



## Circuit Rider Dispatch

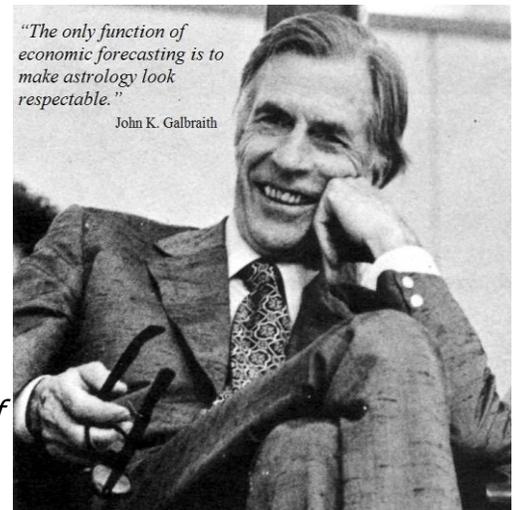


Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church Foundation, Inc.

### REWARDING INVESTMENT OPTIONS

The first quarter of 2015 closed with good news across the board from all our investment options. Our largest and by far the most popular option, the diversified **Balanced Growth Fund** was up **2.27%** YTD through March 31 and has an average annual trailing return of 7.04% over the past 10 years. The all fixed income **Intermediate Income Fund** is up **1.43%** YTD and has an average 10-year trailing annual return of 4.51%. The **Short Term Income Fund** is up **.53%** YTD and has an average annual 10-year trailing return of 2.58%. Our all equity **Equity Growth Fund** is up **2.74%** YTD. It has not been in existence for 10 years, but has a six year average annual trailing return of 18.45% (if you have not noticed we have been in a bull market for the last six years.)

What about the future? Well the truth is no one can say for certain. John Kenneth Galbraith, a noted economist, wryly noted, *"The only function of economic forecasting is to make astrology look respectable."* Our practical advice is to invest long-term oriented funds in a long-term fashion using a diversified mix of stocks and bonds and invest short-term oriented funds in, well, short term non-stock investments. Over the long-term period stocks outperform bonds that outperform money markets. If your church or ministry has special-purpose funds or savings simply sitting in a bank earning next to nothing and you are trying to cut the cemetery grass or award a scholarship from interest earned please call on us to explore what we offer. Bankrate.com reports the national average one-year CD rate yield is currently .27% and we can suggest options that are far more rewarding.



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John K. Galbraith

### GRANT DEADLINE EXTENDED TO MAY 11, 2015

The Holston Conference Foundation stewards nearly 200 special purpose endowments, scholarships and program grants established by individuals, families, and friends that support specific ministries, churches, and institutions.

These funds are governed by documents put in place by generous donors and overseen by a grant committee made up of members of the Foundation's Board of Directors and other volunteers who carefully review applications and evaluate priorities established by the donor.

Applications can be found by clicking [here](#).

Please print and return to: Holston Conference Foundation P.O. Box 900 Alcoa, TN 37701

The majority of the Foundation grants furthering United Methodist ministries were established through estate planning by thoughtful individuals who wished to leave a positive legacy.

Should you wish to discuss establishing a fund through a testamentary gift from your estate please contact Paul Bowman or Roger Redding at 865-690-8124.



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### [Understanding Medicare's Enrollment Rules](#)

Can you explain Medicare's enrollment rules along with when and how to apply? I turn 65 next year and want to make sure I know what to do. [Read More](#)

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#### PERSONAL PLANNER

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About 15 years ago Linda's father passed away. As her inheritance, she received a commercial lot that was a mile outside of town. At the time she received the inherited property, [Read More](#)

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#### YOUR PLAN

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Lucy Scroggie passed away on November 11, 2007 at age 72, but this year she will feed hungry... [Read More](#)

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#### WASHINGTON NEWS

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In 1942 the IRS granted tax exempt status to the National Football League (NFL). While most of the billions of dollars the NFL receives each year from television rights, licensing agreements and ticket sales are distributed to the 32 teams and therefore... [Read More](#)

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## RETIREMENT PLANS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO LEAVE A LEGACY

While most people would like to care for family members after they are gone, the problem with giving your unspent retirement savings to your family (other than your surviving spouse) is that the majority of your savings will be taxed.

If you are looking for ways to save on estate taxes and not have the majority of retirement assets taxed, consider changing the beneficiary designation to a charity or your local church. Qualified organizations such as these can receive the entire asset tax-free and make use of it to further the ministries you believe in.

Why do donors give their retirement assets to their church or a charity?

- First, the retirement asset will be included in their estate and may be subject to estate tax.
- Second, family members will pay tax at their ordinary income rate resulting in very little of the asset's remaining money actually going to the donor's family.
- Third, designating retirement benefits to charity is easy and does not necessarily involve an attorney. One simply contacts the plan administrator to file a change of beneficiary form.

To learn more about the benefits of designating your retirement accounts or to make a planned gift, visit [www.holstonlegacy.org](http://www.holstonlegacy.org) or [email](#) us today. The Holston Foundation will assist you in designating your gift to create an endowment or special use fund to help you leave a legacy for others.

