

Investing with Episcopal Values

Episcopal values lie at the heart of the Trustees of the Funds (ToTF) investment process. Canon 13 of the Episcopal Diocese of Virginia states that all monies “shall be deposited or invested with due regard of the social responsibility of the church and the social implications of the Christian faith.” In addition to the ToTF mission to protect and grow your funds, we strive to work with successful fund managers who share our Episcopal values and embrace them.

ToTF’s Mission Aligned Investing has three standards:

- 1) We strive to work with fund managers who avoid investing in companies on the Domestic and Foreign Mission Society-defined NO BUY List and commit to limit such NO BUY investments to 5% of assets under management. Although total exclusion is difficult, especially when we use low-cost exchange-traded funds (ETFs) to minimize expenses, ToTF ownership of NO BUY List investments averages below 2%.
- 2) ToTF seeks fund managers that are moving towards Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) goals and commits to having at least 10% of the assets in the Balanced Fund and All-Equity Fund invested in explicit ESG strategies. Our investment advisor, LCG Associates, and our Investment Committee investigates fund managers’ ESG strategies before we select a new manager.
- 3) ToTF seeks to include investment managers that are diverse. While performance is a first consideration, ToTF gives preference to robust performance from firms managed by professionals with varied backgrounds. As an example, our lead investment advisor from LCG Associates is a woman who is also serves as President of the firm.

ToTF has delivered solid investment performance while ensuring that our funds management aligns with the values of the Diocese of Virginia. LCG Associates conducts an independent review of our compliance with our investment standards every quarter to ensure we are meeting our goals.