I. General Administration

The Treasurer of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic (or its successor) shall be responsible for the actual handling of the proceeds from the Kate Bitting Reynolds Fund. The management of the assets of this fund is lodged with Wachovia Bank—Wells Fargo Bank as trustee in accordance with the Trust as established by the Will of Kate Bitting Reynolds. The Treasurer shall be accountable for this responsibility to the Trust Funds Committee* and to the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic (or its successor).

The Kate Bitting Reynolds Fund is administered by the Ministry Group on Care and Development of Church Professionals or its successor. Beginning in 1989 the Reynolds Fund Certification Committee of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) became the successor to the Ministry Group on Care and Development of Church Professionals.

I. Origin

The Kate Bitting Reynolds Fund was created in 1947 under the Will of Kate Bitting Reynolds, who had died a year earlier at the age of 79. A life-time philanthropist, Mrs. Reynolds' interests were education, orphans, services to the poor, and the church. After bequeathing specific sums to various church organizations and institutions, she established a charitable trust "for the maintenance and support of aged Presbyterian ministers" of North Carolina.
The Kate Bitting Reynolds Fund was established in 1947 by the Synod of North Carolina. (See Minutes of Synod of North Carolina for that year, pp. 543-545; also annual reports of the Committee on Ministerial Support and, beginning in 1951, of the Permanent Committee on Annuities and Relief and, beginning in 1974, of the Mission Committee on Professional Development, whose name changed to Committee on the Care and Development of Church Professionals, and beginning in 1989 of the Reynolds Fund Certification Committee.)

**III. Item 10 in the Will of Mrs. Kate Bitting Reynolds**

"To my trustees Four Hundred Thousand Dollars ($400,000) in trust to pay the net income therefrom for the maintenance and support of aged Presbyterian ministers of the Synod of North Carolina as now constituted, the said income to be disbursed semiannually to such of said ministers as shall be certified by the authorities of the Presbyterian Church of the Synod of North Carolina, or its successors, to be entitled to receive the same and in such respective amounts as said authorities shall designate."

**IV. Recommendations Adopted by Synod of 1947 and Subsequently**

(Note: These rules are the same as those adopted by Synod of North Carolina in 1947 and amended at various times through 1987.)
PROPOSED REVISED GUIDELINES

A. Relating to Acceptance of the Fund

1. That the Synod of North Carolina accept the Trust Fund of $400,000, left to the Synod by Mrs. Kate Bitting Reynolds, for the support of aged ministers, and express its deep appreciation for the legacy.

2. That hereafter the legacy be known as "The Kate Bitting Reynolds Fund."

B. Administration of the Fund

That the duties of handling the benefits from this legacy for and on behalf of the Synod shall be placed on Synod's Reynolds Fund Certification Committee (the successor to the Ministry Group on Care and Development of Church Professionals, which is the successor to the Permanent Committee on Annuities and Relief, which is the successor to the Committee of Ministerial Support and Candidates for the Ministry and Mission Service), or its successor.

C. Conditions for Participating in the Fund

That the following be conditions on which a minister may be eligible to receive benefits from the Kate Bitting Reynolds Fund:
1. In order to participate in the fund, a minister must have the status of being honorably retired as a member of a presbytery of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic, or its successor within the State of North Carolina.

2. The minister must have served within a presbytery of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) which was or is within the State of North Carolina.

Ministers who have served in a presbytery whose bounds extend beyond the State of North Carolina are eligible only if the church or churches which were served were within the State of North Carolina with the exception of those particular churches mentioned by the Superior Court of Forsyth County in North Carolina in its judgment dated July 23, 1984.

Concluding paragraph of the order of Forsyth County Superior Court:

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED that the provisions of SECTION THREE 10. of the Will of Kate Bitting Reynolds requiring that net income from the trust created under that provision be disbursed to aged Presbyterian ministers of the Synod of North Carolina "as now constituted" have become impracticable of fulfillment, and, pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. § 36A-53, the Synod of North Carolina, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and Wachovia Bank and Trust Company, N.A., Trustee, or any successor trustee, are hereby authorized to pay the net income of the trust for the maintenance and support of aged Presbyterian ministers who have served as ministers of presbyteries in North Carolina of the Synod of North Carolina, or any
successor or predecessor Synod, provided that service by a minister in Pageland Presbyterian Church or Salem Presbyterian Church near Pageland, South Carolina shall, so long as such churches remain a part of the Synod of North Carolina or a successor Synod, shall be counted toward service requirements for participation in the fund, and further provided that the right of any minister to participate in the fund and the amount of his or her participation is further subject to certification by the authorities of the Presbyterian Church of the Synod of North Carolina or its successors, in their sole discretion, according to such rules and regulations as shall be adopted by the Synod from time to time.

This the 23rd day of July, 1984.

William Z. Wood
Judge of Superior Court of Forsyth County, N.C.

The minister must have served in a validated ministry as a member of a presbytery within this prescribed area for a total of not less than five years immediately prior to honorable retirement within this prescribed area for a total of not less than five years immediately prior to honorable retirement, in some ministerial capacity, or on the foreign field or in other service to the Church while a member of a presbytery within the State of North Carolina. Service rendered after the date of the minister's honorable retirement shall not be counted for participation in the fund.
Membership in a presbytery shall be counted from the day a minister is received and enrolled as a member and shall end on the day of reception by a presbytery outside of North Carolina. (See Minutes of Synod of North Carolina, 1987, p. 96.)

3. Ministers transferring from other presbyteries to a presbytery within the State of North Carolina at the time of retirement or subsequent thereto for the purpose of participating in the Kate Bitting Reynolds Fund, in order to qualify, must have previously served in a presbytery within the State of North Carolina for at least ten years. (See Minutes of Synod of North Carolina, 1964, p. 177.) Service immediately prior to retirement of less than five years but preceded by service in prior years shall be considered for eligibility if the aggregate is at least ten years, and if all other qualifications have been met.

4. Ministers who served within presbyteries of the former United Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., and within the State of North Carolina, shall be eligible to receive benefits from this fund on the same conditions described herein. (See Minutes of Synod of North Carolina, 1987, p.96.) Any minister officially retired by a presbytery within the State of North Carolina who qualifies by other rules governing the fund, becomes eligible for participation in the Kate Bitting Reynolds Fund from the date of the minister's retirement by the presbytery on an equal basis.

5. Any minister of a presbytery within the bounds of the State of North Carolina and of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic or its successor who has reached 62 years of age shall be eligible for
participation in the fund, except as provided for elsewhere in these rules. (See Minutes of Synod of North Carolina, 1972, p. 99.) If a minister shall have been retired from the active ministry because of ill health, the minister may participate in the benefits of the fund at 50 years or over.

6. Any minister, who for any reason does not wish to participate in the benefits of the fund, may refuse to do so by making a request in writing to the chairman of the committee concerned with the pastoral oversight of ministers of the presbytery.

7. In order to participate in this fund it is necessary that every eligible minister should supply the chairman of the committee concerned with the oversight of ministers of the presbytery with all the necessary information concerning the minister's status.

D. Method of Distributing the Fund

The method of distribution of the benefits of the Kate Bitting Reynolds Fund shall be as follows:

1. It shall be the individual minister's responsibility to make application for such funds. Upon notification by the presbytery's stated clerk of the minister's retirement, Synod's office shall assist by notifying each retired minister upon retirement of the benefits available from the Kate Bitting Reynolds Fund.
2. It shall be the duty of the Committee concerned with the pastoral oversight of ministers of each presbytery to furnish to Synod's office of the stated clerk two weeks one week prior to each meeting of Synod's Trust Funds Committee* a list of all members of the respective presbyteries who may be eligible for participation in the fund, with the reasons thereof, but final certification to the trustees of the fund shall be left to Synod's Committee.

3. There shall be submitted with this list all necessary information as to service rendered.

4. Synod's Reynolds Fund Certification Committee or its successor shall meet not later than ten days prior to the dates of semi-annual distribution (ordinarily the first Tuesday in June and November of each year) (January 20th and July 20th each year), and shall certify to the trustees of the fund the name, address, and amount of each and every minister to participate in the fund, according to the accepted plan and on the basis of the information submitted by the presbyteries.

5. All funds available shall be disbursed on an equal basis among the participating ministers. (See Minutes of Synod of North Carolina, 1964, p. 196, and Minutes of Synod of North Carolina, 1965, p. 179.)

6. All funds available for distribution shall be disbursed at each semi-annual distribution, according to the terms of the Will.
E. Changes in the Rules

Changes in these Rules, both as to eligibility and method of distribution of the benefits of the Kate Bitting Reynolds Fund, shall be by a majority vote of the Synod.

V. Bylaws

A. Final Estate Distribution

The surviving dependents of any Kate Bitting Reynolds Fund recipient (or, in lieu thereof, his or her estate) who dies between the dates of distribution of income shall be awarded a payment in the subsequent distribution. (See Minutes of Synod's Permanent Committee on Annuities and Relief, March 8, 1960, and March 3, 1961; also action of Synod, 1960 Minutes of Synod of North Carolina, pp. 159-160.)

B. Membership of Committee

No member serving on the committee charged with the responsibility of the Kate Bitting Reynolds Fund shall be a participant in the Kate Bitting Reynolds Fund and presbyteries should nominate only active ministers to the Trust Funds Committee*.
C. Expenses of Committee

Expenses of the committee dealing with the Kate Bitting Reynolds Fund shall be borne in part from income received from the Kate Bitting Reynolds Fund.

D. Official Date of Retirement

A minister is officially retired when the minister is certified "honorably retired" by a presbytery of the Synod of the Mid-Atlantic or its successor as having been honorably retired.

* Note: The name of the Trust Funds Committee was changed in 1989 to the Reynolds Fund Certification Committee.