

MUNIVEST FUND INC  
Form N-2/A  
August 25, 2004  
Table of Contents

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 25, 2004

Securities Act File No. 333-117267

Investment Company Act File No. 811-05611

---

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

### FORM N-2

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

x

Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1

x

Post-Effective Amendment No.

..

and/or

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940 x

AMENDMENT NO. 10

x

(Check appropriate box or boxes)

## MUNIVEST FUND, INC.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

800 Scudders Mill Road, Plainsboro, New Jersey 08536

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(609) 282-2800

(Registrant's Telephone Number, Including Area Code)

Terry K. Glenn

MuniVest Fund, Inc.

800 Scudders Mill Road, Plainsboro, New Jersey 08536

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 9011, Princeton, New Jersey 08543-9011

(Name and Address of Agent for Service)

*Copies to:*

Andrew J. Donohue, Esq.

Frank P. Bruno, Esq.

Edgar Filing: MUNIVEST FUND INC - Form N-2/A

FUND ASSET MANAGEMENT, L.P.  
P.O. Box 9011  
Princeton, New Jersey 08543-9011

SIDLEY AUSTIN BROWN & WOOD LLP  
787 Seventh Avenue  
New York, New York 10019-6018

**Approximate date of proposed public offering:** As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

If any of the securities being registered on this form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the Securities Act ), other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box. "

**CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**

<b>Title of Securities</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Proposed</b>	<b>Amount of</b>
<b>Being Registered</b>	<b>being</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>Registration</b>
	<b>Registered(1)</b>	<b>Offering</b>	<b>Aggregate</b>	<b>Fee(2)</b>
		<b>Price</b>	<b>Offering Price(1)</b>	
		<b>Per Unit(1)</b>		
Auction Market Preferred Stock	2,360 shares	\$ 25,000	\$ 59,000,000	\$ 7,476

- (1) Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee.
- (2) Previously paid.

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may become necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment, which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

**Table of Contents**

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

**Subject to Completion**

**Preliminary Prospectus dated August 25, 2004**

**PROSPECTUS**

**\$59,000,000**

**MuniVest Fund, Inc.**

**Auction Market Preferred Stock ( AMPS )**

**2,360 Shares, Series F**

**Liquidation Preference \$25,000 per Share**

---

MuniVest Fund, Inc. is a non-diversified, closed-end fund. The investment objective of the Fund is to provide shareholders with as high a level of current income exempt from Federal income taxes as is consistent with its investment policies and prudent investment management. The Fund seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing, as a fundamental policy, at least 80% of an aggregate of the Fund's net assets (including proceeds from the issuance of any preferred stock) and the proceeds of any borrowings for investment purposes, in a portfolio of municipal obligations the interest on which, in the opinion of bond counsel to the issuer, is excludable from gross income for Federal income tax purposes (except that the interest may be includable in taxable income for purposes of the Federal alternative minimum tax). Under normal market conditions, the Fund invests primarily in long term municipal obligations that are rated investment grade or, if unrated, are considered by the Fund's investment adviser to be of comparable quality. The Fund may invest in certain tax exempt securities classified as private activity bonds, as discussed within, that may subject certain investors in the Fund to an alternative minimum tax. There can be no assurance that the Fund's investment objective will be realized.

This prospectus contains information you should know before investing, including information about risks. Please read it before you invest and keep it for future reference. The Fund's statement of additional information, dated \_\_\_\_\_, 2004, contains further information about the Fund and is incorporated by reference (legally considered to be part of this prospectus) and the table of contents of the statement of additional information appears on page 49 of this prospectus. You may request a free copy by writing or calling the Fund at (800) 543-6217.

Certain capitalized terms used herein not otherwise defined in this prospectus have the meaning provided in the Glossary at the back of this prospectus.

**Investing in the AMPS involves certain risks that are described in the Risk Factors and Special Considerations section beginning on page 7 of this prospectus. The minimum purchase amount for the AMPS is \$25,000.**

---

	<u>Per Share</u>	<u>Total</u>
Public offering price	\$25,000	\$59,000,000
Underwriting discount	\$250	\$590,000
Proceeds, before expenses, to the Fund (1)	\$24,750	\$58,410,000

(1) The estimated offering expenses payable by the Fund are \$165,000.

The public offering price per share will be increased by the amount of accumulated dividends, if any, from the date the shares are first issued.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

One certificate for the AMPS will be ready for delivery to the nominee of The Depository Trust Company on or about \_\_\_\_\_, 2004.

---

**Merrill Lynch & Co.**

---

The date of this prospectus is \_\_\_\_\_, 2004.

**Table of Contents****TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	<b>Page</b>
<u>Prospectus Summary</u>	3
<u>Risk Factors and Special Considerations</u>	7
<u>Financial Highlights</u>	11
<u>The Fund</u>	13
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	13
<u>Capitalization</u>	13
<u>Portfolio Composition</u>	14
<u>Investment Objective and Policies</u>	14
<u>Other Investment Policies</u>	23
<u>Description of AMPS</u>	26
<u>The Auction</u>	32
<u>Rating Agency Guidelines</u>	40
<u>Investment Advisory and Management Arrangements</u>	42
<u>Taxes</u>	43
<u>Description of Capital Stock</u>	44
<u>Custodian</u>	46
<u>Underwriting</u>	47
<u>Transfer Agent, Dividend Disbursing Agent and Registrar</u>	47
<u>Accounting Services Provider</u>	47
<u>Legal Opinions</u>	48
<u>Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm and Experts</u>	48
<u>Additional Information</u>	48
<u>Table of Contents of Statement of Additional Information</u>	49
<u>Glossary</u>	50

---

Information about the Fund can be reviewed and copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Call 1-202-942-8090 for information on the operation of the public reference room. This information is also available on the SEC's Internet site at <http://www.sec.gov> and copies may be obtained upon payment of a duplicating fee by writing to the Public Reference Section of the SEC, Washington, D.C. 20549-0102.

---

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus. We have not, and the underwriters have not, authorized any other person to provide you with different information. If anyone provides you with different or inconsistent information, you should not rely on it. We are not, and the underwriters are not, making an offer to sell these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted. You should assume that the information appearing in this prospectus is accurate only as of the date on the front cover of this prospectus. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since that date.

---

**Table of Contents**

**PROSPECTUS SUMMARY**

*This summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the detailed information included in this prospectus and the statement of additional information.*

**The Fund** MuniVest Fund, Inc. is a non-diversified, closed-end management investment company.

**The Offering** The Fund is offering a total of 2,360 shares of Auction Market Preferred Stock, Series F, at a purchase price of \$25,000 per share plus accumulated dividends, if any, from the date the shares are first issued. The shares of AMPS are being offered by Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated (Merrill Lynch), as underwriter.

The Series F AMPS will be shares of preferred stock of the Fund that entitle their holders to receive cash dividends at an annual rate that may vary for the successive dividend periods. In general, except as described below, each dividend period following the initial dividend period will be seven days. The applicable dividend for a particular dividend period will be determined by an auction conducted on the business day next preceding the start of that dividend period.

Investors and potential investors in shares of Series F AMPS may participate in auctions for the AMPS through their broker-dealers.

Generally, AMPS investors will not receive certificates representing ownership of their shares. Ownership of AMPS will be maintained in book-entry form by the securities depository (The Depository Trust Company) or its nominee for the account of the investor's agent member (generally the investor's broker-dealer). The investor's agent member, in turn, will maintain records of such investor's beneficial ownership of AMPS.

**Investment Objective and Policies** The investment objective of the Fund is to provide shareholders with as high a level of current income exempt from Federal income taxes as is consistent with its investment policies and prudent investment management. The Fund seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing, as a fundamental policy, at least 80% of an aggregate of the Fund's net assets (including proceeds from the issuance of any preferred stock) and the proceeds of any borrowings for investment purposes, in a portfolio of municipal obligations issued by or on behalf of states, territories and possessions of the United States and their political subdivisions, agencies or instrumentalities, each of which pays interest that, in the opinion of bond counsel to the issuer, is excludable from gross income for Federal income tax purposes (Municipal Bonds). In general, the Fund does not intend for its investments to earn a large amount of interest income that is not exempt from Federal income tax, except that the interest may be includable in taxable income for purposes of the Federal alternative minimum tax. The average maturity of the Fund's portfolio securities varies from time to time based upon an assessment of economic and market conditions by Fund Asset Management, L.P., the Fund's investment adviser (the Investment Adviser). The Fund intends to invest primarily in long term Municipal Bonds (that is, Municipal Bonds with maturities of more than ten years). However, the Fund also may invest in intermediate term Municipal Bonds with maturities of between three years and ten years. The Fund also may invest from time to time in short term Municipal Bonds with maturities of less than three years. There can be no assurance that the Fund's investment objective will be realized.

**Table of Contents**

*Investment Grade Municipal Bonds.* Under normal market conditions, the Fund invests primarily in a portfolio of long term Municipal Bonds that are rated investment grade by one or more nationally recognized statistical rating organizations ( NRSROs ) or in unrated bonds considered by the Investment Adviser, to be of comparable quality. In assessing the quality of Municipal Bonds, the Investment Adviser takes into account any letters of credit or similar credit enhancement to which particular Municipal Bonds are entitled and the creditworthiness of the financial institution that provided such credit enhancement.

*Indexed and Inverse Floating Rate Securities.* The Fund may invest in securities whose potential returns are directly related to changes in an underlying index or interest rate, known as indexed securities. The return on indexed securities will rise when the underlying index or interest rate rises and fall when the index or interest rate falls. The Fund may also invest in securities whose return is inversely related to changes in an interest rate (inverse floaters). In general, income on inverse floaters will decrease when short term interest rates increase and increase when short term interest rates decrease. Investments in inverse floaters may subject the Fund to the risks of reduced or eliminated interest payments and loss of principal. In addition, certain indexed securities and inverse floaters may increase or decrease in value at a greater rate than the underlying interest rate, which effectively leverages the Fund's investment. As a result, the market value of such securities will generally be more volatile than that of fixed rate, tax exempt securities. Both indexed securities and inverse floaters are derivative securities and can be considered speculative.

*Hedging Transactions.* The Fund may seek to hedge its portfolio against changes in interest rates using options and financial futures contracts or swap transactions. The Fund's hedging transactions are designed to reduce volatility, but come at some cost. For example, the Fund may try to limit its risk of loss from a decline in price of a portfolio security by purchasing a put option. However, the Fund must pay for the option, and the price of the security may not in fact drop. In large part, the success of the Fund's hedging activities depends on its ability to forecast movements in securities prices and interest rates. The Fund is not required to hedge its portfolio and may choose not to do so. The Fund cannot guarantee that any hedging strategies it uses will work.

*Swap Agreements.* The Fund is authorized to enter into swap agreements, which are over-the-counter contracts in which one party agrees to make periodic payments based on the change in the market value of a specific bond, basket of bonds or index in return for periodic payments based on a fixed or variable interest rate or the change in market value of a different bond, basket of bonds or index. Swap agreements may be used to obtain exposure to a bond or market without owning or taking physical custody of securities.

*Tax Considerations.* While exempt-interest dividends are excluded from gross income for Federal income tax purposes, they may be subject to the Federal alternative minimum tax in certain circumstances. Distributions of any capital gain or other taxable income will be taxable to stockholders. The Fund may not be a suitable investment for investors subject to the Federal alternative minimum tax or who would become subject to such tax by investing in the Fund. See Taxes.

**Table of Contents**

**Investment Adviser** The Investment Adviser provides investment advisory and administrative services to the Fund. For its services, the Fund pays the Investment Adviser a monthly fee at the annual rate of 0.50% of the Fund's average weekly net assets (including any proceeds from the issuance of preferred stock).

**Dividends and Dividend Periods** Dividends on the Series F AMPS will be cumulative from the date the shares are first issued and payable at the annualized cash dividend rate for the initial dividend period on the initial dividend payment date as follows:

AMPS Series	Initial Dividend Rate	Initial Dividend Period Ending	Initial Dividend Payment Date
Series F	%	, 2004	, 2004

After the initial dividend period, each dividend period for the Series F AMPS will generally consist of seven days; provided however, that, before any auction, the Fund may decide, subject to certain limitations and only if it gives notice to holders, to declare a special dividend period of up to five years.

After the initial dividend period, in the case of dividend periods that are not special dividend periods, dividends generally will be payable on each succeeding Wednesday in the case of the Series F AMPS.

Dividends for the Series F AMPS will be paid through the securities depository (The Depository Trust Company) on each dividend payment date for the AMPS.

For each subsequent dividend period, the auction agent (The Bank of New York) will hold an auction to determine the cash dividend rate on the shares of Series F AMPS.

**Determination of Maximum Dividend Rates** Generally, the applicable dividend rate for any dividend period for the Series F AMPS will not be more than the maximum applicable rate attributable to such shares. The maximum applicable rate will be the higher of (A) the applicable percentage of the reference rate on the auction date or (B) the applicable spread plus the reference rate on the auction date. The reference rate is (A) the higher of the applicable LIBOR Rate (as defined in the Glossary) and the Taxable Equivalent of the Short Term Municipal Bond Rate (as defined in the Glossary) (for a dividend period or special dividend period of 364 or fewer days), or (B) the applicable Treasury Index Rate (as defined in the Glossary) (for a special dividend period of 365 days or more). The maximum applicable rate for the Series F AMPS will depend on the credit rating assigned to the shares, the length of the dividend period and whether or not the Fund has given notification prior to the auction for the dividend period that any taxable income will be included in the dividend on the AMPS for that dividend period. The applicable percentage and applicable spread are as follows:

Credit Ratings		Applicable Percentage of Reference Rate	Applicable Percentage of Reference Rate	Applicable Spread Over Reference Rate	Applicable Spread Over Reference Rate
Moody's	S&P	Rate No	Rate	Rate No	Rate



Edgar Filing: MUNIVEST FUND INC - Form N-2/A

		<u>Notification</u>	<u>Notification</u>	<u>Notification</u>	<u>Notification</u>
Aaa	AAA	110%	125%	1.10%	1.25%
Aa3 to Aa1	AA- to AA+	125%	150%	1.25%	1.50%
A3 to A1	A- to A+	150%	200%	1.50%	2.00%
Baa3 to Baa1	BBB- to BBB+	175%	250%	1.75%	2.50%
Below Baa3	Below BBB-	200%	300%	2.00%	3.00%

---

**Table of Contents**

The applicable percentage and the applicable spread as so determined may be subject to upward but not downward adjustment in the discretion of the Board of Directors of the Fund after consultation with the broker-dealers participating in the auction for the AMPS.

There is no minimum applicable dividend rate for any dividend period.

**Other AMPS** The Fund has outstanding 11,000 shares of five other series of Auction Market Preferred Stock, each with a liquidation preference of \$25,000 per share, plus accumulated but unpaid dividends, for an aggregate initial liquidation preference of \$275,000,000 (the Other AMPS ). The Other AMPS are as follows: 2,000 shares of Auction Market Preferred Stock, Series A; 2,000 shares of Auction Market Preferred Stock, Series B; 2,000 shares of Auction Market Preferred Stock, Series C; 2,000 shares of Auction Market Preferred Stock, Series D; and 3,000 shares of Auction Market Preferred Stock, Series E. The Series F AMPS offered hereby rank on a parity with the Other AMPS with respect to dividends and liquidation preference.

**Asset Maintenance** Under the Fund's Articles Supplementary creating the Series F AMPS (the Articles Supplementary ), the Fund must maintain:

asset coverage of the AMPS and Other AMPS as required by the rating agencies rating the AMPS, and

asset coverage of the AMPS and Other AMPS of at least 200% as required by the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the 1940 Act ).

The Fund estimates that, based on the composition of its portfolio at February 29, 2004, asset coverage of the AMPS and Other AMPS as required by the 1940 Act would be approximately 288% immediately after the Fund issues the shares of AMPS offered by this prospectus representing approximately 35% of the Fund's capital, or approximately 53% of the Fund's common stock equity, immediately after the issuance of such AMPS.

**Mandatory Redemption** If the required asset coverage is not maintained or, when necessary, restored, the Fund must redeem shares of AMPS at the price of \$25,000 per share plus accumulated but unpaid dividends thereon (whether or not earned or declared). The provisions of the 1940 Act may restrict the Fund's ability to make such a mandatory redemption.

**Optional Redemption** The Fund may, at its option, choose to redeem all or some of the shares of AMPS on any dividend payment date at the price of \$25,000 per share, plus accumulated but unpaid dividends thereon (whether or not earned or declared), plus any applicable premium.

**Liquidation Preference** The liquidation preference (that is, the amount the Fund must pay to holders of AMPS if the Fund is liquidated) of each share of AMPS will be \$25,000, plus an amount equal to accumulated but unpaid dividends (whether or not earned or declared).

**Ratings** The AMPS will be issued with a rating of Aaa from Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ( Moody's ) and AAA from Standard & Poor's ( S&P ).

**Voting Rights**

## Edgar Filing: MUNIVEST FUND INC - Form N-2/A

The 1940 Act requires that the holders of AMPS and any other preferred stock, including the Other AMPS, voting as a separate class, have the right to elect at least two directors at all times and to elect a majority of the directors at any time when dividends on the AMPS or any other preferred stock, including the Other AMPS, are unpaid for two full years. The Fund's Charter, the 1940 Act and the General Corporation Laws of the State of Maryland require holders of AMPS and any other preferred stock, including the Other AMPS, to vote as a separate class on certain other matters.

**Table of Contents**

**RISK FACTORS AND SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

*An investment in the Fund's AMPS should not constitute a complete investment program.*

*Investment Considerations.* Investors in AMPS should consider the following factors:

The credit ratings of the AMPS could be reduced or terminated while an investor holds the AMPS.

Neither broker-dealers nor the Fund are obligated to purchase shares of AMPS in an auction or otherwise, nor is the Fund required to redeem shares of AMPS in the event of a failed auction.

If sufficient bids do not exist in an auction, the applicable dividend rate will be the maximum applicable dividend rate, and in such event, owners of AMPS wishing to sell will not be able to sell all, and may not be able to sell any, AMPS in the auction. As a result, investors may not have liquidity of investment.

Broker-dealers may submit orders in auctions for the AMPS for their own account. If a broker-dealer submits an order for its own account in any auction, it may have knowledge of orders placed through it in that auction and therefore have an advantage over other bidders, but such broker-dealer would not have knowledge of orders submitted by other broker-dealers in that auction. As a result of bidding by a broker-dealer in an auction, the dividend rate that would apply at the auction may be higher or lower than the rate that would have prevailed had the broker-dealer not bid.

A broker-dealer may bid in an auction in order to prevent what would otherwise be (i) a failed auction, (ii) an all-hold auction, or (iii) an applicable dividend rate that the broker-dealer believes, in its sole discretion, does not reflect the market for the AMPS at the time of the auction. A broker-dealer may, but is not obligated to, advise owners of AMPS that the dividend rate that would apply in an all-hold auction may be lower than would apply if owners submit bids and such advice, if given, may facilitate the submission of bids by owners that would avoid the occurrence of an all-hold auction.

Merrill Lynch has advised the Fund that it and certain other broker-dealers and other participants in the auction rate securities markets, including both taxable and tax exempt markets, have received a letter from the Commission requesting that each of them voluntarily conduct an investigation regarding their respective practices and procedures in those markets. Merrill Lynch is cooperating and expects to continue to cooperate with the Commission in providing the requested information. No assurance can be given as to whether the results of this process will affect the market for AMPS or the auctions.

*Secondary Market.* Broker-dealers have no obligation to maintain a secondary trading market in the AMPS outside of auctions and there can be no assurance that a secondary market for the AMPS will develop or, if it does develop, that it will provide holders with a liquid trading market. The AMPS will not be registered on any stock exchange or on any automated quotation system. An increase in the level of interest rates likely will have an adverse effect on the secondary market price of the AMPS, and a selling stockholder may have to sell AMPS between auctions at a price per share of less than \$25,000.

*Rating Agencies.* The Fund will issue the AMPS only if the AMPS have received a rating of Aaa from Moody's and AAA from S&P. As a result of such ratings, the Fund will be subject to guidelines of Moody's, S&P or another substitute NRSRO that may issue ratings for its preferred stock. These guidelines may impose asset coverage or portfolio composition requirements that are more stringent than those imposed

## Edgar Filing: MUNIVEST FUND INC - Form N-2/A

by the 1940 Act and may prohibit or limit the use by the Fund of certain portfolio management techniques or investments. The Fund does not expect these guidelines to prevent the Investment Adviser from managing the Fund's portfolio in accordance with the Fund's investment objective and policies. Also, under certain circumstances, the Fund may voluntarily terminate compliance with Moody's or S&P's guidelines, or both, in which case the AMPS may no longer be rated by Moody's or S&P, as applicable, but will be rated by at least one rating agency.

## **Table of Contents**

*Interest Rate Risk and AMPS.* The Fund issues shares of AMPS, which generally pay dividends based on short term interest rates. The Fund generally will purchase Municipal Bonds that pay interest at fixed or adjustable rates. If short term interest rates rise, dividend rates on the shares of AMPS may rise so that the amount of dividends paid to the holders of shares of AMPS exceeds the income from the Fund's portfolio securities. Because income from the Fund's entire investment portfolio (not just the portion of the portfolio purchased with the proceeds of the AMPS offering) is available to pay dividends on the shares of AMPS, dividend rates on the shares of AMPS would need to greatly exceed the Fund's net portfolio income before the Fund's ability to pay dividends on the shares of AMPS would be jeopardized. If market interest rates rise, this could negatively impact the value of the Fund's investment portfolio, reducing the amount of assets serving as asset coverage for the AMPS. If the asset coverage becomes too low, the Fund may be required to redeem some or all of the shares of AMPS.

*Non-Diversification.* The Fund is registered as a non-diversified investment company. This means that the Fund may invest a greater percentage of its assets in a single issuer than a diversified investment company. Since the Fund may invest a relatively high percentage of its assets in a limited number of issuers, the Fund may be more exposed to any single economic, political or regulatory occurrence than a more widely-diversified fund. Even as a non-diversified fund, the Fund must still meet the diversification requirements applicable to regulated investment companies under the Federal income tax laws.

*Market Risk and Selection Risk.* Market risk is the risk that the bond market will go down in value, including the possibility that the market will go down sharply and unpredictably. Selection risk is the risk that the securities that Fund management selects will underperform the bond market, the relevant indices, or other funds with similar investment objectives and investment strategies.

*Tax Exempt Securities Market Risk.* The amount of public information available about Municipal Bonds in the Fund's portfolio is generally less than that for corporate equities or bonds, and the investment performance of the Fund may, therefore, be more dependent on the analytical abilities of the Investment Adviser than the performance of a stock fund or taxable bond fund.

*Interest Rate and Credit Risk.* The Fund invests in Municipal Bonds, which are subject to interest rate and credit risk. Interest rate risk is the risk that prices of Municipal Bonds generally increase when interest rates decline and decrease when interest rates increase. Prices of longer term securities generally change more in response to interest rate changes than prices of shorter term securities. The Fund's use of leverage by the issuance of preferred stock and its investment in inverse floating obligations, as discussed below, may increase interest rate risk. Because market interest rates are currently near their lowest levels in many years, there is a greater risk that the Fund's portfolio will decline in value if interest rates increase in the future. Credit risk is the risk that the issuer will be unable to pay the interest or principal when due. Changes in an issuer's credit rating or the market's perception of an issuer's creditworthiness may affect the value of the Fund's investment in that issuer. The degree of credit risk depends on both the financial condition of the issuer and the terms of the obligation.

*Call and Redemption Risk.* A Municipal Bond's issuer may call the bond for redemption before it matures. If this happens to a Municipal Bond that the Fund holds, the Fund may lose income and may have to invest the proceeds in Municipal Bonds with lower yields.

*Rating Categories.* The Fund intends to invest in Municipal Bonds that are rated investment grade by S&P, Moody's or Fitch Ratings (Fitch), or in unrated Municipal Bonds that are considered by the Investment Adviser to possess similar credit characteristics. Obligations rated in the lowest investment grade category may have certain speculative characteristics. For example, their prices are more volatile, economic downturns and financial setbacks may affect their prices more negatively, and their trading market may be more limited.

## **Table of Contents**

*Reinvestment Risk.* Reinvestment risk is the risk that income from the Fund's Municipal Bond portfolio will decline if and when the Fund invests the proceeds from matured, traded or called bonds at market interest rates that are below the portfolio's current earnings rate. A decline in income could negatively affect the Fund's yield, return or the market price of the common stock.

*Private Activity Bonds.* The Fund may invest in certain tax exempt securities classified as private activity bonds. These bonds may subject certain investors in the Fund to the Federal alternative minimum tax.

*Liquidity of Investments.* Certain Municipal Bonds in which the Fund invests may lack an established secondary trading market or may be otherwise considered illiquid. Liquidity of a security relates to the ability to easily dispose of the security and the price to be obtained and does not generally relate to the credit risk or likelihood of receipt of cash at maturity. Illiquid securities may trade at a discount from comparable, more liquid investments.

*Portfolio Strategies.* The Fund may engage in various portfolio strategies both to seek to increase the return of the Fund and to seek to hedge its portfolio against adverse effects from movements in interest rates and in the securities markets. These portfolio strategies include the use of derivatives, such as indexed securities, inverse floating rate securities, options, futures, options on futures, interest rate swap transactions and credit default swaps. Such strategies subject the Fund to the risk that, if the Investment Adviser incorrectly forecasts market values, interest rates or other applicable factors, the Fund's performance could suffer. Certain of these strategies, such as investments in inverse floating rate securities and credit default swaps, may provide investment leverage to the Fund's portfolio. The Fund is not required to use derivatives or other portfolio strategies to seek to increase return or to seek to hedge its portfolio and may choose not to do so. There can be no assurance that the Fund's portfolio strategies will be effective. Some of the derivative strategies that the Fund may use to seek to increase its return are riskier than its hedging transactions and have speculative characteristics. Such strategies do not attempt to limit the Fund's risk of loss.

*General Risks Related to Derivatives.* Derivatives are financial contracts or instruments whose value depends on, or is derived from, the value of an underlying asset, reference rate or index (or relationship between two indices). The Fund may invest in a variety of derivative instruments for investment purposes, hedging purposes or to seek to increase its return, such as options, futures contracts and swap agreements. The Fund may use derivatives as a substitute for taking a position in an underlying security or other asset and/or as part of a strategy designed to reduce exposure to other risks, such as interest rate risk. The Fund also may use derivatives to add leverage to the portfolio and/or to hedge against increases in the Fund's costs associated with the dividend payments on the preferred stock, including the AMPS. The Fund also may invest in certain derivative products that pay tax exempt income interest via a trust or partnership through which the Fund holds interests in one or more underlying long term municipal securities. The Fund's use of derivative instruments involves risks different from, and possibly greater than, the risks associated with investing directly in securities and other traditional investments. Derivatives are subject to a number of risks such as liquidity risk, interest rate risk, credit risk, leverage risk and management risk. They also involve the risk of mispricing or improper valuation and correlation risk (*i.e.*, the risk that changes in the value of the derivative may not correlate perfectly with the underlying asset, rate or index). If the Fund invests in a derivative instrument it could lose more than the principal amount invested. Moreover, derivatives raise certain tax, legal, regulatory and accounting issues that may not be presented by investments in Municipal Bonds, and there is some risk that certain issues could be resolved in a manner that could adversely impact the performance of the Fund and/or the tax exempt nature of the dividends paid by the Fund.

Also, suitable derivative transactions may not be available in all circumstances and there can be no assurance that the Fund will engage in these transactions to reduce exposure to other risks when that would be beneficial.

**Table of Contents**

*Swaps.* Swap agreements are types of derivatives. In order to seek to hedge the value of the Fund's portfolio, to hedge against increases in the Fund's cost associated with the interest payments on its outstanding borrowings or to seek to increase the Fund's return, the Fund may enter into interest rate or credit default swap transactions. In interest rate swap transactions, there is a risk that yields will move in the direction opposite of the direction anticipated by the Fund, which would cause the Fund to make payments to its counterparty in the transaction that could adversely affect Fund performance. In addition to the risks applicable to swaps generally, credit default swap transactions involve special risks because they are difficult to value, are highly susceptible to liquidity and credit risk, and generally pay a return to the party that has paid the premium only in the event of an actual default by the issuer of the underlying obligation (as opposed to a credit downgrade or other indication of financial difficulty). The Fund is not required to enter into interest rate or credit default swap transactions for hedging purposes or to enhance its return and may choose not to do so.

*Taxability Risk.* The Fund intends to minimize the payment of taxable income to stockholders by investing in Municipal Bonds and other tax exempt securities in reliance on an opinion of bond counsel to the issuer that the interest paid on those securities will be excludable from gross income for Federal income tax purposes. Such securities, however, may be determined to pay, or to have paid, taxable income subsequent to the Fund's acquisition of the securities. In that event, the Internal Revenue Service may demand that the Fund pay taxes on the affected interest income, and, if the Fund agrees to do so, the Fund's yield on its common stock could be adversely affected. A determination that interest on a security held by the Fund is includable in gross income for Federal income tax purposes retroactively to its date of issue may, likewise, cause a portion of prior distributions received by stockholders, including holders of AMPS, to be taxable to those stockholders in the year of receipt. The Fund will not pay an Additional Dividend (as defined herein) to a holder of AMPS under these circumstances. If a security acquired based on reliance on such an opinion of counsel is subsequently determined to pay interest that is includable in gross income for Federal income tax purposes, the Fund will dispose of that security as soon as reasonably practicable.

*Antitakeover Provisions.* The Fund's Charter, By-laws and the General Corporation Law of the State of Maryland include provisions that could limit the ability of other entities or persons to acquire control of the Fund or to change the composition of its Board of Directors. Such provisions could limit the ability of stockholders to sell their shares at a premium over prevailing market prices by discouraging a third party from seeking to obtain control of the Fund.

*Market Disruption.* The terrorist attacks in the United States on September 11, 2001 had a disruptive effect on the securities markets, some of which were closed for a four-day period. The continued threat of similar attacks, and related events, including U.S. military actions in Iraq and continued unrest in the Middle East, have led to increased short term market volatility and may have long term effects on U.S. and world economies and markets. Similar disruptions of the financial markets could adversely affect the market prices of the Fund's portfolio securities, interest rates, auctions, secondary trading, ratings, credit risk, inflation and other factors relating to the Fund's AMPS.



**Table of Contents****FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

The following Financial Highlights table is intended to help you understand the Fund's financial performance for the periods shown. Certain information reflects financial results for a single share of common stock or preferred stock of the Fund. The total returns in the table represent the rate an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in shares of common stock of the Fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends). The information with respect to the fiscal years ended August 31, 1994 to August 31, 2003 has been audited by Deloitte & Touche LLP, whose report for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2003, along with the financial statements of the Fund, is included in the Fund's 2003 Annual Report, which is incorporated by reference herein. The information with respect to the six months ended February 29, 2004 is unaudited and is included in the Fund's 2004 Semi-Annual Report, which is incorporated by reference herein. You may obtain a copy of the 2003 Annual Report and the 2004 Semi-Annual Report at no cost by calling (800) 543-6217 between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Eastern time on any business day.

The following per share data and ratios have been derived from information provided in the financial statements.

	<b>For the Six Months Ended February 29,</b>	<b>For the Year Ended August 31,</b>									
	<b>2004 (unaudited)</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1994</b>
<b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Asset Value:</b>											
<b>Per Share Operating Performance</b>											
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$ 9.54	\$ 9.76	\$ 9.71	\$ 9.07	\$ 9.15	\$ 10.20	\$ 9.89	\$ 9.45	\$ 9.51	\$ 9.57	\$ 10.65
Investment income net Realized and unrealized gain (loss) on investments net	.36	.72	.69	.69	.70	.73	.76	.77	.79	.81	.84
Dividends to Preferred Stock shareholders from: Investment income net	(.02)	(.05)	(.07)	(.16)	(.18)	(.15)					
Total from investment operations	1.01	.41	.64	1.18	.47	(.44)	1.06	1.22	.73	.91	.06
Less dividends to Common Stock shareholders from: Investment income net	(.32)	(.63)	(.59)	(.54)	(.55)	(.58)	(.59)	(.62)	(.63)	(.64)	(.70)
Realized gain on investments net In excess of realized gain on investments net						(.03)				(.12)	(.32)
Total dividends and distributions to Common Stock shareholders	(.32)	(.63)	(.59)	(.54)	(.55)	(.61)	(.59)	(.62)	(.63)	(.80)	(1.02)

Edgar Filing: MUNIVEST FUND INC - Form N-2/A

Effect of Preferred Stock activity:											
Dividends to Preferred Stock shareholders from:											
Investment income net							(.16)	(.16)	(.16)	(.17)	(.12)
Net asset value, end of period	10.23	\$ 9.54	\$ 9.76	\$ 9.71	\$ 9.07	\$ 9.15	\$ 10.20	\$ 9.89	\$ 9.45	\$ 9.51	\$ 9.57
Market price per share, end of period	9.73	\$ 8.80	\$ 9.11	\$ 9.30	\$ 8.25	\$ 8.6875	\$ 10.00	\$ 9.50	\$ 9.125	\$ 8.563	\$ 8.50
<b>Total Investment Return**</b>											
Based on market price per share	14.44%	3.56%	4.55%	19.92%	1.75%	(7.44)%	11.78%	11.25%	14.18%	10.88%	(16.29)%
Based on net asset value per share	10.99%	4.79%	7.28%	13.89%	6.21%	(4.42)%	9.52%	11.84%	6.46%	9.38%	(.44)%
<b>Ratios Based on Average Net Assets of Common Stock</b>											
Total expenses, net of reimbursement***	.94%*	.95%	.95%	.98%	1.01%	.93%					
Total expenses***	.95%*	.96%	.95%	.98%	1.01%	.93%					
Total investment income net***	7.28%*	7.33%	7.33%	7.37%	7.95%	7.26%					
Amount of dividends to Preferred Stock shareholders	.40%*	.50%	.75%	1.70%	2.01%	1.46%					
Investment income net, to Common Stock shareholders	6.88%	6.83%	6.58%	5.67%	5.94%	5.80%					

(continued on following page)

**Table of Contents***(continued from prior page)*

	For the Six Months Ended February 29,	For the Year Ended August 31,									
	2004 (unaudited)	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994
<b>Ratios Based on Average Net Assets of Common &amp; Preferred Stock***</b>											
Total expenses, net of reimbursement	.65%*	.65%	.65%	.66%	.67%	.64%					
Total expenses	.65%*	.66%	.65%	.66%	.67%	.64%	.64%	.64%	.64%	.66%	.64%
Total investment income net	5.01%*	5.03%	4.98%	4.98%	5.26%	5.01%	5.19%	5.40%	5.57%	5.91%	5.76%
<b>Ratios Based on Average Net Assets of Preferred Stock</b>											
Dividends to Preferred Stock shareholders	.88%*	1.11%	1.59%	3.53%	3.93%	3.25%					
<b>Supplemental Data</b>											
Net assets applicable to Common Stock, end of period (in thousands)	\$ 627,622	\$ 585,022	\$ 598,816	\$ 595,908	\$ 556,105	\$ 561,373	\$ 623,270	\$ 604,515	\$ 577,540	\$ 581,211	\$ 584,680
Preferred Stock outstanding, end of period (in thousands)	\$ 275,000	\$ 275,000	\$ 275,000	\$ 275,000	\$ 275,000	\$ 275,000	\$ 275,000	\$ 275,000	\$ 275,000	\$ 275,000	\$ 275,000
Portfolio turnover	25.00%	44.30%	74.00%	74.80%	121.76%	101.35%	102.77%	78.02%	69.87%	71.95%	100.92%
<b>Leverage:</b>											
Asset coverage per \$1,000	\$ 3,282	\$ 3,127	\$ 3,178	\$ 3,167	\$ 3,022	\$ 3,041	\$ 3,266	\$ 3,198	\$ 3,100	\$ 3,113	\$ 3,126
Liquidation preference per share	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
Average market value per share #	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000
<b>Dividends Per Share on Preferred Stock Outstanding</b>											
Series A Investment income net	106	\$ 266	\$ 388	\$ 909	\$ 1,030	\$ 839	\$ 890	\$ 872	\$ 895	\$ 922	\$ 633
Series B Investment income net	119	\$ 278	\$ 394	\$ 923	\$ 991	\$ 815	\$ 902	\$ 871	\$ 903	\$ 946	\$ 637
Series C Investment income net	114	\$ 269	\$ 391	\$ 906	\$ 952	\$ 820	\$ 886	\$ 860	\$ 900	\$ 947	\$ 644
Series D Investment income net	100	\$ 306	\$ 445	\$ 877	\$ 978	\$ 802	\$ 880	\$ 868	\$ 901	\$ 1,014	\$ 633

Edgar Filing: MUNIVEST FUND INC - Form N-2/A

Series E Investment income net	\$ 107	\$ 269	\$ 372	\$ 851	\$ 977	\$ 793	\$ 884	\$ 868	\$ 895	\$ 968	\$ 626
--------------------------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------

\* Annualized.

\*\* Total investment returns based on market value, which can be significantly greater or lesser than the net asset value, may result in substantially different returns. Total investment returns exclude the effects of sales charges.

\*\*\* Do not reflect the effect of dividends to Preferred Stock shareholders.  
Based on average shares outstanding.

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to current year presentation.

Adjusted to reflect a four-for-one stock split on December 1, 1994.

Aggregate total investment return.

# Based on monthly market value per share.

**Table of Contents****THE FUND**

MuniVest Fund, Inc. (the Fund) is a non-diversified, closed-end fund. The Fund was incorporated under the laws of the State of Maryland on July 7, 1988, and has registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (1940 Act). The Fund's principal office is located at 800 Scudders Mill Road, Plainsboro, New Jersey 08536, and its telephone number is (609) 282-2800.

The Board of Directors of the Fund may at any time consider a merger, consolidation or other form of reorganization of the Fund with one or more other investment companies advised by the Investment Adviser that have similar investment objectives and policies as the Fund. Any such merger, consolidation or other form of reorganization would require the prior approval of the Board of Directors and, if the Fund is the acquired fund, the stockholders of the Fund. See Description of Capital Stock Certain Provisions of the Charter and By-laws.

**USE OF PROCEEDS**

The net proceeds of this offering will be approximately \$58,245,000 after payment of offering expenses (estimated to be approximately \$165,000) and the deduction of the underwriting discount.

The net proceeds of the offering will be invested in accordance with the Fund's investment objective and policies within approximately three months after completion of this offering, depending on market conditions and the availability of appropriate securities. Pending such investment, it is anticipated that the proceeds will be invested in short term, tax exempt securities. See Investment Objective and Policies.

**CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth the unaudited capitalization of the Fund as of February 29, 2004 and as adjusted to give effect to the issuance of the shares of AMPS offered hereby.

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>As Adjusted</u>
Preferred stock (10,000,000 shares authorized; 11,000 shares of Other AMPS authorized, issued and outstanding at \$25,000 per share liquidation preference, plus accumulated but unpaid dividends; 13,360 shares of AMPS and Other AMPS authorized, issued and outstanding, as adjusted, at \$25,000 per share liquidation preference, plus accumulated but unpaid dividends)	\$ 275,044,840	\$ 334,044,840
Common Stock, par value \$.10 per share (150,000,000 shares authorized, 61,346,288 shares issued and outstanding)	\$ 6,134,629	\$ 6,134,629
Paid-in capital in excess of par value	565,202,625	564,447,625
Undistributed investment income net	10,112,493	10,112,493
Accumulated realized capital losses on investment net	(39,872,880)	(39,872,880)
Unrealized appreciation on investments net	86,045,283	86,045,283

Net assets applicable to outstanding common stock	\$ 627,622,150	\$ 626,867,150
---	----------------	----------------

**Table of Contents****PORTFOLIO COMPOSITION**

As of February 29, 2004, approximately 97.02% of the market value of the Fund's portfolio was invested in long term and intermediate term municipal obligations and approximately 2.98% of the market value of the Fund's portfolio was invested in short term tax exempt securities. The following table sets forth certain information with respect to the composition of the Fund's long term municipal obligation investment portfolio as of February 29, 2004.

Moody's*	Fitch*	S&P*	Number of Issues	Value (in thousands)	Percent
Aaa	AAA	AAA	59	\$299,154	34.39%
Aa	AA	AA	25	187,177	21.52%
A	A	A	17	84,169	9.67%
Baa	BBB	BBB	55	272,759	31.35%
Ba	BB	BB	7	20,115	2.31%
NR	NR	NR	3	6,614	.76%
<b>Total</b>			<b>166</b>	<b>\$869,988</b>	<b>100%</b>

\* Ratings: Using the higher of Moody's, S&P or Fitch ratings on the Fund's investments. See Schedule of Investments. Moody's rating categories may be modified further by a 1, 2 or 3 in Aa, A, Baa, Ba, B and Caa ratings. S&P rating categories may be modified further by a plus (+) or minus (-) in AA, A, BBB, BB, B and CCC ratings. Fitch rating categories may be modified further by a plus (+) or minus (-) in AA, A, BBB, BB, B and CCC.

**INVESTMENT OBJECTIVE AND POLICIES**

The Fund's investment objective is to provide shareholders with as high a level of current income exempt from Federal income taxes as is consistent with its investment policies and prudent investment management. The Fund seeks to achieve its investment objective by investing at least 80% of an aggregate of the Fund's net assets (including proceeds from the issuance of any preferred stock) and the proceeds of any borrowings for investment purposes, in a portfolio of municipal obligations issued by or on behalf of states, territories and possessions of the United States and their political subdivisions, agencies or instrumentalities, each of which pays interest that, in the opinion of bond counsel to the issuer, is excludable from gross income for Federal income tax purposes (except that the interest may be includable in taxable income for purposes of the Federal alternative minimum tax) (Municipal Bonds). The Fund's investment objective and its policy of investing at least 80% of an aggregate of the Fund's net assets (including proceeds from the issuance of any preferred stock) and the proceeds of any borrowings for investment purposes, in Municipal Bonds are fundamental policies that may not be changed without the approval of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Fund (as defined in the 1940 Act). There can be no assurance that the Fund's investment objective will be realized.

The Fund may invest in certain tax exempt securities classified as private activity bonds (or industrial development bonds, under pre-1986 law) (PABs) (in general, bonds that benefit non-governmental entities) that may subject certain investors in the Fund to an alternative minimum tax. See Taxes. The percentage of the Fund's total assets invested in PABs will vary from time to time. The Fund also will not invest more than 25% of its total assets (taken at market value at the time of each investment) in Municipal Bonds whose issuers are located in the same state.

## Edgar Filing: MUNIVEST FUND INC - Form N-2/A

Under normal market conditions, the Fund expects to invest primarily in a portfolio of long term Municipal Bonds that are commonly referred to as investment grade securities, which are obligations rated at



**Table of Contents**

the time of purchase within the four highest quality ratings as determined by either Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ( Moody's ) (currently Aaa, Aa, A and Baa), Standard & Poor's ( S&P ) (currently AAA, AA, A and BBB) or Fitch Ratings ( Fitch ) (currently AAA, AA, A and BBB). In the case of short term notes, the investment grade rating categories are SP-1+ through SP-2 for S&P, MIG-1 through MIG-3 for Moody's and F-1+ through F-3 for Fitch. In the case of tax exempt commercial paper, the investment grade rating categories are A-1+ through A-3 for S&P, Prime-1 through Prime-3 for Moody's and F-1+ through F-3 for Fitch. Obligations ranked in the lowest investment grade rating category (BBB, SP-2 and A-3 for S&P; Baa, MIG-3 and Prime-3 for Moody's and BBB and F-3 for Fitch), while considered investment grade, may have certain speculative characteristics. There may be sub-categories or gradations indicating relative standing within the rating categories set forth above. In assessing the quality of Municipal Bonds with respect to the foregoing requirements, the Investment Adviser takes into account the nature of any letters of credit or similar credit enhancement to which particular Municipal Bonds are entitled and the creditworthiness of the financial institution that provided such credit enhancement. See Appendix A Description of Municipal Bond Ratings to the statement of additional information. If unrated, such securities will possess creditworthiness comparable, in the opinion of the Investment Adviser, to other obligations in which the Fund may invest.

All percentage and ratings limitations on securities in which the Fund may invest apply at the time of making an investment and shall not be considered violated if an investment rating is subsequently downgraded to a rating that would have precluded the Fund's initial investment in such security. In the event that the Fund disposes of a portfolio security subsequent to its being downgraded, the Fund may experience a greater risk of loss than if such security had been sold prior to such downgrade.

The net asset value of the shares of common stock of a closed-end investment company, such as the Fund, which invests primarily in fixed income securities, changes as the general levels of interest rates fluctuate. When interest rates decline, the value of a fixed income portfolio can be expected to rise. Conversely, when interest rates rise, the value of a fixed income portfolio can be expected to decline. Prices of longer term securities generally fluctuate more in response to interest rate changes than do shorter term securities. These changes in net asset value are likely to be greater in the case of a fund having a leveraged capital structure, such as the Fund.

The Fund intends to invest primarily in long term Municipal Bonds with maturities of more than ten years. However, the Fund also may invest in intermediate term Municipal Bonds with maturities of between three years and ten years. The Fund also may invest from time to time in short term Municipal Bonds with maturities of less than three years. The average maturity of the Fund's portfolio securities will vary based upon the Investment Adviser's assessment of economic and market conditions. As of February 29, 2004, the weighted average maturity of the Fund's portfolio was approximately 18.13 years.

For temporary periods or to provide liquidity, the Fund has the authority to invest as much as 20% of its total assets in tax exempt and taxable money market obligations with a maturity of one year or less (such short term obligations being referred to herein as Temporary Investments ). In addition, the Fund reserves the right as a defensive measure to invest temporarily a greater portion of its assets in Temporary Investments, when, in the opinion of the Investment Adviser, prevailing market or financial conditions warrant. Taxable money market obligations will yield taxable income. The Fund also may invest in variable rate demand obligations ( VRDOs ) and VRDOs in the form of participation interests ( Participating VRDOs ) in variable rate tax exempt obligations held by a financial institution. See Other Investment Policies Temporary Investments. The Fund's hedging strategies, which are described in more detail under Hedging Transactions Financial Futures Transactions and Options, are not fundamental policies and may be modified by the Board of Directors of the Fund without the approval of the Fund's stockholders. The Fund is also authorized to invest in indexed and inverse floating rate obligations for hedging purposes and to seek to enhance return.

The Fund may invest in securities not issued by or on behalf of a state or territory or by an agency or instrumentality thereof, if the Fund receives an opinion of counsel to the issuer that such securities pay interest that is excludable from gross income for Federal income tax purposes ( Non-Municipal Tax Exempt Securities ).



## **Table of Contents**

Non-Municipal Tax Exempt Securities could include trust certificates, partnership interests or other instruments evidencing interest in one or more long term municipal securities. Non-Municipal Tax Exempt Securities also may include securities issued by other investment companies that invest in Municipal Bonds, to the extent such investments are permitted by the Fund's investment restrictions and applicable law. Non-Municipal Tax Exempt Securities are subject to the same risks associated with an investment in Municipal Bonds as well as many of the risks associated with investments in derivatives. While the Fund receives opinions of legal counsel to the effect that the income from the Non-Municipal Tax Exempt Securities in which the Fund invests is excludable from gross income for Federal income tax purposes to the same extent as the underlying municipal securities, the Internal Revenue Service ( IRS ) has not issued a ruling on this subject. Were the IRS to issue an adverse ruling or take an adverse position with respect to the taxation of these types of securities, there is a risk that the interest paid on such securities would be deemed taxable at the Federal level.

The Fund ordinarily does not intend to realize significant investment income not exempt from Federal income tax. From time to time, the Fund may realize taxable capital gains.

Federal tax legislation has limited the types and volume of bonds the interest on which qualifies for a Federal income tax exemption. As a result, this legislation and legislation that may be enacted in the future may affect the availability of Municipal Bonds for investment by the Fund.

## **Risk Factors and Special Considerations Relating to Municipal Bonds**

The risks and special considerations involved in investment in Municipal Bonds vary with the types of instruments being acquired. Investments in Non-Municipal Tax Exempt Securities may present similar risks, depending on the particular product. Certain instruments in which the Fund may invest may be characterized as derivative instruments. See Description of Municipal Bonds and Hedging Transactions Financial Futures Transactions and Options.

The value of Municipal Bonds generally may be affected by uncertainties in the municipal markets as a result of legislation or litigation, including legislation or litigation that changes the taxation of Municipal Bonds or the rights of Municipal Bond holders in the event of a bankruptcy. Municipal bankruptcies are rare, and certain provisions of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code governing such bankruptcies are unclear. Further, the application of state law to Municipal Bond issuers could produce varying results among the states or among Municipal Bond issuers within a state. These uncertainties could have a significant impact on the prices of the Municipal Bonds in which the Fund invests.

## **Description of Municipal Bonds**

Set forth below is a detailed description of the Municipal Bonds and Temporary Investments in which the Fund may invest. Information with respect to ratings assigned to tax exempt obligations that the Fund may purchase is set forth in Appendix A Description of Municipal Bond Ratings to the statement of additional information. Obligations are included within the term Municipal Bonds if the interest paid thereon is excluded from gross income for Federal income tax purposes in the opinion of bond counsel to the issuer.

Municipal Bonds include debt obligations issued to obtain funds for various public purposes, including the construction of a wide range of public facilities, refunding of outstanding obligations and obtaining funds for general operating expenses and loans to other public institutions and facilities. In addition, certain types of bonds are issued by or on behalf of public authorities to finance various privately owned or operated facilities, including certain facilities for the local furnishing of electric energy or gas, sewage facilities, solid waste disposal facilities and other

## Edgar Filing: MUNIVEST FUND INC - Form N-2/A

specialized facilities. Other types of PABs, the proceeds of which are used for the construction, equipment or improvement of privately operated industrial or commercial facilities, may constitute Municipal Bonds, although the current Federal tax laws place substantial limitations on the size of such issues. The interest on Municipal Bonds may bear a fixed rate or be payable at a variable or floating rate. The two principal classifications of Municipal Bonds are general obligation and revenue bonds, which latter category includes PABs.

---

**Table of Contents**

The Fund has not established any limit on the percentage of its portfolio that may be invested in PABs. The Fund may not be a suitable investment for investors who are already subject to the Federal alternative minimum tax or who would become subject to the Federal alternative minimum tax as a result of an investment in the Fund's common stock. See Taxes.

*General Obligation Bonds.* General obligation bonds are secured by the issuer's pledge of its faith, credit and taxing power for the payment of principal and interest. The taxing power of any governmental entity may be limited, however, by provisions of its state constitution or laws, and an entity's creditworthiness will depend on many factors, including potential erosion of its tax base due to population declines, natural disasters, declines in the state's industrial base or inability to attract new industries, economic limits on the ability to tax without eroding the tax base, state legislative proposals or voter initiatives to limit ad valorem real property taxes and the extent to which the entity relies on Federal or state aid, access to capital markets or other factors beyond the state's or entity's control. Accordingly, the capacity of the issuer of a general obligation bond as to the timely payment of interest and the repayment of principal when due is affected by the issuer's maintenance of its tax base.

*Revenue Bonds.* Revenue bonds are payable only from the revenues derived from a particular facility or class of facilities or, in some cases, from the proceeds of a special excise tax or other specific revenue sources such as payments from the user of the facility being financed. Accordingly, the timely payment of interest and the repayment of principal in accordance with the terms of the revenue or special obligation bond is a function of the economic viability of such facility or such revenue source.

*PABs.* The Fund may purchase PABs. PABs are, in most cases, tax exempt securities issued by states, municipalities or public authorities to provide funds, usually through a loan or lease arrangement, to a private entity for the purpose of financing construction or improvement of a facility to be used by the entity. Such bonds are secured primarily by revenues derived from loan repayments or lease payments due from the entity which may or may not be guaranteed by a parent company or otherwise secured. PABs generally are not secured by a pledge of the taxing power of the issuer of such bonds. Therefore, an investor should be aware that repayment of such bonds generally depends on the revenues of a private entity and be aware of the risks that such an investment may entail. Continued ability of an entity to generate sufficient revenues for the payment of principal and interest on such bonds will be affected by many factors including the size of the entity, capital structure, demand for its products or services, competition, general economic conditions, government regulation and the entity's dependence on revenues for the operation of the particular facility being financed.

*Moral Obligation Bonds.* The Fund also may invest in moral obligation bonds, which are normally issued by special purpose public authorities. If an issuer of moral obligation bonds is unable to meet its obligations, the repayment of such bonds becomes a moral commitment but not a legal obligation of the state or municipality in question.

*Municipal Lease Obligations.* Also included within the general category of Municipal Bonds are certificates of participation (COPs) issued by government authorities or entities to finance the acquisition or construction of equipment, land and/or facilities. COPs represent participations in a lease, an installment purchase contract or a conditional sales contract (hereinafter collectively called lease obligations) relating to such equipment, land or facilities. Although lease obligations do not constitute general obligations of the issuer for which the issuer's unlimited taxing power is pledged, a lease obligation is frequently backed by the issuer's covenant to budget for, appropriate and make the payments due under the lease obligation. However, certain lease obligations contain non-appropriation clauses which provide that the issuer has no obligation to make lease or installment purchase payments in future years unless money is appropriated for such purpose on a yearly basis. Although non-appropriation lease obligations are secured by the leased property, disposition of the property in the event of foreclosure might prove difficult and the value of the property may be insufficient to issue lease obligations. Certain investments in lease obligations may be illiquid.

---

**Table of Contents**

*Indexed and Inverse Floating Rate Securities.* The Fund may invest in Municipal Bonds (and Non- Municipal Tax Exempt Securities) that yield a return based on a particular index of value or interest rates. For example, the Fund may invest in Municipal Bonds that pay interest based on an index of Municipal Bond interest rates. The principal amount payable upon maturity of certain Municipal Bonds also may be based on the value of the index. To the extent the Fund invests in these types of Municipal Bonds, the Fund's return on such Municipal Bonds will be subject to risk with respect to the value of the particular index. Interest and principal payable on the Municipal Bonds may also be based on relative changes among particular indices. Also, the Fund may invest in so-called inverse floating obligations or residual interest bonds on which the interest rates vary inversely with a short term floating rate (which may be reset periodically by a dutch auction, a remarketing agent, or by reference to a short term tax exempt interest rate index). The Fund may purchase synthetically created inverse floating rate bonds evidenced by custodial or trust receipts. Generally, income on inverse floating rate bonds will decrease when short term interest rates increase, and will increase when short term interest rates decrease. Such securities have the effect of providing a degree of investment leverage, since they may increase or decrease in value in response to changes, as an illustration, in market interest rates at a rate which is a multiple (typically two) of the rate at which fixed rate long term tax exempt securities increase or decrease in response to such changes. As a result, the market values of such securities will generally be more volatile than the market values of fixed rate tax exempt securities. To seek to limit the volatility of these securities, the Fund may purchase inverse floating obligations with shorter-term maturities or which contain limitations on the extent to which the interest rate may vary. Certain investments in such obligations may be illiquid.

*When Issued Securities, Delayed Delivery Securities and Forward Commitments.* The Fund may purchase or sell securities that it is entitled to receive on a when issued basis. The Fund may also purchase or sell securities on a delayed delivery basis. The Fund may also purchase or sell securities through a forward commitment. These transactions involve the purchase or sale of securities by the Fund at an established price with payment and delivery taking place in the future. The purchase will be recorded on the date the Fund enters into the commitment and the value of the securities will thereafter be reflected in the Fund's net asset value. The Fund enters into these transactions to obtain what is considered an advantageous price to the Fund at the time of entering into the transaction. The Fund has not established any limit on the percentage of its assets that may be committed in connection with these transactions. When the Fund purchases securities in these transactions, the Fund segregates liquid securities in an amount equal to the amount of its purchase commitments.

There can be no assurance that a security purchased on a when issued basis will be issued or that a security purchased or sold through a forward commitment will be delivered. A default by a counterparty may result in the Fund missing the opportunity of obtaining a price considered to be advantageous. The value of securities in these transactions on the delivery date may be more or less than the Fund's purchase price. The Fund may bear the risk of a decline in the value of the security in these transactions and may not benefit from an appreciation in the value of the security during the commitment period.

*Call Rights.* The Fund may purchase a Municipal Bond issuer's right to call all or a portion of such Municipal Bond for mandatory tender for purchase (a Call Right). A holder of a Call Right may exercise such right to require a mandatory tender for the purchase of related Municipal Bonds, subject to certain conditions. A Call Right that is not exercised prior to maturity of the related Municipal Bond will expire without value. The economic effect of holding both the Call Right and the related Municipal Bond is identical to holding a Municipal Bond as a non-callable security. Certain investments in such obligations may be illiquid.

*Yields.* Yields on Municipal Bonds are dependent on a variety of factors, including the general condition of the money market and of the municipal bond market, the size of a particular offering, the financial condition of the issuer, the maturity of the obligation and the rating of the issue. The ability of the Fund to achieve its investment objective is also dependent on the continuing ability of the issuers of the securities in which the Fund invests to meet their obligations for the payment of interest and principal when due. There are variations in the risks involved in holding Municipal Bonds, both within a particular classification and between classifications, depending on numerous factors. Furthermore, the rights of owners of Municipal Bonds and the

## **Table of Contents**

obligations of the issuer of such Municipal Bonds may be subject to applicable bankruptcy, insolvency and similar laws and court decisions affecting the rights of creditors generally and to general equitable principles, which may limit the enforcement of certain remedies.

## **Hedging Transactions**

The Fund may hedge all or a portion of its portfolio investments against fluctuations in interest rates through the use of options and certain financial futures contracts and options thereon. While the Fund's use of hedging strategies is intended to reduce the volatility of the net asset value of the Fund's shares of common stock, the net asset value of the Fund's shares of common stock will fluctuate. No assurance can be given that the Fund's hedging transactions will be effective. The Fund only may engage in hedging activities from time to time and may not necessarily be engaging in hedging activities when movements in interest rates occur. The Fund has no obligation to enter into hedging transactions and may choose not to do so. Furthermore, for so long as the AMPS are rated by Moody's and S&P, the Fund's use of options and certain financial futures and options thereon will be subject to the limitations described under Rating Agency Guidelines.

*Financial Futures Transactions and Options.* The Fund is authorized to purchase and sell certain exchange traded financial futures contracts ( financial futures contracts ) in order to hedge its investments in Municipal Bonds against declines in value, and to hedge against increases in the cost of securities it intends to purchase or to seek to enhance the Fund's return. However, any transactions involving financial futures or options (including puts and calls associated therewith) will be in accordance with the Fund's investment policies and limitations. A financial futures contract obligates the seller of a contract to deliver and the purchaser of a contract to take delivery of the type of financial instrument covered by the contract, or in the case of index-based futures contracts to make and accept a cash settlement, at a specific future time for a specified price. To hedge its portfolio, the Fund may take an investment position in a futures contract which will move in the opposite direction from the portfolio position being hedged. A sale of financial futures contracts may provide a hedge against a decline in the value of portfolio securities because such depreciation may be offset, in whole or in part, by an increase in the value of the position in the financial futures contracts. A purchase of financial futures contracts may provide a hedge against an increase in the cost of securities intended to be purchased because such appreciation may be offset, in whole or in part, by an increase in the value of the position in the futures contracts.

Distributions, if any, of net long term capital gains from certain transactions in futures or options are taxable at long term capital gains rates for Federal income tax purposes. See Taxes.

*Futures Contracts.* A futures contract is an agreement between two parties to buy and sell a security or, in the case of an index-based futures contract, to make and accept a cash settlement for a set price on a future date. A majority of transactions in futures contracts, however, do not result in the actual delivery of the underlying instrument or cash settlement, but are settled through liquidation, *i.e.*, by entering into an offsetting transaction. Futures contracts have been designed by boards of trade which have been designated contracts markets by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ( CFTC ).

The purchase or sale of a futures contract differs from the purchase or sale of a security in that no price or premium is paid or received. Instead, an amount of cash or securities acceptable to the broker and the relevant contract market, which varies, but is generally about 5% of the contract amount, must be deposited with the broker. This amount is known as initial margin and represents a good faith deposit assuring the performance of both the purchaser and seller under the futures contract. Subsequent payments to and from the broker, called variation margin, are required to be made on a daily basis as the price of the futures contract fluctuates making the long and short positions in the futures contract more or less valuable, a process known as marking to the market. At any time prior to the settlement date of the futures contract, the position may be closed out by taking an opposite position that will operate to terminate the position in the futures contract. A final determination of variation margin is then made, additional cash is required to be paid to or released by the broker and the purchaser realizes a loss or gain. In addition, a nominal commission is paid on each completed sale transaction.





## **Table of Contents**

The Fund deals in financial futures contracts based on a long term municipal bond index developed by the Chicago Board of Trade ( CBT ) and The Bond Buyer (the Municipal Bond Index ). The Municipal Bond Index is comprised of 40 tax exempt municipal revenue and general obligation bonds. Each bond included in the Municipal Bond Index must be rated A or higher by Moody 's or S&P and must have a remaining maturity of 19 years or more. Twice a month new issues satisfying the eligibility requirements are added to, and an equal number of old issues are deleted from, the Municipal Bond Index. The value of the Municipal Bond Index is computed daily according to a formula based on the price of each bond in the Municipal Bond Index, as evaluated by six dealer-to-dealer brokers.

The Municipal Bond Index futures contract is traded only on the CBT. Like other contract markets, the CBT assures performance under futures contracts through a clearing corporation, a nonprofit organization managed by the exchange membership which is also responsible for handling daily accounting of deposits or withdrawals of margin.

The Fund may also purchase and sell financial futures contracts on U.S. Government securities as a hedge against adverse changes in interest rates as described below. With respect to U.S. Government securities, currently there are financial futures contracts based on long term U.S. Treasury bonds, U.S. Treasury notes, Government National Mortgage Association ( GNMA ) Certificates and three-month U.S. Treasury bills. The Fund may purchase and write call and put options on futures contracts on U.S. Government securities and purchase and sell Municipal Bond Index futures contracts in connection with its hedging strategies.

The Fund also may engage in other futures contracts transactions such as futures contracts on other municipal bond indices that may become available if the Investment Adviser should determine that there is normally a sufficient correlation between the prices of such futures contracts and the Municipal Bonds in which the Fund invests to make such hedging appropriate.

*Futures Strategies.* The Fund may sell a financial futures contract (*i.e.*, assume a short position) in anticipation of a decline in the value of its investments in Municipal Bonds resulting from an increase in interest rates or otherwise. The risk of decline could be reduced without employing futures as a hedge by selling such Municipal Bonds and either reinvesting the proceeds in securities with shorter maturities or by holding assets in cash. This strategy, however, entails increased transaction costs in the form of dealer spreads and typically would reduce the average yield of the Fund 's portfolio securities as a result of the shortening of maturities. The sale of futures contracts provides an alternative means of hedging against declines in the value of its investments in Municipal Bonds. As such values decline, the value of the Fund 's positions in the futures contracts will tend to increase, thus offsetting all or a portion of the depreciation in the market value of the Fund 's Municipal Bond investments that are being hedged. While the Fund will incur commission expenses in selling and closing out futures positions, commissions on futures transactions are lower than transaction costs incurred in the purchase and sale of Municipal Bonds. In addition, the ability of the Fund to trade in the standardized contracts available in the futures markets may offer a more effective defensive position than a program to reduce the average maturity of the portfolio securities due to the unique and varied credit and technical characteristics of the municipal debt instruments available to the Fund. Employing futures as a hedge also may permit the Fund to assume a defensive posture without reducing the yield on its investments beyond any amounts required to engage in futures trading.

When the Fund intends to purchase Municipal Bonds, the Fund may purchase futures contracts as a hedge against any increase in the cost of such Municipal Bonds resulting from a decrease in interest rates or otherwise, that may occur before such purchases can be effected. Subject to the degree of correlation between the Municipal Bonds and the futures contracts, subsequent increases in the cost of Municipal Bonds should be reflected in the value of the futures held by the Fund. As such purchases are made, an equivalent amount of futures contracts will be closed out. Due to changing market conditions and interest rate forecasts, however, a futures position may be terminated without a corresponding purchase of portfolio securities.

## **Table of Contents**

*Call Options on Futures Contracts.* The Fund may also purchase and sell exchange traded call and put options on financial futures contracts. The purchase of a call option on a futures contract is analogous to the purchase of a call option on an individual security. Depending on the pricing of the option compared to either the futures contract upon which it is based or the price of the underlying debt securities, it may or may not be less risky than ownership of the futures contract or underlying debt securities. Like the purchase of a futures contract, the Fund will purchase a call option on a futures contract to hedge against a market advance when the Fund is not fully invested.

The writing of a call option on a futures contract constitutes a partial hedge against declining prices of the securities which are deliverable upon exercise of the futures contract. If the futures price at expiration is below the exercise price, the Fund will retain the full amount of the option premium which provides a partial hedge against any decline that may have occurred in the Fund's portfolio holdings.

*Put Options on Futures Contracts.* The purchase of a put option on a futures contract is analogous to the purchase of a protective put option on portfolio securities. The Fund will purchase a put option on a futures contract to hedge the Fund's portfolio against the risk of rising interest rates.

The writing of a put option on a futures contract constitutes a partial hedge against increasing prices of the securities which are deliverable upon exercise of the futures contract. If the futures price at expiration is higher than the exercise price, the Fund will retain the full amount of the option premium which provides a partial hedge against any increase in the price of Municipal Bonds which the Fund intends to purchase.

The writer of an option on a futures contract is required to deposit initial and variation margin pursuant to requirements similar to those applicable to futures contracts. Premiums received from the writing of an option will be included in initial margin. The writing of an option on a futures contract involves risks similar to those relating to futures contracts.

Under regulations of the CFTC, the futures trading activity described herein will not result in the Fund being deemed a commodity pool and the Fund need not be operated by a person registered with the CFTC as a commodity pool operator.

When the Fund purchases a futures contract, or writes a put option or purchases a call option thereon, an amount of cash, cash equivalents (*e.g.*, high grade commercial paper and daily tender adjustable notes) or liquid securities will be segregated so that the amount so segregated, plus the amount of initial and variation margin held in the account of its broker, equals the market value of the futures contracts, thereby ensuring that the use of such futures contract is unleveraged. It is not anticipated that transactions in futures contracts will have the effect of increasing portfolio turnover.

*Risk Factors in Futures Transactions and Options.* Investment in futures contracts involves the risk of imperfect correlation between movements in the price of the futures contract and the price of the security being hedged. The hedge will not be fully effective when there is imperfect correlation between the movements in the prices of two financial instruments. For example, if the price of the futures contract moves more or less than the price of the hedged security, the Fund will experience either a loss or gain on the futures contract which is not completely offset by movements in the price of the hedged securities. To compensate for imperfect correlations, the Fund may purchase or sell futures contracts in a greater dollar amount than the hedged securities if the volatility of the hedged securities is historically greater than the volatility of the futures contracts. Conversely, the Fund may purchase or sell fewer futures contracts if the volatility of the price of the hedged securities is historically less than that of the futures contracts.

## Edgar Filing: MUNIVEST FUND INC - Form N-2/A

The particular municipal bonds comprising the index underlying the Municipal Bond Index financial futures contract may vary from the bonds held by the Fund. As a result, the Fund's ability to hedge effectively all or a portion of the value of its Municipal Bonds through the use of such financial futures contracts will depend in

## **Table of Contents**

part on the degree to which price movements in the index underlying the financial futures contract correlate with the price movements of the Municipal Bonds held by the Fund. The correlation may be affected by disparities in the average maturity, ratings, geographical mix or structure of the Fund's investments as compared to those comprising the Municipal Bond Index and general economic or political factors. In addition, the correlation between movements in the value of the Municipal Bond Index may be subject to change over time as additions to and deletions from the Municipal Bond Index alter its structure. The correlation between futures contracts on U.S. Government securities and the Municipal Bonds held by the Fund may be adversely affected by similar factors and the risk of imperfect correlation between movements in the prices of such futures contracts and the prices of Municipal Bonds held by the Fund may be greater. Municipal Bond Index futures contracts were approved for trading in 1986. Trading in such futures contracts may tend to be less liquid than trading in other futures contracts. The trading of futures contracts also is subject to certain market risks, such as inadequate trading activity, which could at times make it difficult or impossible to liquidate existing positions.

The Fund expects to liquidate a majority of the futures contracts it enters into through offsetting transactions on the applicable contract market. There can be no assurance, however, that a liquid secondary market will exist for any particular futures contract at any specific time. Thus, it may not be possible to close out a futures position. In the event of adverse price movements, the Fund would continue to be required to make daily cash payments of variation margin. In such situations, if the Fund has insufficient cash, it may be required to sell portfolio securities to meet daily variation margin requirements at a time when it may be disadvantageous to do so. The inability to close out futures positions also could have an adverse impact on the Fund's ability to hedge effectively its investments in Municipal Bonds. The liquidity of a secondary market in a futures contract may be adversely affected by daily price fluctuation limits established by commodity exchanges which limit the amount of fluctuation in a futures contract price during a single trading day. Once the daily limit has been reached in the contract, no trades may be entered into at a price beyond the limit, thus preventing the liquidation of open futures positions. Prices have in the past moved beyond the daily limit on a number of consecutive trading days. The Fund will enter into a futures position only if, in the judgment of the Investment Adviser, there appears to be an actively traded secondary market for such futures contracts.

The successful use of transactions in futures and related options also depends on the ability of the Investment Adviser to forecast correctly the direction and extent of interest rate movements within a given time frame. To the extent interest rates remain stable during the period in which a futures contract or option is held by the Fund or such rates move in a direction opposite to that anticipated, the Fund may realize a loss on the hedging transaction which is not fully or partially offset by an increase in the value of portfolio securities. As a result, the Fund's total return for such period may be less than if it had not engaged in the hedging transaction.

Because of low initial margin deposits made upon the opening of a futures position, futures transactions involve substantial leverage. As a result, relatively small movements in the price of the futures contracts can result in substantial unrealized gains or losses. There is also the risk of loss by the Fund of margin deposits in the event of bankruptcy of a broker with whom the Fund has an open position in a financial futures contract. Because the Fund will engage in the purchase and sale of futures contracts for hedging purposes or to seek to enhance the Fund's return, any losses incurred in connection therewith should, if the hedging strategy is successful, be offset in whole or in part by increases in the value of securities held by the Fund or decreases in the price of securities the Fund intends to acquire.

The amount of risk the Fund assumes when it purchases an option on a futures contract is the premium paid for the option plus related transaction costs. In addition to the correlation risks discussed above, the purchase of an option on a futures contract also entails the risk that changes in the value of the underlying futures contract will not be fully reflected in the value of the option purchased.

## **Table of Contents**

### **OTHER INVESTMENT POLICIES**

The Fund has adopted certain other policies as set forth below.

#### **Temporary Investments**

The Fund may invest in short term tax exempt and taxable securities subject to the limitations set forth above. The tax exempt money market securities may include municipal notes, municipal commercial paper, municipal bonds with a remaining maturity of less than one year, variable rate demand notes and participations therein. Municipal notes include tax anticipation notes, bond anticipation notes, revenue anticipation notes and grant anticipation notes. Anticipation notes are sold as interim financing in anticipation of tax collection, bond sales, government grants or revenue receipts. Municipal commercial paper refers to short term unsecured promissory notes generally issued to finance short term credit needs. The taxable money market securities in which the Fund may invest as Temporary Investments consist of U.S. Government securities, U.S. Government agency securities, domestic bank or savings institution certificates of deposit and bankers' acceptances, short term corporate debt securities such as commercial paper and repurchase agreements. These Temporary Investments must have a stated maturity not in excess of one year from the date of purchase. The Fund may not invest in any security issued by a commercial bank or a savings institution unless the bank or institution is organized and operating in the United States, has total assets of at least one billion dollars and is a member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation ( FDIC ), except that up to 10% of total assets may be invested in certificates of deposit of smaller institutions if such certificates are fully insured by the FDIC.

#### **Interest Rate Swap Transactions**

In order to seek to hedge the value of the Fund against interest rate fluctuations, to hedge against increases in the Fund's costs associated with the dividend payments on any preferred stock, including the AMPS, or to seek to increase the Fund's return, the Fund may enter into interest rate swap transactions such as Municipal Market Data AAA Cash Curve swaps ( MMD Swaps ) or Bond Market Association Municipal Swap Index swaps ( BMA Swaps ). To the extent that the Fund enters into these transactions, the Fund expects to do so primarily to preserve a return or spread on a particular investment or portion of its portfolio as a duration management technique or to protect against any increase in the price of securities the Fund anticipates purchasing at a later date. The Fund may enter into these transactions primarily as a hedge or for duration or risk management rather than as a speculative investment. However, the Fund also may invest in MMD Swaps and BMA Swaps to seek to enhance return or gain or to increase the Fund's yield, for example, during periods of steep interest rate yield curves (*i.e.*, wide differences between short term and long term interest rates).

The Fund may purchase and sell BMA Swaps in the BMA swap market. In a BMA Swap, the Fund exchanges with another party their respective commitments to pay or receive interest (*e.g.*, an exchange of fixed rate payments for floating rate payments linked to the Bond Market Association Municipal Swap Index). Because the underlying index is a tax exempt index, BMA Swaps may reduce cross-market risks incurred by the Fund and increase the Fund's ability to hedge effectively. BMA Swaps are typically quoted for the entire yield curve, beginning with a seven day floating rate index out to 30 years. The duration of a BMA Swap is approximately equal to the duration of a fixed rate Municipal Bond with the same attributes as the swap (*e.g.*, coupon, maturity, call feature).

The Fund also may purchase and sell MMD Swaps, also known as MMD rate locks. An MMD Swap permits the Fund to lock in a specified municipal interest rate for a portion of its portfolio to preserve a return on a particular investment or a portion of its portfolio as a duration management technique or to protect against any increase in the price of securities to be purchased at a later date. By using an MMD Swap, the Fund can create a synthetic long or short position, allowing the Fund to select the most attractive part of the yield curve. An MMD Swap is a

contract between the Fund and an MMD Swap provider pursuant to which the parties agree to make

---

## **Table of Contents**

payments to each other on a notional amount, contingent upon whether the Municipal Market Data AAA General Obligation Scale is above or below a specified level on the expiration date of the contract. For example, if the Fund buys an MMD Swap and the Municipal Market Data AAA General Obligation Scale is below the specified level on the expiration date, the counterparty to the contract will make a payment to the Fund equal to the specified level minus the actual level, multiplied by the notional amount of the contract. If the Municipal Market Data AAA General Obligation Scale is above the specified level on the expiration date, the Fund will make a payment to the counterparty equal to the actual level minus the specified level, multiplied by the notional amount of the contract.

In connection with investments in BMA and MMD Swaps, there is a risk that municipal yields will move in the opposite direction than anticipated by the Fund, which would cause the Fund to make payments to its counterparty in the transaction that could adversely affect the Fund's performance.

The Fund has no obligation to enter into BMA or MMD Swaps and may not do so. The net amount of the excess, if any, of the Fund's obligations over its entitlements with respect to each interest rate swap will be accrued on a daily basis, and the Fund will segregate liquid securities having an aggregate net asset value at least equal to the accrued excess.

## **Credit Default Swap Agreements**

The Fund may enter into credit default swap agreements for hedging purposes or to seek to increase its return. The credit default swap agreement may have as reference obligations one or more securities that are not currently held by the Fund. The protection buyer in a credit default contract may be obligated to pay the protection seller an upfront or a periodic stream of payments over the term of the contract provided that no credit event on a reference obligation has occurred. If a credit event occurs, the seller generally must pay the buyer the par value (full notional value) of the swap in exchange for an equal face amount of deliverable obligations of the reference entity described in the swap, or the seller may be required to deliver the related net cash amount, if the swap is cash settled. The Fund may be either the buyer or seller in the transaction. If the Fund is a buyer and no credit event occurs, the Fund may recover nothing if the swap is held through its termination date. However, if a credit event occurs, the buyer generally may elect to receive the full notional value of the swap in exchange for an equal face amount of deliverable obligations of the reference entity whose value may have significantly decreased. As a seller, the Fund generally receives an upfront payment or a fixed rate of income throughout the term of the swap, which typically is between six months and three years, provided that there is no credit event. If a credit event occurs, generally the seller must pay the buyer the full notional value of the swap in exchange for an equal face amount of deliverable obligations of the reference entity whose value may have significantly decreased. As the seller, the Fund would effectively add leverage to its portfolio because, in addition to its total net assets, the Fund would be subject to investment exposure on the notional amount of the swap.

Credit default swap agreements involve greater risks than if the Fund had invested in the reference obligation directly since, in addition to general market risks, credit default swaps are subject to illiquidity risk, counterparty risk and credit risks. The Fund will enter into credit default swap agreements only with counterparties who are rated investment grade quality by at least one nationally recognized statistical rating organization at the time of entering into such transaction or whose creditworthiness is believed by the Investment Adviser to be equivalent to such rating. A buyer generally also will lose its investment and recover nothing should no credit event occur and the swap is held to its termination date. If a credit event were to occur, the value of any deliverable obligation received by the seller, coupled with the upfront or periodic payments previously received, may be less than the full notional value it pays to the buyer, resulting in a loss of value to the seller. The Fund's obligations under a credit default swap agreement will be accrued daily (offset against any amounts owing to the Fund). The Fund will at all times segregate with its custodian in connection with each such transaction liquid securities or cash with a value at least equal to the Fund's exposure (any accrued but unpaid net amounts owed by the Fund to any counterparty), on a marked-to-market basis (as calculated pursuant to

## **Table of Contents**

requirements of the Commission). Such segregation will ensure that the Fund has assets available to satisfy its obligations with respect to the transaction and will avoid any potential leveraging of the Fund's portfolio. Such segregation will not limit the Fund's exposure to loss.

### **VRDOs and Participating VRDOs**

VRDOs are tax exempt obligations that contain a floating or variable interest rate adjustment formula and right of demand on the part of the holder thereof to receive payment of the unpaid principal balance plus accrued interest upon a short notice period not to exceed seven days. There is, however, the possibility that because of default or insolvency the demand feature of VRDOs and Participating VRDOs may not be honored. The interest rates are adjustable at intervals (ranging from daily to up to one year) to some prevailing market rate for similar investments, such adjustment formula being calculated to maintain the market value of the VRDOs, at approximately the par value of the VRDOs on the adjustment date. The adjustments typically are based upon the Public Securities Association Index or some other appropriate interest rate adjustment index. The Fund may invest in all types of tax exempt instruments currently outstanding or to be issued in the future which satisfy its short term maturity and quality standards.

Participating VRDOs provide the Fund with a specified undivided interest (up to 100%) of the underlying obligation and the right to demand payment of the unpaid principal balance plus accrued interest on the Participating VRDOs from the financial institution upon a specified number of days' notice, not to exceed seven days. In addition, the Participating VRDO is backed by an irrevocable letter of credit or guaranty of the financial institution. The Fund would have an undivided interest in the underlying obligation and thus participate on the same basis as the financial institution in such obligation except that the financial institution typically retains fees out of the interest paid on the obligation for servicing the obligation, providing the letter of credit and issuing the repurchase commitment. The Fund has been advised by its counsel that the Fund should be entitled to treat the income received on Participating VRDOs as interest from tax exempt obligations as long as the Fund does not invest more than 20% of its total assets in such investments and certain other conditions are met. It is contemplated that the Fund will not invest more than 20% of its assets in Participating VRDOs.

VRDOs that contain an unconditional right of demand to receive payment of the unpaid principal balance plus accrued interest on a notice period exceeding seven days may be deemed to be illiquid securities. The Directors may adopt guidelines and delegate to the Investment Adviser the daily function of determining and monitoring liquidity of such VRDOs. The Directors, however, will retain sufficient oversight and will be ultimately responsible for such determinations.

The Temporary Investments, VRDOs and Participating VRDOs in which the Fund may invest will be in the following rating categories at the time of purchase: MIG-1/VMIG-1 through MIG-3/VMIG-3 for notes and VRDOs and Prime-1 through Prime-3 for commercial paper (as determined by Moody's), SP-1 through SP-2 for notes and A-1 through A-3 for VRDOs and commercial paper (as determined by S&P), or F-1 through F-3 for notes, VRDOs and commercial paper (as determined by Fitch). Temporary Investments, if not rated, must be of comparable quality in the opinion of the Investment Adviser. In addition, the Fund reserves the right to invest temporarily a greater portion of its assets in Temporary Investments for defensive purposes, when, in the judgment of the Investment Adviser, market conditions warrant.

### **Repurchase Agreements**

The Fund may invest in securities pursuant to repurchase agreements. Repurchase agreements may be entered into only with a member bank of the Federal Reserve System or a primary dealer or an affiliate thereof, in U.S. Government securities. Under such agreements, the bank or primary dealer or an affiliate thereof agrees, upon entering into the contract, to repurchase the security at a mutually agreed upon time and price, thereby determining the yield during the term of the agreement. This results in a fixed rate of return insulated from market fluctuations during



such period. In repurchase agreements, the prices at which the trades are conducted do

---

## **Table of Contents**

not reflect accrued interest on the underlying obligations. Such agreements usually cover short periods, such as under one week. Repurchase agreements may be construed to be collateralized loans by the purchaser to the seller secured by the securities transferred to the purchaser. In a repurchase agreement, the Fund will require the seller to provide additional collateral if the market value of the securities falls below the repurchase price at any time during the term of the repurchase agreement. In the event of default by the seller under a repurchase agreement construed to be a collateralized loan, the underlying securities are not owned by the Fund but only constitute collateral for the seller's obligation to pay the repurchase price. Therefore, the Fund may suffer time delays and incur costs or possible losses in connection with the disposition of the collateral. In the event of a default under such a repurchase agreement, instead of the contractual fixed rate of return, the rate of return to the Fund shall be dependent upon intervening fluctuations of the market value of such security and the accrued interest on the security. In such event, the Fund would have rights against the seller for breach of contract with respect to any losses arising from market fluctuations following the failure of the seller to perform.

In general, for Federal income tax purposes, repurchase agreements are treated as collateralized loans secured by the securities sold. Therefore, amounts earned under such agreements will not be considered tax exempt interest. The treatment of purchase and sales contracts is less certain.

## **Borrowings**

The Fund is authorized to borrow money in amounts of up to 5% of the value of its total assets at the time of such borrowings. Borrowings by the Fund (commonly known, as with the issuance of preferred stock, as leveraging) create an opportunity for greater total return since, for example, the Fund will not be required to sell portfolio securities to repurchase or redeem shares but, at the same time, increase exposure to capital risk. In addition, borrowed funds are subject to interest costs that may offset or exceed the return earned on the borrowed funds.

## **DESCRIPTION OF AMPS**

*Certain of the capitalized terms used herein not otherwise defined in this prospectus have the meaning provided in the Glossary at the back of this prospectus.*

## **General**

The Series F AMPS will be shares of preferred stock that entitle their holders to receive dividends when, as and if declared by the Board of Directors, out of funds legally available therefor, at a rate per annum that may vary for the successive Dividend Periods. After the Initial Dividend Period, each Subsequent Dividend Period for the Series F AMPS generally will be a 7-Day Dividend Period; provided however, that, prior to any Auction, the Fund may elect, subject to certain limitations described herein, upon giving notice to holders thereof, a Special Dividend Period. The Applicable Rate for a particular Dividend Period will be determined by an Auction conducted on the Business Day before the start of such Dividend Period. Beneficial Owners and Potential Beneficial Owners of shares of AMPS may participate in Auctions therefor, although, except in the case of a Special Dividend Period of more than 28 days, Beneficial Owners desiring to continue to hold all of their shares of AMPS regardless of the Applicable Rate resulting from Auctions need not participate. For an explanation of Auctions and the method of determining the Applicable Rate, see *The Auction* herein and in the statement of additional information.

The Fund has outstanding 11,000 shares of five other series of Auction Market Preferred Stock, each with a liquidation preference of \$25,000 per share, plus accumulated but unpaid dividends, for an aggregate initial liquidation preference of \$275,000,000 (the *Other AMPS*). The *Other*

Edgar Filing: MUNIVEST FUND INC - Form N-2/A

AMPS are as follows: 2,000 shares of Auction Market Preferred Stock, Series A; 2,000 shares of Auction Market Preferred Stock, Series B; 2,000 shares of Auction Market Preferred Stock, Series C; 2,000 shares of Auction Market Preferred Stock,

---

## **Table of Contents**

Series D; and 3,000 shares of Auction Market Preferred Stock, Series E. The Series F AMPS offered hereby rank on a parity with the Other AMPS with respect to dividends and liquidation preference. The terms of the shares of Other AMPS are substantially the same as the terms of the shares of AMPS described below.

The following is a brief description of the terms of the shares of AMPS. This description does not purport to be complete and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to the Fund's Charter and Articles Supplementary of the AMPS, including the provisions thereof establishing the AMPS. The Fund's Charter and the form of Articles Supplementary of the AMPS establishing the terms of the AMPS have been filed as exhibits to the Registration Statement of which this prospectus is a part.

### **Dividends**

*General.* The holders of shares of AMPS will be entitled to receive, when, as and if declared by the Board of Directors of the Fund, out of funds legally available therefor, cumulative cash dividends on their shares, at the Applicable Rate determined as set forth below under Determination of Dividend Rate, payable on the respective dates set forth below. Dividends on the shares of AMPS so declared and payable shall be paid (i) in preference to and in priority over any dividends so declared and payable on the Fund's common stock, and (ii) to the extent permitted under the Code, and to the extent available, out of net tax exempt income earned on the Fund's investments. Generally, dividends on shares of AMPS, to the extent that they are derived from interest paid on Municipal Bonds, will be exempt from Federal income taxes, subject to possible application of the alternative minimum tax. See Taxes.

Dividends on the shares of AMPS will accumulate from the date on which the Fund originally issues the shares of AMPS (the Date of Original Issue) and will be payable on the dates described below. Dividends on shares of AMPS with respect to the Initial Dividend Period shall be payable on the Initial Dividend Payment Date. Following the Initial Dividend Payment Date for the AMPS, dividends on the AMPS will be payable, at the option of the Fund, either (i) with respect to any 7-Day Dividend Period and any Short Term Dividend Period of 35 or fewer days, on the day next succeeding the last day thereof or (ii) with respect to any Short Term Dividend Period of more than 35 days and with respect to any Long Term Dividend Period, monthly on the first Business Day of each calendar month during such Short Term Dividend Period or Long Term Dividend Period and on the day next succeeding the last day thereof (each such date referred to in clause (i) or (ii) being referred to herein as a Normal Dividend Payment Date), except that if such Normal Dividend Payment Date is not a Business Day, the Dividend Payment Date shall be the first Business Day next succeeding such Normal Dividend Payment Date. Thus, following the Initial Dividend Payment Date for AMPS, dividends generally will be payable (in the case of Dividend Periods which are not Special Dividend Periods) on each succeeding Wednesday in the case of the Series F AMPS. Although any particular Dividend Payment Date may not occur on the originally scheduled date because of the exceptions discussed above, the next succeeding Dividend Payment Date, subject to such exceptions, will occur on the next following originally scheduled date. If for any reason a Dividend Payment Date cannot be fixed as described above, then the Board of Directors shall fix the Dividend Payment Date. The Board of Directors by resolution prior to authorization of a dividend by the Board of Directors may change a Dividend Payment Date if such change does not adversely affect the contract rights of the holders of shares of AMPS set forth in the Charter. The Initial Dividend Period, 7-Day Dividend Periods and Special Dividend Periods are hereinafter sometimes referred to as Dividend Periods. Each dividend payment date determined as provided above is hereinafter referred to as a Dividend Payment Date.

Prior to each Dividend Payment Date, the Fund is required to deposit with the Auction Agent sufficient funds for the payment of declared dividends. The Fund does not intend to establish any reserves for the payment of dividends.

Each dividend will be paid to the record holder of the AMPS, which holder is expected to be the nominee of the Securities Depository. See The Auction Securities Depository. The Securities Depository will credit the accounts of the Agent Members of the Existing Holders in accordance with the Securities Depository's



**Table of Contents**

normal procedures which provide for payment in same-day funds. The Agent Member of an Existing Holder will be responsible for holding or disbursing such payments on the applicable Dividend Payment Date to such Existing Holder in accordance with the instructions of such Existing Holder. Dividends in arrears for any past Dividend Period may be declared and paid at any time, without reference to any regular Dividend Payment Date, to the nominee of the Securities Depository. Any dividend payment made on shares of AMPS first shall be credited against the earliest declared but unpaid dividends accumulated with respect to such shares.

Holders of shares of AMPS will not be entitled to any dividends, whether payable in cash, property or stock, in excess of full cumulative dividends except as described below under *Additional Dividends* in this prospectus and under *Description of AMPS Dividends Non-Payment Period; Late Charge* in the statement of additional information. No interest will be payable in respect of any dividend payment or payments on the shares of AMPS that may be in arrears.

The amount of cash dividends per share of the AMPS payable (if declared) on the Initial Dividend Payment Date, and on each Dividend Payment Date of each 7-Day Dividend Period and each Short Term Dividend Period, shall be computed by multiplying the Applicable Rate for such Dividend Period by a fraction, the numerator of which will be the number of days in such Dividend Period or part thereof that such share was outstanding and for which dividends are payable on such Dividend Payment Date and the denominator of which will be 365, multiplying the amount so obtained by \$25,000, and rounding the amount so obtained to the nearest cent. During any Long Term Dividend Period, the amount of cash dividends per share of AMPS payable (if declared) on any Dividend Payment Date shall be computed by multiplying the Applicable Rate for such Dividend Period by a fraction, the numerator of which will be such number of days in such part of such Dividend Period that such share was outstanding and for which dividends are payable on such Dividend Payment Date and the denominator of which will be 360, multiplying the amount so obtained by \$25,000, and rounding the amount so obtained to the nearest cent.

*Notification of Dividend Period.* With respect to each Dividend Period that is a Special Dividend Period, the Fund, at its sole option and to the extent permitted by law, by telephonic and written notice (a *Request for Special Dividend Period* ) to the Auction Agent and to each Broker-Dealer, may request that the next succeeding Dividend Period for the AMPS will be a number of days (other than seven), evenly divisible by seven, and not fewer than seven nor more than 364 in the case of a Short Term Dividend Period or one whole year or more but not greater than five years in the case of a Long Term Dividend Period, specified in such notice, provided that the Fund may not give a Request for Special Dividend Period (and any such request shall be null and void) unless, for any Auction occurring after the initial Auction, Sufficient Clearing Bids were made in the last occurring Auction and unless full cumulative dividends and any amounts due with respect to redemptions, and any Additional Dividends payable prior to such date have been paid in full. Such Request for Special Dividend Period, in the case of a Short Term Dividend Period, shall be given on or prior to the second Business Day but not more than seven Business Days prior to an Auction Date for the AMPS and, in the case of a Long Term Dividend Period, shall be given on or prior to the second Business Day but not more than 28 days prior to an Auction Date for the AMPS. Upon receiving such Request for Special Dividend Period, the Broker-Dealers jointly shall determine whether, given the factors set forth below, it is advisable that the Fund issue a Notice of Special Dividend Period for the AMPS as contemplated by such Request for Special Dividend Period and the Optional Redemption Price of the AMPS during such Special Dividend Period and the Specific Redemption Provisions and shall give the Fund written notice (a *Response* ) of such determination by no later than the second Business Day prior to such Auction Date. In the event the Response indicates that it is advisable that the Fund give a notice of a Special Dividend Period for the AMPS, the Fund, by no later than the second Business Day prior to such Auction Date may give a notice (a *Notice of Special Dividend Period* ) to the Auction Agent, the Securities Depository and each Broker-Dealer. See *Description of AMPS Dividends Notification of Dividend Period* in the statement of additional information for a detailed description of these procedures.

*Determination of Dividend Rate.* The dividend rate on shares of the AMPS during the period from and including the Date of Original Issue for the Series F AMPS to but excluding the Initial Dividend Payment Date

**Table of Contents**

(the Initial Dividend Period ) with respect to the Series F AMPS will be the rate per annum set forth above under Prospectus Summary Dividends and Dividend Periods. Commencing on the Initial Dividend Payment Date for the Series F AMPS, the Applicable Rate on the Series F AMPS for each Subsequent Dividend Period, which Subsequent Dividend Period shall be a period commencing on and including a Dividend Payment Date and ending on and including the calendar day prior to the next Dividend Payment Date (or calendar day prior to the last Dividend Payment Date in a Dividend Period if there is more than one Dividend Payment Date), shall be equal to the rate per annum that results from the Auction with respect to such Subsequent Dividend Period. The Initial Dividend Period and Subsequent Dividend Period for the AMPS is referred to herein as a Dividend Period. Cash dividends shall be calculated as set forth above under Dividends General.

*Restrictions on Dividends and Other Payments.* Under the 1940 Act, the Fund may not declare dividends or make other distributions on shares of common stock or purchase any such shares if, at the time of the declaration, distribution or purchase, as applicable (and after giving effect thereto), asset coverage (as defined in the 1940 Act) with respect to the outstanding shares of AMPS (and Other AMPS) would be less than 200% (or such other percentage as in the future may be required by law). The Fund estimates that, based on the composition of its portfolio at February 29, 2004, asset coverage with respect to shares of AMPS would be approximately 288% representing approximately 35% of the Fund's capital and 53% of the Fund's common stock equity immediately after the issuance of the shares of AMPS offered hereby. Under the Code, the Fund, among other things, must distribute at least 90% of its investment company taxable income each year in order to maintain its qualification for tax treatment as a regulated investment company. The foregoing limitations on dividends, distributions and purchases under certain circumstances may impair the Fund's ability to maintain such qualification. See Taxes in the statement of additional information.

Upon any failure to pay dividends on shares of AMPS for two years or more, the holders of the shares of AMPS will acquire certain additional voting rights. See Voting Rights below. Such rights shall be the exclusive remedy of the holders of shares of AMPS upon any failure to pay dividends on shares of the Fund.

*Additional Dividends.* If the Fund retroactively allocates any net capital gain or other income subject to regular Federal income taxes to shares of AMPS without having given advance notice thereof to the Auction Agent as described under The Auction Auction Procedures Auction Date; Advance Notice of Allocation of Taxable Income; Inclusion of Taxable Income in Dividends below, which may only happen when such allocation is made as a result of the redemption of all or some of the outstanding shares of AMPS or the liquidation of the Fund (the amount of such allocation referred to herein as a Retroactive Taxable Allocation ), the Fund, within 90 days (and generally within 60 days) after the end of the Fund's fiscal year for which a Retroactive Taxable Allocation is made, will provide notice thereof to the Auction Agent and to each holder of shares (initially Cede as nominee of the Securities Depository) during such fiscal year at such holder's address as the same appears or last appeared on the stock books of the Fund. The Fund, within 30 days after such notice is given to the Auction Agent, will pay to the Auction Agent (who then will distribute to such holders of shares of AMPS), out of funds legally available therefor, an amount equal to the aggregate Additional Dividend (as defined below) with respect to all Retroactive Taxable Allocations made to such holders during the fiscal year in question.

An Additional Dividend means payment to a present or former holder of shares of AMPS of an amount which, when taken together with the aggregate amount of Retroactive Taxable Allocations made to such holder with respect to the fiscal year in question, would cause such holder's dividends in dollars (after Federal income tax consequences) from the aggregate of both the Retroactive Taxable Allocations and the Additional Dividend to be equal to the dollar amount of the dividends which would have been received by such holder if the amount of the aggregate Retroactive Taxable Allocations had been excludable from the gross income of such holder. Such Additional Dividend shall be calculated (i) without consideration being given to the time value of money; (ii) assuming that no holder of shares of AMPS is subject to the Federal alternative minimum tax with respect to dividends received from the Fund; and (iii) assuming that each Retroactive Taxable Allocation would be taxable in the hands of each holder of shares of AMPS at the greater of: (a) the maximum marginal regular

**Table of Contents**

Federal individual income tax rate applicable to ordinary income or capital gains depending on the taxable character of the distribution (including any surtax); or (b) the maximum marginal regular Federal corporate income tax rate applicable to ordinary income or capital gains depending on the taxable character of the distribution (disregarding in both (a) and (b) the effect of any state or local taxes and the phase out of, or provision limiting, personal exemptions, itemized deductions, or the benefit of lower tax brackets). Although the Fund generally intends to designate any Additional Dividend as an exempt-interest dividend to the extent permitted by applicable law, it is possible that all or a portion of any Additional Dividend will be taxable to the recipient thereof. See Taxes in the statement of additional information. The Fund will not pay a further Additional Dividend with respect to any taxable portion of an Additional Dividend.

If the Fund does not give advance notice of the amount of taxable income to be included in a dividend on shares of AMPS in the related Auction, the Fund may include such taxable income in a dividend on shares of AMPS if it increases the dividend by an additional amount calculated as if such income were a Retroactive Taxable Allocation and the additional amount were an Additional Dividend and notifies the Auction Agent of such inclusion at least five Business Days prior to the applicable Dividend Payment Date. See The Auction Auction Procedures Auction Date; Advance Notice of Allocation of Taxable Income; Inclusion of Taxable Income in Dividends below.

**Asset Maintenance**

The Fund will be required to satisfy two separate asset maintenance requirements under the terms of the Articles Supplementary. These requirements are summarized below.

*1940 Act AMPS Asset Coverage.* The Fund will be required under the Articles Supplementary to maintain, with respect to shares of AMPS, as of the last Business Day of each month in which any shares of AMPS are outstanding, asset coverage of at least 200% with respect to senior securities that are stock, including the shares of AMPS and Other AMPS (or such other asset coverage as in the future may be specified in or under the 1940 Act as the minimum asset coverage for senior securities that are stock of a closed-end investment company as a condition of paying dividends on its common stock) ( 1940 Act AMPS Asset Coverage ). If the Fund fails to maintain 1940 Act AMPS Asset Coverage and such failure is not cured as of the last Business Day of the following month (the 1940 Act Cure Date ), the Fund will be required under certain circumstances to redeem certain of the shares of AMPS. See Redemption below.

Based upon the composition of the Fund's portfolio at February 29, 2004, the 1940 Act AMPS Asset Coverage immediately following the issuance of AMPS offered hereby (after giving effect to the deduction of the underwriting discount and offering expenses for the shares of AMPS) will be computed as follows:

Value of Fund assets less liabilities				
not constituting senior securities	=	\$960,911,990	=	288%
<hr/>				
Senior securities representing indebtedness		\$334,044,840		
plus liquidation value of the shares of AMPS				

*AMPS Basic Maintenance Amount.* So long as shares of AMPS are outstanding, the Fund will be required under the Articles Supplementary to maintain as of the last Business Day of each week (a Valuation Date ) Moody's Eligible Assets and S&P Eligible Assets each having in the aggregate a Discounted Value at least equal to the AMPS Basic Maintenance Amount. The AMPS Basic Maintenance Amount includes the sum of (i) the aggregate liquidation value of AMPS and Other AMPS then outstanding and (ii) certain accrued and projected payment obligations of



## Edgar Filing: MUNIVEST FUND INC - Form N-2/A

the Fund. See Description of AMPS Asset Maintenance AMPS Basic Maintenance Amount in the statement of additional information. If the Fund fails to meet such requirement as of any Valuation Date and such failure is not cured on or before the sixth Business Day after such Valuation Date (the AMPS Basic Maintenance Cure Date ), the Fund will be required under certain circumstances to redeem

---

## **Table of Contents**

certain of the shares of AMPS. Upon any failure to maintain the required Discounted Value, the Fund will use its best efforts to alter the composition of its portfolio to reattain a Discounted Value at least equal to the AMPS Basic Maintenance Amount on or prior to the AMPS Basic Maintenance Cure Date. See *Redemption* herein and in the statement of additional information.

### **Redemption**

*Optional Redemption.* To the extent permitted under the 1940 Act and under Maryland law, upon giving a Notice of Redemption, as provided in the statement of additional information, the Fund, at its option, may redeem shares of AMPS, in whole or in part, out of funds legally available therefor, at the Optional Redemption Price per share on any Dividend Payment Date; provided that no share of AMPS may be redeemed at the option of the Fund during (a) the Initial Dividend Period with respect to such share or (b) a Non-Call Period to which such share is subject. *Optional Redemption Price* means \$25,000 per share of AMPS plus an amount equal to accumulated but unpaid dividends (whether or not earned or declared) to the date fixed for redemption plus any applicable redemption premium, if any, attributable to the designation of a Premium Call Period. In addition, holders of AMPS may be entitled to receive Additional Dividends in the event of redemption of such AMPS to the extent provided herein. See *Dividends Additional Dividends*. The Fund has the authority to redeem the AMPS for any reason and may redeem all or part of the outstanding shares of AMPS if it anticipates that the Fund's leveraged capital structure will result in a lower rate of return to holders of common stock for any significant period of time than that obtainable if the common stock were unleveraged.

*Mandatory Redemption.* The Fund will be required to redeem, out of funds legally available therefor, at the Mandatory Redemption Price per share, shares of AMPS to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act and Maryland law, on a date fixed by the Board of Directors, if the Fund fails to maintain Moody's Eligible Assets and S&P Eligible Assets each with an aggregate Discounted Value equal to or greater than the AMPS Basic Maintenance Amount or to satisfy the 1940 Act AMPS Asset Coverage and such failure is not cured on or before the AMPS Basic Maintenance Cure Date or the 1940 Act Cure Date (herein collectively referred to as a *Cure Date*), as the case may be. *Mandatory Redemption Price* means \$25,000 per share of AMPS plus an amount equal to accumulated but unpaid dividends (whether or not earned or declared) to the date fixed for redemption. In addition, holders of AMPS may be entitled to receive Additional Dividends in the event of redemption of such AMPS to the extent provided herein. See *Dividends Additional Dividends*.

For a discussion of the allocation procedures to be used if fewer than all of the outstanding shares of AMPS are to be redeemed and for a discussion of other redemption procedures, see *Description of AMPS Redemption* in the statement of additional information.

### **Liquidation Rights**

Upon any liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Fund, whether voluntary or involuntary, the holders of shares of AMPS will be entitled to receive, out of the assets of the Fund available for distribution to stockholders, before any distribution or payment is made upon any shares of common stock or any other capital stock of the Fund ranking junior in right of payment upon liquidation of AMPS, \$25,000 per share together with the amount of any dividends accumulated but unpaid (whether or not earned or declared) thereon to the date of distribution, and after such payment the holders of AMPS will be entitled to no other payments except for Additional Dividends. If such assets of the Fund shall be insufficient to make the full liquidation payment on the outstanding shares of AMPS and liquidation payments on any other outstanding class or series of preferred stock of the Fund ranking on a parity with the AMPS as to payment upon liquidation, including the Other AMPS, then such assets will be distributed among the holders of such shares of AMPS and the holders of shares of such other class or series, including the Other AMPS, ratably in proportion to the respective preferential amounts to which they are entitled. After payment of the full amount of liquidation distribution to which they are entitled, the holders of AMPS will not be entitled to any further participation in any distribution of assets by the Fund. A consolidation, merger or share exchange of the Fund with or into any other entity or entities or a sale, whether for



## **Table of Contents**

cash, shares of stock, securities or properties, of all or substantially all or any part of the assets of the Fund shall not be deemed or construed to be a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Fund.

## **Voting Rights**

Except as otherwise indicated in this prospectus and the statement of additional information and except as otherwise required by applicable law, holders of shares of AMPS will be entitled to one vote per share on each matter submitted to a vote of stockholders of the Fund and will vote together with holders of shares of Other AMPS and holders of shares of common stock as a single class.

The 1940 Act and the Articles Supplementary require that the holders of preferred stock, including the AMPS and Other AMPS, voting as a separate class, have the rights to elect two of the Fund's Directors at all times and to elect a majority of the Directors at any time that two full years' dividends on the AMPS (and Other AMPS) are unpaid. The remaining Directors are elected by holders of shares of common stock, voting as a separate class. The holders of AMPS (and Other AMPS) will vote as a separate class or classes on certain other matters as required under the Articles Supplementary, the 1940 Act and Maryland law. In addition, the Series F AMPS (and Other AMPS) may vote as a separate series under certain circumstances. See "Description of AMPS Voting Rights" in the statement of additional information.

## **THE AUCTION**

*Certain of the capitalized terms used herein not otherwise defined in this prospectus have the meaning provided in the Glossary at the back of this prospectus.*

## **General**

Holders of the shares of the Series F AMPS will be entitled to receive cumulative cash dividends on their shares when, as and if declared by the Board of Directors of the Fund, out of funds legally available therefor, on the Initial Dividend Payment Date with respect to the Initial Dividend Period and, thereafter, on each Dividend Payment Date with respect to a Subsequent Dividend Period (generally a period of seven days, subject to certain exceptions set forth under "Description of AMPS Dividends General") at the rate per annum equal to the Applicable Rate for each such Dividend Period.

The provisions of the Articles Supplementary establishing the terms of the Series F AMPS offered hereby will provide that the Applicable Rate for the shares of AMPS for each Dividend Period after the Initial Dividend Period therefor will be equal to the rate per annum that the Auction Agent advises has resulted on the Business Day preceding the first day of such Dividend Period due to implementation of the auction procedures set forth in the Articles Supplementary (the "Auction Procedures") in which persons determine to hold or offer to purchase or sell shares of AMPS. The Auction Procedures are attached as Appendix C to the statement of additional information.

Each periodic operation of such procedures with respect to the shares of AMPS is referred to hereinafter as an "Auction." If, however, the Fund should fail to pay or duly provide for the full amount of any dividend on shares of AMPS or the redemption price of shares of AMPS called for

## Edgar Filing: MUNIVEST FUND INC - Form N-2/A

redemption, the Applicable Rate for shares of AMPS will be determined as set forth under Description of AMPS Dividends Non-Payment Period; Late Charge in the statement of additional information.

*Auction Agent Agreement.* The Fund has entered into an agreement with The Bank of New York (together with any successor bank or trust company or other entity entering into a similar agreement with this Fund, the Auction Agent ) (the Auction Agent Agreement ), which provides, among other things, that the

---

## **Table of Contents**

Auction Agent will follow the Auction Procedures for the purpose of determining the Applicable Rate for the AMPS. The Fund will pay the Auction Agent compensation for its services under the Auction Agent Agreement.

*Broker-Dealer Agreements.* The Auction Agent has entered into agreements with Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated ( Merrill Lynch ) and more than twenty other broker-dealers and may enter into similar agreements (collectively, the Broker-Dealer Agreements ) with one or more other broker-dealers (collectively, the Broker-Dealers ) selected by the Fund, which provide for the participation of such Broker-Dealers in Auctions. Merrill Lynch is an affiliate of the Investment Adviser in that they share a common parent, Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.

*Securities Depository.* The Depository Trust Company initially will act as the Securities Depository for the Agent Members with respect to the shares of Series F AMPS. One or more registered certificates for all of the shares of the Series F AMPS initially will be registered in the name of Cede, as nominee of the Securities Depository. The certificate will bear a legend to the effect that such certificate is issued subject to the provisions restricting transfers of shares of AMPS to which it relates contained in the Articles Supplementary. Cede initially will be the holder of record of all shares of AMPS, and Beneficial Owners will not be entitled to receive certificates representing their ownership interest in such shares. The Securities Depository will maintain lists of its participants and will maintain the positions (ownership interests) of shares of AMPS held by each Agent Member, whether as the Beneficial Owner thereof for its own account or as nominee for the Beneficial Owner thereof. Payments made by the Fund to holders of AMPS will be duly made by making payments to the nominee of the Securities Depository.

## **Auction Procedures**

The following is a brief discussion of the procedures to be used in conducting Auctions. This summary is qualified by reference to the Auction Procedures set forth in Appendix C to the statement of additional information. The Settlement Procedures to be used with respect to Auctions are set forth in Appendix B to the statement of additional information.

*Auction Date; Advance Notice of Allocation of Taxable Income; Inclusion of Taxable Income in Dividends.* An Auction to determine the Applicable Rate for the shares of the Series F AMPS offered hereby for each Dividend Period (other than the Initial Dividend Period therefor) will be held on the first Business Day (as hereinafter defined) preceding the first day of such Dividend Period, which first day is also a Dividend Payment Date for the preceding Dividend Period (the date of each Auction being referred to herein as an Auction Date ). Business Day means a day on which the New York Stock Exchange (the NYSE ) is open for trading and which is not a Saturday, Sunday or other day on which banks in the City of New York are authorized or obligated by law to close. Auctions for shares of the Series F AMPS for Dividend Periods after the Initial Dividend Period normally will be held every Tuesday after the preceding Dividend Payment Date, and each subsequent Dividend Period normally will begin on the following Wednesday (also a Dividend Payment Date). The Auction Date and the first day of the related Dividend Period (both of which must be Business Days) need not be consecutive calendar days. For example, in most cases, if the Tuesday that normally would be an Auction Date for the Series F AMPS is not a Business Day, then such Auction Date will be the preceding Monday and the first day of the related Dividend Period will continue to be the following Wednesday. See Description of AMPS Dividends for information concerning the circumstances under which a Dividend Payment Date may fall on a date other than the days specified above, which may affect the Auction Date.

Except as noted below, whenever the Fund intends to include any net capital gain or other income subject to regular Federal income taxes in any dividend on shares of AMPS, the Fund will notify the Auction Agent of the amount to be so included at least five Business Days prior to the Auction Date on which the Applicable Rate for such dividend is to be established. Whenever the Auction Agent receives such notice from the Fund, in turn it will notify each Broker-Dealer, who, on or prior to such Auction Date, in accordance with its Broker-Dealer Agreement, will notify its customers who are Beneficial Owners and Potential Beneficial Owners



**Table of Contents**

believed to be interested in submitting an Order in the Auction to be held on such Auction Date. The Fund also may include such income in a dividend on shares of AMPS without giving advance notice thereof if it increases the dividend by an additional amount calculated as if such income were a Retroactive Taxable Allocation and the additional amount were an Additional Dividend; provided that the Fund will notify the Auction Agent of the additional amounts to be included in such dividend at least five Business Days prior to the applicable Dividend Payment Date. See Description of AMPS Dividends Additional Dividends above.

*Orders by Beneficial Owners, Potential Beneficial Owners, Existing Holders and Potential Holders.* On or prior to each Auction Date:

(a) each Beneficial Owner may submit to its Broker-Dealer by telephone a:

(i) Hold Order indicating the number of outstanding shares, if any, of AMPS that such Beneficial Owner desires to continue to hold without regard to the Applicable Rate for the next Dividend Period for such shares;

(ii) Bid indicating the number of outstanding shares, if any, of AMPS that such Beneficial Owner desires to continue to hold, provided that the Applicable Rate for the next Dividend Period for such shares is not less than the rate per annum then specified by such Beneficial Owner; and/or

(iii) Sell Order indicating the number of outstanding shares, if any, of AMPS that such Beneficial Owner offers to sell without regard to the Applicable Rate for the next Dividend Period for such shares; and

(b) Broker-Dealers will contact customers who are Potential Beneficial Owners of shares of AMPS to determine whether such Potential Beneficial Owners desire to submit Bids indicating the number of shares of AMPS which they offer to purchase provided that the Applicable Rate for the next Dividend Period for such shares is not less than the rates per annum specified in such Bids.

The communication by a Beneficial Owner or Potential Beneficial Owner to a Broker-Dealer and the communication by a Broker-Dealer, whether or not acting for its own account, to the Auction Agent of the foregoing information is hereinafter referred to as an Order and collectively as Orders. A Beneficial Owner or a Potential Beneficial Owner placing an Order, including a Broker-Dealer acting in such capacity for its own account, is hereinafter referred to as a Bidder and collectively as Bidders. Any Order submitted by a Beneficial Owner or a Potential Beneficial Owner to its Broker-Dealer, or by a Broker-Dealer to the Auction Agent, prior to the Submission Deadline on any Auction Date shall be irrevocable.

In an Auction, a Beneficial Owner may submit different types of Orders with respect to shares of AMPS then held by such Beneficial Owner, as well as Bids for additional shares of AMPS. For information concerning the priority given to different types of Orders placed by Beneficial Owners, see Submission of Orders by Broker-Dealers to Auction Agent below.

The Maximum Applicable Rate for shares of AMPS will be the higher of (A) the Applicable Percentage of the Reference Rate or (B) the Applicable Spread plus the Reference Rate. The Auction Agent will round each applicable Maximum Applicable Rate to the nearest one-thousandth (0.001) of one percent per annum, with any such number ending in five ten-thousandths of one percent being rounded upwards



## Edgar Filing: MUNIVEST FUND INC - Form N-2/A

to the nearest one-thousandth (0.001) of one percent. The Auction Agent will not round the applicable Reference Rate as part of its calculation of the Maximum Applicable Rate.

The Maximum Applicable Rate for shares of AMPS will depend on the credit rating or ratings assigned to such shares. The Applicable Percentage and the Applicable Spread will be determined based on (i) the lower

**Table of Contents**

of the credit rating or ratings assigned on such date to such shares by Moody's and S&P (or if Moody's or S&P or both shall not make such rating available, the equivalent of either or both of such ratings by a Substitute Rating Agency or two Substitute Rating Agencies or, in the event that only one such rating shall be available, such rating) and (ii) whether the Fund has provided notification to the Auction Agent prior to the Auction establishing the Applicable Rate for any dividend that net capital gain or other taxable income will be included in such dividend on shares of AMPS as follows:

<b>Credit Ratings</b>		<b>Applicable Percentage of Reference Rate No Notification</b>		<b>Applicable Spread Over Reference Rate No Notification</b>	
<b>Moody's</b>	<b>S&amp;P</b>	<b>Rate No Notification</b>	<b>Rate Notification</b>	<b>Rate No Notification</b>	<b>Rate Notification</b>
Aaa	AAA	110%	125%	1.10%	1.25%
Aa3 to Aa1	AA- to AA+	125%	150%	1.25%	1.50%
A3 to A1	A- to A+	150%	200%	1.50%	2.00%
Baa3 to Baa1	BBB- to BBB+	175%	250%		