(s).
In Our Member’s Words: Why Ministry Still Matters

“Kenda Creasy, Dean of Princeton Theological Seminary, argues that American folk religion is ‘moralistic therapeutic deism.’

Assuming she is correct, this shared belief extends beyond obvious polarities, and creates good. Indeed, much of the Church’s teaching, my voice included, can be interpreted as moralistic therapeutic deism. This rather pragmatic observation, coupled with technological advancement aiding individualized spiritual development, blurs the lines that once defined why ministry mattered.

Des Moines is a top five city in the most desirable of top-ten lists. With growing industry targeting young professionals, diversity fed by proven progressivism, bike trails everywhere, and a burgeoning art scene, Des Moines is the place to be! Every weekend, spring, summer, fall, and even cold, snowy winter, there is some wonderful offering luring the faithful away from pew and pulpit. This furthers the indifference projected upon the question, ‘Why does ministry matter?’

Yet, I recall Jesus standing in his hometown synagogue and reading from the prophets: ‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me…to bring good news to the poor…proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.’ That’s it. For me, that’s why ministry matters.

Ministry matters because my neighbors and I need more than moralistic therapeutic deism and a plethora of entertainment. With so many loud voices falsely judging between the worthy and unworthy poor, prison-industrial complex’s runaway prosperity, epidemic proportions of un-neighborliness infecting blindness toward the other, and the subtle oppression known in income’s expanding inequality, ministry matters… because the Lord’s favor compels proclamation.

Ministry matters because an active, imagining faith community founded in equal fellowship at the inclusive Table, focused on love and justice, and journeying together with simple, personal invitation to friend and stranger is the hope of my neighborhood, even the hope of the world.”

“My excitement ramps up in ministry when the church stretches itself to truly serve the needs of those both locally and globally. The journey of our integrative outreach ministry started with an annual Global Giving Marketplace (alternative gift fair) in 2007. Since then, we’ve raised over $80,000 for many organizations that are local, global and denominational.

Two of those organizations that grew into expanded ministries of our church were Chapin Living Waters and Equal Exchange (in partnership with Week of Compassion).
“A woman hitched a ride from the farm where she lived, to my office in downtown Olympia, Wa. She wanted to find a minister, because she had a burning question. It was a question she had carried for quite some time, but on this day she broke and needed an answer.

She knocked on my office door. ‘Are you the pastor?’ she asked.

‘Yes,’ I replied.

‘I’m really sorry to bother you, but I will only take a minute,’ she said. I told her to come in, and that she wasn’t bothering me.

Actually, she had interrupted a moment of internal struggle I was having with myself, wondering again how I ended up in ministry. It was one of those times that many pastors have experienced, when we ask ourselves if anything we do makes a difference.

I had just had a conversation with a congregant who was upset that one of the parking spaces in our large parking lot was being used by a homeless man with whom we were offering shelter. That day, this particular congregant decided that he was being deprived of his entitled parking space.

First Christian Church in Olympia focuses on outreach to the homeless population downtown. The numbers of people living on the streets downtown are increasing rapidly, and heroin and meth use are at an all-time high. The number of homeless families has tripled over recent years. We’ve provided our basement as a long-term permanent shelter for families with children for the past five years, and we’ve used our sanctuary and upstairs space as shelter for women over the winter. We spend time as a congregation trying to be a presence downtown, be good community partners, and heed Jesus’ call of ‘feed my sheep.’

So, frustrated, I wondered why my congregant complained. ‘What am I doing wrong?’ I had thought to myself. ‘Does anything I say make a difference? Does anyone listen? Does my ministry matter?’

She looked almost 60 years old, but was actually much younger. Meth had taken its toll on her physically, mentally and spiritually. Meth addiction had landed her in jail, severed family ties, and left her without income, a home, or a place in the world that felt secure. Meth had left her feeling broken hearted, beaten down, self-loathsome and unworthy.

I invited her to sit. She nervously took a chair closest to the door. ‘How can I help?’ I asked her. The jaded part of me was waiting for her to ask for money.

But, she looked into my eyes and asked: ‘How do you know the difference between your own will, and God’s will? People keep telling me I just need to turn my will over to God’s, but I don’t know how to tell the difference. I heard you don’t kick people out of your church, and that you help, so I thought it would be okay to come here to ask.’

In that moment I thought, ‘This is a good question, the very question I was just reflecting on when she came in to my office. This is the question at the heart of my congregant’s rant, and this is why ministry matters… Thank you God!’

She and I spent the next 40 minutes talking.”

Through Chapin Living Waters, we’ve assembled and distributed over 1000 drip irrigation kits to families and organizations to developing countries, to aid in farming and gardening for sustainable care.

The monthly sale of Equal Exchange goes to support the work of equity in the global farming communities. We’ve since built a nine-bed community garden that supports local outreach, functions as an educational site for training on drip irrigation systems, and teaches children about sustainable gardening and creation care.

I get so excited when I see how one outreach leads to another, and demonstrates to the church and local community that together, through cooperative efforts, we make our own difference in the world—one person, community and ministry at a time. This is the kind of ministry that sustains my soul, and gives me living hope about the church and God’s peace through efforts of compassion.”
As church servants approach retirement age, they often wonder what they should do during retirement years. Do they retire from Christian service when they retire from the workplace? How should they view retirement? Does ministry still matter?

Fred Craddock, one of our denomination’s most prolific preachers, once told me: “Even though we may retire from our vocation, we do not retire from our calling.” We are called to serve God, although the way we serve may change. The Bible gives an example of two very old people in Luke 2:25-38 (Simeon and Anna) who continued to serve the Lord faithfully. Simeon was a righteous man who was told he would not die before seeing Christ, and Anna was an elderly widow who ministered in the temple daily with fasting and prayer. The scripture tells us that, like Simeon and Anna, older men and women are to teach by example how younger men and women should live (Titus 2).

I’ve been blessed to see many forms of service of which our retirees are still involved, from community projects to assisting less-fortunate residents of retirement communities. I’ve seen elders serving in regional ministries, and many other forms of following God’s call for a lifetime.

Another form of serving is through the sharing of our resources. October is Pension Fund’s health care appeal month. Since 1973, through your concern and generosity, we’ve assisted many retired and widowed servants of the Church by helping them pay their premiums for Churchwide Healthcare and Medicare Basic premiums. Your donations also assisted new church planters by helping them obtain Churchwide Healthcare coverage. Through our giving, we’re able to show that ministry still matters by making a difference in someone’s life. Thank you for your consideration in giving to this worthwhile cause.

Those who are called and have accepted the call never retire from Christ’s service—they only change their workplace address. In summary, ministry matters throughout our lives, even in retirement! The vocation may change, but serving God does not change. Often it is these “senior saints” who, after a lifetime of walking with God, are able to convey the truths of God’s Word by relating how God has worked in their lives. Maybe the psalmist’s prayer should be our prayer as we age: “Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, O God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your might to all who are to come.” Throughout our lives, “Ministry Still Matters”!

Shalom,

Rev. Ruth Chavez Wallace
Vice President of Development
ruthw@pensionfund.org

“Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, O God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your might to all who are to come”

– Psalm 71:18
The Church Health Plan Act of 2014 S. 1164 allows for equal treatment in the health care marketplace for pastors and others served by church health plans. Church plans that served pastors and others in ministry were disregarded when the Affordable Care Act (ACA) launched in 2010, but the proposed legislation calls for changes to be implemented to account for these groups.

More than one million pastors and church workers participate in church health plans like those provided by Pension Fund through the Churchwide Healthcare program (CWHC). The Church Health Plan Act of 2014 provides legislation for eligible pastors and church workers—and their families—to keep their church plan coverage, and obtain access to tax credits and reductions available to other workers.

Pension Fund fully supports the Church Health Plan Act of 2014, and is urging pastors and other concerned individuals to contact their senators to co-sponsor the bill. If passed in Congress, this bill would ensure that church plans can remain cost-competitive with private insurers, and allow pastors and church workers to remain with a health plan that reflects their core values.

Our CWHC program has had a long history of nearly half a century of offering unique health care benefits to those in ministry. The recent changes in health care through the ACA threaten the historic role of church health plans by placing a greater financial burden on ministry workers who already have disproportionately low incomes. Our mission remains one that is supportive of the ministry, and that includes maintaining strong, competitive and affordable health programs.

While we wait for Congress to act, Pension Fund staff members—including myself—are working with leaders from other church pension plans on a Church Health Insurance Exchange Task Force. This task force is brainstorming on how a private exchange would work within the lives of the denominations, and what regulations we would propose to the Department of Health and Human Services. The task force is also forming how we can hit the ground running in providing a Church Plan Marketplace in a timely manner once this law is in effect.

Michael Porter, GBA
Director of Health Services
mikep@pensionfund.org
Pension Fund visited with several members and prospective members at ministry and constituency events over the summer, including the National Convocation, North American Pacific/Asian Disciples (NAPAD) Convocation, Hispanic/Bilingual Assembly, Quadrennial Assembly and North American Christian Convention (NACC).

“The summer constituency events have been an extraordinary opportunity for Pension Fund to share what’s new with our members, churches, educational institutions, and other benefit sponsors, and hear what’s happening with our partners and future ministry partners,” said Eugene Fisher, Vice President of Employer Services. “Relationships are a vital part of our work and ministry, and our presence helps us keep updated on the mission of our partners in support of the Church.”
Pension Fund showcases the new “Ministry Still Matters” video, featuring Rev. Julian DeShazer, at NACC.

Deborah Wray, Director of Employer Services, leads a retirement seminar at one of Pension Fund’s summer events.

Quadrennial visitors write answers to the question, “What do I want to do when I retire?”

Pension Fund is excited to announce the Student Gift Membership program will once again be offered during the 2014/2015 academic year. This gift is eligible for seminary students in the amount of $70 per month towards a Pension Plan retirement account.

This gift is no cost to the student, and each student is eligible for up to three years of participation while in seminary and attending an accredited theological institution while working towards a Master of Divinity degree or equivalent. The program is an excellent way for students to learn how retirement programs work, while building a retirement account with actual pension credits. Their pension credits will be available at retirement, along with any additional credits earned after seminary.

The deadline for this year’s application is Oct. 31, so don’t hesitate to tell a friend! You can find more information and application forms at www.pensionfund.org/student-membership-gift.

(Note: A participation agreement is not required to apply for the Student Gift Program. Simply complete the application and enrollment form, and have your educational institution sign in order to apply)

Along with Pension Plan retirement benefits—which can be further increased with additional contributions from an employer—the Student Gift Membership also offers these benefits:

Benefits:
- **Spouse death benefit**- $400/month
- **Surviving child benefit**- $500/month until age 21
- **Surviving child education benefit**: $5,000 per year
- **Disability benefit**- $300/month
- **Death Benefit**- $18,000 to spouse
The statistics on sustaining ministry are troubling: Half of all ministers starting out will leave the ministry within five years, and only 1 out of every 10 ministers will actually retire as a minister in some form.

In a new “Ministry Still Matters” video sponsored by Pension Fund, Disciples-UCC pastor and hip hop artist Julian DeShazier shares his own ministry story and thought-provoking comments on why ministry still matters. Pension Fund hopes to use the video to inspire current and future generations of ministry leaders.

“The talented these days dream of what they can be,” says DeShazier in the video. “We tell them, ‘You can be anything’—doctor, lawyer, teacher, poet. But rarely do we ask them, ‘So, when are you going into ministry?’”

At Pension Fund, we believe ministry still matters. If this is something you’re passionate about, we encourage you to visit www.pensionfund.org/ministrystillmatters to watch the video or share your ministry story.

Q & A with Rev. Julian DeShazier:

**PFCC: How did you first hear the “call”?**

**Julian:** It certainly wasn’t any “burning bush” experience (although that is what I expected). For me, it was witnessing trouble in my community and home, feeling rescued from that with the help of mentors and advocates, and feeling we needed more of these to provide healing. I began to feel the call towards advocacy and justice work, and asked myself, “Why can’t the Church again become the center of communities?” That led me from touring as a professional musician to studying theology.

**PFCC: Less and less people are joining and staying in ministry. In your opinion, how do we recruit and retain people passionate about ministry?**

**Julian:** Most people I know don’t leave the ministry for money. They understood going in that this wasn’t the typical path to wealth, and accepted that. In my conversations with those that have left the ministry, it was because of “burnout” (feeling ill-equipped for the true challenges of parish ministry). Seminary teaches us theology, but not the practical reality of being in the office or on the streets as a pastor. I think that’s when most people begin to lose steam and need the encouragement from regional and national offices, and why programs for young ministers are a must.

**PFCC: As a young minister, what fuels your own passion for ministry?**

**Julian:** Possibilities of what University Christian Church can be in—and do for—the city of Chicago, the ways we can offer hope and welcome people in extreme brokenness, and helping a small church start doing
whatever it can. These are the things that fuel me every day. The results have been encouraging, and I believe I’m doing what Jesus might have done in 2014—going to the places where he might have gone, providing moral leadership in this city. These things go beyond “success” in our clumsy understandings.

**PFCC: You have gained notoriety as an artist who uses these talents in ministry efforts. What are some ways we can reach new, younger audiences?**

**Julian:** I try and take advantage of every opportunity to push “becoming bilingual” (a phrase I use to connect the languages of different generations and cultures). This doesn’t necessarily mean “learn Spanish” or “learn hip-hop” (although it might). It means that every pastor is also in a community and has a responsibility to learn the different “languages” that community speaks. For me, I grew up speaking hip-hop and only much later learning the language of faith, so I am bilingual in that way. If we want to reach younger audiences, we have to learn to respect their language and culture, and struggle with the tension of introducing their ways into our traditions.

**PFCC: How do you hope this video inspires others?**

**Julian:** I hope people will see it and get to know a young man who has struggled with his own call to ministry over many years, and is struggling now to make music and ministry work together still. I hope people will see this and know they are not alone in their struggles, and that the struggle is worth fighting because the call is more than a call to career: It’s a call to bring transformation and healing to the world.

**PFCC: What message do you hope people leave with?**

**Julian:** Ministry is a call to live the love of God in a hostile world. There is nothing that could matter more. It’s worth us considering how our lives can be shaped to perform the ministry of Christ, so the world can become more peaceful, more loving and more reconciling.

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**About Rev. Julian DeShazier:**

Julian “J.Kwest” DeShazier currently serves as a senior minister of University Church in Chicago (a United Church of Christ and Disciples of Christ congregation). As a national speaker, advocate and hip hop artist, Julian has appeared on ABC, CBS, FOX, and Dr. Maya Angelou’s “Oprah & Friends” radio program. An award-winning musician, DeShazier was also featured on the Grammy-nominated compilation Holy Hip Hop: Taking the Gospel to the Streets. The Chicago native is a graduate of Morehouse College and the University of Chicago, where he is also an adjunct professor at the Divinity School and McCormick Theological Seminary. Learn more and listen in at www.jkwest.com.
In Memoriam

Following are member deaths that were reported to Pension Fund between April 1, 2014 and June 30, 2014.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Deaths in Active Service</th>
<th>Deaths in Retirement</th>
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<tr>
<td>Roxella Coats</td>
<td>Loma Chalfant</td>
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<td>Tampa, FL</td>
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<td>Larry Hastings</td>
<td>Carl Flock</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charlottesville, VA</td>
<td>Birmingham, AL</td>
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<td>Audrey Borschel</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>June Miller</td>
<td>Virginia Hargraves</td>
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<tr>
<td>Villa Hills, KY</td>
<td>McPherson, KS</td>
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<td>June 29, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph Nygaard</td>
<td>George Harrison</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clarkfield, MN</td>
<td>Phoenix, AZ</td>
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<td>May 23, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patsy Amaya</td>
<td>Robert B. Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hennessey, OK</td>
<td>Roanoke, VA</td>
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<td>June 23, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clyde Arnold</td>
<td>Enid Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lexington, KY</td>
<td>Phoenix, AZ</td>
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<td>April 13, 2014</td>
<td>June 6, 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Baugh</td>
<td>Gerald Lamb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indianapolis, IN</td>
<td>Raymore, MO</td>
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<td>April 14, 2014</td>
<td>June 21, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richard Beck</td>
<td>Warren Mathis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indianapolis, IN</td>
<td>Beech Grove, IN</td>
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<td>June 15, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Josephine Blakemore</td>
<td>Carol McAfee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cincinnati, OH</td>
<td>Lynn Haven, FL</td>
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<td>May 10, 2014</td>
<td>May 18, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marjorie Booth</td>
<td>James Riley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Granbury, TX</td>
<td>Crewe, VA</td>
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<td>May 4, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry Lee Boren</td>
<td>Roy Shettleworth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Independence, MO</td>
<td>Lone Tree, CO</td>
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<td>June 5, 2014</td>
<td>June 16, 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loyd Draper</td>
<td>Dorothy Merriman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nowata, OK</td>
<td>Greensburg, PA</td>
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<td>June 22, 2014</td>
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</table>
J. Rex Smith  
Palo Alto, CA  
June 6, 2014

Frank Smith  
Johnson City, TN  
May 27, 2014

Mary Rena Smith  
Newton, KS  
June 12, 2014

Vera Guy Smith  
Indianapolis, IN  
June 28, 2014

Frances Smith  
Laguna Niguel, CA  
May 4, 2014

Norma Stroud  
Pittsburgh, PA  
June 4, 2014

Harold Thompson  
Fort Worth, TX  
May 24, 2014

Alexander Tiwari-Haines  
Indianola, IA  
June 7, 2014

Rafaela Torres Rivera  
Guaynabo, PR  
May 14, 2014

Helen Wilfinger  
East Peoria, IL  
May 30, 2014

Diora Williams  
San Antonio, TX  
May 16, 2014

Robert C. Williams  
Arlington, TN  
May 4, 2014

Sara Wilson  
Sacramento, CA  
April 9, 2014

John Wortham  
Fort Worth, TX  
June 8, 2014

O. Elaine Zintel  
St Louis, MO  
May 13, 2014

OTHER DEATHS

Jose Ayende  
Anniston AL  
June 7, 2014

Janet Berling  
Indianapolis IN  
June 28, 2014

George Brown  
Julian, CA  
April 29, 2014

Debra Garkovich  
Elk City, OK  
May 8, 2014

Faith Stephenson  
Estes Park, CO  
April 24, 2014
IN THIS ISSUE:

- Discover how TECHNOLOGY can affect retirement savings.
- Read about Pension Fund’s new OFFICE MOVE.
- Learn how to use CATCH-UP LIMITS to leverage income.
- HEAR Pension Fund members explain why MINISTRY STILL MATTERS.