



AGED MINISTERS ASSISTANCE



Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why do Assemblies of God ministers need financial assistance when they retire?
 - Many pastored small churches with low salaries and no retirement plan.
 - Ministers often work for small salaries because they feel called by God to preach no matter the pay.
2. Does AMA replace Social Security?
 - No, AMA is for those who DID pay into Social Security, but their salaries were so low that their Social Security puts them below the poverty level.
 - Some districts or leaders advised pastors to not pay into Social Security. If a minister chose that route they may only qualify for AMA at half of the usual amount.
 - The longer a person lives the more difficult it is to live on the Social Security amount that was in place when they retired.
3. At what age can a minister retire?
 - A minister can retire at any age, but to qualify for AMA they must be at least 65 years old and have been ordained for a minimum of 10 years of active ministry.
4. How much of my donation to AMA is used to assist retired ministers who are living below the poverty level?
 - 100% of the donations that are designated for AMA go to funding retired ministers who qualify for assistance.
 - Office staff and costs are handled by the interest of another account and are held to a minimum.
5. What is the history of Aged Ministers Assistance?
 - AMA was started by a group who saw the need for financial assistance for retired ministers who didn't have enough money to cover living expenses. It was started in 1933 with donations placed in an interest-bearing fund that grew exponentially over the years. Now, as the demand has increased, funds need to be added continually to meet the needs of the growing number of retired ministers.

For information, call the AMA office—417-862-2781, ext. 2184 or email at ama@ag.org