





Pension Forum - Nairobi, November 2023

# **Investment Topics**



Forum des pensions - Nairobi, novembre 2023





### Thèmes d'investissement



# Institutional Investment Services

Joe Halwax, CAIA, CIMA

Managing Director, Institutional

Investment Services



# Services d'investissements institutionnels

Joe Halwax, CAIA, CIMA

Directeur général, Services
d'investissements institutionnels

## **About Wespath**

### Wespath

An agency of The United Methodist Church



Founded in 1908



Largest reporting faith-based pension fund



Sustainable investment leader



Nearly \$24 billion in assets under management\*

<sup>\*</sup>Assets under management of Wespath and its subsidiaries, as of September 30, 2023.

# À propos de Wespath

## Wespath

Une agence de l'Église Méthodiste Unie



Fondée en 1908



L'un des plus grands fonds de pension confessionnels



Chef des investissements durables



Plus de 24 milliards de dollars d'actifs sous gestion\*

<sup>\*</sup>Actifs gérés par Wespath et ses filiales, au 30 septembre 2023.

## Investment Team (and Support Staff) **Organizational Chart**

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT

Investment Analytics

Rashed Khan, CFA

Investment Management

Frank Holsteen



Deputy Chief Investment Officer





Content Manager, Investments

# Organigramme de l'équipe d'investissement (et du personnel de soutien)

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT



#### INSTITUTIONAL INVESTMENT SERVICES Karen Manczko Joe Halwax, CAIA, CIMA Director, Institutional Managing Director Relationships Evan Witkowski, CIPM Neil Sobczak Manager, Institutional Manager, Institutional Relationships Investment Services Alicia Marriott Institutional Services Institutional Services PLAN SPONSOR RELATIONS Micah Burkley Krystal Holmes Institutional Operations Manager Specialist LEGAL SERVICES COMPLIANCE Yury Epstein Associate General Counsel Senior Analyst ACCOUNTING AND FINANCE Chris Koliatsis Senior Financial Analyst Managing Director COMMUNICATIONS Ryan McQueeney Sarah Bujold

Marketing Manager,

Investments

Manager, Investments

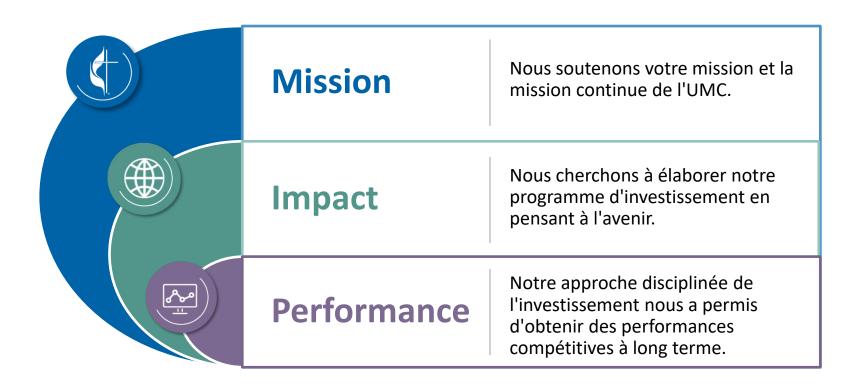
Marketing and Communication

Content Manager, Investments

### Our Investment Commitment to You



### Notre engagement d'investissement envers vous





**Investing With Us** 



## Investir avec nous

# WII's Fundamentals of Investing









### Les principes fondamentaux de l'investissement du WII









# Investment Beliefs Guide Our Philosophy





**Diversified, Long-term Perspective** 







# Les convictions en matière d'investissement guident notre philosophie





Diversifié, perspective à long terme







# Sustainability Incorporated Throughout



#### **Fund Construction**

- Innovative low-carbon solutions
- Affordable housing and community development
- Women and/or minority-owned asset managers



#### **Engagement Activities**

- Corporate engagement
- Proxy voting
- Public policy engagement



#### **Manager Research**

- Proprietary ESG appraisal process
- Investment manager rankings



#### **Industry Leadership**

- Co-author and signatory to the UNPRI
- Co-lead of Engagement and Communications tracks of Net-Zero Asset Owner Alliance
- Board Member of ICCR
- **UNPRI Stewardship Advisory Committee**
- SASB Standards Investor Advisory Group
- Co-Lead of four focus companies within Climate Action 100+
- PRI Leaders Group (2019)

# Intégration de l'ESG incorporée tout au long



#### Fonds de construction

- Des solutions innovantes à faible émission de carbone
- Logement abordable et développement communautaire
- Gestionnaires d'actifs appartenant à des femmes et/ou à des minorités



#### Activités d'engagement

- Engagement des entreprises
- Vote par procuration
- Engagement en matière de politique publique



#### Recherche de gestionnaires

- Processus propriétaire d'évaluation ESG
- Classement des gestionnaires d'investissement



#### Leadership de l'industrie

- Co-auteur et signataire de l'UNPRI
- Co-responsable des pistes d'engagement et de communication de Alliance des propriétaires d'actifs nets zéro
- Membre du conseil d'administration de l'ICCR
- Comité consultatif sur l'intendance de l'UNPRI
- Groupe consultatif des investisseurs pour les normes SASB
- Co-leader de quatre entreprises cibles au sein de Climate Action 100+
- Groupe des leaders du PRI (2019)

# Search and Selection— Uncovering the Best Managers

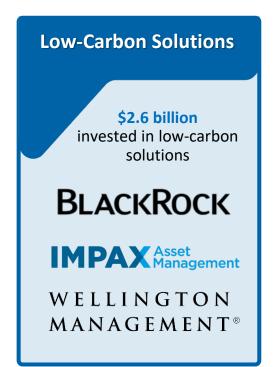


# Recherche et sélection : découvrir les meilleurs gestionnaires



### Our Investment Managers Are Aligned With Your Values







As of June 30, 2023. Includes the assets under management that Wespath and its subsidiaries, including Wespath Institutional Investments, manage on behalf of participants and United Methodist-related institutional investors.

### Nos gestionnaires d'investissement s'alignent sur vos valeurs

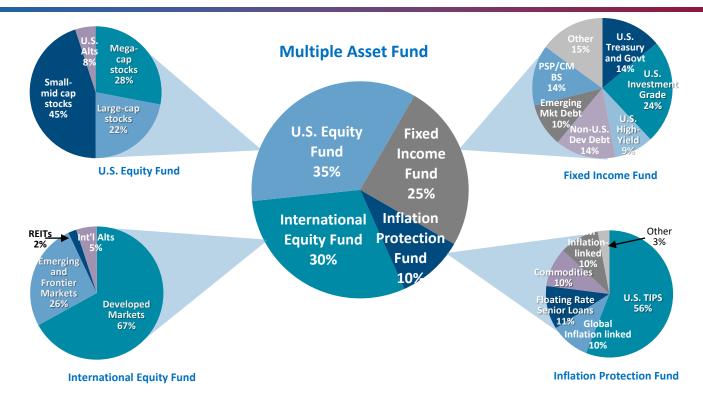






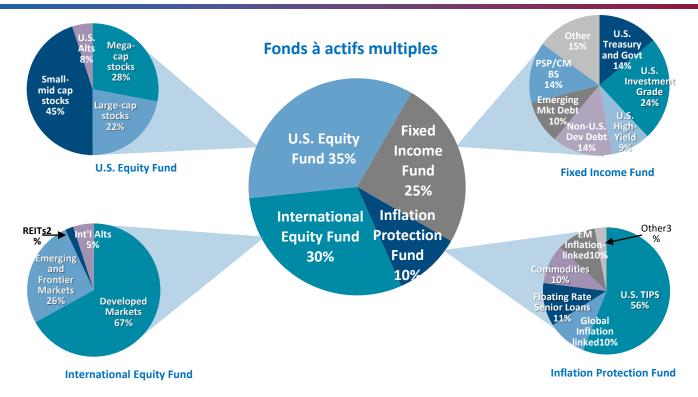
Au 30 juin 2023. Comprend les actifs sous gestion que Wespath et ses filiales, y compris Wespath Institutional Investments, gèrent au nom des participants et des investisseurs institutionnels liés aux méthodistes unis.

### Flagship Balanced Portfolio—Multiple Asset Fund



Preliminary data as of September 30, 2023. Future asset allocations may be different than those stated above.

# Portefeuille équilibré Flagship - Fonds à actifs multiples



Données préliminaires au 30 septembre 2023. La répartition future des actifs peut être différente de celle indiquée ci-dessus.

### **Fund Performance** (Net-of-Fees) as of September 30, 2023

				Annualized					
Funds	MTD	QTD	YTD	1-Year	3-Years	5-Years	10-Years	Since Inception <sup>1</sup>	
Multiple Asset Fund	-3.51%	-3.45%	4.98%	12.81%	2.51%	4.40%	5.71%	6.64%	
Multiple Asset Fund Benchmark	-3.35%	-2.97%	5.83%	13.76%	3.28%	4.61%	6.02%	6.42%	
U.S. Equity Fund	-4.43%	-3.30%	10.84%	18.53%	8.38%	8.18%	10.35%	7.59%	
U.S. Equity Fund Benchmark	-4.76%	-3.25%	12.39%	20.46%	9.38%	9.14%	11.28%	7.93%	
International Equity Fund	-4.23%	-5.55%	2.84%	17.53%	0.24%	2.38%	3.38%	5.70%	
International Equity Fund Benchmark	-3.24%	-3.49%	5.30%	20.19%	3.77%	2.57%	3.48%	4.74%	
Fixed Income Fund	-2.03%	-2.00%	1.07%	3.70%	-3.52%	0.93%	1.83%	4.46%	
Fixed Income Fund Benchmark	-2.15%	-2.52%	-0.12%	2.15%	-4.56%	0.67%	1.68%	4.07%	
Inflation Protection Fund	-1.78%	-1.52%	0.75%	3.39%	1.54%	2.80%	2.12%	3.46%	
Inflation Protection Fund Benchmark	-1.73%	-1.88%	-0.47%	0.67%	-1.12%	1.80%	2.25%	3.71%	

Historical returns are not indicative of future performance. Please refer to the disclosures at the end of this presentation for fund inception dates and benchmark information.

The inception for the Multiple Asset Fund is April 30, 2002, for the Inflation Protection Fund it is January 5, 2004 and for the remaining funds it is December 31, 1997.

### Performance du fonds (nette de frais) au 30 septembre 2023

				Annualized				
Funds	MTD	QTD	YTD	1-Year	3-Years	5-Years	10-Years	Since Inception <sup>1</sup>
Multiple Asset Fund	-3.51%	-3.45%	4.98%	12.81%	2.51%	4.40%	5.71%	6.64%
Multiple Asset Fund Benchmark	-3.35%	-2.97%	5.83%	13.76%	3.28%	4.61%	6.02%	6.42%
U.S. Equity Fund	-4.43%	-3.30%	10.84%	18.53%	8.38%	8.18%	10.35%	7.59%
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Inflation Protection Fund Benchmark	-1.73%	-1.88%	-0.47%	0.67%	-1.12%	1.80%	2.25%	3.71%

Les rendements historiques ne sont pas représentatifs des performances futures. Veuillez vous référer aux informations figurant à la fin de cette présentation pour connaître les dates de création des fonds et les informations sur les indices de référence.

Le fonds d'actifs multiples a été créé le 30 avril 2002, le fonds de protection contre l'inflation le 5 janvier 2004 et les autres fonds le 31 décembre 1997.

### **Disclosures**

General Board of Pension and Health Benefits of The United Methodist Church, Incorporated in Illinois ("Wespath Benefits and Investments" or "Wespath") is a not-for-profit, administrative agency of the religious denomination known as The United Methodist Church.

Wespath is responsible for the general supervision and administration of retirement, disability, death and health benefit plans, and programs and for investment of the related assets and also provides certain investment services to institutional investors organized for religious, benevolent, or charitable purposes that are related to The United Methodist Church (sometimes referred to as the "Church") as authorized by General Conference, the highest legislative authority of the Church. All funds under Wespath's supervision are held in the Wespath Funds Trust, a Delaware statutory trust. Each of the funds available to investors is a series of the Wespath Funds Trust. The *P Series* funds are for investment of Church benefit plan related assets and the *I Series* funds are for investment of other assets of not-for-profit entities related to the Church such as foundations, children's homes, older adult facilities, higher education institutions and healthcare organizations. UMC Benefit Board, Inc. (Benefit Board), a not-for-profit subsidiary of Wespath, is the trustee and investment adviser for the *P Series* funds. Wespath Institutional Investments (WII), a not-for-profit subsidiary of Wespath, is the trustee and investment adviser for the *P Series* funds.

Wespath, WII and Benefit Board are not registered investment advisers under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, or under any comparable local, state or federal law or statute. Neither the Wespath Funds Trust nor the funds are registered as an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940 in reliance upon exclusions from the definition of an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940. Wespath, WII, Benefit Board, Wespath Funds Trust and the funds are not subject to registration, regulation or reporting under the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Securities Act of 1933, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. Investors, therefore, will not be afforded the protections of those provisions of those laws and related regulations.

The investment funds referred to in this document are neither insured nor guaranteed by the government. No government entity has approved or disapproved these funds or passed upon the adequacy of this document.

This presentation is for informational purposes only, it does not constitute an offer to sell any investments, and may be subject to changes and corrections. The material in this document contains summary information and is not a complete description of the investment guidelines, investment objectives, policies and risks or other matters associated with the investment funds. An offer for the sale of interests in the *P Series* funds will only be made through the Investment Funds Description – *P Series*, Summary Funds Description – *P Series*, and related Statement of Additional Information (https://www.wespath.com/assets/1/7/5296.pdf). An offer for the sale of interests in the *I Series*, funds will only be made through the Investment Funds Description – *I Series*, and related Statement of Additional Information (https://www.wespath.com/assets/1/7/5296.pdf). Any decision to invest with Wespath should be preceded by a complete review of the applicable disclosure documents as referenced above, which are available upon request or online at wespath.org.

Historical returns are not indicative of future performance. Except as otherwise noted, the performance in this presentation is presented net-of-fees—that is, with the deduction of investment management fees, custody fees, and administrative and overhead expenses. The fees and expenses for the P Series funds are described in the Investment Funds Description – P Series, Summary Funds Description – P Series and related Statement of Additional Information, and for the I Series funds in the Investment Funds Description – I Series and the related Statement of Additional Information.

The returns will be reduced by the amount of fees and expenses charged to the funds. As part of the Wespath organization, WII and Benefit Board utilize certain shared personnel, including the WBI investment team. All WII shared personnel must comply in all respects with WII's policies and procedures.

#### Disclosures

#### **Performance Disclosures**

The performance shown is for the stated time period only and computed in U.S. Dollars (USD). Returns presented are time-weighted returns. Historical returns are not indicative of future performance. Except as otherwise noted, the performance in this presentation is presented net-of-fees.

Wespath claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®). GIPS is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein. To obtain a copy of Wespath's GIPS Report, please call us at 1-847-866-4100 or e-mail us at investmentinfo@wespath.org.

#### **Benchmark Disclosures**

Throughout this document, the terms "benchmark" is used to refer to comparisons of each fund's performance. A benchmark is a standard that investors use to evaluate how well a fund has performed. Comparing a fund to this fixed standard allows investors to evaluate how well the fund did in terms of meeting its goals, whether the goal was to match returns of the benchmark or to attain a return above the benchmark.

The investments of the funds and composites may vary substantially from those in the applicable benchmark. The benchmarks are based on broad-based securities market indices, which are unmanaged, cannot be invested in and are not subject to fees and expenses typically associated with investment funds. Investments cannot be made directly in an index.

#### **Fee Disclosures**

The returns will be reduced by the amount of fees and expenses charged to the funds. A fund's expense ratio is based on projected asset balances, fees and expenses, and various other assumptions. Fund expense ratios may vary depending on, among other things, market events, portfolio size, transaction costs, timing of fund inflows and outflows, and applicable third-party fees. All fees and expenses of a fund are deducted from the fund's net asset value. These expenses are paid directly by the fund and are reflected in the unit price calculated for the fund.

For the I Series funds: The fees and expenses paid include the fund's subadvisor fees and any other direct expenses, and its pro rata portion of the expenses incurred by Wespath and its subsidiaries to provide investment, administrative and operating support for all I Series funds. The fees and expenses for the I Series funds are described more fully in the Investment Funds Description – I Series.

For the P Series funds: The fees and expenses paid include the fund's subadvisor fees and any other direct expenses, and its pro rata portion of the expenses incurred by Wespath and its subsidiaries to provide investment, administrative and operating support for all P Series funds, and for non-fund related activities and operations. The fees and expenses for the P Series funds are described more fully in the Investment Funds Description – P Series.

### **Disclosures**

#### **Fund Benchmark Disclosures**

**Fixed Income Fund Benchmark**: The benchmark is the Bloomberg U.S. Universal Index (excluding Mortgage Backed Securities), effective August 24, 2016. The index consists of the U.S. Aggregate Bond Index, the U.S. High-Yield Corporate Index, the 144A Index, the Eurodollar Index, the Emerging Markets Index and the non-ERISA portion of the CMBS Index. Non-dollar denominated issues are excluded from the index. The benchmark was the Barclays U.S. Universal Index (excluding mortgage-backed securities), formerly the Lehman U.S. Universal Index (excluding mortgage-backed securities), from January 1, 2006 to August 23, 2016. From January 1, 2003, through December 31, 2005 the benchmark was the Lehman U.S. Aggregate Bond Index. Prior to January 1, 2003, the benchmark had been the Lehman Intermediate Aggregate Bond Index.

Inflation Protection Fund Benchmark: The Inflation Protection Fund performance benchmark is 90% Bloomberg U.S. Treasury Inflation-Linked Bond Index and 10% Bloomberg Commodity Index, effective February 1, 2023. The Bloomberg U.S. Treasury Inflation-Linked Bond Index measures the investment performance of the U.S. Treasury Inflation Protected Securities (TIPS) market. The Bloomberg Commodity Index measures the investment performance of a broadly diversified portfolio of futures contracts on physical commodities. From January 1, 2016 to January 31, 2023, the benchmark was 80% Bloomberg World Government Inflation Linked Bond Index (Hedged), 10% Bloomberg Emerging Market Tradeable Inflation Linked Bond Index (Unhedged) and 10% Bloomberg Commodity Index. Prior to January 1, 2016, the benchmark was the Bloomberg U.S. Government Inflation Linked Bond (Series B) Index.

International Equity Fund: The inception date for the International Equity Fund is December 31, 1997. The International Equity Fund performance benchmark is the MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI) ex USA Investable Market Index (IMI), effective January 1, 2008. The index measures the performance of equities of companies domiciled in developed and emerging markets, excluding the U.S. From January 1, 2006 through December 31, 2007, the benchmark was the MSCI ACWI ex USA Index. Prior to 2006, the benchmark was the MSCI EAFE Index.

Multiple Asset Fund Benchmark: The benchmark is the 35% Russell 3000 Index, 30% MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI) ex-USA Investable Market Index (IMI) Net, 25% Bloomberg U.S. Universal Index ex-Mortgage Backed Securities (MBS) and 10% Inflation Protection Fund (IPF) Benchmark, effective January 1, 2017. The IPF Benchmark consists of 90% Bloomberg U.S. Treasury Inflation-Linked Bond Index and 10% Bloomberg Commodity Index. From January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016, the benchmark for MAF was 40% Russell 3000 Index, 25% MSCI ACWI ex-USA IMI Net, 25% Bloomberg U.S. Universal Index ex-MBS, and 10% IPF Benchmark. From January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2015, the benchmark for MAF was 40% Russell 3000 Index, 25% MSCI ACWI ex-USA IMI Net, 25% Bloomberg U.S. Universal Index ex-MBS, and 10% Bloomberg U.S. Government Inflation Linked Bond Index. From January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2013, the benchmark was 45% Russell 3000 Index, 20% MSCI ACWI ex-USA IMI Net, 25% Bloomberg U.S. Universal Index MBS and 10% Bloomberg U.S. Government Inflation Linked Bond Index. Prior to January 1, 2006, the benchmark was 47% Russell 3000 Index, 15% MSCI EAFE Index, 3% MSCI Emerging Markets Index and 35% Lehman Brothers U.S. Universal Index.

**U.S. Equity Fund Benchmark:** The benchmark is the Russell 3000 Index. The index measures the investment performance of the 3,000 largest (based on total market value) U.S. companies, representing approximately 98% of the publicly traded companies available for investment in the U.S. equity market.



