

**The Obadiah Fund**  
Committee on Diaconal Ministries  
of the Orthodox Presbyterian Church

**Overview:**

- The Obadiah Fund was established with a donation from a generous, anonymous OPC member who wanted to serve the church in a fashion modeled after the prophet Obadiah who took one hundred prophets and hid them in caves, providing them with bread and water. Thankfully, today's circumstances are not as bleak as in Obadiah's day, but the spirit of giving particular love and attention to God's ministers and their widows is a worthy precedent to follow.
- Contributions received by the OPC, designated for caring for retired ministers and their widows, are placed into the Obadiah Fund.
- The Obadiah Fund is administered by the Committee on Diaconal Ministries (CDM).
- For auditing purposes, this Fund has been identified as a donor restricted fund.
- The CDM considers it a blessing and privilege to serve as the conduit through which special care and concern is expressed to those in our church who have sacrificed so much for the ministry of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**The Beneficiaries:**

The CDM has determined that those eligible to be beneficiaries of the Obadiah Fund are:

- Men who:
  - Are ordained to the gospel ministry as defined by the OPC Form of Government (pastors, evangelists, and teachers)
  - Continue to subscribe to the Westminster Standards
  - Continue as members in good standing of the OPC
  - Ordinarily have served full time in their gospel labors in the OPC for at least 10 years
  - Are retired (as defined by the Committee on Pensions)
  - Are at least 65 years of age
- Or, the widows of such men, who:
  - Have not married another spouse
  - Continue as members in good standing of an OP church, or a Reformed or evangelical church
  - Are retired (as defined by the Committee on Pensions)
  - Are at least 65 years of age
- The CDM retains the right to adjust these qualifications at any time.

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### Disbursements from the Obadiah Fund:

The CDM seeks to distribute funds from the Obadiah Fund on both a General and Special (As-Needed) basis.

- General Disbursements:
  - The decision to make a general disbursement of funds to every eligible beneficiary, and in what amount, is voted upon each year by the CDM at its spring meeting, and is made on the assumption that all retired ministers or their widows would be blessed to receive a monetary gift to be used as they see fit.
  - Before their spring meeting each year, the CDM contacts the Presbytery Diaconal Committees (PDC) to request that they reach out to the retired ministers or their widows in their presbytery and send an update on their well-being to the CDM.
  
- Special (As-Needed) Disbursements:
  - Funds from the Obadiah Fund are available to meet particular financial needs.
  - PDCs are encouraged to keep in touch with the retired ministers and their widows in their presbyteries throughout the year in order to ascertain any financial needs.
  - Retired ministers or their widows in need are urged to contact their PDC to request assistance.
  - If the PDC finds that it cannot meet the need at the presbytery level, it may forward the request to the CDM to be met using the Obadiah Fund.

### Contact:

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