

JULY 2016

The General Board Becomes Wespath Benefits and Investments

Over the past 107 years the scope of the agency's mission has evolved and so has our name.

For many years, we've been known as the General Board of Pension and Health Benefits—which encompasses our role in pension and retirement plan administration, and health plans and programs—but our current agency name does not convey the important work of our investments division. At approximately \$21 billion in assets under management, the General Board is the largest denominational investor and among the top 100 of all U.S. pension funds. For that reason, in July 2016 we are changing the name of the agency to "Wespath Benefits and Investments."

If you think you've heard our new agency's name before, you're right! We've used this name since 2011 to refer to our Investment Management division, and now we will elevate it as the agency name.

The name was chosen to honor John Wesley, the founder of Methodism and a strong advocate for social justice; it also implies other Wesleyan philosophical tenets: the importance of physical health, stewardship, and caring for God's creation. In our

new name, "**Wes**"—recognizes and honors John Wesley, while "**path**"—refers to our goal of providing participants and institutional clients with a path to achieving retirement, health and investment objectives.

In July 2016, "Wespath Benefits and Investments" will replace the "General Board of Pension and Health Benefits" as the name of the agency in all communications and materials you receive from us. We will run a notification in every issue of *Hark!* until then, so participants become aware of the change.

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TIMELINE—Agency Name Changes Over the Years

1908	1924	1944	1956	1992	2016
Board of Conference Claimants	Board of Pensions and Relief	Board of Pensions	General Board of Pensions	General Board of Pension and Health Benefits	Wespath Benefits and Investments



General Board

Pension and Health Benefits

Caring For Those Who Serve

RETIREMENT PLANNING

Annual Retirement Readiness Statements Begin This Year

The General Board—your responsible choice—wants you to be adequately prepared to enjoy the retirement you envision.

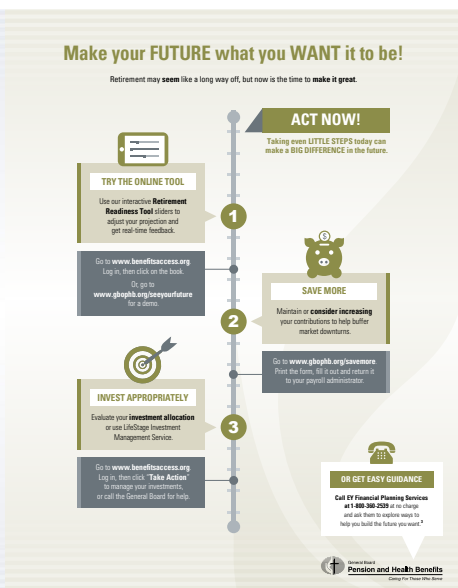
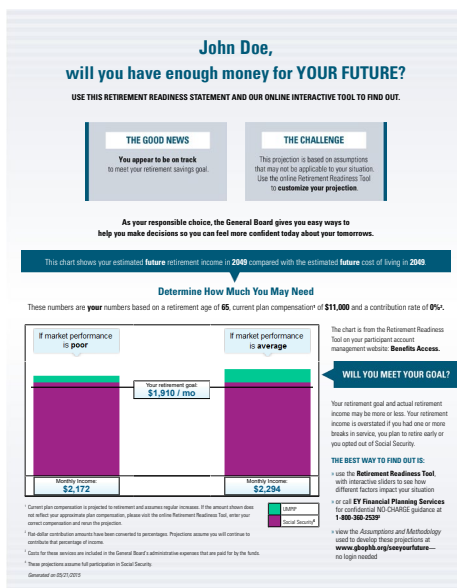
In pursuit of this goal, we offer online retirement projections to help you get—and stay—on track for retirement. But those tools only help if you use them. This year, we will take the next step to ensure you know where you stand with respect to retirement planning.

We are proud to announce the inaugural **Retirement Readiness Statement**—an annual statement that is designed to show your projected monthly income from General Board-administered retirement plans and programs, and estimated monthly benefits from Social Security. We will be mailing statements in batches over the next year.¹ But you don't need to wait to receive your statement. You can run your own projection in the online Retirement Readiness Tool; if your compensation isn't on file with the General Board, enter it when prompted.

The statement is created using the same assumptions as the Retirement Readiness Tool in Benefits Access. It attempts to answer three questions:

- 1 How much retirement income you are expected to need
- 2 How much you are projected to have
- 3 Whether you are projected to have a gap

The statement also includes useful information on ways to improve or maintain your retirement readiness. While the statement is only a projection—meaning that it's only as good as the information we have and the assumptions



we make about your current and future situation—you can always modify your projection by visiting the online Retirement Readiness Tool (for a primer, visit www.gbophb.org/seeyourfuture). Or, if you'd prefer, receive a customized retirement plan by working one-on-one with an EY Financial Planning Services representative. Services are available at no charge to eligible participants in General Board-administered retirement plans and programs.² Financial planners are available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Central time at **1-800-360-2539**.

Our ultimate goal is to help you financially prepare for retirement. As your responsible choice, we want to be your partner—helping you make the decisions that will give you comfort and peace of mind today and for all of your tomorrows.

The Retirement Readiness Statement is designed to show your projected monthly retirement income from General Board-administered plans and Social Security.

¹ We will not send statements to clergy who have already indicated their intent to retire.

² Costs for these services are included in the General Board's administrative expenses that are paid for by the funds. Services are available to active participants and surviving spouses with account balances, and to retired and terminated participants with account balances of at least \$10,000.

RETIRING

Finances Are Only Part of the Picture

The only thing in life that's constant is change—especially at retirement time. Many people are understandably anxious at this time and unsure about their next steps.

Even if you are adequately prepared financially, have you prepared physically, emotionally and spiritually for a meaningful and fulfilling retirement? Do you know how you will spend your time, and with whom? Make sure you prepare for the non-financial aspects of the transition to retirement before stepping into the next chapter of your life. Financial advisors recommend that you make a plan for retirement long before you anticipate leaving the work force. While you don't need decades to plan

for the other aspects of your retirement lifestyle, it is a good idea to ask yourself some important questions, such as:

- **How will I transition from work to other activities in retirement?**
- **What am I looking forward to doing in retirement (what will take up my day)?**
- **Does my spouse/family support my decision to retire? Do we share the same ideas about retirement?**
- **Do I have a support system of family and friends to help in the transition?**

Since people often identify deeply with their work, retiring may cause mixed feelings. As you look forward to a less stressful lifestyle, you may be concerned about the loss of identity and status...

Remember to take time to reflect on your spiritual journey. Since people often identify deeply with their work, retiring may cause mixed feelings. As you look forward to a less stressful lifestyle, you may be concerned about the loss of identity and status, and the flow of your days and weeks. In addition, pastors may need to find a church to attend and other avenues to continue in ministry to others.

While the image of retirement may be one of full-time leisure, most people look forward to spending more time being active in their retired days. And while your days are probably pretty structured now, it may take planning to spend your retired days as you envision them—consider it both a luxury and a challenge.

So don't wait until the day you retire to decide how to live your life in retirement. The Center for Health offers articles and resources to help you plan for the life you want—visit www.gbophb.org and place your cursor over “Center for Health” to view the website's offerings.



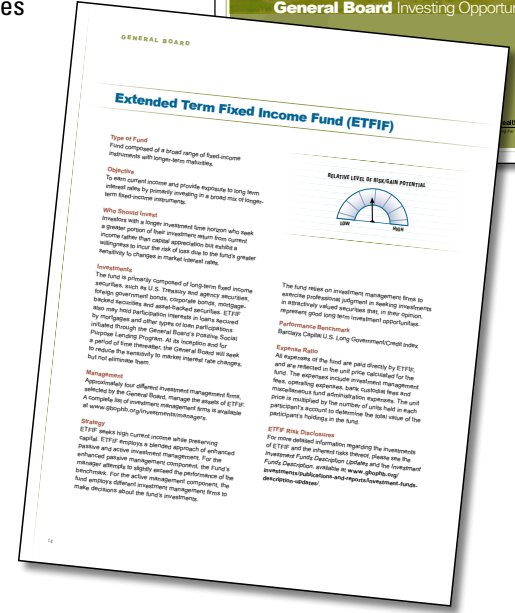
INVESTING OPPORTUNITIES

Extended Term Fixed Income Fund Now Available

The General Board introduced the Extended Term Fixed Income Fund (ETFIF) on May 29, 2015.

ETFIF primarily holds a broad selection of publicly traded fixed-income securities that typically have longer terms than securities held in other General Board fixed income investment options. ETFIF is used within the LifeStage Investment Management Service, and is also available to participants who self-direct their account balances in General Board-administered retirement plans and to United Methodist-affiliated institutions.

Additional information about the new fund can be found in the ETFIF Q&A at www.gbophb.org/lifestage-qa.



Roll Your Retirement Savings Into UMPIP— For Better Manage.Ability!

Learn more at www.gbophb.org/rollover.



General Board Pension and Health Benefits

Caring For Those Who Serve