# INTRODUCTION TO UCF FOR CTF PARTICIPANTS



#### United Church Funds — Welcome!

# Townhall Meeting Agenda

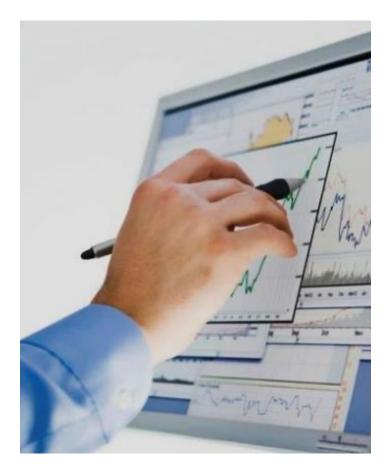
✓ Welcome and Introductions Stacey Pettice, Executive, Institutional Relationships

- ✓ Transition from CTF to UCF The Rev. Darrell Goodwin Executive Conference Minister, SNEUCC
- ✓ Overview of UCF Funds Stacey Pettice, Executive, Institutional Relationships
- ✓ Responsible Investing at UCF Matthew Illian, Director of Responsible Investing
- ✓ UCF's Client Services Matt Wagner, Vice President, Institutional and Account Portal Relationships
- ✓ Q& A
  ✓ UCF Team and Charlie Kuchenbrod
  Legacy Specialist Consultant, SNEUCC



### United Church Funds (UCF) — Overview

- Trusted investment provider to 1,100 local churches, religious judicatories and faith-based non-profits, with over \$1 billion in assets under management
- Experienced non-profit partner to fiduciaries in the development, management and governance of endowments
- Recognized leader in responsible investing strategies aligned with the United Church of Christ and like-minded progressive Christians



Investing with a Mission: Performance Beyond the Numbers



#### Transition from CTF to UCF



### **The Rev. Darrell Goodwin** Executive Conference Minister Southern New England Conference



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# UCF – A Family of Responsible Funds

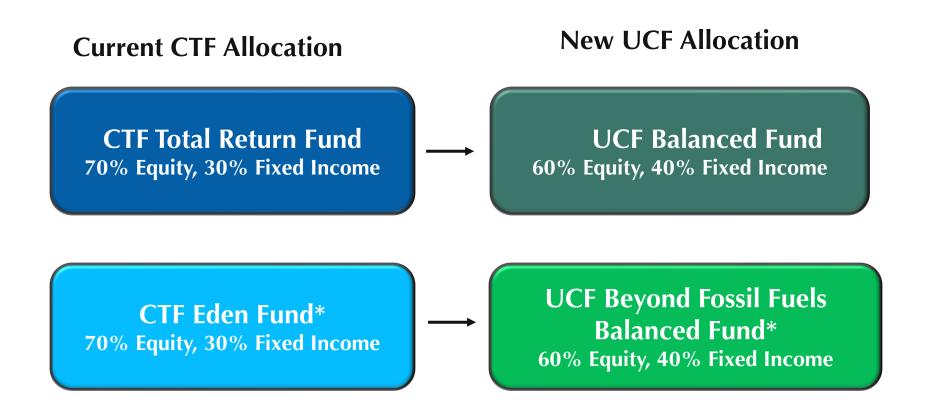
> 11 Professionally-Managed Fund Options

- Six actively Managed Funds with exposure to fixed income, domestic equity, international equity and alternative asset classes, plus a Money Market Fund
- Four Balanced Funds providing pre-selected diversified risk and allocation profiles
- UCF assists clients in understanding their goals and risk tolerance to build diversified investment portfolios consistent with their long-term objectives.
- UCF tracks fund performance using industrystandard indexes and Lipper Peer metrics to report our returns to our clients.
- Traditional Funds provide daily liquidity to clients, with no penalties/fees for withdrawals at any time.





### Transfer of Funds from CTF to UCF



\*Both the Eden Fund and the Beyond Fossil Fuels Balanced Fund exclude companies with fossil fuel reserves – those that produce for oil, gas or coal.



#### **UCF** Funds Allocation

#### **Target Allocation Overview**

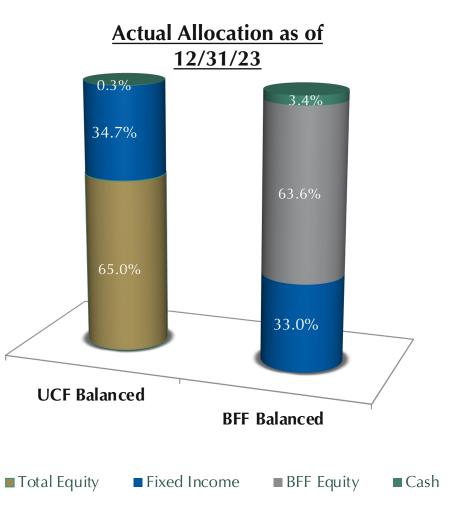
#### UCF Balanced Fund

60% Total Equity / 40% Fixed Income

#### Beyond Fossil Fuels Balanced Fund 60% Beyond Fossil Fuels / 40% BEE Fix

60% Beyond Fossil Fuels / 40% BFF Fixed Income

Active Management: UCF's investment team has the ability to move +/- 10% from the target allocation, as well as overweight or underweight asset classes within the fund, including holding cash, based on market conditions or other factors.





**Fund Objective**: Seek to provide investors with total returns consistent with a broadly diversified portfolio of high-quality fixed income securities and common stocks, with varying equity allocations in accordance with the desired risk/return tradeoff.

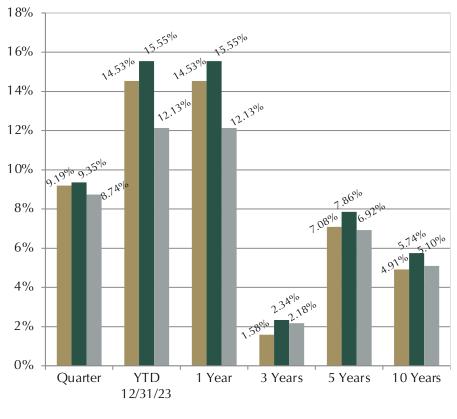
**Investment Strategy:** The Fund consists of units from the Fixed Income Fund and Total Equity Fund. The traditional balanced fund allocation (60% equity, 40% fixed income) provides global equity exposure – domestic large-cap and small-cap, and international – for greater capital appreciation, while bonds temper volatility and provide a stream of income. The Fund employs shareholder engagement and social and environmental screens.

#### **Custom Benchmark:**

60% MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI) IMI net 40% Fixed Income Policy Index

#### **Target Allocation:**

60% Total Equity 40% Fixed Income



■ UCF Balanced Fund ■ Policy Index ■ Lipper Peer Universe



# Beyond Fossil Fuels Balanced Fund – Benchmark and Lipper Peer Comparison as of 12/31/2023

**Fund Objective**: Seeks to provide investors with a total return consistent with a globally diversified equity and fixed income portfolio free of investments in companies that explore for or produce fossil fuels.

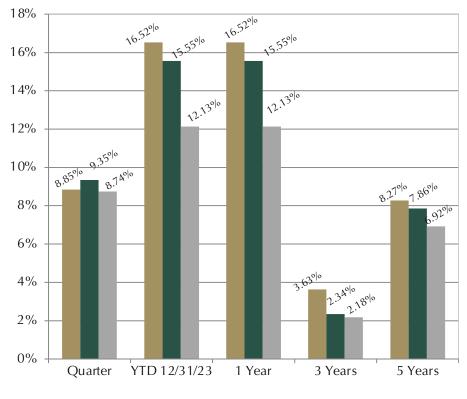
**Investment Strategy:** The Fund consists of units from the Fixed Income Fund and Beyond Fossil Fuels Fund. The enhanced global equity index portfolio invests in a broad array of U.S. common stocks, international developed market and emerging market countries. Both the fixed income and equity components of the Fund avoid investments in companies with the greatest amount of fossil fuel reserves – those that produce or explore for oil, gas or coal. The Fund employs shareholder engagement and social and environmental screens.

#### **Custom Benchmark:**

60% MSCI All Country World Index (ACWI) IMI net 40% Fixed Income Policy Index

#### **Target Allocation:**

60% Total Equity 40% Beyond Fossil Fuels Fixed Income



BFF Balanced Fund

■ Custom Index ■ Lipper Peer Group



#### UCF Expense Ratio (Fee) Schedule

UCF maintains fully inclusive **expense ratios** for all fund offerings. This means that you pay:

- NO sales commissions.
- NO investment and advisory fees.
- NO 12b-1 fees.
- NO transaction fees.
- NO out-of-pocket charges or payments.

Expense ratios cover all custodial, manager and administrative expenses.

Expense ratios are assessed quarterly to the Net Asset Value (NAV) of each fund, which means no fee is ever deducted directly from client accounts.

All UCF performance is reported net of fees.

#### 2024 Expense Ratios (Annualized)

Cash & Equivalent	0.00%
Fixed Income Fund	0.60%
Domestic Core Equity Fund	0.54%
Beyond Fossil Fuels Fund	0.75%
Small Cap Equity Fund	1.11%
International Equity Fund	1.04%
Alternatives Fund	1.54%
Total Equity Fund	0.85%
UCF Balanced Fund	0.82%
Beyond Fossil Fuels Balanced Fund	0.77%
Alternatives Balanced Fund	0.99%



#### Responsible Investing

### Investment that Creates a Just World for All





# UCF – A Multi-Faceted Approach to Driving Change

# **FIVE TOOLS**

#### in the RESPONSIBLE INVESTOR TOOLBOX











Managers selection with proven performance and commitment to responsible investing, diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI). Invest in impactfirst ventures that seek to solve social and environmental problems

Corporate Engagement with the companies in which we invest, holding them accountable for their actions.

Proxy voting on resolutions concerning issues like fairness in executive pay, corporate transparency, and DEI. Divest from companies that fail to respond to dialogue and shareholder resolutions



### UCF – Power Through Collaboration



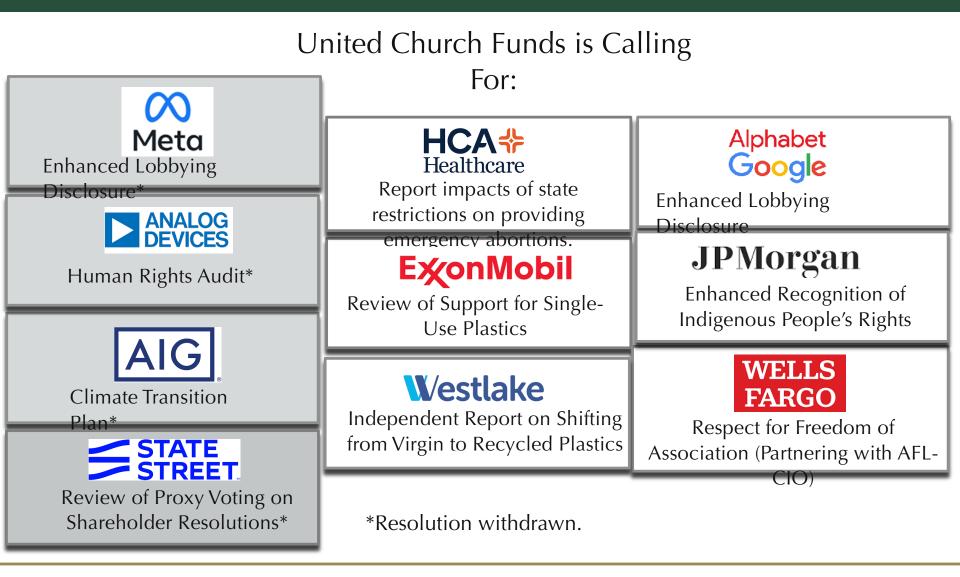
- Coalition of 300+ Faith and Values Investors, of which UCF is a Founding Member.
- Focus areas include climate, DEI/racial justice, human & worker rights and political spending.
- 122 shareholder resolutions were withdrawn for agreement in 2023.
- 7 ICCR member resolutions received majority support in 2023.



- The world's larges ever engagement initiative on climate change.
- > 700+ investors engaging with 170 focus companies responsible for 80% of global industrial emissions.
- 77% of focus companies now commit to Net Zero by 2050 (Scope 1 and 2 emissions).
- 5% of focus companies have transition plans developed in consultation with key stakeholders.



# Responsible Investing – 2024 Shareholder Engagements



#### UCF – 21<sup>st</sup> Century Exclusionary Screens

UCF avoids securities of companies which derive a relevant portion of their revenues from:

UCF avoids investment in companies whose practices within the following ESG impacts are unacceptable:

- Tobacco Production
- Firearm/Ammunition Production
- Military/Nuclear Weapons Production
- Private Prison Operation
- Coal (Thermal) Extraction
- Oil Extraction via Tar Sands
- Environmental Harm
  - Carbon Emissions
  - Toxic Emissions/Waste
  - Biodiversity
  - Water Stress
- Labor and Human Rights Harm
  - Focus on Conflict-Affected Territories
  - Compliance with Domestic and International Laws
  - Value Chain Partners

UCF screens out 421 companies in our portfolio and, in the Beyond Fossil Fuels funds, an additional 152 companies that produce and/or explore for coal, oil or gas, totaling 573 exclusions.



# UCF - Staff and Service Offerings

# Our Team Delivers the Highest Standards of



The Rev. Dr. Charles C. Buck President & CEO



Mr. Matthew Illian, CFP Director, Responsible Investing



Mr. Matthew W. Wagner, MBA, AIF Vice President, Institutional Relationships



Ms. Deborah Cho Senior Accountant



Ms. Karen Sherman-Chang, CPA **Director**, Finance & Administration



Mr. Jason Gonzalez Accounting and Client Services Associate



Ms. Michele Hamilton Staff Accountant



Ms. Debbie Wibowo Associate, Marketing & Communications



**Ms. Stacey Pettice** Executive, Institutional Relationships

Ms. Tiffany Williams

Associate

Accounting & Client Services





Ms. Kelsey Cameron Rose Institutional Relationships Associate

Mr. Adam Sank Associate, Communications & Administration



Mr. Michael Zivanov Junior Accountant







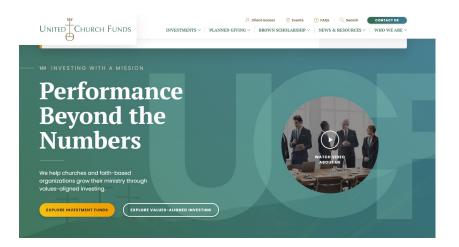


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### UCF – Top-Tier Client Services Model

- UCF's Client Services team personally handles the daily needs of our clients:
- Asset Transfers
- Distributions or Withdrawals
- Account and Statement Information
- Stock Donations



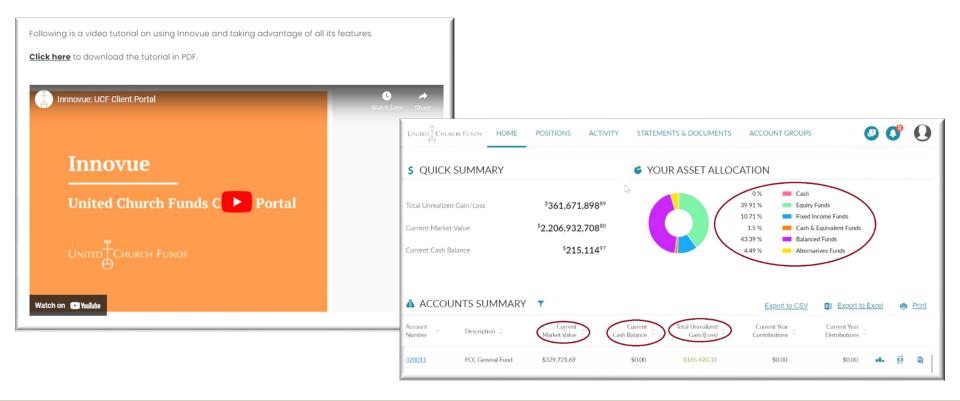


- www.UCFunds.org gives clients access to:
- Account statements via our online customer portal
- Investment information and quarterly Fund Fact Sheets for each fund
- Webinars and videos on a variety of topics
- Planned Giving and endowment best practices news and resources.



#### UCF Client Portal – Direct Access to Your Investments

- Provides view-only access to daily balances, transactions and statements.
- For UCF Client Portal step-by-step guide and video tutorial, visit <u>https://ucfunds.org/innovue-video-tutorial/</u>





### UCF – Key Differentiators for UCF Clients

#### **INVESTMENTS**

- Experienced Institutional Relationships Team
- Professionally-ManagedPlatform of Funds
- 11 Values-Aligned Funds for Portfolio Customization Options
- Unlimited Accounts
- Daily Liquidity for Stock/Bond Portfolios

#### **CLIENT SERVICES**

- Dedicated Client Services Team
- Secure Client Portal UpdatedDaily
- Electronic Statements
- > ACH Transactions
- Stock Donation Services
- Planned Giving Resources
- Endowment Governance



#### Next Steps

- Anticipated Transfer Date: April 16, 2024
- Visit <u>www.ucfunds.org/ct</u> and enter the contact info and email for the person responsible for your church's investments.
- Provide your church's authorized officers and banking instructions using the CTF Account Transition Form.
- Stay tuned for further updates via email!

#### Welcome, Consolidated Trust Funds Participants!

United Church Funds (UCF) is delighted to warmly welcome you as partners in financial stewardship.

#### Get Connected with UCF

To ensure that you receive timely account statements, updates, resources and important information from UCT, please take a moment to complete the <u>Google Farm</u> below. (You can either click the form link or fill out the fields below). This form should be filled out by the person responsible for handling your church's financial accounts. Please make sure you scroll down to answer all questions and click the SUBMIT button. We assure you that your information will remain strictly confidential. We will only use your information to send relevant UCF related communications and latest developments.

	Contact Information		
	adamsank@gmall.com Switch account	۵	
	Not shared  Indicates regulaed question		
	Church Name +		
	Your answer		
Register	for Upcoming Town Hall Meeting on Ma	rch 5 at 5:00 PM ET	

#### A Legacy of Stewardship

For decodes, UCF has been at the forefront of responsible and ethical investment management. Our commitment to stewardship aligns seamlessly with the values of the United Church of Christ, and we take pride in supporting churches and ministries in their missions.



#### Questions? We're Happy to Help!



UCF Client Services: Tel: 877-612-8798 Email: <u>CTF@ucfunds.org</u>



**Stacey L. Pettice** *Executive, Institutional Relationships* Tel: 332-219-8759 Email: <u>stacey.pettice@ucfunds.org</u>



Matthew W. Wagner VP, Institutional Relationships Tel: 332-219-8760 Email: Matt.Wagner@ucfunds.org



**Charlie Kuchenbrod** *Church Legacy Specialist Consultant Southern New England Conference* Tel: 508-244-4457 Email: <u>legacychurch@sneucc.org</u>





#### United Church Funds appreciates the opportunity to share in and support the mission of your ministry.



Investing involves risk. Consider the funds' investment objectives, risks and other factors, which are discussed in the Funds Description Statement. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

