



# MARKET MINUTE

An investment report from the Kansas Methodist Foundation

## Rate of Return:

As of February 28, 2025, net-of-investment fees

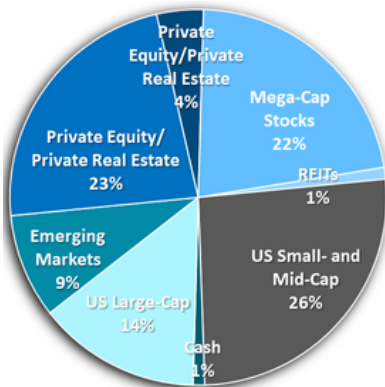
Fund Name	Feb '25	YTD	Annualized				
			1 Year	2 Years	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
<b>Balanced Fund</b>	<b>-0.27%</b>	<b>2.26%</b>	<b>9.24%</b>	<b>10.75%</b>	<b>4.03%</b>	<b>7.41%</b>	<b>6.52%</b>
Benchmark	0.03%	2.40%	11.77%	13.23%	5.53%	8.29%	6.91%
<b>Equity Fund</b>	<b>-1.37%</b>	<b>2.03%</b>	<b>11.65%</b>	<b>15.21%</b>	<b>6.30%</b>	<b>10.89%</b>	<b>8.56%</b>
Benchmark	-1.03%	2.25%	14.97%	18.75%	8.96%	12.67%	9.22%
<b>U.S. Equity Index Fund</b>	<b>-1.78%</b>	<b>1.31%</b>	<b>17.60%</b>	<b>23.02%</b>	<b>11.57%</b>	<b>16.12%</b>	<b>--</b>
Benchmark	-1.92%	1.18%	17.53%	22.94%	11.59%	16.12%	12.36%
<b>Fixed Income Fund</b>	<b>1.77%</b>	<b>2.61%</b>	<b>6.48%</b>	<b>6.13%</b>	<b>1.03%</b>	<b>0.69%</b>	<b>2.37%</b>
Benchmark	1.94%	2.58%	6.24%	5.41%	0.24%	0.06%	2.09%
<b>Short Term Income Fund</b>	<b>0.29%</b>	<b>0.68%</b>	<b>5.08%</b>	<b>4.65%</b>	<b>3.65%</b>	<b>2.74%</b>	<b>2.01%</b>

\*Historical returns are not indicative of future performance. The Balanced Fund returns represent the historical return for the Wespath Multiple Asset Fund (100%) until October 2024, when the asset allocation changed to Wespath U.S. Equity Fund (25%), Wespath U.S. Equity Index Fund (20%), Wespath International Equity Fund (20%), and Wespath Fixed Income Fund (35%). The Equity Fund returns represent the historical data for the Wespath U.S. Equity Fund (55%) and the Wespath International Equity Fund (45%) until October 2022, when the asset allocation changed to Wespath U.S. Equity Fund (45%), Wespath U.S. Equity Index Fund (20%), and Wespath International Equity Fund (35%), and subsequently changed October 2024 to Wespath U.S. Equity Fund (40%), Wespath U.S. Equity Index Fund (30%), and Wespath International Equity Fund (30%). The U.S. Equity Index Fund is the Wespath U.S. Equity Index Fund. The Fixed Income Fund performance is the Wespath Fixed Income Fund. More information about the funds and benchmarks can be found at <https://www.wespath.com/funds>. The Short Term Income Fund is a combination of multiple investment instruments of the Foundation. The Foundation hired Wespath Institutional Investments on November 1, 2019. The Administration Fee of the Foundation is not included.

### KMF Funds:\*

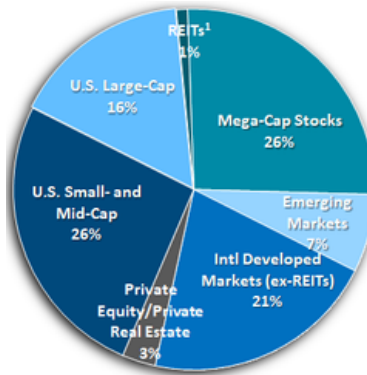
#### Balanced Fund

65% Equities  
35% Fixed Income



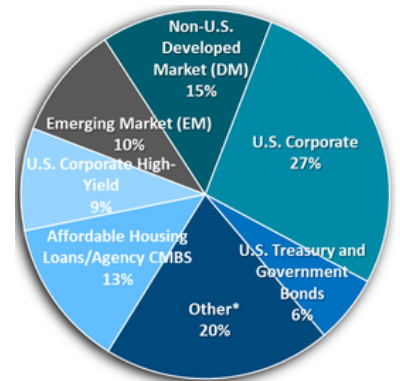
#### Equity Fund

45% US Equities  
20% US Equity Index Fund  
35% International Equities



#### Fixed Income Fund

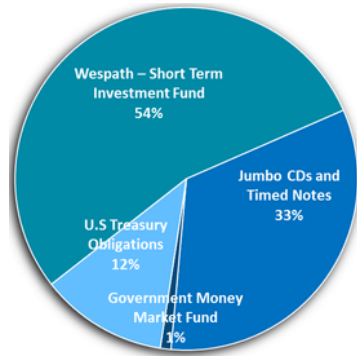
100% Fixed Income



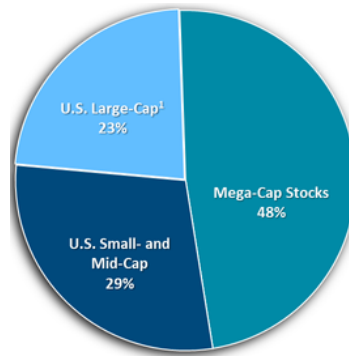
\*Fund allocations as of March 31, 2024. Investors can choose a mix of their choice from the funds provided by KMF.

## KMF Funds cont'd:\*

### Short Term Income Fund\*\*



### US Equity Index Fund (Track Russell 3000)



### Certificate of Participation

A Certificate of Participation provides the security of a fixed income type vehicle at competitive rates for 1-year and 2-year investments. Certificates of Participation are the funding source of KMF's Church Development Loan Fund, providing loans throughout the Great Plains Conference.

The current rates KMF is offering for our Certificates of Participation are:

- 2.25% for one year
- 2.25% for two years

\*Fund allocations as of March 31, 2024. Investors can choose a mix of their choice from the funds provided by KMF. WII stands for Wespath Institutional Investments.

## February Highlights:

### Notable domestic events that occurred:

- Investors ditched risky areas of the stock market for areas perceived as more insulated from trade rhetoric. As such, defensive sectors such as healthcare, financials, and consumer staples are among the best performers in the market.
- After initially pausing tariffs on Mexico and Canada at the beginning of February, the Trump administration announced on February 27 that 25% tariffs on Mexican and Canadian goods would take effect on March 4. Additionally, an additional 10% tariff on Chinese goods would take effect.
- Consumer confidence dropped to an eight-month low in February. The Conference Board consumer confidence index dropped 7 points to 98.3, reflecting apprehensions concerning the Trump administration's trade policies and federal workforce reductions.

### International Equity markets ended the month higher with developed markets outperforming emerging markets.

- Chinese stocks outpaced other global markets in February with a return of 11.76%, as measured by the MSCI China index. The buzz around DeepSeek's AI model and strong performance from China's "Terrific Ten" tech stocks like Alibaba and Tencent helped fuel performance gains.
- Indian stocks, in contrast, declined 8.02% in February to extend its losing streak to five straight months. Economic growth slowed sharply as high inflation and stagnant incomes squeezed household spending. A weakening Rupee has also made India's already expensive stock market relatively less attractive.

## Performance YTD

- +1.2% US Equities
- +7.3% Non-US Developed Equities
- +1.2% Emerging Market Equities
- Large > Small; Value > Growth
- Crude (WTI) -2.7%
- Bitcoin -9.5%

2/28/2025	
<b>US Sector Returns - YTD</b>	<b>Absolute</b>
Health Care (growth)	7.65%
Financials (value)	7.47%
Consumer Staples (value)	7.37%
Real Estate (value)	5.36%
Utilities (value)	4.92%
Energy (value)	4.88%
Materials (value)	4.70%
Industrials (value)	2.46%
Communications (growth/value)	2.19%
<b>Russell 3000</b>	<b>1.18%</b>
Technology (growth)	-4.28%
Consumer Discretionary (growth)	-5.26%

YTD	As of 2/28/2025		
	US Market-Cap/Style Returns		
Large	5.05%	1.38%	-1.69%
Mid	1.63%	1.29%	0.32%
Small	-1.85%	-2.87%	-3.82%
	Value	Blend	Growth

## Fund Portal Access

KMF has moved our sub-accounting system to a new platform for the past year. This upgrade allows our donors and partners to see their funds via an online portal. To access this portal, visit our website, [www.kansasmethodistofoundation.org](http://www.kansasmethodistofoundation.org), and click Access My Fund at the top right of our homepage. You can also use this link: <https://kmf.fcsuite.com/erp/fundmanager>

You will need to establish a username and password. This portal will allow you to see the current fund(s) in our system connected to you, asset allocations (updated weekly), and recent activity. Additionally, you can review past activity and see previous statements. Another benefit of this new upgrade is that fund advisors can initiate distributions or withdrawals from the online access.

Gloria Markus and Dustin Petz recorded a video to walk through the process of accessing and using the fund portal. Watch the video here!



## Wespath Blog

### 5 Potential Impacts of Tariffs and Trade Policy

*As tariffs descended on key U.S. trade partners China, Canada and Mexico—and then were paused on Canada and Mexico—last week, investors were confronted with a fundamental question: Will President Donald Trump’s trade strategy be primarily opportunistic and short-term, or deeply structural and transformative?*

*Tactical tariffs represent a negotiation tool, designed to extract concessions from foreign governments through economic pressure. One example might involve leveraging tariff threats against Mexico to secure more robust border security commitments.*

*Structural tariffs embody a more comprehensive economic philosophy. They aim to fundamentally reshape import dynamics, such as addressing the trade imbalances. This approach suggests tariffs are not merely a transactional mechanism, but an instrument for broader economic and geopolitical recalibration.*

*The Trump administration’s tariffs are just one of many topics investors will have to monitor over the coming weeks and months. Investors will also have to navigate sweeping changes in immigration policy, budgetary frameworks, regulatory environments and geopolitical relationships. To prevent this blog from becoming unwieldy, we will keep the focus on the potential impacts the tariff could have on investors. [Read the rest of the article here.](#)*



**By Joe Halwax, CAIA, CIMA**

Senior Managing Director, Institutional Investment Services

### Let's Connect

If you have questions about your account or fund performance, contact Dustin Petz, President and CEO of the Kansas Methodist Foundation.

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“You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God.”

- 2 Corinthians 9:11