

REGIONAL REP REVIEW JUNE 2009 NEWSLETTER

“NEWS FROM THE BOARD OF PENSIONS”

Note: This newsletter offers highlights and news from the Board of Pensions. Additional news items can be found at www.pensions.org. Please feel free to share this information with your communications director, webmaster and newsletter editor.

For important benefit and related news, read [The Board Bulletin](#). The Summer 2009 issue covers discussion and decisions by the directors of The Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) at their June 27 meeting in Philadelphia.

Highlights include:

- **Good dues news!** The dues percentage will remain unchanged for the Medical Plan Traditional Program and for seminary students in 2010. Dues for the Affiliated Benefits Program will increase 2.5% in light of the specific claims experience of participating groups.
- **Simplification of the Medical Plan.** The directors approved a number of modifications to the Medical Plan to reduce the complexity of this sometimes difficult-to-understand plan as well as to offer greater flexibility to members, comply with current regulations, and address an overture from the 218th General Assembly (2008).

Changes include a restructuring of out-of-pocket costs and deductibles in both the Medical Plan and the Prescription Drug Program, the addition of a dependent coverage waiver option, and new coverage for children with congenital developmental disabilities, among other news. All changes but one are effective January 1, 2010; the dependent coverage waiver option takes effect October 1, 2009.

- **Benefit promises affirmed.** A review of the Balanced Investment Portfolio, which ended the five-month period through May 31, 2009 with a 6.4% return, reassured the Investment Committee that reserves are adequate to keep the Benefits Plan's benefit promises.

Please help us by sharing this news with others. If you would like to receive the *The Board Bulletin* by mail and have not already requested this service, please call the Board of Pensions at 800-773-7752 (800-PRESPLAN) or [email](#) your request to Member Services.

Blessings,

Douglas Kelly