# Edgar Filing: NEW GERMANY FUND INC - Form N-CSRS

NEW GERMANY FUND INC Form N-CSRS August 30, 2018 UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20549
FORM N-CSRS
Investment Company Act file number: 811-05983
The New Germany Fund, Inc.
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)
345 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10154-0004
(Address of Principal Executive Offices) (Zip Code)
Registrant's Telephone Number, including Area Code: (212) 250-2500
Diane Kenneally
1 International Place
Boston, MA 02110
(Name and Address of Agent for Service)
Date of fiscal year end: 12/31

Date of reporting period: 6/30/2018

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# ITEM 1. REPORT TO STOCKHOLDERS

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June 30, 2018

**Semiannual Report** 

to Shareholders

The New Germany Fund, Inc.

Ticker Symbol: GF

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The Fund seeks long-term capital appreciation primarily through investment in middle-market German equities.

Investments in funds involve risks, including the loss of principal.

The shares of most closed-end funds, including the Fund, are not continuously offered. Once issued, shares of closed-end funds are bought and sold in the open market. Shares of closed-end funds frequently trade at a discount to net asset value. The price of the Fund s shares is determined by a number of factors, several of which are beyond the control of the Fund. Therefore, the Fund cannot predict whether its shares will trade at, below, or above net asset value.

This Fund is diversified, but primarily focuses its investments in Germany, thereby increasing its vulnerability to developments in that country. Investing in foreign securities, particularly those of emerging markets, presents certain risks, such as currency fluctuations, political and economic changes and market risks. Any fund that concentrates in a particular segment of the market or in a particular geographical region will generally be more volatile than a fund that invests more broadly.

The European Union, the United States and other countries have imposed sanctions in response to the Russian military and other actions in recent years. These sanctions have adversely affected Russian individuals, Russian issuers and the Russian economy. Russia, in turn, has imposed sanctions targeting Western individuals, businesses and products. The various sanctions have adversely affected, and may continue to adversely affect, not only the Russian economy but also the economies of many countries in Europe, including Germany. The continuation of current sanctions or the imposition of additional sanctions may materially adversely affect the value of the Fund s portfolio.

In June 2016, citizens of the United Kingdom voted that the United Kingdom should leave the European Union and in March 2017, the United Kingdom initiated its withdrawal from the European Union, which is expected to take place by March 2019. Significant uncertainty exists regarding the timing and terms of the United Kingdom s anticipated withdrawal from the European Union and the effects such withdrawal may have on the United Kingdom, other

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European countries and the global economy.

The brand DWS represents DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA and any of its subsidiaries such as DWS Distributors, Inc. which offers investment products or DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. and RREEF America L.L.C. which offer advisory services.

NOT FDIC/NCUA INSURED NO BANK GUARANTEE MAY LOSE VALUE NOT A DEPOSIT NOT INSURED BY ANY FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCY

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Letter to the Shareholders (Unaudited)

Dear Shareholder,

For the six-month period ended June 30, 2018, the total return of the New Germany Fund Inc. (the Fund) in U.S. dollars (USD) was -0.83% based on net asset value and 2.50% based on market price. During the same period, the total return in USD of the Funds benchmark, the Midcap Market Index, was 1.08½The Funds discount to net asset value averaged 10.41% for the period in review, compared with 11.22% over the same period in 2017.

During the first half of 2018, German equity markets exhibited volatile performance and closed the period with a slightly positive return in euro terms and a slightly negative return in USD due to a weaker euro. After reaching near-term highs in late January, markets receded due to uncertainty regarding possible negative effects from U.S. trade policy, i.e., the implementation of tariffs on certain imported goods. The indecisive result of the Italian election also weighed on markets. Indicators of market volatility then declined somewhat in the United States and the Eurozone, but remain at elevated levels. At the same time, however, global growth indicators became more favorable in the second quarter and supported financial markets until the end of June.

German economic sentiment indicators began to weaken during the first quarter but recovered somewhat toward the end of the second quarter. In general, those indicators remain at high levels, indicating a growing German economy. Consumer confidence also remained near historically high levels. The German labor market stayed strong, mirrored by an additional decline in the country sunemployment rate to 5%. On average, wages increased solidly by 2.7% year-over-year in the first quarter of 2018. Based on these figures, we expect private consumption to continue to be a solid contributor to German GDP.<sup>2</sup> We also expect imports to rise due to a still healthy rate of consumption, but we think that the current global trend toward protectionism in light of recent U.S. trade policies and retaliatory measures by other countries could depress export growth in Germany.

The Fund s slight relative outperformance of the benchmark during the six-month period was helped by its holdings in consumer and health care stocks. Within the consumer sector, the Fund s position in the sporting

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goods company Puma SE contributed to outperformance. Investors reacted positively to Puma s strong mid-term growth outlook. Within the health care sector, the Fund s holdings in Sartorius AG, a supplier of equipment and consumables to the biotechnology industry, also added to returns. Positioning within the industrials and real estate sectors represented the main detractors from performance. The Fund s underweight to the real estate sector detracted as the segment outperformed. Within industrials, the Fund s position in OSRAM Licht AG subtracted from performance.

During the period, the Fund s overweight in industrials was increased as it built new positions in companies that benefit from accelerating capital expenditures.<sup>3</sup> Within information technology, the Fund reduced its overweight position as it took profits following strong performance in several technology holdings. In addition, new positions were financed by decreasing the Fund s weightings in the utilities and materials sectors. As of June 30, the Fund s largest sector overweights were information technology and industrials, and the largest underweight continued to be the real estate sector.

During the first half of 2018, we saw a transition to late-cycle tendencies within the German economy. We do not expect any

Sector Diversification (As a % of Equity Securities)	6/30/18	12/31/17
Industrials	35%	32%
Information Technology	20%	17%
Consumer Discretionary	12%	11%
Materials	11%	15%
Health Care	9%	8%
Real Estate	8%	6%
Financials	2%	3%
Utilities	2%	4%
Consumer Staples		2%
Telecommunication Services	1%	2%
	100%	100%

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weakening of the country's economy, and continue to foresee a multi-year, globally synchronized economic expansion. World-wide, we expect economic growth to accelerate slightly to 3.9% in 2018. Resulting solid earnings growth should continue to attract investors to equities. While we have probably witnessed the peak in earnings growth for the current cycle, we nevertheless foresee the absolute peak in earnings several years further out, and we therefore remain constructive regarding equities. In aggregate, earnings expectations have remained stable during the past several months and are on track for double-digit earnings growth in the emerging markets and the United States (where approximately half of the growth would be tax-driven), with high single-digit earnings growth elsewhere. However, the risks from protectionist U.S. trade policies have become a serious threat that requires close monitoring. In order to discount rising concerns regarding unpredictable U.S. trade policies, we are adding some safety cushioning to our target valuations.

We have reduced our 2018 forecast for German GDP slightly, based on weaker than expected first-quarter growth. Although a large part of the weakness can be explained by temporary factors, we do not expect complete compensation for the weaker first quarter during the remainder of the year given intensifying trade conflicts. Thus, our 2018 GDP growth

## Ten Largest Equity Holdings at June 30, 2018

(44.39)	% of Net Assets)	Percent
1.	Airbus SE	11.2%
2.	Wirecard AG	5.7%
3.	Zalando SE	4.7%
4.	MTU Aero Engines AG	4.1%
5.	Brenntag AG	4.1%
6.	Fraport AG Frankfurt Airport Services Worldwide	3.2%
7.	Siltronic AG	3.2%
8.	LEG Immobilien AG	2.8%
9.	Puma SE	2.8%
10.	United Internet AG	2.5%

Portfolio holdings and characteristics are subject to change and not indicative of future portfolio composition.

For more details about the Fund s investments, see the Schedule of Investments commencing on page 12. For additional information about the Fund, including performance, dividends, presentations, press releases, market updates, daily NAV and shareholder reports, please visit dws.com.

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forecast for Germany has been adjusted to 2.1% from 2.3%. Investment activity, which has been fueled by strong export demand and considerably higher capacity utilization, and consumption—supported by employment and wage growth—are expected to remain the main growth drivers. As capacity utilization rises above the long-term average, investment in machinery and equipment should remain strong. Imports should increase due to still solid consumption, but the tendency toward protectionism from recent U.S. trade policies and retaliatory measures by other countries could reduce German export growth.

We are retaining the Fund s cyclical sector bias by overweighting industrials and technology, financed by underweights in defensive sectors such as real estate, utilities and telecommunications. The underweights in telecommunications and real estate stocks are based on our expectations for a modest rise in long-term interest rates. The Fund is also selectively positioned to benefit from the still benign German consumption environment. At the same time, we are closely monitoring potential disruptions from the ongoing trend toward digitalization. We continue to hold positive views regarding industrials and information technology stocks as we expect those sectors to benefit from the current macroeconomic environment as well as accelerating investment spending.

On June 18, 2018 Deutsche Börse announced that it will discontinue the Midcap Market Index effective September 21, 2018. In light of this change on July 27, 2018, the Fund s Board of Directors approved a change of the Fund s benchmark index from the Midcap Market Index to a custom blend of the German Mid Cap Index (the MDAX Index), 80% weight, and the German Small Cap Index (the SDAX Index), 20% weight. The MDAX Index is comprised of 60 mid-cap German companies from all industries that rank directly below DAX equities in terms of market capitalization and exchange turnover. The SDAX Index is comprised of 70 German companies from all industries that rank directly below DAX equities in terms of market capitalization and exchange turnover. We believe that the new custom blended benchmark more accurately captures the Fund s focus on German small- and mid-cap stocks than any available unblended alternative index.

Sincerely,

Christian Strenger Chairman Valerie Schueler Portfolio Manager Hepsen Uzcan President and Chief Executive Officer

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The views expressed in the preceding discussion reflect those of the portfolio management team generally through the end of the period of the report as stated on the cover. The management team s views are subject to change at any time based on market and other conditions and should not be construed as recommendations. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Current and future portfolio holdings are subject to risk, including geopolitical and other risks.

- \* Not held in the portfolio as of June 30, 2018.
- The Midcap Market Index is a total-return index that is composed of various mid-cap securities across all sectors of the MDAX and TecDAX. The MDAX is a total-rate-of-return index of 50 mid-cap issues that rank below the DAX. The DAX is a total-rate-of-return index of 30 selected German blue chip stocks traded on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange. The TecDAX is a total-return index that tracks the 30 largest and most liquid issues from the various technology sectors of the Prime Standard Segment beneath the DAX. Index returns assume reinvestment of dividends and, unlike Fund returns, do not reflect any fees or expenses. It is not possible to invest directly in the Midcap Market Index.
- <sup>2</sup> GDP, or gross domestic product, is the value of all goods and services produced by a country s economy.
- Underweight means the Fund holds a lower weighting in a given sector or security than the benchmark. Overweight means the Fund holds a higher weighting.

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# Outlook Interview with the Portfolio Manager Portfolio Manager

(Unaudited)

Valerie Schueler

**Question:** How is intensifying U.S. trade rhetoric and policy impacting the German economy?

**Answer:** The United States continues to be the single most important export market for Germany, representing 8.7% of German exports in 2017. At the moment, Trump s focus is on tariffs for the German automotive industry. That industry had an 18% share in German export goods in 2017, and was the sector with the largest weighting. Of German automotive exports, 12.2% went into the United State in 2017. All other factors remaining equal, higher U.S. import tariffs would certainly weigh on German car exports and the overall German economy. There could also be negative spillover effects from trade tensions between the United States and China: As China represented 6.7% of German exports in 2017, a slowdown in Chinese GDP due to trade restrictions would also weaken demand from this region. We have therefore reduced the Fund s position in automotive suppliers to an underweight over the course of the first half of the year, as we expect automotive end-markets to slow.

**Question:** Assuming private consumption should again be the key element of German GDP growth in 2018, what is driving German consumption?

**Answer:** Private consumption in Germany has been supported by a strong increase in national income (+4% year-over-year). Wage income grew dynamically in a year-over-year comparison, up 4.6%. The very favorable labor market situation continues to support household consumption as well. The total number of workers was up 1.4% year-over-year, or 609,000, in the first quarter, and the unemployment rate declined. Against this backdrop, wage negotiations in the public sector (2018: +3%), the metals and electronics industry (2018: +3.9%) and the construction sector (2018: +4.7%) resulted in very strong wage increases. The majority of these agreements had come on line in the second quarter of 2018 and should further boost German household consumption. This should outweigh headwinds from the recent depreciation in the euro.

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Apart from its automotive exposure, the Fund has an overweight position in consumer stocks; however, the overweight is very selective as store-based retailers are structurally challenged by increasing online penetration.

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## **Performance Summary**

**June 30, 2018 (Unaudited)** 

All performance shown is historical, assumes reinvestment of all dividend and capital gain distributions, and does not guarantee future results. Investment return and net asset value fluctuate with changing market conditions so that, when sold, shares may be worth more or less than their original cost. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. Please visit dws.com for the most recent performance of the Fund.

Fund specific data and performance are provided for informational purposes only and are not intended for trading purposes.

# **Average Annual Total Returns** as of 6/30/18

	6-Month	1-Year	5-Year	10-Year
Net Asset Value <sup>(a)</sup>	(0.83)%	20.04%	16.59%	9.56%
Market Price(a)	(2.50)%	18.02%	16.35%	9.96%
Midcap Market Index <sup>(b)</sup>	(1.08)%	13.70%	13.43%	8.22%

- <sup>a</sup> Total return based on net asset value reflects changes in the Fund s net asset value during each period. Total return based on market value reflects changes in market value during each period. Each figure includes reinvestments of income and capital gain distributions, if any. Total returns based on net asset value and market price will differ depending upon the level of any discount from or premium to net asset value at which the Fund s shares trade during the period. Expenses of the Fund include investment advisory and administration fees and other fund expenses. Total returns shown take into account these fees and expenses. The annualized expense ratio of the Fund for the six months ended June 30, 2018 was 1.12%.
- The Midcap Market Index is a total-return index that is composed of various mid-cap securities across all sectors of the MDAX and TecDAX. The MDAX is a total-rate-of-return index of 50 mid-cap issues that rank below the DAX. The DAX is the total-rate-of-return index of 30 selected German blue chip stocks traded on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange. The TecDAX is a total-return index that tracks the 30 largest and most liquid issues from the various technology sectors of the Prime Segment beneath the DAX.

Index returns do not reflect any fees or expenses and it is not possible to invest directly in the Midcap Market Index.

Total returns shown for periods less than one year are not annualized.

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# **Net Asset Value and Market Price**

	As of 6/30/18			As of 12/31/17		
Net Asset Value	\$	20.51	\$	21.49		
Market Price	\$	18.24	\$	19.44		

Prices and Net Asset Value fluctuate and are not guaranteed.

Distribution Information	Per Share
Six Months as of 6/30/18:	
Income	\$ .16
Capital Gains	\$ .55

Distributions are historical, not guaranteed and will fluctuate. Distributions do not include return of capital or other non-income sources.

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Schedule of Investments	as of June 30, 2018 (Unaudited)		
	Shares	Value (\$)	
Germany 80.1% Common Stocks 75.9% Aerospace & Defense 4.1%	<b>60 500</b>	40.40.	
MTU Aero Engines AG	69,780	13,407,360	
Auto Components 1.5%			
Hella GmbH & Co. KGaA	33,000	1,849,003	
Leoni AG	61,649	3,130,385	
		4,979,388	
Chemicals 9.0%			
Covestro AG 144A	53,138	4,740,179	
Evonik Industries AG	137,973	4,723,769	
K+S AG (Registered)	186,845	4,612,903	
LANXESS AG	67,981	5,300,862	
Symrise AG	90,405	7,925,285	
Wacker Chemie AG	15,766	2,063,969	
		29,366,967	
Electrical Equipment 3.3%			
OSRAM Licht AG	96,508	3,942,883	
Varta AG*	255,613	6,928,315	
		10,871,198	
Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components 1.2%			
Jenoptik AG	96,297	3,774,644	
Independent Power & Renewable Electricity Producers 1.0%			
Uniper SE	113,242	3,376,066	
Insurance 2.4%			
Talanx AG	212,438	7,756,779	
Internet & Direct Marketing Retail 4.7%	,	, ,	
Zalando SE 144A*	278,100	15,539,853	
Internet Software & Services 7.2%			
Delivery Hero AG 144A*	96,905	5,155,882	
Scout24 AG 144A	153,859	8,161,006	
United Internet AG (Registered)	144,037	8,248,673	
XING SE	6,192	1,998,521	
		23,564,082	
IT Services 5.7%		· · · · ·	
Wirecard AG	115,826	18,651,349	
Life Sciences Tools & Services 1.6%			
Evotec AG*	122,525	2,107,450	

MorphoSys AG\* 24,464 2,998,467

5,105,917

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

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	Shares	Value (\$)
Machinery 5.3% KION Group AG	104,537	7,521,685
Krones AG	25,320	3,271,853
Pfeiffer Vacuum Technology AG	39,810	6,547,653
23	,	, ,
		17,341,191
Media 0.7%	10.142	002 201
CTS Eventim AG & Co. KGaA Stroeer SE & Co. KGaA	18,143 24,861	893,301 1,504,700
Shoeel SE & Co. KGaA	24,801	1,304,700
		2,398,001
Metals & Mining 1.4%		,,
Aurubis AG	36,083	2,758,840
Salzgitter AG	39,539	1,723,847
		4,482,687
Multi-Utilities 1.1%		
Innogy SE 144A	81,308	3,482,278
Pharmaceuticals 0.6%		
Dermapharm Holding SE*	56,349	1,835,156
Real Estate Management & Development 7.3%		
Deutsche Wohnen SE	155,312	7,505,642
Instone Real Estate Group BV 144A*	171,653	4,516,352
LEG Immobilien AG	83,769	9,101,693
TLG Immobilien AG	96,812	2,581,118
		23,704,805
Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment 3.2%		
Siltronic AG	73,047	10,449,564
Software 1.7%		
Software AG	120,634	5,619,969
Specialty Retail 1.1%		
CECONOMY AG	433,926	3,615,553
Textiles, Apparel & Luxury Goods 3.3%		
HUGO BOSS AG	20,918	1,898,711
Puma SE	15,477	9,051,218
		10,949,929
Trading Companies & Distributors 4.1%		10,777,747
Brenntag AG	239,002	13,313,261
Transportation Infrastructure 3.2%	•	, ,
Fraport AG Frankfurt Airport Services Worldwide	109,007	10,512,889
Wireless Telecommunication Services 1.2%	200,001	, , ,
1&1 Drillisch AG	71,551	4,072,508
101 20vii 110	71,551	.,o/ <b>_</b> ,coo

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The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

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Preferred Stocks 4.2%	Shares	Value (\$)
Health Care Equipment & Supplies 2.1% Sartorius AG (Cost \$2,553,428)	46,164	6,902,955
Machinery 2.1% Jungheinrich AG (Cost \$5,578,348)	187,467	6,950,048
<b>Total Germany</b> (Cost \$176,583,084)		262,024,397
Netherlands 13.3%		
Common Stocks Aerospace & Defense 11.2% Airbus SE	312,426	36,564,307
Life Sciences Tools & Services 2.1%	312,420	30,304,307
QIAGEN NV*	188,731	6,873,538
Total Netherlands (Cost \$10,327,830)		43,437,845
Italy 1.5% Common Stocks		
Health Care Equipment & Supplies 1.5%		
DiaSorin SpA (Cost \$3,847,053)	41,776	4,764,353
France 0.6% Common Stocks		
Life Sciences Tools & Services 0.6%		
Sartorius Stedim Biotech (Cost \$1,491,332)	18,362	1,918,340
United Kingdom 0.3% Common Stocks		
Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment 0.3%	69,665	1 062 028
Dialog Semiconductor PLC* (Cost \$2,150,177)	09,003	1,062,038
Securities Lending Collateral 2.0%  DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio DWS Government Cash		
Institutional Shares , 1.80% (Cost \$6,670,212) (a) (b)	6,670,212	6,670,212
(Cost \$0,070,212) (a) (b)	0,070,212	0,070,212
Cash Equivalents 3.9%  DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, 1.85% (Cost \$12,887,727)		
(b)	12,887,727	12,887,727
		Value (\$)

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	% of Net Assets	
Total Investment Portfolio (Cost \$213,957,415)	101.7	332,764,912
Other Assets and Liabilities, Net	(1.7)	(5,580,549)
Net Assets	100.0	327.184.363

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

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A summary of the Fund s transactions with affiliated Underlying DWS Funds during the period ended June 30, 2018 are as follows:

				Net				
				Change				
				in				
			,	Unrealized				
			Net	Appreci-		Capital		
	Pur-	]	Realized	ation		Gain		
Value (\$)	chases	Sales	Gain/	(Depreci-		Distri-	Number of	Value (\$)
at	Cost	Proceeds	(Loss)	ation)	Income	butions	shares at	at
12/31/2017	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	(\$)	06/30/2018	06/30/2018
	ending Collate							
	nment & Agenc	y Securities Po	rtfolio D	WS Governn	nent Cash I	nstitutiona	l Shares ,	
1.80% (a) (b)	)							
2,096,047	25,105,045	20,530,880			89,851		6,670,212	6,670,212
Cash Equiva								
DWS Centra	ıl Cash Manager	ment Governme	ent Fund,	1.85% (b)				
3,180,295	57,980,937	48,273,505			24,965		12,887,727	12,887,727
5,276,342	83,085,982	68,804,385			114,816		19,557,939	19,557,939

<sup>\*</sup> Non-income producing security.

All or a portion of these securities were on loan. The value of all securities loaned at June 30, 2018 amounted to \$6,541,375, which is 2.0% of net assets.

- (a) Represents collateral held in connection with securities lending. Income earned by the Fund is net of borrower rebates.
- (b) Affiliated fund managed by DWS Investment Management Americas Inc. The rate shown is the annualized seven-day yield at period end.

144A: Securities exempt from registration under Rule 144A of the Securities Act of 1933. These securities may be resold in transactions exempt from registration, normally to qualified institutional buyers.

For purposes of its industry concentration policy, the Fund classifies issuers of portfolio securities at the industry sub-group level. Certain of the categories in the above Schedule of Investments consist of multiple industry sub-groups or industries.

Securities are listed in the country of domicile. For purposes of the Fund s investment objective policy to invest in German companies, non-Germany domiciled securities may qualify as German companies as defined in the Fund s Statement of Investment Objectives, Policies and Investment Restrictions.

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The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

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## **Fair Value Measurements**

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund s investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund s own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk associated with investing in those securities.

The following is a summary of the inputs used as of June 30, 2018 in valuing the Fund s investments.

Assets	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total	
Common Stocks and/or Other Equity Investments (c)					
Germany	\$ 262,024,397	\$	\$	\$ 262,024,397	
Netherlands	43,437,845			43,437,845	
Italy	4,764,353			4,764,353	
France	1,918,340			1,918,340	
United Kingdom	1,062,038			1,062,038	
Short-Term Instruments (c)	19,557,939			19,557,939	
Total	\$ 332,764,912	\$	\$	\$ 332,764,912	

There have been no transfers between fair value measurement levels during the period ended June 30, 2018.

(c) See Schedule of Investments for additional detailed categorizations.

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# **Statement of Assets and Liabilities**

as of June 30, 2018 (Unaudited)

Assets Investments in non-affiliated securities, at value (cost \$194,399,476) including \$6,541,375 of securities loaned		13,206,973
Investment in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund (cost \$12,887,727)		12,887,727
Investment in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio (cost \$6,670,212)*		6,670,212
Foreign currency, at value (cost \$984,493)		992,657
Dividends receivable		121,308
Foreign taxes recoverable		530,492
Interest receivable		14,244
Other assets		41,334
Total assets	3	34,464,947
Liabilities		
Payable upon return of securities loaned		6,670,212
Payable for Fund shares repurchased		126,912
Investment advisory fee payable		181,249
Administration fee payable		54,937
Payable for Directors fees and expenses		45,701
Accrued expenses and other liabilities		201,573
Total liabilities		7,280,584
Net assets	\$ 3	27,184,363
Net Assets Consist of		
Undistributed net investment income		3,115,220
Accumulated net realized gain (loss)		20,489,826
Net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:		20,469,620
Investments	1	18,807,497
Foreign currency	1	(4,721)
Paid-in capital	1	84,776,541
Net assets		<b>27,184,363</b>
	φЭ	27,104,303
Net Asset Value		
Net assets value per share (\$327,184,363 ÷ 15,951,014 shares of common stock issued and		
outstanding, \$.001 par value, 80,000,000 shares authorized)	\$	20.51

<sup>\*</sup> Represents collateral on securities loaned.

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

The New Germany Fund, Inc. | 17

# **Statement of Operations**

**Net Investment Income** 

Income:

for the six months ended June 30, 2018 (Unaudited)

Dividends (net of foreign withholding taxes of \$788,906)	\$ 4,945,213
Income distributions DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund	24,965
Securities lending income, net of borrower rebates	89,851
Total investment income	5,060,029
Expenses:	
Investment advisory fee	1,132,718
Administration fee	344,513
Custody and accounting fee	72,762
Services to shareholders	7,788
Reports to shareholders and shareholder meeting expenses	23,247
Directors fees and expenses	108,600
Legal fees	127,650
Audit and tax fees	43,186
NYSE listing fee	16,779
Insurance	23,884
Miscellaneous	19,505

# Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)

Net realized gain (loss) from:

Net investment income

Net expenses

Investments	20,789,636
Foreign currency	(27,117)
Net realized gain (loss)	20,762,519
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:	
Investments	(27,896,458)
Foreign currency	(7,347)
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(27,903,805)
Net gain (loss)	(7,141,286)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	\$ (4,001,889)

1,920,632

3,139,397

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

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# **Statements of Changes in Net Assets**

In arross (Decrease) in Not Assets	Six Months Ended June 30, 2018	Year Ended December 31, 2017
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	(Unaudited)	2017
Operations:	\$ 3,139,397	\$ 7,986,417
Net investment income (loss)	. , , ,	. , ,
Net realized gain (loss)	20,762,519	17,135,066
Change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation)	(27,903,805)	90,285,147
Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations	(4,001,889)	115,406,630
Distributions to shareholders from:	(0.554.044)	(5.505.000)
Net investment income	(2,554,044)	(5,505,900)
Net realized gains	(8,722,242)	(6,240,758)
Total distributions to shareholders	(11,276,286)	(11,746,658)
Capital share transactions:		
Net proceeds from reinvestment of dividends	8,601,968	5,823,508
Shares repurchased	(5,763,736)	(5,698,621)
Net increase (decrease) in net assets from capital share transactions	2,838,232	124,887
Total increase (decrease) in net assets	(12,439,943)	103,784,859
Net assets at beginning of period	339,624,306	235,839,447
Net assets at end of period (including undistributed net investment income of \$3,115,220 and \$2,529,867 as of June 30, 2018 and		
December 31, 2017, respectively)	\$ 327,184,363	\$ 339,624,306
Other Information		
Shares outstanding at beginning of period	15,803,388	15,750,714
Shares issued for dividend reinvestment	445,326	420,774
Shares repurchased	(297,700)	(368,100)
Shares outstanding at end of period	15,951,014	15,803,388

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

The New Germany Fund, Inc. | 19

# **Financial Highlights**

	Six Months Ended 6/30/18	0/18 Years Ended December 31,			2012	
	(Unaudited)	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Per Share Operating Performance						
Net asset value, beginning of period	\$21.49	<b>\$14.97</b>	<b>\$16.19</b>	\$15.32	\$21.24	<b>\$17.45</b>
Income (loss) from investment operation	is:					
Net investment income (loss) <sup>a</sup>	.20	.50c	.12	.13	.21	.22
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)						
on investments and foreign currency	(.45)	6.77	(.17)	2.07	(1.80)	7.98
<b>Total from investment operations</b>	(.25)	7.27	(.05)	2.20	(1.59)	8.20
Less distributions from:						
Net investment income	(.16)	(.35)	(.39)	(.08)	(.37)	(.33)
Net realized gains	(.55)	(.39)	(.59)	(1.15)	(3.97)	(4.15)
Return of capital			(.21)			
Total distributions	(.71)	(.74)	(1.19)	(1.23)	(4.34)	(4.48)
Accretion resulting from tender offer						.02
Dilution in net asset value from						
dividend reinvestment	(.06)	(.05)	(.05)	(.13)	(.14)	(.04)
Increase resulting from share						
repurchases	.04	.04	.07	.03	.15	.09
Net asset value, end of period	\$20.51	\$21.49	<b>\$14.97</b>	\$16.19	\$15.32	\$21.24
Market value, end of period	\$18.24	<b>\$19.44</b>	\$13.07	<b>\$14.70</b>	\$14.04	\$19.93
<b>Total Investment Return for the Perio</b>	мр					
Based upon market value (%)	$(2.50)^{**}$	54.02	(3.25)	14.31	(8.35)	58.27
Based upon net asset value (%)	$(.83)^{**}$	48.65	.61	15.38	(6.16)	50.59
	(.03)	40.03	.01	13.30	(0.10)	30.37
Ratios to Average Net Assets						
Total expenses (%)	1.12*	1.16	1.21	1.16	1.14	1.11
Net investment income (%)	.91**	$2.70^{c}$	.76	.78	1.06	1.04
Portfolio turnover (%)	17**	25	65	55	55	67
Net assets at end of period (\$ thousands)	327,184	339,624	235,839	257,825	228,414	317,061

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Based on average shares outstanding during the period.

c

Total investment return based on net asset value reflects changes in the Fund s net asset value during each period. Total return based on market value reflects changes in the market value during each period. Each figure includes reinvestments of dividend and capital gain distributions, if any. These figures will differ depending upon the level of any discount from or premium to net asset value at which the Fund s shares trade during the period.

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Net investment income per share and the ratio of net investment income include non-recurring dividend income amounting to \$0.42 per share and 2.28% of average daily net assets, for the year ended December 31, 2017.

\* Annualized

\*\* Not annualized

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

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# Notes to Financial Statements A. Accounting Policies

(Unaudited)

The New Germany Fund, Inc. (the Fund ) was incorporated in Maryland on January 16, 1990 as a non-diversified, closed-end management investment company. The Fund commenced investment operations on January 30, 1990. The Fund became a diversified fund on October 26, 2007.

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP) requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates. The Fund qualifies as an investment company under Topic 946 of Accounting Standards Codification of U.S. GAAP. The following is a summary of significant accounting policies followed by the Fund in the preparation of its financial statements.

**Security Valuation.** The Fund calculates its net asset value ( NAV ) per share for publication at the close of regular trading on Deutsche Börse XETRA, normally at 11:30 a.m., New York time.

Various inputs are used in determining the value of the Fund s investments. These inputs are summarized in three broad levels. Level 1 includes quoted prices in active markets for identical securities. Level 2 includes other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for similar securities, interest rates, prepayment speeds and credit risk). Level 3 includes significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund s own assumptions in determining the fair value of investments). The level assigned to the securities valuations may not be an indication of the risk or liquidity associated with investing in those securities.

Equity securities are valued at the most recent sale price or official closing price reported on the exchange (U.S. or foreign) or over-the-counter market on which they trade prior to the time of valuation. Securities for which no sales are reported are valued at the calculated mean between the most recent bid and asked quotations on the relevant market or, if a mean cannot be determined, at the most recent bid quotation. Equity securities are generally categorized as Level 1.

Investments in open-end investment companies and closed-end investment companies are valued and traded at their NAV each business day and are categorized as Level 1.

Securities and other assets for which market quotations are not readily available or for which the above valuation procedures are deemed not to reflect fair value are valued in a manner that is intended to reflect their fair

The New Germany Fund, Inc. | 21

value as determined in accordance with procedures approved by the Board and are generally categorized as Level 3. In accordance with the Fund s valuation procedures, factors considered in determining value may include, but are not limited to, the type of the security; the size of the holding; the initial cost of the security; the existence of any contractual restrictions on the security s disposition; the price and extent of public trading in similar securities of the issuer or of comparable companies; quotations or evaluated prices from broker-dealers and/or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange-traded securities); an analysis of the company s or issuer s financial statements; an evaluation of the forces that influence the issuer and the market(s) in which the security is purchased and sold; and, with respect to debt securities, the maturity, coupon, creditworthiness, currency denomination and the movement of the market in which the security is normally traded. The value determined under these procedures may differ from published values for the same securities.

Disclosure about the classification of the fair value measurements is included in a table following the Fund s Schedule of Investments.

Securities Transactions and Investment Income. Investment transactions are accounted for on a trade date plus one basis for daily NAV calculation. However, for financial reporting purposes, investment security transactions are reported on trade date. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date net of foreign withholding taxes. Certain dividends from foreign securities may be recorded subsequent to the ex-dividend date as soon as the Fund is informed of such dividends. Realized gains and losses from investment transactions are recorded on an identified cost basis. Proceeds from litigation payments, if any, are included in net realized gain (loss) for investments.

Securities Lending. Brown Brothers Harriman & Co., as lending agent, lends securities of the Fund to certain financial institutions under the terms of its securities lending agreement. During the term of the loans, the Fund continues to receive interest and dividends generated by the securities and to participate in any changes in their market value. The Fund requires the borrowers of the securities to maintain collateral with the Fund consisting of either cash or liquid, unencumbered assets having a value at least equal to the value of the securities loaned. When the collateral falls below specified amounts, the lending agent will use its best effort to obtain additional collateral on the next business day to meet required amounts under the securities lending agreement. As of period end, any securities on loan were collateralized by cash. During the six months ended June 30, 2018, the Fund invested the cash collateral into a joint trading account in affiliated money market funds managed by DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. As of June 30, 2018, the Fund

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invested the cash collateral in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio. DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. receives a management/administration fee (0.14% annualized effective rate as of June 30, 2018) on the cash collateral invested in DWS Government & Agency Securities Portfolio. The Fund receives compensation for lending its securities either in the form of fees or by earning interest on invested cash collateral net of borrower rebates and fees paid to a lending agent. Either the Fund or the borrower may terminate the loan at any time and the borrower, after notice, is required to return borrowed securities within a standard time period. There may be risks of delay and costs in recovery of securities or even loss of rights in the collateral should the borrower of the securities fail financially. If the Fund is not able to recover securities lent, the Fund may sell the collateral and purchase a replacement investment in the market, incurring the risk that the value of the replacement security is greater than the value of the collateral. The Fund is also subject to all investment risks associated with the reinvestment of any cash collateral received including, but not limited to, interest rate, credit and liquidity risk associated with such investments.

As of June 30, 2018, the Fund had securities on loan which were classified as common stock in the Schedule of Investments. The value of the related collateral exceeded the value of the securities loaned at period end. As of period end, the remaining contractual maturity of the collateral agreements were overnight and continuous.

Foreign Currency Translation. The books and records of the Fund are maintained in United States dollars.

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currency are translated into United States dollars at the prevailing exchange rates at period end. Purchases and sales of investment securities, income and expenses are translated at the rate of exchange prevailing on the respective dates of such transactions. Net realized and unrealized gains and losses on foreign currency transactions represent net gains and losses between trade and settlement dates on securities transactions, the acquisition and disposition of foreign currencies, and the difference between the amount of net investment income accrued and the U.S. dollar amount actually received. The portion of both realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments that results from fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates is not separately disclosed but is included with net realized and unrealized gain/appreciation and loss/depreciation on investments.

At June 30, 2018, the exchange rate was EUR 1.00 to USD \$1.17.

**Contingencies.** In the normal course of business, the Fund may enter into contracts with service providers that contain general indemnification clauses. The Fund s maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against

The New Germany Fund, Inc. | 23

the Fund that have not yet occurred. However, based on experience, the Fund expects the risk of loss to be remote.

**Taxes.** The Fund s policy is to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended, which are applicable to regulated investment companies, and to distribute all of its taxable income to its shareholders.

Additionally, the Fund may be subject to taxes imposed by the governments of countries in which it invests. Such taxes are generally based on income and/or capital gains earned or repatriated. Estimated tax liabilities on certain foreign securities are recorded on an accrual basis and are reflected as components of interest income or net change in unrealized gain/loss on investments. Tax liabilities realized as a result of security sales are reflected as a component of net realized gain/loss on investments.

At December 31, 2017, the aggregate cost of investments for federal income tax purposes was \$207,288,244. The net unrealized appreciation for all investments based on tax cost was \$146,474,893. This consisted of aggregate gross unrealized appreciation for all investments in which there was an excess of value over tax cost of \$157,088,993 and aggregate gross unrealized depreciation for all investments in which there was an excess of tax cost over value of \$10,614,100.

The Fund has reviewed the tax positions for the open tax years as of December 31, 2017 and has determined that no provision for income tax and/or uncertain tax provisions is required in the Fund s financial statements. The Fund s federal tax returns for the prior three fiscal years remain open subject to examinations by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Dividends and Distributions to Shareholders.** The Fund records dividends and distributions to its shareholders on the ex-dividend date. The timing and character of certain income and capital gain distributions are determined annually in accordance with United States federal income tax regulations, which may differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These differences primarily relate to investments in foreign passive investment companies and certain securities sold at a loss. As a result, net investment income (loss) and net realized gain (loss) on investment transactions for a reporting period may differ significantly from distributions during such period. Accordingly, the Fund may periodically make reclassifications among certain of its capital accounts without impacting the NAV of the Fund.

The tax character of current year distributions will be determined at the end of the current fiscal year.

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## **B.** Investment Advisory and Administration Agreements

The Fund is party to an Investment Advisory Agreement with Deutsche Asset Management International GmbH (Deutsche AM International GmbH). The Fund also has an Administration Agreement with DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc. (formerly Deutsche Investment Management Americas, Inc.) (DIMA). Deutsche AM International GmbH and DIMA are affiliated companies.

Under the Investment Advisory Agreement with Deutsche AM International GmbH, Deutsche AM International GmbH directs the investments of the Fund in accordance with its investment objectives, policies and restrictions. Deutsche AM International GmbH determines the securities, instruments and other contracts relating to investments to be purchased, sold or entered into by the Fund.

The Investment Advisory Agreement provides Deutsche AM International GmbH with a fee, computed weekly and payable monthly, at the annual rate of 0.80% of the Fund s average weekly net assets up to and including \$100 million, 0.60% of such assets in excess of \$100 million and up to and including \$500 million, and 0.55% of such assets in excess of \$500 million.

Accordingly, for the six months ended June 30, 2018, the fee pursuant to the Investment Advisory Agreement was equivalent to an annualized rate of 0.66% of the Fund s average daily net assets.

Under the Administration Agreement with DIMA, DIMA provides certain fund administration services to the Fund. The Administration Agreement provides DIMA with an annual fee, computed weekly and payable monthly, of 0.20% of the Fund s average weekly net assets.

#### C. Transactions with Affiliates

DWS Service Company ( DSC ), an affiliate of DIMA, is the transfer agent, dividend-paying agent and shareholder service agent of the Fund. Pursuant to a sub-transfer agency agreement between DSC and DST Systems, Inc. ( DST ), DSC has delegated certain transfer agent and dividend-paying agent functions to DST. DSC compensates DST out of the fee it receives from the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2018, the amount charged to the Fund by DSC aggregated \$5,973, of which \$944 is unpaid.

Under an agreement with DIMA, DIMA is compensated for providing certain pre-press and regulatory filing services to the Fund. For the six months ended June 30, 2018, the amount charged to the Fund by DIMA included in the Statement of Operations under Reports to shareholders aggregated \$5,481, of which \$5,298 is unpaid.

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Deutsche Bank AG, the majority shareholder in the DWS Group, and its affiliates may receive brokerage commissions as a result of executing agency transactions in portfolio securities on behalf of the Fund, that the Board determined were effected in compliance with the Fund s Rule 17e-1 procedures. For the six months ended June 30, 2018, Deutsche Bank did not receive brokerage commissions from the Fund.

Certain Officers of the Fund are also officers of DIMA.

The Fund pays each Director who is not an interested person of DIMA or Deutsche AM International GmbH retainer fees plus specified amounts for attended board and committee meetings.

The Fund may invest cash balances in DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund, which is managed by DIMA. The Fund indirectly bears its proportionate share of the expenses of DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund does not pay DIMA an investment management fee. DWS Central Cash Management Government Fund seeks maximum current income to the extent consistent with stability of principal.

#### D. Portfolio Securities

Purchases and sales of investment securities, excluding short-term investments, for the six months ended June 30, 2018, were \$57,637,538 and \$85,810,540, respectively.

## E. Capital

During the six months ended June 30, 2018 and the year ended December 31, 2017, the Fund purchased 297,700 and 368,100 of its shares of common stock on the open market at a total cost of \$5,763,736 and \$5,698,621 (\$19.36 and \$15.48 average per share), respectively. The average discount of these purchased shares comparing the purchase price to the NAV per share at the time of purchase was 10.61% and 10.90%, respectively.

During the six months ended June 30, 2018 and the year ended December 31, 2017, the Fund issued for dividend reinvestment 445,326 and 420,774 shares, respectively. The average discount of these issued shares, comparing the issue price to the NAV per share at the time of issuance, was 10.03% and 11.97%, respectively.

# F. Share Repurchases

On July 25, 2016, the Fund announced that the Board of Directors approved an extension of the repurchase authorization permitting the Fund to repurchase up to 1,596,000 shares during the period from August 1, 2016 through July 31, 2017. The Fund repurchased 642,096

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shares between August 1, 2016 and July 31, 2017. On July 31, 2017, the Fund announced that the Board of Directors approved an extension of the repurchase authorization permitting the Fund to repurchase up to 796,000 shares during the period from August 1, 2017 through July 31, 2018. The Fund repurchased 366,400 shares between August 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018. On July 27, 2018, the Fund announced that the Board of Directors approved an extension of the current repurchase authorization permitting the Fund to repurchase up to 1,595,000 shares during the period from August 1, 2018 through July 31, 2019.

Repurchases will be made from time to time when they are believed to be in the best interests of the Fund. There can be no assurance that the Fund s repurchases will reduce the spread between the market price of the Fund s shares referred to below and its NAV per share.

Monthly updates concerning the Fund s repurchase program are available on its Web site at dws.com.

## **G.** Concentration of Ownership

From time to time, the Fund may have a concentration of several shareholder accounts holding a significant percentage of shares outstanding. Investment activities of these shareholders could have a material impact on the Fund. At June 30, 2018, there were three shareholders that held approximately 15%, 13% and 7%, respectively, of the outstanding shares of the Fund.

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# **Report of Annual Meeting of Stockholders**

(Unaudited)

Number of Votes

The Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the Meeting) of The New Germany Fund, Inc. was called to order on June 22, 2018. At the close of business on April 27, 2018, the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to vote at the Meeting, there were issued and outstanding 15,814,466 shares of the Funds common stock, each share being entitled to one vote, constituting all of the Funds outstanding voting securities. At the Meeting, the holders of 14,115,623 shares of the Funds common stock were represented in person or by proxy, constituting a quorum. At the Meeting, the following matters were voted upon by the stockholders. The resulting votes are presented below:

1. To elect two (2) Class III Directors, each to serve for a term of three years and until his successor is elected and qualifies.

	rumber of votes		
	For	Withheld	
Ambassador Richard R. Burt	10,017,798	4,097,826	
Dr. Wolfgang Leoni	13,019,027	1,096,596	

2. To ratify the appointment by the Audit Committee and the Board of Directors of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent public accounting firm, as independent auditors for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2018.

Number of Votes			
For	Against	Abstain	
13,604,328	395,657	115,637	

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# **Additional Information**

**Automated Information Lines** 

**DWS Closed-End Fund Info Line** 

(800) 349-4281

Web Site dws.com

Written Correspondence

Obtain fact sheets, financial reports, press releases and webcasts when available.

**DWS** 

Attn: Secretary of the DWS Funds

One International Place, 12th Floor

Boston, MA 02110

**Legal Counsel** 

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

125 Broad Street

New York, NY 10004

**Dividend Reinvestment** 

DST Systems, Inc.

**Plan Agent** 

333 W. 11th Street, 5th Floor

Kansas City, MO 64105

Shareholder Service Agent and Transfer Agent **DWS Service Company** 

P.O. Box 219066

Kansas City, MO 64121-9066

(800) 294-4366

**Custodian** Brown Brothers Harriman & Company

50 Post Office Square

Boston, MA 02110

Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

101 Seaport Boulevard, Suite 500

Boston, MA 02210

**Proxy Voting** 

A description of the Fund s policies and procedures for voting proxies for portfolio securities and information about how the Fund voted proxies related to its portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 is available on our web site dws.com/en-us/resources/proxy-voting or on the SEC s web site sec.gov. To obtain a written copy of the Fund s policies and procedures without charge, upon request, call us toll free at (800) 349-4281.

**Portfolio Holdings** 

Following the Fund s fiscal first and third quarter-end, a complete portfolio holdings listing is filed with the SEC on Form N-Q. This form will be available on the SEC s Web site at sec.gov, and it also may be reviewed and copied at the SEC s Public Reference Room in Washington, D.C. Information on the operation of the SEC s Public Reference Room may be obtained by calling (800) SEC-0330. The Fund s portfolio holdings as of the month-end are posted on dws.com on or after the last day of the following month. More frequent posting of portfolio holdings information may be made from time to time on deutschefunds.com.

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# Investment Management

Deutsche Asset Management International GmbH ( Deutsche AM International GmbH or the Advisor ), which is part of the DWS Group GmbH & Co. KGaA ( DWS Group ), is the investment advisor for the Fund. Deutsche AM International GmbH provides a full range of investment advisory services to both institutional and retail clients. Deutsche AM International GmbH is a wholly owned subsidiary of DWS Group.

Voluntary Cash

## Purchase Program and Dividend Reinvestment Plan

DWS Group is a global organization that offers a wide range of investing expertise and resources, including hundreds of portfolio managers and analysts and an office network that reaches the world s major investment centers. This well-resourced global investment platform brings together a wide variety of experience and investment insight across industries, regions, asset classes and investing styles.

The Fund offers shareholders a Voluntary Cash Purchase Program and Dividend Reinvestment Plan (Plan) which provides for optional cash purchases and for the automatic reinvestment of dividends and distributions payable by the Fund in additional Fund shares. Plan participants may invest as little as \$100 in any month and may invest up to \$36,000 annually. The Plan allows current shareholders who are not already participants in the Plan and first time investors to enroll in the Plan by making an initial cash deposit of at least \$250 with the plan agent. Share purchases are combined to receive a beneficial brokerage fee. A brochure is available by writing or telephoning the transfer agent:

**DWS Service Company** 

P.O. Box 219066

Kansas City, MO 64105

Tel.: 1-800-349-4281 (in the U.S.) or

00-800-2287-2750 (outside of the U.S.)

NYSE Symbol Nasdaq Symbol CUSIP Number GF XGFNX 644465106

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#### **Privacy Notice**

FACTS What Does DWS Do With Your Personal Information?

**Why?** Financial companies choose how they share your personal information. Federal law gives

consumers the right to limit some but not all sharing. Federal law also requires us to tell you how we collect, share and protect your personal information. Please read this notice carefully to

understand what we do.

**What?** The types of personal information we collect and share can include:

Social Security number

Account balances

Purchase and transaction history

Bank account information

How?

Contact information such as mailing address, e-mail address and telephone number All financial companies need to share customers personal information to run their everyday business. In the section below, we list the reasons financial companies can share their customers personal information, the reasons DWS chooses to share and whether you can limit this sharing.

Reasons we can share your personal information	Does DWS share?	Can you limit this sharing?			
For our everyday business purposes		J			
such as to process your transactions, maintain your account(s),					
respond to court orders or legal investigations	Yes	No			
For our marketing purposes to offer our products and services to					
you	Yes	No			
For joint marketing with other financial companies	No	We do not share			
For our affiliates everyday business purposes information about					
your transactions and experiences	No	We do not share			
For our affiliates everyday business purposes information about					
your creditworthiness	No	We do not share			
For non-affiliates to market to you	No	We do not share			

Questions? Call (800) 728-3337 or e-mail us at service@dws.com

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Who we are

Who is providing this

notice? What we do

**How does DWS protect** 

my personal information?

DWS Distributors, Inc; DWS Investment Management Americas, Inc.; DWS Trust

Company; the DWS Funds

To protect your personal information from unauthorized access and use, we use security measures that comply with federal law. These measures include computer

safeguards and secured files and buildings.

How does DWS collect my personal information?

We collect your personal information, for example, when you:

open an account

give us your contact information

provide bank account information for ACH or wire transactions

tell us where to send money

Why can t I limit all sharing?

seek advice about your investments Federal law gives you the right to limit only

sharing for affiliates everyday business purposes

information about your creditworthiness

affiliates from using your information to market to you

sharing for non-affiliates to market to you

State laws and individual companies may give you additional rights to limit sharing.

**Definitions Affiliates** 

Companies related by common ownership or control. They can be financial or

non-financial companies. Our affiliates include financial companies with the DWS or

Deutsche Bank ( DB ) name, such as DB AG Frankfurt.

Non-affiliates Companies not related by common ownership or control. They can be financial and

non-financial companies.

Non-affiliates we share with include account service providers, service quality

monitoring services, mailing service providers and verification services to help in the

fight against money laundering and fraud.

**Joint marketing** A formal agreement between non-affiliated financial companies that together market

financial products or services to you. DWS does not jointly market.

Rev. 3/2018, as amended 7/2018

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Notes

There are three closed-end funds investing in European equities advised and administered by wholly owned subsidiaries of the DWS Group:

The Central and Eastern Europe Fund, Inc. (formerly, The Central Europe, Russia and Turkey Fund, Inc.) investing primarily in equity or equity-linked securities of issuers domiciled in Central and Eastern Europe (with normally at least 80% in securities of issuers domiciled in countries in Central and Eastern Europe) and concentrating in the energy sector (with more than 25% of the fund s total assets in issuers conducting their principal activities in that sector).

The European Equity Fund, Inc. investing primarily in equity or equity-linked securities of issuers domiciled in Europe (with normally at least 80% in securities of issuers domiciled in Europe).

The New Germany Fund, Inc. investing primarily in equity or equity-linked securities of middle market German companies with up to 20% in other Western European companies (with no more than 15% in any single country).

Please consult your broker for advice on any of the above or call 1-800-349-4281 (in the U.S.) or 00-800-2287-2750 (outside of the U.S.) for shareholder reports.

The New Germany Fund, Inc. is diversified, but primarily focuses its investments in Germany, thereby increasing its vulnerability to developments in that country. Investing in foreign securities presents certain risks, such as currency fluctuations, political and economic changes and market risks. Any fund that concentrates in a particular segment of the market or in a particular geographical region will generally be more volatile than a fund that invests more broadly.

#### NGF-3

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#### **ITEM 2.CODE OF ETHICS**

Not applicable.

#### ITEM 3.AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERT

Not applicable

#### ITEM 4.PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES

Not applicable

#### ITEM 5.AUDIT COMMITTEE OF LISTED REGISTRANTS

Not applicable

#### ITEM 6.SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS

Not applicable

#### ITEM 7.DISCLOSURE OF PROXY VOTING POLICIES

Not applicable

### ITEM 8.PORTFOLIO MANAGERS OF CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANIES

Not applicable

Period

# ITEM 9. PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES BY CLOSED-END MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANY

(a) (b)
Total Number of Average Price Paid
Shares Purchased per Share

(c) (d)
Total Number of Maximum Number of Shares that May

Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or

**Shares Purchased Programs** 

as

Part of Publicly Announced

			Plans or Programs	
January 1 through January 31 February 1	0	\$ -	0	727,300
through February 28	27,100	\$19.71	27,100	700,200
March 1 through March 31	64,400	\$19.64	64,400	635,800
April 1 through April 30	77,200	\$19.47	77,200	558,600
May 1 through May 31	51,000	\$19.34	51,000	507,600
June 1 through June 30	78,000	\$18.84	78,000	429,600
Total	297,700	\$19.36	297,700	

On July 31, 2017, the Fund announced that the Board of Directors approved the extension of the current repurchase authorization permitting the Fund to repurchase up to 796,000 shares during the period from August 1, 2017 through July 31, 2018. The Fund repurchased 366,400 shares between August 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018.

On July 27, 2018, the Fund announced that the Board of Directors approved the extension of the current repurchase authorization permitting the Fund to repurchase up to 1,595,000 shares during the period from August 1, 2018 through July 31, 2019.

# ITEM 10. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS

There were no material changes to the procedures by which stockholders may recommend nominees to the Fund's Board. The Nominating and Governance Committee will consider nominee candidates properly submitted by stockholders in accordance with applicable law, the Fund's Articles of Incorporation or By-laws, resolutions of the Board and the qualifications and procedures set forth in the Nominating and Governance Committee Charter and this proxy statement. The Nominating and Governance Committee's Charter requires that a stockholder or group of stockholders seeking to submit a nominee candidate (i) must have beneficially owned at least 5% of the Fund's common stock for at least two years, (ii) may submit only one nominee candidate for any particular meeting of stockholders, and (iii) may submit a nominee candidate for only an annual meeting or other meeting of stockholders at which directors will be elected. The stockholder or group of stockholders must provide notice of the proposed nominee pursuant to the requirements found in the Fund's By-laws. Generally, this notice must be received not less than 90 days nor more than 120 days prior to the first anniversary of the date of mailing of the notice for the preceding year's annual meeting. Such notice shall include the specific information required by the Fund's By-laws. The Nominating and Governance Committee will evaluate nominee candidates properly submitted by stockholders on the same basis as it considers and evaluates candidates recommended by other sources.

# ITEM 11. CONTROLS

The Chief Executive and Financial Officers concluded that the Registrant's Disclosure Controls and (a) Procedures are effective based on the evaluation of the Disclosure Controls and Procedures as of a date within 90 days of the filing date of this report.

There have been no changes in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred (b) during the second fiscal quarter of the period covered by this report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal controls over financial reporting.

# **ITEM** 12.

Disclosure of Securities Lending Activities for Closed-End Management Investment Companies.

Not applicable

#### ITEM 13.

# **EXHIBITS**

- (a)(Not applicable
- Certification pursuant to Rule 30a-2(a) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 CFR  $^2$ 70.30a-2(a)) is filed and attached hereto as Exhibit 99.CERT.
- (b) Certification pursuant to Rule 30a-2(b) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 CFR 270.30a-2(b)) is furnished and attached hereto as Exhibit 99.906CERT.

#### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Registrant: The New Germany Fund, Inc.

/s/Hepsen Uzcan

By: Hepsen Uzcan

President

Date: 8/29/2018

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

### /s/Hepsen Uzcan

By: Hepsen Uzcan

President

Date: 8/29/2018

## /s/Diane Kenneally

By: Diane Kenneally

Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

Date: 8/29/2018