



## **STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**January 28, 2020**

### **Poplar Forest Partners Fund**

<b>Class A</b>	<b>PFPEX</b>
<b>Institutional Class</b>	<b>IPFPX</b>

### **Poplar Forest Cornerstone Fund**

<b>Class A</b>	<b>PFCFX</b>
<b>Institutional Class</b>	<b>IPFCX</b>

### **Each a series of Advisors Series Trust**

**c/o U.S. Bank Global Fund Services  
P.O. Box 701  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201-0701  
1-877-522-8860**

This Statement of Additional Information (“SAI”) is not a prospectus and it should be read in conjunction with the Prospectus for the Class A and Institutional Class dated January 28, 2020, as may be revised, of the Poplar Forest Partners Fund (the “Partners Fund”), and the Poplar Forest Cornerstone Fund (the “Cornerstone Fund”) (each, a “Fund” and together, the “Funds”), each a series of Advisors Series Trust (the “Trust”). Poplar Forest Capital LLC (the “Adviser”) is the Funds’ investment adviser. A copy of the Prospectus may be obtained by contacting the Funds at the address or telephone number above or by visiting the Funds’ website at [www.poplarforestfunds.com/resources](http://www.poplarforestfunds.com/resources).

The Funds’ audited financial statements and notes thereto for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2019, are contained in the Funds’ annual report and are incorporated by reference into this SAI. A copy of the annual report may be obtained without charge by calling or writing the Funds as shown above or by visiting the Funds’ website at [www.poplarforestfunds.com/resources](http://www.poplarforestfunds.com/resources).

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## THE TRUST

The Trust is a Delaware statutory trust organized under the laws of the State of Delaware on October 3, 1996, and is registered with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) as an open-end management investment company. The Trust’s Agreement and Declaration of Trust (the “Declaration of Trust”) permits the Trust’s Board of Trustees (the “Board” or the “Trustees”) to issue an unlimited number of full and fractional shares of beneficial interest, par value \$0.01 per share, which may be issued in any number of series. The Trust consists of various series that represent separate investment portfolios. The Board may from time to time issue other series, the assets and liabilities of which will be separate and distinct from any other series. This SAI relates only to the Funds.

The Partners Fund commenced operations on December 31, 2009. The Cornerstone Fund commenced operations on December 31, 2014.

Registration with the SEC does not involve supervision of the management or policies of the Funds. The Prospectus of the Funds and this SAI omit certain of the information contained in the Registration Statement filed with the SEC. Copies of such information may be obtained from the SEC upon payment of the prescribed fee or may be accessed free of charge at the SEC’s website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

## INVESTMENT POLICIES

The discussion below supplements information contained in the Funds’ Prospectus as to the investment policies and risks of the Funds.

### **Diversification**

The Funds are diversified under applicable federal securities laws. This means that as to 75% of its total assets (1) no more than 5% of total assets may be invested in the securities of a single issuer, and (2) it may not hold more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of a single issuer. However, the diversification of a mutual fund’s holdings is measured at the time the fund purchases a security and if a Fund purchases a security and holds it for a period of time, the security may become a larger percentage of a Fund’s total assets due to movements in the financial markets. If the market affects several securities held by the Funds, the Funds may have a greater percentage of its assets invested in securities of fewer issuers. Accordingly, the Funds are subject to the risk that its performance may be hurt disproportionately by the poor performance of relatively few securities despite qualifying as diversified Funds.

### **Percentage Limitations**

Whenever an investment policy or limitation states a maximum percentage of a Fund’s assets that may be invested in any security or other asset, or sets forth a policy regarding quality standards, such standard or percentage limitation will be determined immediately after and as a result of a Fund’s acquisition or sale of such security or other asset. Accordingly, except with respect to borrowing any subsequent change in values, net assets or other circumstances will not be considered in determining whether an investment complies with the Funds’ investment policies and limitations. In addition, if a bankruptcy or other extraordinary event occurs concerning a particular investment by a Fund, a Fund may receive stock, real estate or other investments that a Fund would not, or could not buy. If this happens a Fund would sell such investments as soon as practicable while trying to maximize the return to its shareholders.

### **Market and Regulatory Risk**

Events in the financial markets and economy may cause volatility and uncertainty and affect performance. Such adverse effect on performance could include a decline in the value and liquidity of securities held by the Funds, unusually high and unanticipated levels of redemptions, an increase in portfolio turnover, a decrease in net asset value (“NAV”), and an increase in Funds expenses. It may also be unusually difficult

to identify both investment risks and opportunities, in which case investment objectives may not be met. Market events may affect a single issuer, industry, sector, or the market as a whole. Traditionally liquid investments may experience periods of diminished liquidity. During a general downturn in the financial markets, multiple asset classes may decline in value and a Fund may lose value, regardless of the individual results of the securities and other instruments in which the Funds invest. It is impossible to predict whether or for how long such market events will continue, particularly if they are unprecedented, unforeseen or widespread events or conditions. Therefore, it is important to understand that the value of your investment may fall, sometimes sharply and for extended periods, and you could lose money.

Governmental and regulatory actions, including tax law changes, may also impair portfolio management and have unexpected or adverse consequences on particular markets, strategies, or investments. Policy and legislative changes in the United States and in other countries are affecting many aspects of financial regulation, and may in some instances contribute to decreased liquidity and increased volatility in the financial markets. The impact of these changes on the markets, and the practical implications for market participants, may not be fully known for some time. In addition, economies and financial markets throughout the world are becoming increasingly interconnected. As a result, whether or not the Funds invest in securities of issuers located in or with significant exposure to countries experiencing economic and financial difficulties, the value and liquidity of the Funds' investments may be negatively affected.

The Funds may invest in the following types of investments, each of which is subject to certain risks, as discussed below:

### **Equity Securities**

Common stocks, preferred stocks, convertible securities, rights, warrants and American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs") are examples of equity securities in which the Funds may invest.

All investments in equity securities are subject to market risks that may cause their prices to fluctuate over time. Historically, the equity markets have moved in cycles and the value of the securities in a Fund's portfolio may fluctuate substantially from day to day. Owning an equity security can also subject a Fund to the risk that the issuer may discontinue paying dividends.

*Common Stocks.* A common stock represents a proportionate share of the ownership of a company and its value is based on the success of the company's business, any income paid to stockholders, the value of its assets, and general market conditions. In addition to the general risks set forth above, investments in common stocks are subject to the risk that in the event a company in which a Fund invests is liquidated, the holders of preferred stock and creditors of that company will be paid in full before any payments are made to a Fund as a holder of common stock. It is possible that all assets of that company will be exhausted before any payments are made to a Fund.

*Preferred Stocks.* Preferred stocks are equity securities that often pay dividends at a specific rate and have a preference over common stocks in dividend payments and liquidation of assets. A preferred stock has a blend of the characteristics of a bond and common stock. It can offer the higher yield of a bond and has priority over common stock in equity ownership, but does not have the seniority of a bond and, unlike common stock, its participation in the issuer's growth may be limited. Although the dividend is set at a fixed annual rate, in some circumstances it can be changed or omitted by the issuer.

*Convertible Securities.* The Funds may invest in convertible securities. Traditional convertible securities include corporate bonds, notes and preferred stocks that may be converted into or exchanged for common stock, and other securities that also provide an opportunity for equity participation. These securities are convertible either at a stated price or a stated rate (that is, for a specific number of shares of common stock or other security). As with other fixed income securities, the price of a convertible security generally varies

inversely with interest rates. While providing a fixed income stream, a convertible security also affords the investor an opportunity, through its conversion feature, to participate in the capital appreciation of the common stock into which it is convertible. As the market price of the underlying common stock declines, convertible securities tend to trade increasingly on a yield basis and so may not experience market value declines to the same extent as the underlying common stock. When the market price of the underlying common stock increases, the price of a convertible security tends to rise as a reflection of higher yield or capital appreciation. In such situations, the Funds may have to pay more for a convertible security than the value of the underlying common stock.

*Rights and Warrants.* The Funds may invest in rights and warrants. A right is a privilege granted to existing shareholders of a corporation to subscribe to shares of a new issue of common stock and it is issued at a predetermined price in proportion to the number of shares already owned. Rights normally have a short life, usually two to four weeks, are freely transferable and entitle the holder to buy the new common stock at a lower price than the current market. Warrants are options to purchase equity securities at a specific price for a specific period of time. They do not represent ownership of the securities, but only the right to buy them. Hence, warrants have no voting rights, pay no dividends and have no rights with respect to the assets of the corporation issuing them. The value of warrants is derived solely from capital appreciation of the underlying equity securities. Warrants differ from call options in that the underlying corporation issues warrants, whereas call options may be written by anyone.

An investment in rights and warrants may entail greater risks than certain other types of investments. Generally, rights and warrants do not carry the right to receive dividends or exercise voting rights with respect to the underlying securities, and they do not represent any rights in the assets of the issuer. In addition, although their value is influenced by the value of the underlying security, their value does not necessarily change with the value of the underlying securities, and they cease to have value if they are not exercised on or before their expiration date. Investing in rights and warrants increases the potential profit or loss to be realized from the investment as compared with investing the same amount in the underlying securities.

### **Master Limited Partnerships and Other Publicly Traded Partnerships**

Each Fund may invest in master limited partnerships (“MLPs”) and other publicly traded partnerships formed as partnerships, limited partnerships or limited liability companies, the units of which are listed and traded on a securities exchange. The Funds currently may only invest in publicly traded partnerships that are expected to be treated as corporations for federal income tax purposes. Many MLPs derive income and capital gains from the exploration, development, mining or production, processing, refining, transportation or marketing of any mineral or natural resource, or from real property. The value of MLP units fluctuates predominantly based on prevailing market conditions and the success of the MLP. The Funds may purchase common units of an MLP on an exchange as well as directly from the MLP or other parties in private placements. Unlike owners of common stock of a corporation, owners of common units have limited voting rights.

To the extent that a limited partnership’s interests are all in a particular industry, the limited partnership will be negatively impacted by economic events adversely impacting that industry. The risks of investing in a limited partnership are generally those involved in investing in a partnership as opposed to a corporation. For example, state law governing partnerships is often less restrictive than state law governing corporations. Accordingly, there may be fewer protections afforded to investors in a limited partnership than investors in a corporation. For example, investors in limited partnerships may have limited voting rights or be liable under certain circumstances for amounts greater than the amount of their investment. In addition, investments in certain investment vehicles, such as limited partnerships and MLPs, may be illiquid. Such partnership investments may also not provide daily pricing information to their investors, which will require a Fund to employ fair value procedures to value its holdings in such investments.

### **Small- and Medium-Sized Companies**

To the extent the Funds invest in the equity securities of small- and medium-sized companies, it will be exposed to the risks of smaller sized companies. Small- and medium-sized companies may have narrower markets for their goods and/or services and may have more limited managerial and financial resources than larger, more established companies. Furthermore, such companies may have limited product lines, services, markets, or financial resources or may be dependent on a small management group. In addition, because these stocks may not be well-known to the investing public, do not have significant institutional ownership or are typically followed by fewer security analysts, there will normally be less publicly available information concerning these securities compared to what is available for the securities of larger companies. Adverse publicity and investor perceptions, whether or not based on fundamental analysis, can decrease the value and liquidity of securities held by the Funds. As a result, their performance can be more volatile and they face greater risk of business failure, which could increase the volatility of a Fund's portfolio.

### **Investment Companies**

The Funds may invest in shares of other registered investment companies, including exchange-traded funds ("ETFs"), money market mutual funds, and other mutual funds in pursuit of their investment objectives, in accordance with the limitations established under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). This may include investments in money market mutual funds in connection with a Fund's management of daily cash positions and for temporary defensive purposes. Investments in the securities of other investment companies may involve duplication of advisory fees and certain other expenses. By investing in another investment company, a Fund becomes a shareholder of that investment company. As a result, Fund shareholders indirectly will bear a Fund's proportionate share of the fees and expenses paid by shareholders of the other investment company, in addition to the fees and expenses Fund shareholders directly bear in connection with a Fund's own operations.

Section 12(d)(1)(A) of the 1940 Act generally prohibits a fund from purchasing (1) more than 3% of the total outstanding voting stock of another fund; (2) securities of another fund having an aggregate value in excess of 5% of the value of the acquiring fund; and (3) securities of the other fund and all other funds having an aggregate value in excess of 10% of the value of the total assets of the acquiring funds. There are some exceptions, however, to these limitations pursuant to various rules promulgated by the SEC.

In accordance with Section 12(d)(1)(F) and Rule 12d1-3 of the 1940 Act, the provisions of Section 12(d)(1) shall not apply to securities purchased or otherwise acquired by a Fund if (i) immediately after such purchase or acquisition not more than 3% of the total outstanding stock of such registered investment company is owned by a Fund and all affiliated persons of a Fund; and (ii) a Fund is not proposing to offer or sell any security issued by it through a principal underwriter or otherwise at a public or offering price including a sales load or service fee that exceeds the limits set forth in Rule 2341 of the Conduct Rules of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. ("FINRA") applicable to a fund of funds (e.g., 8.5%). In accordance with Rule 12d1-1 under the 1940 Act, the provisions of Section 12(d)(1) shall not apply to shares of money market funds purchased by a Fund, whether or not for temporary defensive purposes, provided that the Fund does not pay a sales charge, distribution fee or service fee as defined in Rule 2341 of the Conduct Rules of FINRA on acquired money market fund shares (or the Adviser must waive its advisory fees in amount necessary to offset any sales charge, distribution fee or service fee).

*Exchange-Traded Funds.* ETFs are open-end investment companies whose shares are listed on a national securities exchange. An ETF is similar to a traditional mutual fund, but trades at different prices during the day on a security exchange like a stock. Similar to investments in other investment companies discussed above, a Fund's investments in ETFs will involve duplication of advisory fees and other expenses since a Fund will be investing in another investment company. In addition, a Fund's investment in ETFs is also subject to its limitations on investments in investment companies discussed above. To the extent a Fund invests in ETFs which focus on a particular market segment or industry, a Fund will also be subject to the

risks associated with investing in those sectors or industries. The shares of the ETFs in which a Fund will invest will be listed on a national securities exchange and a Fund will purchase or sell these shares on the secondary market at its current market price, which may be more or less than its net asset value (“NAV”) per share.

As a purchaser of ETF shares on the secondary market, the Funds will be subject to the market risk associated with owning any security whose value is based on market price. ETF shares historically have tended to trade at or near their NAV, but there is no guarantee that they will continue to do so. Unlike traditional mutual funds, shares of an ETF may be purchased and redeemed directly from the ETFs only in large blocks (typically 50,000 shares or more) and only through participating organizations that have entered into contractual agreements with the ETF. The Funds do not expect to enter into such agreements and therefore will not be able to purchase and redeem its ETF shares directly from the ETF.

### **Foreign Investments**

The Funds may make investments in securities of non-U.S. issuers (“foreign securities”). Each Fund reserves the right to invest up to 20% of each Fund’s net assets in Depositary Receipts (“DRs”), U.S. dollar-denominated securities, foreign securities and securities of companies incorporated outside the U.S.

*Depositary Receipts.* Depositary Receipts include ADRs, European Depositary Receipts (“EDRs”), Global Depositary Receipts (“GDRs”) or other forms of DRs. DRs are receipts typically issued in connection with a U.S. or foreign bank or trust company which evidence ownership of underlying securities issued by a non-U.S. company.

ADRs are depositary receipts for foreign securities denominated in U.S. dollars and traded on U.S. securities markets. These securities may not necessarily be denominated in the same currency as the securities for which they may be exchanged. These are certificates evidencing ownership of shares of a foreign-based issuer held in trust by a bank or similar financial institutions. Designed for use in U.S. securities markets, ADRs are alternatives to the purchase of the underlying securities in their national market and currencies. ADRs may be purchased through “sponsored” or “unsponsored” facilities. A sponsored facility is established jointly by the issuer of the underlying security and a depositary, whereas a depositary may establish an unsponsored facility without participation by the issuer of the depositary security. Holders of unsponsored depositary receipts generally bear all the costs of such facilities and the depositary of an unsponsored facility frequently is under no obligation to distribute shareholder communications received from the issuer of the deposited security or to pass through voting rights to the holders of such receipts of the deposited securities.

**Risks of Investing in Foreign Securities.** Investments in foreign securities involve certain inherent risks, including the following:

*Political and Economic Factors.* Individual economies of certain countries may differ favorably or unfavorably from the United States’ economy in such respects as growth of gross national product, rate of inflation, capital reinvestment, resource self-sufficiency, diversification and balance of payments position. The internal politics of certain foreign countries may not be as stable as those of the United States. Governments in certain foreign countries also continue to participate to a significant degree, through ownership interest or regulation, in their respective economies. Action by these governments could include restrictions on foreign investment, nationalization, expropriation of goods or imposition of taxes, and could have a significant effect on market prices of securities and payment of interest. The economies of many foreign countries are heavily dependent upon international trade and are accordingly affected by the trade policies and economic conditions of their trading partners. Enactment by these trading partners of protectionist trade legislation could have a significant adverse effect upon the securities markets of such countries.

*Legal and Regulatory Matters.* Certain foreign countries may have less supervision of securities markets, brokers and issuers of securities, and less financial information available to issuers, than is available in the United States.

*Currency Fluctuations.* A change in the value of any foreign currency against the U.S. dollar will result in a corresponding change in the U.S. dollar value of a DR's underlying portfolio securities denominated in that currency. Such changes will affect the Funds to the extent that the Funds are invested in DRs comprised of foreign securities.

*Taxes.* The interest and dividends payable to the Funds on certain of a Fund's foreign securities may be subject to foreign taxes or withholding, thus reducing the net amount of income available for distribution to Fund shareholders. The Funds may not be eligible to pass through to its shareholders any tax credits or deductions with respect to such foreign taxes or withholding.

In considering whether to invest in the securities of a non-U.S. company, the Adviser considers such factors as the characteristics of the particular company, differences between economic trends and the performance of securities markets within the U.S. and those within other countries, and also factors relating to the general economic, governmental and social conditions of the country or countries where the company is located. The extent to which the Funds will be invested in non-U.S. companies, foreign countries and depository receipts will fluctuate from time to time within any limitations described in the Prospectus, depending on the Adviser's assessment of prevailing market, economic and other conditions.

*Emerging Markets.* The Partners Fund and Cornerstone Fund may invest up to 5% of its net assets, in foreign securities that may include securities of companies located in developing or emerging markets, which entail additional risks, including: less social, political and economic stability; smaller securities markets and lower trading volume, which may result in less liquidity and greater price volatility; national policies that may restrict an underlying fund's investment opportunities, including restrictions on investments in issuers or industries, or expropriation or confiscation of assets or property; and less developed legal structures governing private or foreign investment.

*Brexit.* In a June 2016 referendum, citizens of the United Kingdom voted to leave the EU (also known as "Brexit") and on March 29, 2017, the United Kingdom gave its formal notice of withdrawal from the EU to the European Commission. On January 31, 2020, the United Kingdom will officially withdraw from the EU and the two sides will enter into a transition phase until December 31, 2020 where the United Kingdom will effectively remain in the EU from an economic perspective but will no longer have any political representation on the EU parliament. During the transition phase, the United Kingdom and EU will seek to negotiate and finalize a new trade deal. It is possible that the transition date could be extended for up to two years. While the outcome of negotiations for a new trade deal is uncertain, the impact on the United Kingdom and EU and the broader global economy is still unknown but could be significant and could result in increased volatility and illiquidity and potentially lower economic growth. Brexit may have a negative impact on the economy and currency of the United Kingdom and EU as a result of anticipated, perceived or actual changes to the United Kingdom's economic and political relations with the EU. Brexit may also have a destabilizing impact on the EU to the extent other member states similarly seek to withdraw from the union. Any further exits from the EU, or the possibility of such exits, would likely cause additional market disruption globally and introduce new legal and regulatory uncertainties. Any or all of these challenges may affect the value of a Fund's investments that are economically tied to the United Kingdom or the EU, and could have an adverse impact on the Fund's performance.

## **Options**

The Funds may write call options on stocks if the calls are "covered" throughout the life of the option.

A call is “covered” if a Fund owns the optioned securities. When a Fund writes a call, it receives a premium and gives the purchaser the right to buy the underlying security at any time during the call period at a fixed exercise price regardless of market price changes during the call period. If the call is exercised, a Fund will forgo any gain from an increase in the market price of the underlying security over the exercise price.

The Funds may purchase a call on securities to effect a “closing purchase transaction,” which is the purchase of a call covering the same underlying security and having the same exercise price and expiration date as a call previously written by a Fund on which it wishes to terminate its obligation. If a Fund is unable to effect a closing purchase transaction, it will not be able to sell the underlying security until the call previously written by a Fund expires (or until the call is exercised and a Fund delivers the underlying security).

*Writing Call Options* – When a Fund writes a call option it assumes an obligation to sell specified securities to the holder of the option at a specified price if the option is exercised at any time before the expiration date.

Call writers expect to profit if prices remain the same or fall. The Funds could try to hedge against a decline in the value of securities it already owns by writing a call option. If the price of that security falls as expected, a Fund would expect the option to expire and the premium it received to offset the decline of the security’s value. However, a Fund must be prepared to deliver the underlying instrument in return for the strike price, which may deprive it of the opportunity to profit from an increase in the market price of the securities it holds.

The Funds are permitted only to write covered options. The Funds can cover a call option by owning:

- The underlying security (or securities convertible into the underlying security without additional consideration);
- A call option on the same security with the same or lesser exercise price;
- A call option on the same security with a greater exercise price and segregating cash or liquid securities in an amount equal to the difference between the exercise prices; or
- Cash or liquid securities equal to at least the market value of the optioned securities.

*Risks of Derivatives* – While transactions in derivatives may reduce certain risks, these transactions themselves entail certain other risks. For example, unanticipated changes in interest rates, securities prices or currency exchange rates may result in a poorer overall performance of a Fund than if it had not entered into any derivatives transactions. Derivatives may magnify a Fund’s gains or losses, causing it to make or lose substantially more than it invested.

When used for hedging purposes, increases in the value of the securities a Fund holds or intends to acquire should offset any losses incurred with a derivative. Purchasing derivatives for purposes other than hedging could expose the Funds to greater risks.

*Derivative Management Risk* – If the Adviser incorrectly predicts stock market and interest rate trends, the Funds may lose money by investing in derivatives. For example, if the Funds were to write a call option based on its Adviser’s expectation that the price of the underlying security would fall, but the price were to rise instead, the Funds could be required to sell the security upon exercise at a price below the current market price.

### **Government Obligations**

The Funds may make short-term investments in U.S. Government obligations. Such obligations include Treasury bills, certificates of indebtedness, notes and bonds, and issues of such entities as the Government

National Mortgage Association (“GNMA”), Export Import Bank of the United States, Tennessee Valley Authority, Resolution Funding Corporation, Farmers Home Administration, Federal Home Loan Banks, Federal Intermediate Credit Banks, Federal Farm Credit Banks, Federal Land Banks, Federal Housing Administration, Federal National Mortgage Association (“FNMA”), Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (“FHLMC”), and the Student Loan Marketing Association.

Some of these obligations, such as those of the GNMA, are supported by the full faith and credit of the U.S. Treasury Department; others, such as those of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, are supported by the right of the issuer to borrow from the U.S. Treasury; others, such as those of the FNMA, are supported by the discretionary authority of the U.S. Government to purchase the agency’s obligations; still others, such as those of the Student Loan Marketing Association, are supported only by the credit of the instrumentality. No assurance can be given that the U.S. Government would provide financial support to U.S. Government-sponsored instrumentalities if it is not obligated to do so by law.

The Funds may invest in sovereign debt obligations of foreign countries. A sovereign debtor’s willingness or ability to repay principal and interest in a timely manner may be affected by a number of factors, including its cash flow situation, the extent of its foreign reserves, the availability of sufficient foreign exchange on the date a payment is due, the relative size of the debt service burden to the economy as a whole, the sovereign debtor’s policy toward principal international lenders and the political constraints to which it may be subject. Emerging market governments could default on their sovereign debt. Such sovereign debtors also may be dependent on expected disbursements from foreign governments, multilateral agencies and other entities abroad to reduce principal and interest arrearages on their debt. The commitments on the part of these governments, agencies and others to make such disbursements may be conditioned on a sovereign debtor’s implementation of economic reforms and/or economic performance and the timely service of such debtor’s obligations. Failure to meet such conditions could result in the cancellation of such third parties’ commitments to lend funds to the sovereign debtor, which may further impair such debtor’s ability or willingness to service its debt in a timely manner.

#### **When-Issued Securities**

The Funds may purchase securities on a when-issued basis, for payment and delivery at a later date, generally within one month. The price and yield are generally fixed on the date of commitment to purchase, and the value of the security is thereafter reflected in a Fund’s NAV. During the period between purchase and settlement, no payment is made by the Funds and no interest accrues to the Funds. At the time of settlement, the market value of the security may be more or less than the purchase price.

#### **Corporate Debt Securities**

The Cornerstone Fund may invest up to 50% of its net assets in fixed-income securities of any maturity while the Partners Fund may invest up to 25% of its net assets in fixed-income securities of any maturity. Up to 50% of the Cornerstone Fund’s net assets and up to 10% of the Partners Fund’s net assets, may be invested in corporate debt securities rated at least “investment grade” by one or more recognized statistical ratings organizations, such as Standard & Poor’s (“S&P”) Ratings Services or Moody’s Investors Service, Inc. (“Moody’s”). Up to 5% of a Fund’s net assets may be invested in debt securities rated below investment grade. Bonds rated below BBB by S&P or Baa by Moody’s, commonly referred to as “junk bonds,” typically carry higher coupon rates than investment grade bonds, but also are described as speculative by both S&P and Moody’s and may be subject to greater market price fluctuations, less liquidity and greater risk of income or principal including greater possibility of default and bankruptcy of the issuer of such securities than more highly rated bonds. Lower-rated bonds also are more likely to be sensitive to adverse economic or company developments and more subject to price fluctuations in response to changes in interest rates. The market for lower-rated debt issues generally is thinner and less active than that for higher quality securities, which may limit a Fund’s ability to sell such securities at fair value in response to changes in the economy or financial markets. During periods of economic downturn or rising interest rates, highly leveraged issuers of lower-

rated securities may experience financial stress which could adversely affect their ability to make payments of interest and principal and increase the possibility of default.

Ratings of debt securities represent the rating agencies' opinions regarding their quality, are not a guarantee of quality and may be reduced after a Fund has acquired the security. If a security's rating is reduced while it is held by a Fund, the Adviser will consider whether a Fund should continue to hold the security but is not required to dispose of it. Credit ratings attempt to evaluate the safety of principal and interest payments and do not evaluate the risks of fluctuations in market value. Also, rating agencies may fail to make timely changes in credit ratings in response to subsequent events, so that an issuer's current financial conditions may be better or worse than the rating indicates. The ratings for corporate debt securities are described in Appendix A.

### **Illiquid and Restricted Securities**

Pursuant to Rule 22e-4 under the 1940 Act, a Fund may not acquire any "illiquid investment" if, immediately after the acquisition, the Fund would have invested more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments that are assets. An "illiquid investment" is any investment that a Fund reasonably expects cannot be sold or disposed of in current market conditions in seven calendar days or less without the sale or disposition significantly changing the market value of the investment. Each Fund has implemented a liquidity risk management program and related procedures to identify illiquid investments pursuant to Rule 22e-4. The 15% limit is applied as of the date a Fund purchases an illiquid investment. It is possible that a Fund's holding of illiquid investments could exceed the 15% limit, for example as a result of market developments or redemptions.

Each Fund may purchase certain restricted securities that can be resold to institutional investors and which may be determined not to be illiquid investments pursuant to the Fund's liquidity risk management program. In many cases, those securities are traded in the institutional market pursuant to Rule 144A under the Securities act of 1933, as amended (the "1933 Act") and are called Rule 144A securities.

Investments in illiquid investments involve more risks than investments in similar securities that are readily marketable. Illiquid investments may trade at a discount from comparable, more liquid investments. Investment of a Fund's assets in illiquid investments may restrict the ability of the Fund to dispose of its investments in a timely fashion and for a fair price as well as its ability to take advantage of market opportunities. The risks associated with illiquidity will be particularly acute where a Fund's operations require cash, such as when the Fund has net redemptions, and could result in the Fund borrowing to meet short-term cash requirements or incurring losses on the sale of illiquid investments.

Restricted securities sold in private placement transactions between issuers and their purchasers are neither listed on an exchange nor traded in other established markets and may be illiquid. In many cases, the privately placed securities may not be freely transferable under the laws of the applicable jurisdiction or due to contractual restrictions on resale. To the extent privately placed securities may be resold in privately negotiated transactions, the prices realized from the sales could be less than those originally paid by a Fund or less than the fair value of the securities. A restricted security may be determined to be liquid under a Fund's liquidity risk management program established pursuant to Rule 22e-4 depending on market, trading, or investment-specific considerations related to the restricted security. In addition, issuers whose securities are not publicly traded may not be subject to the disclosure and other investor protection requirements that may be applicable if their securities were publicly traded. If any privately placed securities held by a Fund are required to be registered under the securities laws of one or more jurisdictions before being resold, the Fund may be required to bear the expenses of registration. Private placement investments may involve investments in smaller, less seasoned issuers, which may involve greater risks than investments in more established companies. These issuers may have limited product lines, markets or financial resources, or they may be

dependent on a limited management group. In making investments in private placement securities, a Fund may obtain access to material non-public information about an issuer of private placement securities, which may restrict the Fund's ability to conduct transactions in those securities.

### **Borrowing**

Although the Funds do not currently intend to borrow money, the 1940 Act permits each Fund to borrow money in amounts of up to one-third of the Fund's total assets from banks for any purpose, and to borrow up to 5% of the Fund's total assets from banks or other lenders for temporary purposes. To limit the risks attendant to borrowing, the 1940 Act requires a Fund to maintain at all times an "asset coverage" of at least 300% of the amount of its borrowings. Asset coverage means the ratio that the value of a Fund's total assets, minus liabilities other than borrowings, bears to the aggregate amount of all borrowings. Borrowing money to increase a Fund's investment portfolio is known as "leveraging." Borrowing, especially when used for leverage, may cause the value of a Fund's shares to be more volatile than if a Fund did not borrow. This is because borrowing tends to magnify the effect of any increase or decrease in the value of a Fund's portfolio holdings. Borrowed money thus creates an opportunity for greater gains, but also greater losses. To repay borrowings, a Fund may have to sell securities at a time and at a price that is unfavorable to the Fund. There also are costs associated with borrowing money, and these costs would offset and could eliminate a Fund's net investment income in any given period.

The use of borrowing by the Funds involves special risk considerations that may not be associated with other funds having similar objectives and policies.

Since substantially all of a Fund's assets fluctuate in value, while the interest obligation resulting from a borrowing will be fixed by the terms of the Fund's agreement with its lender, the net asset value per share of a Fund will tend to increase more when its portfolio securities increase in value and to decrease more when its portfolio assets decrease in value than would otherwise be the case if the Fund did not borrow funds. In addition, interest costs on borrowings may fluctuate with changing market rates of interest and may partially offset or exceed the return earned on borrowed funds. Under adverse market conditions, a Fund might have to sell portfolio securities to meet interest or principal payments at a time when fundamental investment considerations would not favor such sales. Each Fund will reduce its borrowing amount within three days, if its asset coverage falls below the amount required by the 1940 Act.

### **Short-Term, Temporary, and Cash Investments**

The Funds may invest in any of the following securities and instruments:

*Bank Certificates of Deposit, Bankers' Acceptances and Time Deposits.* The Funds may acquire certificates of deposit, bankers' acceptances and time deposits. Certificates of deposit are negotiable certificates issued against funds deposited in a commercial bank for a definite period of time and earning a specified return. Bankers' acceptances are negotiable drafts or bills of exchange, normally drawn by an importer or exporter to pay for specific merchandise, which are "accepted" by a bank, meaning in effect that the bank unconditionally agrees to pay the face value of the instrument on maturity. Certificates of deposit and bankers' acceptances acquired by the Funds will be dollar denominated obligations of domestic or foreign banks or financial institutions which at the time of purchase have capital, surplus and undivided profits in excess of \$100 million (including assets of both domestic and foreign branches), based on latest published reports, or less than \$100 million if the principal amount of such bank obligations are fully insured by the U.S. Government. If a Fund holds instruments of foreign banks or financial institutions, it may be subject to additional investment risks that are different in some respects from those incurred by a fund that invests only in debt obligations of U.S. domestic issuers. See "Foreign Investments" above. Such risks include future political and economic developments, the possible imposition of withholding taxes by the particular country in which the issuer is located on interest income payable on the securities, the possible seizure or nationalization of foreign deposits, the possible establishment of exchange controls or the adoption of other

foreign governmental restrictions which might adversely affect the payment of principal and interest on these securities.

Domestic banks and foreign banks are subject to different governmental regulations with respect to the amount and types of loans which may be made and interest rates which may be charged. In addition, the profitability of the banking industry depends largely upon the availability and cost of funds for the purpose of financing lending operations under prevailing money market conditions. General economic conditions as well as exposure to credit losses arising from possible financial difficulties of borrowers play an important part in the operations of the banking industry.

As a result of federal and state laws and regulations, domestic banks are, among other things, required to maintain specified levels of reserves, limited in the amount which they can loan to a single borrower, and subject to other regulations designed to promote financial soundness. However, such laws and regulations do not necessarily apply to foreign bank obligations that the Funds may acquire.

In addition to purchasing certificates of deposit and bankers' acceptances, to the extent permitted under its investment objectives and policies stated above and in its Prospectus, the Funds may make interest bearing time or other interest bearing deposits in commercial or savings banks. Time deposits are non-negotiable deposits maintained at a banking institution for a specified period of time at a specified interest rate.

*Savings Association Obligations.* The Funds may invest in certificates of deposit (interest bearing time deposits) issued by savings banks or savings and loan associations that have capital, surplus and undivided profits in excess of \$100 million, based on latest published reports, or less than \$100 million if the principal amount of such obligations is fully insured by the U.S. Government.

*Commercial Paper, Short-Term Notes and Other Corporate Obligations.* The Funds may invest a portion of its assets in commercial paper and short-term notes. Commercial paper consists of unsecured promissory notes issued by corporations. Issues of commercial paper and short-term notes will normally have maturities of less than nine months and fixed rates of return, although such instruments may have maturities of up to one year.

Commercial paper and short-term notes will consist of issues rated at the time of purchase "A-2" or higher by S&P, "Prime-1" by Moody's, or similarly rated by another nationally recognized statistical rating organization or, if unrated, will be determined by the Adviser to be of comparable quality. These rating symbols are described in Appendix B.

### **Special Risks Related to Cyber Security**

The Funds and their service providers are susceptible to cyber security risks that include, among other things, theft, unauthorized monitoring, release, misuse, loss, destruction or corruption of confidential and highly restricted data; denial of service attacks; unauthorized access to relevant systems, compromises to networks or devices that the Funds and their service providers use to service the Funds' operations; or operational disruption or failures in the physical infrastructure or operating systems that support the Funds and their service providers. Cyber attacks against or security breakdowns of the Funds or its service providers may adversely impact a Fund and its shareholders, potentially resulting in, among other things, financial losses; the inability of Fund shareholders to transact business and the Fund to process transactions; inability to calculate the Fund's NAV; violations of applicable privacy and other laws; regulatory fines, penalties, reputational damage, reimbursement or other compensation costs; and/or additional compliance costs. The Funds may incur additional costs for cyber security risk management and remediation purposes. In addition, cyber security risks may also impact issuers of securities in which the Funds invest, which may cause the Funds' investments in such issuers to lose value. There can be no assurance that the Funds or their service providers will not suffer losses relating to cyber attacks or other information security breaches in the future.

## INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS

The Trust (on behalf of the Funds) has adopted the following restrictions as fundamental policies, which may not be changed without the affirmative vote of the holders of a “majority of the Fund’s outstanding voting securities” as defined in the 1940 Act. Under the 1940 Act, the “vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding voting securities” means the vote of the holders of the lesser of (i) 67% of the shares of a Fund represented at a meeting at which the holders of more than 50% of its outstanding shares are represented or (ii) more than 50% of the outstanding shares of the Funds.

The Funds may not:

1. With respect to 75% of its total assets, invest more than 5% of its total assets in securities of a single issuer or hold more than 10% of the voting securities of such issuer. (Does not apply to investments in the securities of other investment companies or securities of the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities.)
2. Borrow money, except as permitted under the 1940 Act.
3. Issue senior securities, except as permitted under the 1940 Act.
4. Engage in the business of underwriting securities, except to the extent that the Funds may be considered an underwriter within the meaning of the Securities Act in the disposition of restricted securities.
5. Invest 25% or more of the market value of its total assets in the securities of companies engaged in any one industry. (Does not apply to investments in the securities of other investment companies or securities of the U.S. Government, its agencies or instrumentalities.)
6. Purchase or sell real estate, which term does not include securities of companies which deal in real estate and/or mortgages or investments secured by real estate, or interests therein, except that the Funds reserve freedom of action to hold and to sell real estate acquired as a result of a Fund’s ownership of securities.
7. Purchase or sell physical commodities or contracts relating to physical commodities.
8. Make loans to others, except as permitted under the 1940 Act.

The Funds observe the following policies, which are not deemed fundamental and which may be changed without shareholder vote. The Funds may not:

1. Invest in any issuer for purposes of exercising control or management.
2. Purchase securities on margin or make short sales.
3. Invest in securities of other investment companies, except as permitted under the 1940 Act.
4. Hold, in the aggregate, more than 15% of its net assets in illiquid investments that are assets pursuant to Rule 22e-4 under the 1940 Act.
5. Lend portfolio securities.

## PORTFOLIO TURNOVER

Although the Funds generally will not invest for short-term trading purposes, portfolio securities may be sold without regard to the length of time they have been held when, in the opinion of the Adviser, investment considerations warrant such action. Portfolio turnover rate is calculated by dividing (1) the lesser of purchases or sales of portfolio securities for the fiscal year by (2) the monthly average of the value of portfolio securities

owned during the fiscal year. A 100% turnover rate would occur if all the securities in a Fund’s portfolio, with the exception of securities whose maturities at the time of acquisition were one year or less, were sold and either repurchased or replaced within one year. A high rate of portfolio turnover (100% or more) generally leads to higher transaction costs and may result in a greater number of taxable transactions.

High portfolio turnover generally results in the distribution of short-term capital gains which are taxed at the higher ordinary income tax rates.

The following table shows the Funds’ portfolio turnover rate for the fiscal years shown:

	<b>Portfolio Turnover Rate Fiscal Year Ended</b>	
	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
Partners Fund	30.72%	31.83%
Cornerstone Fund	38.12%	29.88%

### **PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS POLICY**

The Adviser and the Funds maintain portfolio holdings disclosure policies that govern the timing and circumstances of disclosure to shareholders and third parties of information regarding the portfolio investments held by the Funds. These portfolio holdings disclosure policies have been approved by the Board. Disclosure of each Fund’s complete holdings is required to be made quarterly within 60 days of the end of each fiscal quarter in the annual report and semi-annual report to Fund shareholders and in the quarterly holdings report on Forms N-Q or N-PORT. Effective March 2020, Form N-PORT will replace Form N-Q. These reports are available, free of charge, on the EDGAR database on the SEC’s website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

Pursuant to the Trust’s portfolio holdings disclosure policies, information about each Fund’s portfolio holdings is not distributed to any person unless:

- The disclosure is required pursuant to a regulatory request, court order or is legally required in the context of other legal proceedings;
- The disclosure is made to a mutual fund rating and/or ranking organization, or person performing similar functions, who is subject to a duty of confidentiality, including a duty not to trade on any non-public information;
- The disclosure is made to internal parties involved in the investment process, administration, operation or custody of the Funds, including, but not limited to U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (“Fund Services”) and the Trust’s Board of Trustees, attorneys, auditors or accountants;
- The disclosure is made: (a) in connection with a quarterly, semi-annual or annual report that is available to the public; or (b) relates to information that is otherwise available to the public; or
- The disclosure is made with the prior written approval of either the Trust’s Chief Compliance Officer (“CCO”) or his or her designee.

Certain of the persons listed above receive information about each Fund’s portfolio holdings on an ongoing basis. The Funds believe that these third parties have legitimate objectives in requesting such portfolio holdings information and operate in the best interest of the Funds’ shareholders. These persons include:

- A mutual fund rating and/or ranking organization, or person performing similar functions, who is subject to a duty of confidentiality, including a duty not to trade on any non-public information;

- Rating and/or ranking organizations, specifically: Lipper; Morningstar; Standard & Poor's; Bloomberg; Vickers-Stock Research Corporation; Thomson Financial; and Capital-Bridge, all of which currently receive such information on the 30<sup>th</sup> day following the end of a calendar quarter; or
- Internal parties involved in the investment process, administration, operation or custody of the Funds, specifically: Fund Services; the Trust's Board of Trustees; the Trust's attorneys and accountants (currently, Sullivan & Worcester LLP ("Sullivan & Worcester") and Tait, Weller & Baker LLP, respectively); and providers of trade order and portfolio management tools as well as providers of middle and back office services, all of which typically receive such information after it is generated.

Any disclosures to additional parties not described above is made with the prior written approval of either the Trust's CCO or his or her designee, pursuant to the Trust's Policy and Procedures Regarding Disclosure of Portfolio Holdings.

The CCO or designated officer of the Trust will approve the furnishing of non-public portfolio holdings to a third party only if they consider the furnishing of such information to be in the best interest of the Funds and their shareholders and if no material conflict of interest exists regarding such disclosure between shareholders interest and those of the Adviser, Distributor or any affiliated person of the Funds. No consideration may be received by the Funds, the Adviser, any affiliate of the Adviser or their employees in connection with the disclosure of portfolio holdings information. The Board receives and reviews annually a list of the persons who receive non-public portfolio holdings information and the purpose for which it is furnished.

## MANAGEMENT

The overall management of the Trust's business and affairs is invested with its Board. The Board approves all significant agreements between the Trust and persons or companies furnishing services to it, including the agreements with the Adviser, Administrator, Custodian and Transfer Agent, each as defined herein. The day-to-day operations of the Trust are delegated to its officers, subject to the Funds' investment objectives, strategies and policies and to the general supervision of the Board. The Trustees and officers of the Trust, their ages and positions with the Trust, terms of office with the Trust and length of time served, their business addresses and principal occupations during the past five years and other directorships held are set forth in the table below.

### Independent Trustees<sup>(1)</sup>

Name, Address and Age	Position Held with the Trust	Term of Office and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupation During Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee <sup>(2)</sup>	Other Directorships Held During Past Five Years <sup>(3)</sup>
Gail S. Duree (age 73) 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202	Trustee	Indefinite term; since March 2014.	Director, Alpha Gamma Delta Housing Corporation (collegiate housing management) (2012 to July 2019); Trustee and Chair (2000 to 2012), New Covenant Mutual Funds (1999 to 2012); Director and Board Member, Alpha Gamma Delta Foundation (philanthropic organization) (2005 to 2011).	2	Trustee, Advisors Series Trust (for series not affiliated with the Funds); Independent Trustee from 1999 to 2012, New Covenant Mutual Funds (an open-end investment company with 4 portfolios).

## Independent Trustees<sup>(1)</sup>

<b>Name, Address and Age</b>	<b>Position Held with the Trust</b>	<b>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Principal Occupation During Past Five Years</b>	<b>Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>Other Directorships Held During Past Five Years<sup>(3)</sup></b>
David G. Mertens (age 59) 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202	Trustee	Indefinite term*; since March 2017.	Partner and Head of Business Development Ballast Equity Management, LLC (a privately held investment advisory firm) (February 2019 to present); Managing Director and Vice President, Jensen Investment Management, Inc. (a privately-held investment advisory firm) (2002 to 2017).	2	Trustee, Advisors Series Trust (for series not affiliated with the Funds).
Joe D. Redwine (age 72) 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202	Trustee	Indefinite term; since September 2008.	Retired; formerly Manager, President, CEO, U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC, and its predecessors, (May 1991 to July 2017).	2	Trustee, Advisors Series Trust (for series not affiliated with the Funds).

## Independent Trustees<sup>(1)</sup>

Name, Address and Age	Position Held with the Trust	Term of Office and Length of Time Served	Principal Occupation During Past Five Years	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee <sup>(2)</sup>	Other Directorships Held During Past Five Years <sup>(3)</sup>
Raymond B. Woolson (age 61) 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202	Chairman of the Board and Trustee	Indefinite term; since January 2020; Indefinite term*; since January 2016.	President, Apogee Group, Inc. (financial consulting firm) (1998 to present).	2	Trustee, Advisors Series Trust (for series not affiliated with the Funds); Independent Trustee, DoubleLine Funds Trust (an open-end investment company with 16 portfolios), DoubleLine Opportunistic Credit Fund and DoubleLine Income Solutions Fund, from 2010 to present; Independent Trustee, DoubleLine Equity Funds from 2010 to 2016.

## Officers

<b>Name, Address and Age</b>	<b>Position Held with the Trust</b>	<b>Term of Office and Length of Time Served</b>	<b>Principal Occupation During Past Five Years</b>
Jeffrey T. Rauman (age 51) 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202	President, Chief Executive Officer and Principal Executive Officer	Indefinite term; since December 2018.	Senior Vice President, Compliance and Administration, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (February 1996 to present).
Cheryl L. King (age 58) 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202	Vice President, Treasurer and Principal Financial Officer	Indefinite term; since December 2007.	Vice President, Compliance and Administration, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (October 1998 to present).
Kevin J. Hayden (age 48) 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202	Assistant Treasurer	Indefinite term; since September 2013.	Assistant Vice President, Compliance and Administration, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (June 2005 to present).
Richard R. Conner (age 37) 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202	Assistant Treasurer	Indefinite term; since December 2018.	Assistant Vice President, Compliance and Administration, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (July 2010 to present).
Michael L. Ceccato (age 62) 615 E. Michigan Street Milwaukee, WI 53202	Vice President, Chief Compliance Officer and AML Officer	Indefinite term; since September 2009.	Senior Vice President and Chief Fund Compliance Officer, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services and Vice President, U.S. Bank N.A. (February 2008 to present).
Elaine E. Richards, Esq. (age 51) 2020 East Financial Way, Suite 100 Glendora, CA 91741	Vice President and Secretary	Indefinite term; since September 2019.	Senior Vice President, U.S. Bank Global Fund Services (July 2007 to present).

\* Under the Trust’s Agreement and Declaration of Trust, a Trustee serves during the continued lifetime of the Trust until he/she dies, resigns, is declared bankrupt or incompetent by a court of appropriate jurisdiction, or is removed, or, if sooner, until the election and qualification of his/her successor. In addition, the Trustees have designated a mandatory retirement age of 75, such that each Trustee first elected or appointed to the Board after December 1, 2015, serving as such on the date he or she reaches the age of 75, shall submit his or her resignation not later than the last day of the calendar year in which his or her 75th birthday occurs.

- (1) The Trustees of the Trust who are not “interested persons” of the Trust as defined under the 1940 Act (“Independent Trustees”).
- (2) As of December 31, 2019, the Trust was comprised of 39 active portfolios managed by unaffiliated investment advisers. The term “Fund Complex” applies only to the Funds (collectively, the “Poplar Forest Funds”). The Poplar Forest Funds do not hold themselves out as related to any other series within the Trust for investment purposes, nor do they share the same investment adviser with any other series.
- (3) “Other Directorships Held” includes only directorships of companies required to register or file reports with the SEC under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, (that is, “public companies”) or other investment companies registered under the 1940 Act.

## **Additional Information Concerning Our Board of Trustees**

### *The Role of the Board*

The Board provides oversight of the management and operations of the Trust. Like all mutual funds, the day-to-day responsibility for the management and operation of the Trust is the responsibility of various service providers to the Trust, such as the Trust's investment advisers, distributor, administrator, custodian, and transfer agent, each of whom are discussed in greater detail in this SAI. The Board approves all significant agreements between the Trust and its service providers, including the agreements with the advisers, distributor, administrator, custodian and transfer agent. The Board has appointed various senior individuals of certain of these service providers as officers of the Trust, with responsibility to monitor and report to the Board on the Trust's day-to-day operations. In conducting this oversight, the Board receives regular reports from these officers and service providers regarding the Trust's operations. The Board has appointed a CCO who administers the Trust's compliance program and regularly reports to the Board as to compliance matters. Some of these reports are provided as part of formal "Board Meetings" which are typically held quarterly, in person, and involve the Board's review of recent Trust operations. From time to time one or more members of the Board may also meet with Trust officers in less formal settings, between formal "Board Meetings," to discuss various topics. In all cases, however, the role of the Board and of any individual Trustee is one of oversight and not of management of the day-to-day affairs of the Trust and its oversight role does not make the Board a guarantor of the Trust's investments, operations or activities.

### *Board Leadership Structure*

The Board has structured itself in a manner that it believes allows it to effectively perform its oversight function. It has established four standing committees, an Audit Committee, a Nominating Committee, a Governance Committee and a Qualified Legal Compliance Committee (the "QLCC"), which are discussed in greater detail under "Board Committees", below. Currently, all of the members of the Board are Independent Trustees, which are Trustees that are not affiliated with the Adviser or its affiliates or any other investment adviser in the Trust or with its principal underwriter. The Independent Trustees have engaged their own independent counsel to advise them on matters relating to their responsibilities in connection with the Trust.

The President and Principal Executive Officer of the Trust is not a Trustee, but rather is a senior employee of the Administrator who routinely interacts with the unaffiliated investment advisers of the Trust and comprehensively manages the operational aspects of the funds in the Trust. The Trust has appointed Raymond Woolson, an Independent Trustee, as Chairman of the Board, and he acts as a liaison with the Trust's service providers, officers, legal counsel, and other Trustees between meetings, helps to set Board meeting agendas, and serves as chair during executive sessions of the Independent Trustees.

The Board reviews its structure annually. The Trust has determined that it is appropriate to separate the Principal Executive Officer and Board Chairman positions because the day-to day responsibilities of the Principal Executive Officer are not consistent with the oversight role of the Trustees and because of the potential conflict of interest that may arise from the Administrator's duties with the Trust. Given the specific characteristics and circumstances of the Trust as described above, the Trust has determined that the Board's leadership structure is appropriate.

### *Board Oversight of Risk Management*

As part of its oversight function, the Board receives and reviews various risk management reports and assessments and discusses these matters with appropriate management and other personnel. Because risk management is a broad concept comprised of many elements (such as, for example, investment risk, issuer and counterparty risk, compliance risk, operational risks, business continuity risks, etc.) the oversight of different types of risks is handled in different ways. For example, the Governance Committee meets regularly with the CCO to discuss compliance risks and the Audit Committee meets with the Treasurer and the Trust's

independent public accounting firm to discuss, among other things, the internal control structure of the Trust's financial reporting function. The full Board receives reports from the Adviser and portfolio managers as to investment risks as well as other risks that may be also discussed in Audit Committee.

*Information about Each Trustee's Qualification, Experience, Attributes or Skills*

The Board believes that each of the Trustees has the qualifications, experience, attributes and skills ("Trustee Attributes") appropriate to their continued service as Trustees of the Trust in light of the Trust's business and structure. Each of the Trustees has substantial business and professional backgrounds that indicate they have the ability to critically review, evaluate and assess information provided to them. Certain of these business and professional experiences are set forth in detail in the table above. In addition, the majority of the Trustees have served on boards for organizations other than the Trust, as well as having served on the Board of the Trust for a number of years. They therefore have substantial board experience and, in their service to the Trust, have gained substantial insight as to the operation of the Trust. The Board annually conducts a 'self-assessment' wherein the effectiveness of the Board and individual Trustees is reviewed.

In addition to the information provided in the table above, below is certain additional information concerning each particular Trustee and certain of their Trustee Attributes. The information provided below, and in the table above, is not all-inclusive. Many Trustee Attributes involve intangible elements, such as intelligence, integrity, work ethic, the ability to work together, the ability to communicate effectively, the ability to exercise judgment, the ability to ask incisive questions, and commitment to shareholder interests. In conducting its annual self-assessment, the Board has determined that the Trustees have the appropriate attributes and experience to continue to serve effectively as Trustees of the Trust.

*Gail S. Duree.* Ms. Duree has served as a trustee and chair on a mutual fund board and is experienced in financial, accounting and investment matters through her experience as past audit committee chair of a mutual fund complex as well as through her service as Treasurer of a major church from 1999 to 2009. Ms. Duree also serves as director of a collegiate housing management company and has served as a director of a philanthropic organization where she sat as chair of the finance committee. Ms. Duree serves as the Trust's Audit Committee Financial Expert.

*David G. Mertens.* Mr. Mertens has substantial mutual fund experience and is experienced with financial accounting, investment and regulatory matters. He currently serves as Partner and Head of Business Development of Ballast Equity Management, LLC, a privately held investment advisory firm. Mr. Mertens also gained substantial mutual fund experience through his tenure as Managing Director and Vice President of Jensen Investment Management, Inc. ("Jensen") from 2002 to 2017. Prior to Jensen, Mr. Mertens held various roles in sales and marketing management with Berger Financial Group, LLC from 1995 to 2002, ending as Senior Vice President of Institutional Marketing for Berger Financial Group and President of its limited purpose broker-dealer, Berger Distributors.

*Joe D. Redwine.* Mr. Redwine has substantial mutual fund experience and is experienced with financial, accounting, investment and regulatory matters through his experience as President and CEO of U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC, a full-service provider to mutual funds and alternative investment products. In addition, he has extensive experience consulting with investment advisers regarding the legal structure of mutual funds, distribution channel analysis and actual distribution of those funds.

*Raymond B. Woolson.* Mr. Woolson has served on a number of mutual fund boards and is experienced with financial, accounting, investment and regulatory matters through his experience as Lead Independent Trustee and Audit Committee Chair for the DoubleLine Funds as well as through his service as President of Apogee Group, Inc., a company providing financial consulting services. Mr. Woolson also has substantial mutual fund operations, financial and investment experience through his prior service in senior and management positions in the mutual fund industry, including service as Senior Managing Director in Investment

Management for Mass Mutual Life Insurance Company, where he oversaw fund accounting, fund administration and client services and also served as Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer for various funds and other investment products. Mr. Woolson has also served as a consultant for Coopers & Lybrand (now known as, “PricewaterhouseCoopers” or “PWC”) where he provided management consulting services to the mutual fund industry and the investment management areas of the banking and insurance industries.

### **Board Committees**

The Trust has established the following four standing committees and the membership of each committee to assist in its oversight functions, including its oversight of the risks the Trust faces: the Audit Committee, the QLCC, the Nominating Committee, and the Governance Committee. There is no assurance, however, that the Board’s committee structure will prevent or mitigate risks in actual practice. The Trust’s committee structure is specifically not intended or designed to prevent or mitigate the Funds’ investment risks. The Funds are designed for investors that are prepared to accept investment risk, including the possibility that as yet unforeseen risks may emerge in the future.

The Audit Committee is comprised of all of the Independent Trustees. Ms. Duree is the chairperson of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee typically meets once per year with respect to the various series of the Trust. The function of the Audit Committee, with respect to each series of the Trust, is to review the scope and results of the audit and any matters bearing on the audit or the Funds’ financial statements and to ensure the integrity of the Funds’ pricing and financial reporting. The Audit Committee met once with respect to the Funds during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2019.

The Audit Committee also serves as the QLCC for the Trust for the purpose of compliance with Rules 205.2(k) and 205.3(c) of the Code of Federal Regulations, regarding alternative reporting procedures for attorneys retained or employed by an issuer who appear and practice before the SEC on behalf of the issuer (the “issuer attorneys”). An issuer’s attorney who becomes aware of evidence of a material violation by the Trust, or by any officer, director, employee, or agent of the Trust, may report evidence of such material violation to the QLCC as an alternative to the reporting requirements of Rule 205.3(b) (which requires reporting to the chief legal officer and potentially “up the ladder” to other entities). The QLCC Committee meets only as necessary and did not meet with respect to the Funds during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2019.

The Nominating Committee is responsible for seeking and reviewing candidates for consideration as nominees for Trustees as is considered necessary from time to time and meets only as necessary. The Nominating Committee is comprised of all of the Independent Trustees. Mr. Redwine is the Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

The Nominating Committee will consider nominees recommended by shareholders. Recommendations for consideration by the Nominating Committee should be sent to the President of the Trust in writing together with the appropriate biographical information concerning each such proposed Nominee, and such recommendation must comply with the notice provisions set forth in the Trust’s By-Laws. In general, to comply with such procedures, such nominations, together with all required biographical information, must be delivered to and received by the President of the Trust at the principal executive offices of the Trust between 120 and 150 days prior to the shareholder meeting at which any such nominee would be voted on. The Nominating Committee met once with respect to the Funds during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2019.

The Governance Committee is comprised of all of the Independent Trustees. Mr. Mertens is the Chairman of the Governance Committee. The Governance Committee meets regularly with respect to the various series of the Trust. The Governance Committee is responsible for, among other things, assisting the Board in its oversight of the Trust’s compliance program under Rule 38a-1 under the 1940 Act, reviewing and making recommendations regarding Independent Trustee compensation and the Trustees’ annual “self-

assessment.” The Governance Committee met twice during the Funds’ fiscal year ended September 30, 2019.

Additionally, the Trust’s Board has delegated day-to-day valuation issues to a Valuation Committee that is comprised of representatives from the Administrator’s staff. The function of the Valuation Committee is to value securities held by any series of the Trust for which current and reliable market quotations are not readily available. Such securities are valued at their respective fair values as determined in good faith by the Valuation Committee and the actions of the Valuation Committee are subsequently reviewed and ratified by the Board. The Valuation Committee meets as needed.

### Trustee Ownership of Fund Shares and Other Interests

The following table shows the amount of shares in the Funds and the amount of shares in the aggregate owned by the Trustees as of the calendar year ended December 31, 2019.

	Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Partners Fund	Dollar Range of Equity Securities in the Cornerstone Fund	Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities in all Registered Investment Companies Overseen by Trustee in Family of Investment Companies
	(None, \$1-\$10,000, \$10,001-\$50,000, \$50,001-\$100,000, Over \$100,000)		
<b>Independent Trustees</b>			
Gail S. Duree	None	None	None
David G. Mertens	Over \$100,000	None	Over \$100,000
Raymond B. Woolson	None	None	None
Joe D. Redwine	None	None	None

As of December 31, 2019, neither the Independent Trustees nor members of their immediate family, own securities beneficially or of record in the Adviser, the Distributor, as defined below, or an affiliate of the Adviser or Distributor. Accordingly, neither the Independent Trustees nor members of their immediate family, have direct or indirect interest, the value of which exceeds \$120,000, in the Adviser, the Distributor or any of their affiliates. In addition, during the two most recently completed calendar years, neither the Independent Trustees nor members of their immediate families have conducted any transactions (or series of transactions) in which the amount involved exceeds \$120,000 and to which the Adviser, the Distributor or any affiliate thereof was a party.

### Compensation

Effective January 1, 2020, the Independent Trustees each receive an annual retainer of \$94,500 per year allocated among each of the various portfolios comprising the Trust, an additional \$6,000 per regularly scheduled Board meeting, and an additional \$500 per special telephonic meeting paid by the Trust or applicable advisors/portfolios, as well as reimbursement for expenses incurred in connection with attendance at Board meetings. Prior to January 1, 2020, the annual retainer was \$92,000. The Trust Chair, chair of the Audit Committee, and the chair of the Governance Committee, each receive a separate annual fee of \$10,000, \$5,000, and \$3,000, respectively, provided that the separate fee for the chair of the Audit Committee will be waived if the same individual serves as both Trust Chair and Audit Committee chair. The Trust has no pension or retirement plan. No other entity affiliated with the Trust pays any compensation to the Trustees. Set forth below is the compensation received by the Independent Trustees from the Funds for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2019.

	Aggregate Compensation Partners Fund	Aggregate Compensation Cornerstone Fund	Pension or Retirement Benefits Accrued as Part of Fund Expenses	Estimated Annual Benefits Upon Retirement	Total Compensation from Fund Complex Paid to Trustees <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Independent Trustee</b>					
Gail S. Duree	\$4,029	\$2,867	None	None	\$6,896
David G. Mertens	\$3,966	\$2,822	None	None	\$6,788
George J. Rebhan <sup>(2)</sup>	\$4,187	\$2,979	None	None	\$7,166
Raymond B. Woolson	\$3,966	\$2,822	None	None	\$6,788
Joe D. Redwine	\$3,870	\$2,755	None	None	\$6,625

<sup>(1)</sup> There are currently numerous portfolios comprising the Trust. The term “Fund Complex” applies only to the Poplar Forest Funds. For the fiscal year ended September 30, 2019, aggregate Independent Trustees’ fees for the Trust were \$575,500.

<sup>(2)</sup> Mr. Rebhan retired from the Board of Trustees as of December 31, 2019.

## PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Board has adopted Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures (the “Policies”) on behalf of the Trust which delegate the responsibility for voting proxies to the Adviser, subject to the Board’s continuing oversight. The Policies require that the Adviser vote proxies received in a manner consistent with the best interests of the Funds and their shareholders. The Policies also require the Adviser to present to the Board, at least annually, the Adviser’s Policies and a record of each proxy voted by the Adviser on behalf of the Funds, including a report on the resolution of all proxies identified by the Adviser as involving a conflict of interest.

The Adviser will vote proxies based on its view of what is best for the long-term investors in the companies in question. The Adviser maintains written policies and procedures regarding proxy voting and makes appropriate disclosures about its proxy policy and practice. The policy and practice include the responsibility to monitor corporate actions, receive and vote client proxies, and disclose any potential conflicts of interest as well as information available to clients about the voting of proxies for their portfolio securities and maintaining relevant and required records.

### *Voting Guidelines*

The Adviser will vote proxies in accordance with its view of the long term best interests of the company’s shareholders, which, in the Adviser’s view, is in the best interests of its clients. In the absence of specific voting guidelines from a client, the Adviser’s policy is to vote all proxies from a specific issuer the same way for all clients.

The Trust is required to file a Form N-PX, with each Fund’s complete proxy voting record for the 12 months ended June 30, no later than August 31 of each year. Each Fund’s proxy voting record is available without charge, upon request, by calling toll-free 1-877-522-8860 and on the SEC’s website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

## CONTROL PERSONS, PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS, AND MANAGEMENT OWNERSHIP

A principal shareholder is any person who owns of record or beneficially 5% or more of the outstanding shares of the Funds. A control person is one who owns beneficially or through controlled companies more than 25% of the voting securities of a company or acknowledges the existence of control. Shareholders with a controlling interest could affect the outcome of voting or the direction of management of the Funds.

As of December 31, 2019, the following shareholders were considered to be either a control person or principal shareholder of the Funds:

<b>Partners Fund – Class A</b>				
<b>Name and Address</b>	<b>Parent Company</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>% Ownership</b>	<b>Type of Ownership</b>
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Special Custody A/C FBO Customers Attn: Mutual Funds 211 Main Street San Francisco, CA 94105-1905	The Charles Schwab Corporation	DE	33.36%	Record
Oppenheimer & Co., Inc. 85 Broad Street, Floor 22 New York, NY 10004-2434	N/A	N/A	9.66%	Record
UBS Financial Services, Inc. FBO Alan Steinbrecher IRA Rollover c/o Poplar Forest Capital LLC 70 S. Lake Avenue, Suite 930 Pasadena, CA 91101-4938	N/A	N/A	8.24%	Beneficial
Pershing LLC 1 Pershing Plaza, Floor 14 Jersey City, NJ 07399-0002	N/A	N/A	7.07%	Record

<b>Partners Fund – Institutional Class</b>				
<b>Name and Address</b>	<b>Parent Company</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>% Ownership</b>	<b>Type of Ownership</b>
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Special Custody A/C FBO Customers Attn: Mutual Funds 211 Main Street San Francisco, CA 94105-1905	N/A	N/A	23.13%	Record
Oppenheimer & Co., Inc. 85 Broad Street, Floor 22 New York, NY 10004-2434	N/A	N/A	19.03%	Record
Merrill Lynch Pierce Fenner & Smith, Inc. For Sole Benefit of Its Customers 4800 Deer Lake Drive East Jacksonville, FL 32246-6484	N/A	N/A	14.57%	Record

**Cornerstone Fund – Class A**

<b>Name and Address</b>	<b>Parent Company</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>% Ownership</b>	<b>Type of Ownership</b>
UBS Financial Services Inc. FBO J. Dale Harvey Traditional IRA c/o Poplar Forest Capital LLC 70 S. Lake Avenue, Suite 930 Pasadena, CA 91101-4938	UBS Americas Inc.	DE	72.94%	Beneficial
Pershing LLC P.O. Box 2052 Jersey City, NJ 07303-2052	N/A	N/A	23.95%	Record

**Cornerstone Fund – Institutional Class**

<b>Name and Address</b>	<b>Parent Company</b>	<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>% Ownership</b>	<b>Type of Ownership</b>
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc. Special Custody A/C FBO Customers Attn: Mutual Funds 211 Main Street San Francisco, CA 94105-1905	The Charles Schwab Corporation	DE	35.39%	Record
Pershing LLC P.O. Box 2052 Jersey City, NJ 07303-2052	Pershing Group LLC	DE	27.32%	Record
The Kirby Jones Foundation Delaware c/o Packy Jones Jones Trading 70 S. Lake Avenue Pasadena, CA 91101	N/A	N/A	15.95%	Beneficial
U.S. Bank NA Cust Rodrigo Guerra IRA Rollover c/o Poplar Forest 70 S. Lake Avenue Pasadena, CA 91101	N/A	N/A	7.84%	Beneficial

*Management Ownership Information.* As of December 31, 2019, the Trustees and officers of the Trust, as a group, beneficially owned less than 1% of the outstanding shares of any class of the Funds.

**CODES OF ETHICS**

The Trust, the Adviser and the Distributor, as defined below, have each adopted separate Codes of Ethics under Rule 17j-1 of the 1940 Act. These Codes of Ethics permit, subject to certain conditions, access persons of the Adviser and Distributor to invest in securities that may be purchased or held by the Funds.

## THE FUNDS' INVESTMENT ADVISER

Poplar Forest Capital LLC, 70 South Lake Avenue, Suite 930, Pasadena, California 91101, acts as investment adviser to the Funds pursuant to an investment advisory agreement (the "Advisory Agreement") with the Trust. Mr. J. Dale Harvey, CEO and Chief Investment Officer, owns approximately 74% of the Adviser and is therefore, a control person of the Adviser.

In consideration of the services to be provided by the Adviser pursuant to the Advisory Agreement, the Adviser is entitled to receive from the Funds an investment management fee computed daily and payable monthly. For the Partners Fund, the fees are calculated at an annual rate of 1.00% of average daily net assets for the first \$250 million of assets, 0.80% of the Fund's average daily net assets for the next \$750 million of assets, and 0.70% of the Fund's average daily net assets for assets in excess of \$1 billion. For the Cornerstone Fund, the fees are calculated at an annual rate of 0.80% of average daily net assets for the first \$250 million of assets, 0.70% of the Fund's average daily net assets for the next \$750 million of assets, and 0.60% of the Fund's average daily net assets for assets in excess of \$1 billion.

For the fiscal years shown below, the Partners Fund paid the following fees to the Adviser:

	<b>Fiscal Year Ended September 30,</b>		
	<b><u>2019</u></b>	<b><u>2018</u></b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>
Management Fees Accrued	\$4,517,347	\$6,637,575	\$6,547,982
Management Fees Waived	\$528,026	\$216,243	\$220,772
Management Fees Recouped	\$0	\$0	\$0
Management Fees Paid	\$3,989,321	\$6,421,332	\$6,327,210

For the fiscal years shown below, the Cornerstone Fund paid the following fees to the Adviser:

	<b>Fiscal Year Ended September 30,</b>		
	<b><u>2019</u></b>	<b><u>2018</u></b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>
Management Fees Accrued	\$227,137	\$244,518	\$222,054
Management Fees Waived	\$209,239	\$180,774	\$186,399
Management Fees Recouped	\$0	\$0	\$0
Management Fees Paid	\$17,898	\$63,744	\$35,655

The Advisory Agreement will continue in effect for successive annual periods so long as such continuation is specifically approved at least annually by the vote of (1) the Board (or a majority of the outstanding shares of the Fund), and (2) a majority of the Trustees who are not interested persons of any party to the Advisory Agreement, in each case, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. The Advisory Agreement may be terminated at any time, without penalty, by either party to the Advisory Agreement upon a 60-day written notice and is automatically terminated in the event of its "assignment," as defined in the 1940 Act.

In addition to the management fees payable to the Adviser, the Funds are responsible for their own operating expenses, including: fees and expenses incurred in connection with the issuance, registration and transfer of its shares; brokerage and commission expenses; all expenses of transfer, receipt, safekeeping, servicing and accounting for the cash, securities and other property of the Trust for the benefit of the Funds including all fees and expenses of its custodian and accounting services agent; interest charges on any borrowings; costs and expenses of pricing and calculating its daily NAV per share and of maintaining its books of account

required under the 1940 Act; taxes, if any; a pro rata portion of expenditures in connection with meetings of a Fund's shareholders and the Trust's Board that are properly payable by the Funds; salaries and expenses of officers and fees and expenses of members of the Board or members of any advisory board or committee who are not members of, affiliated with or interested persons of the Adviser or Administrator; insurance premiums on property or personnel of the Funds which inure to their benefit, including liability and fidelity bond insurance; the cost of preparing and printing reports, proxy statements, prospectuses and the statement of additional information of the Funds or other communications for distribution to existing shareholders; legal counsel, auditing and accounting fees; trade association membership dues (including membership dues in the Investment Company Institute allocable to the Funds); fees and expenses (including legal fees) of registering and maintaining registration of its shares for sale under federal and applicable state and foreign securities laws; all expenses of maintaining shareholder accounts, including all charges for transfer, shareholder recordkeeping, dividend disbursing, redemption, and other agents for the benefit of the Funds, if any; and all other charges and costs of its operation plus any extraordinary and non-recurring expenses, except as otherwise prescribed in the Advisory Agreement.

Though the Funds are responsible for their own operating expenses, the Adviser has contractually agreed to waive a portion or all of the management fees payable to it by the Funds and/or to pay a Funds operating expenses to the extent necessary to limit a Fund's aggregate annual operating expenses (excluding acquired fund fees and expenses, interest, taxes, extraordinary expenses, Rule 12b-1 fees, shareholder servicing fees or any other class-specific expenses) to the limits set forth in the Fees and Expenses of the Fund table of the Prospectus. The Adviser may request recoupment of previously waived fees and paid expenses in any subsequent month in the 36-month period from the date of the management fee reduction and expense payment if the aggregate amount actually paid by a Fund toward the operating expenses for such fiscal year (taking into account the reimbursement) will not cause a Fund to exceed the lesser of: (1) the expense limitation in place at the time of the management fee reduction and expense payment; or (2) the expense limitation in place at the time of the reimbursement. Any such recoupment is also contingent upon the Board's subsequent review and ratification of the recouped amounts. Such recoupment may not be paid prior to a Fund's payment of current ordinary operating expenses.

## SERVICE PROVIDERS

### **Fund Administrator, Transfer Agent and Fund Accountant**

Pursuant to an administration agreement (the "Administration Agreement"), U.S. Bancorp Fund Services, LLC ("USBFS" or the "Administrator"), doing business as U.S. Bank Global Fund Services ("Fund Services"), located at 615 East Michigan Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202, acts as the Administrator to the Funds. Fund Services provides certain services to the Funds including, among other responsibilities, coordinating the negotiation of contracts and fees with, and the monitoring of performance and billing of, the Funds' independent contractors and agents; preparation for signature by an officer of the Trust of all documents required to be filed for compliance by the Trust and the Funds with applicable laws and regulations, excluding those of the securities laws of various states; arranging for the computation of performance data, including NAV per share and yield; responding to shareholder inquiries; and arranging for the maintenance of books and records of the Funds, and providing, at its own expense, office facilities, equipment and personnel necessary to carry out its duties. In this capacity, Fund Services does not have any responsibility or authority for the management of the Funds, the determination of investment policy, or for any matter pertaining to the distribution of Fund shares.

For the fiscal periods indicated below, the Funds paid the following fees to the Administrator:

	<b>Fiscal Year Ended September 30,</b>		
	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
Partners Fund	\$415,928	\$536,624	\$510,692
Cornerstone Fund	\$94,650	\$92,276	\$91,463

Fund Services also is entitled to certain out-of-pocket expenses. Fund Services also acts as fund accountant, transfer agent (the “Transfer Agent”) and dividend disbursing agent under separate agreements. Additionally, the Administrator provides CCO services to the Trust under a separate agreement. The cost of the CCO services is allocated to the Funds and approved by the Board annually.

### **Custodian**

Pursuant to a Custody Agreement between the Trust and U.S. Bank National Association, located at 1555 North RiverCenter Drive, Suite 302, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53212 (the “Custodian”), the Custodian serves as the custodian of the Funds’ assets, holds the Funds’ portfolio securities in safekeeping, and keeps all necessary records and documents relating to its duties. The Custodian is compensated with an asset-based fee plus transaction fees and is reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses.

The Custodian and Administrator do not participate in decisions relating to the purchase and sale of securities by the Funds. The Administrator, Transfer Agent, Custodian and the Funds’ Distributor (as defined below) are affiliated entities under the common control of U.S. Bancorp. The Custodian and its affiliates may participate in revenue sharing arrangements with the service providers of mutual funds in which the Funds may invest.

### **Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm and Legal Counsel**

Tait, Weller & Baker LLP, Two Liberty Place, 50 South 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 2900, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102, is the independent registered public accounting firm for the Funds, whose services include auditing each Fund’s financial statements and the performance of related tax services.

Sullivan & Worcester LLP, 1633 Broadway, 32nd Floor, New York, New York 10019, serves as legal counsel to the Trust. Sullivan & Worcester also serves as independent legal counsel to the Board of Trustees.

## **PORTFOLIO MANAGERS**

### **Portfolio Managers of the Funds**

#### *Partners Fund and Cornerstone Fund*

Mr. J. Dale Harvey is the portfolio manager principally responsible for the day-to-day management of the Partners Fund’s portfolio.

#### *Cornerstone Fund*

Mr. J. Dale Harvey and Mr. Derek Derman are the portfolio managers principally responsible for the day-to-day management of the Cornerstone Fund’s portfolio.

### Other Accounts Managed

The following table shows the number of other accounts (not including the Funds) managed by the portfolio managers and the total assets in the accounts managed within various categories as of September 30, 2019:

<i>Mr. J. Dale Harvey</i>				
Type of Accounts	Number of Accounts (Excluding the Funds)	Total Assets (in millions)	Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee based on Performance	Total Assets
Registered Investment Companies	1 <sup>(a)</sup>	\$92.67	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investments	1	\$74.10	0	\$0
Other Accounts	61	\$1,070.00	0	\$0

(a) subadvised '40 Act Fund

<i>Mr. Derek Derman</i>				
Type of Accounts	Number of Accounts (Excluding the Funds)	Total Assets (in millions)	Number of Accounts with Advisory Fee based on Performance	Total Assets
Registered Investment Companies	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investments	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other Accounts	3	\$291.07	0	\$0

*Material Conflicts of Interest.* Mr. Harvey and Mr. Derman also manage other accounts for the Adviser, including other limited partnerships and other separate accounts. There is a potential conflict should one of these funds/accounts be favored over another, but the intention of the Adviser is to treat all funds and accounts fairly with respect to buy/sell orders and new investment opportunities. The various funds and/or accounts within a strategy are expected to hold generally the same securities. Buy and/or sell orders will normally be placed concurrently for each Fund/account managed by a particular portfolio manager.

*Compensation.* Mr. Harvey and Mr. Derman both receive a fixed base salary, a discretionary bonus, and a share of the profits of the Adviser equal in proportion to each portfolio manager's ownership of the firm. Profitability of the Adviser is the main driver of each portfolio manager's bonus. The bonus is qualitatively based. Payments are a function of firm profitability and each individual's contribution to the Adviser's success.

*Fund Securities Owned by the Portfolio Managers.* As of September 30, 2019, the portfolio managers beneficially owned shares of the Funds as follows:

<b>Dollar Range of Equity Securities owned in the Funds</b>		
(None, \$1-\$10,000, \$10,001-\$50,000, \$50,001-\$100,000, \$100,001 - \$500,000, \$500,001 - \$1,000,000, Over \$1,000,000)		
<b>Name of Portfolio Manager</b>	<b>Partners Fund</b>	<b>Cornerstone Fund</b>
Mr. J. Dale Harvey	Over \$1,000,000	Over \$1,000,000
Mr. Derek Derman	Not Applicable	\$50,001-\$100,000

## EXECUTION OF PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS

Pursuant to the Advisory Agreement, the Adviser determines which securities are to be purchased and sold by the Funds and which broker-dealers are eligible to execute the Funds' portfolio transactions. Purchases and sales of securities in the over-the-counter market will generally be executed directly with a "market-maker" unless, in the opinion of the Adviser, a better price and execution can otherwise be obtained by using a broker for the transaction.

Purchases of portfolio securities for the Funds also may be made directly from issuers or from underwriters. Where possible, purchase and sale transactions will be effected through dealers (including banks) which specialize in the types of securities which the Funds will be holding, unless better executions are available elsewhere. Dealers and underwriters usually act as principal for their own accounts. Purchases from underwriters will include a concession paid by the issuer to the underwriter and purchases from dealers will include the spread between the bid and the asked price. If the execution and price offered by more than one dealer or underwriter are comparable, the order may be allocated to a dealer or underwriter that has provided research or other services as discussed below.

In placing portfolio transactions, the Adviser will seek best execution. The full range and quality of services available will be considered in making these determinations, such as the size of the order, the difficulty of execution, the operational facilities of the firm involved, the firm's risk in positioning a block of securities and other factors. In those instances where it is reasonably determined that more than one broker-dealer can offer the services needed to obtain the most favorable price and execution available, consideration may be given to those broker-dealers which furnish or supply research and statistical information to the Adviser that it may lawfully and appropriately use in its investment advisory capacities, as well as provide other services in addition to execution services. The Adviser considers such information, which is in addition to and not in lieu of the services required to be performed by it under its Agreement with the Funds, to be useful in varying degrees, but of indeterminable value. Portfolio transactions may be placed with broker-dealers who sell shares of the Funds subject to rules adopted by FINRA and the SEC.

While it is the Funds' general policy to first seek to obtain the most favorable price and execution available in selecting a broker-dealer to execute portfolio transactions for the Funds, when it is determined that more than one broker can deliver best execution, weight is also given to the ability of a broker-dealer to furnish brokerage and research services to the Funds or to the Adviser. The Adviser no longer uses "soft dollar" credits to pay for allowable expenses under Section 28(e) of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

Investment decisions for each of the Funds are made independently from those of other client accounts or mutual funds managed or advised by the Adviser. Nevertheless, it is possible that at times identical securities will be acceptable for both the Funds and one or more of such client accounts or mutual funds. In such event, the position of the Funds and such client account(s) or mutual funds in the same issuer may vary and the length of time that each may choose to hold its investment in the same issuer may likewise vary. However, to the extent any of these client accounts or mutual funds seek to acquire the same security as the Funds at the same time, the Funds may not be able to acquire as large a portion of such security as they desire, or they may have to pay a higher price or obtain a lower yield for such security. Similarly, the Funds may not be able to obtain as high a price for, or as large an execution of, an order to sell any particular security at the same time. If one or more of such client accounts or mutual funds simultaneously purchases or sells the same security that the Funds are purchasing or selling, each day's transactions in such security will be allocated between the Funds and all such client accounts or mutual funds in a manner deemed equitable by the Adviser, taking into account the respective sizes of the accounts and the amount of cash available for investment, the investment objective of the account, and the ease with which a client's appropriate amount can be bought, as well as the liquidity and volatility of the account and the urgency involved in making an

investment decision for the client. It is recognized that in some cases this system could have a detrimental effect on the price or value of the security insofar as the Funds are concerned. In other cases, however, it is believed that the ability of the Funds to participate in volume transactions may produce better executions for the Funds.

For the fiscal years indicated below, the Funds paid brokerage commissions as follows:

	<b>Fiscal Year Ended September 30,</b>		
	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
Partners Fund	\$363,132	\$327,567	\$446,831
Cornerstone Fund	\$10,243	\$8,578	\$7,292

The Adviser does not enter into soft dollar or commission sharing arrangements with brokers. The Adviser uses both execution-only brokers as well as full service brokers to execute the Funds' trades as well as to execute trades for its other advisory accounts. Full service brokerage firms may, as part of their services, provide research to the Adviser which it may use in connection with its management of the Funds or in connection with its management of other client accounts. The Adviser generally directs trades to full-service brokers and execution only brokers, keeping trading costs in mind. The investment team periodically evaluates the quality of the brokerage and research received from all of the brokers used by the Adviser. Lowest commission rate is one consideration, but not the only consideration, in evaluating brokers, as the Adviser also seeks best execution for client transactions. The Adviser then establishes target allocations to brokers based on its evaluation of the quality of brokerage and other services provided by the broker. Actual allocations may vary significantly from target allocations as each trade is considered independently when determining which broker is best able to provide best execution for that trade.

During the fiscal year ended September 30, 2019, the Funds did not own any securities of their regular broker dealers.

### **MARKETING AND SUPPORT PAYMENTS**

The Adviser, out of its own resources and without additional cost to the Funds or their shareholders, may provide additional cash payments or other compensation to certain financial intermediaries who sell shares of the Funds. Such payments may be divided into categories as follows:

*Support Payments.* Payments may be made by the Adviser to certain financial intermediaries in connection with the eligibility of the Funds to be offered in certain programs and/or in connection with meetings between the Funds' representatives and financial intermediaries and its sales representatives. Such meetings may be held for various purposes, including providing education and training about the Funds and other general financial topics to assist financial intermediaries' sales representatives in making informed recommendations to, and decisions on behalf of, their clients.

*Entertainment, Conferences and Events.* The Adviser also may pay cash or non-cash compensation to sales representatives of financial intermediaries in the form of (i) occasional gifts; (ii) occasional meals, tickets or other entertainments; and/or (iii) sponsorship support for the financial intermediary's client seminars and cooperative advertising. In addition, the Adviser pays for exhibit space or sponsorships at regional or national events of financial intermediaries.

The prospect of receiving, or the receipt of additional payments or other compensation as described above by financial intermediaries may provide such intermediaries and/or their salespersons with an incentive to favor sales of shares of the Funds, and other mutual funds whose affiliates make similar compensation

available, over sale of shares of mutual funds (or non-mutual fund investments) not making such payments. You may wish to take such payment arrangements into account when considering and evaluating any recommendations relating to a Fund's shares.

### **ADDITIONAL PURCHASE AND REDEMPTION INFORMATION**

The information provided below supplements the information contained in the Prospectus regarding the purchase and redemption of Fund shares.

#### **How to Buy Shares**

A financial intermediary may offer Fund shares subject to variations in or elimination of the Fund sales charges ("variations"), for the Partners Fund and Cornerstone Fund, provided such variations are described in the Funds' Prospectus. All variations described in Appendix A to the Funds' Prospectus are applied by, and the responsibility of, the identified financial intermediary. Sales charge variations may apply to purchases, sales, exchanges and reinvestments of Fund shares and a shareholder transacting in Fund shares through an intermediary identified on Appendix A to the Funds' Prospectus should read the terms and conditions of Appendix A carefully. For the variations applicable to shares offered through Merrill Lynch-sponsored platforms and Raymond James-sponsored platforms, please see "Appendix A – Financial Intermediary Sales Charge Variations" in the Funds' Prospectus. A variation that is specific to a particular financial intermediary is not applicable to shares held directly with the Partners Fund, Cornerstone Fund or through another intermediary. Please consult your financial intermediary with respect to any variations listed on Appendix A to the Funds' Prospectus.

You may purchase shares of the Funds from securities brokers, dealers or financial intermediaries (collectively, "Brokers"). Investors should contact their Financial Intermediary directly for appropriate instructions, as well as information pertaining to accounts and any service or transaction fees that may be charged. The Funds may enter into arrangements with certain Brokers whereby such Brokers are authorized to accept your order on behalf of the Funds. Financial Intermediaries may be authorized by the Funds' principal underwriter to designate other brokers and financial intermediaries to accept orders on the Funds' behalf. If you transmit your order to these Brokers before the close of regular trading (generally 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time) on a day that the NYSE is open for business, shares will be purchased at the appropriate per share price (plus any applicable sales charge) next computed after it is received by the Financial Intermediary. Investors should check with their Financial Intermediary to determine if it participates in these arrangements. Each Fund will be deemed to have received a purchase order when a Financial Intermediary or, if applicable, a Financial Intermediary's authorized designee, receives the order.

The public offering price of Fund shares is the NAV per share plus any applicable sales charge (load). Shares are purchased at the public offering price next determined after the Transfer Agent receives your order in good order. In most cases, in order to receive that day's public offering price, the Transfer Agent must receive your order in good order before the close of regular trading on the NYSE, normally 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time.

The Trust reserves the right in its sole discretion (i) to suspend the continued offering of the Funds' shares and (ii) to reject purchase orders in whole or in part when in the judgment of the Adviser or the Distributor such rejection is in the best interest of the Funds.

In addition to cash purchases, Fund shares may be purchased by tendering payment in-kind in the form of shares of stock, bonds or other securities. Any securities used to buy Fund shares must be readily marketable, their acquisition consistent with the Funds' objectives and otherwise acceptable to the Adviser and the Board.

## Sales Charges and Dealer Reallowance

Class A shares of the Funds are retail shares that require that you pay a sales charge when you invest unless you qualify for a reduction or waiver of the sales charge. Class A shares are also subject to Rule 12b-1 fees (or distribution and service fees) of up to 0.25% of average daily net assets that are assessed against the shares of the Funds.

If you purchase Class A shares of the Funds you will pay the NAV next determined after your order is received plus a sales charge (shown in percentages below) depending on the amount of your investment. The sales charge does not apply to shares purchased with reinvested dividends. The sales charge is calculated as follows and the portion of the initial sales charge the Distributor re-allows to dealers is as shown in the far-right column:

<b>Investment Amount</b>	<b>Sales Charge as a % of Offering Price<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Sales Charge as a % of Net Amount Invested</b>	<b>Dealer Reallowance</b>
Less than \$50,000	5.00%	5.26%	4.50%
\$50,000 but less than \$100,000	4.50%	4.71%	4.00%
\$100,000 but less than \$250,000	3.50%	3.63%	3.00%
\$250,000 but less than \$500,000	2.50%	2.56%	2.00%
\$500,000 but less than \$750,000	2.00%	2.04%	1.50%
\$750,000 but less than \$1 million	1.50%	1.52%	1.00%
\$1 million or more <sup>(2)</sup>	0.00%	0.00%	0.75%

<sup>(1)</sup> Offering price includes the front-end sales load. The sales charge you pay may differ slightly from the amount set forth above because of rounding that occurs in the calculation used to determine your sales charge.

<sup>(2)</sup> Class A shares that are purchased at NAV in amounts of \$1 million or more may be assessed a 0.75% CDSC if they are redeemed within twelve months from the date of purchase. See “More about Class A Shares” in the statutory Prospectus for further information.

The difference between the total amount invested and the sum of (a) the net proceeds to the Funds and (b) the dealer reallowance, is the amount of the initial sales charge retained by the Distributor (also known as the “underwriter concession”). At the discretion of the Distributor, up to 80% of the underwriter concessions retained by the Distributor may be (1) used to offset the compensation owed to the Distributor for its services, and/or (2) made available by the Distributor to the Funds for pre-approved marketing expenses. In addition to the underwriter concession retained by the Distributor, the Distributor retains the entire initial sales charge on accounts with no authorized dealer of record.

## Breakpoints/Volume Discounts and Sales Charge Waivers (Partners Fund and Cornerstone Fund)

*Reducing Your Sales Charge.* You may be able to reduce the sales charge on Class A shares of the Funds based on the combined market value of your accounts. If you believe you are eligible for any of the following reductions or waivers, it is up to you to ask the selling agent or shareholder servicing agent for the reduction and to provide appropriate proof of eligibility.

- You pay no sales charges on Fund shares you buy with reinvested distributions.
- You pay a lower sales charge if you are investing an amount over a specific breakpoint level as indicated by the above table.
- You pay no sales charges on Fund shares you purchase with the proceeds of a redemption of Class A shares within 120 days of the date of the redemption.
- By signing a Letter of Intent (LOI), you pay a lower sales charge now in exchange for promising to invest an amount over a specified breakpoint within the next 13 months. Any shares purchased within

90 days of the date you sign the LOI may be used as credit towards completion, but the reduced sales charge will only apply to new purchases made on or after that date. Reinvested dividends and capital gains do not count as purchases made during this period. The Transfer Agent will hold in escrow shares equal to approximately 5% of the amount you say you intend to buy. If you do not invest the amount specified in the LOI before the expiration date, the Transfer Agent will redeem enough escrowed shares to pay the difference between the reduced sales load you paid and the sales load you should have paid. Otherwise, the Transfer Agent will release the escrowed shares when you have invested the agreed amount. For example, an investor has \$25,000 to invest in a Fund, but intends to invest an additional \$2,000 per month for the next 13 months for a total of \$51,000. Based on the above breakpoint schedule, by signing the LOI, the investor pays a front-end load of 4.50% rather than 5.00%. If the investor fails to meet the intended LOI amount in the 13-month period, however, the Funds will charge the higher sales load retroactively.

- Rights of Accumulation (“ROA”) allow you to combine Class A shares you already own in order to reach breakpoint levels and to qualify for sales load discounts on subsequent purchases of Class A shares. The purchase amount used in determining the sales charge on your purchase will be calculated by multiplying the maximum public offering price by the number of Class A shares of the Funds already owned and adding the dollar amount of your current purchase. For example, an individual has a \$55,000 investment in a Fund, which was sold with a 4.50% front-end load. The investor intends to open a second account and purchase \$50,000 of the Funds. Using ROA, the new \$50,000 investment is combined with the existing \$55,000 investment to reach the \$100,000 breakpoint, and the sales charge on the new investment is 3.50% (rather than the 4.50% for a single transaction amount).

*Eligible Accounts.* Certain accounts may be aggregated for ROA eligibility, including your current investment in a Fund, and previous investments you and members of your primary household group have made in a Fund, provided your investment was subject to a sales charge. (Your primary household group consists of you, your spouse, child, stepchild, parent, sibling, grandchild and grandparent, in each case including in-law and adoptive relationships.) Specifically, the following accounts are eligible to be included in determining the sales charge on your purchase, if a sales charge has been paid on those purchases:

- Individual or joint accounts held in your name;
- Trust accounts for which you or a member of your primary household group, individually, is the beneficiary; and
- Accounts held in the name of you or your spouse’s sole proprietorship or single owner limited liability company or S corporation.

The following accounts are not eligible to be included in determining ROA eligibility:

- Investments in Class A shares where the sales charge was waived.

*Waiving Your Sales Charge.* The Funds’ Adviser reserves the right to waive the sales charges for certain groups or classes of shareholders. If you fall into any of the following categories, you can buy Class A shares at NAV per share without a sales charge:

- Current and retired employees, directors/trustees and officers of:
  - i. The Trust; and
  - ii. The Adviser and its affiliates;
  - iii. Family members (spouse, domestic partner, parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren and siblings (including step and in-law)) of (i)-(ii); and

- Any trust, pension, profit sharing or other benefit plan for current employees, directors/trustees and officers of the Adviser and its affiliates;
- Current employees of:
  - i. The Transfer Agent;
  - ii. broker-dealers who act as selling agents for the Funds/Trust;
  - iii. family members (spouse, domestic partner, parents, grandparents, children, grandchildren and siblings (including step and in-law)) of (i)-(ii);
- Qualified registered investment advisers who buy through a broker-dealer or service agent who has entered into an agreement with the Distributor that allows for load-waived Class A shares purchases; and
- Certain qualified employee benefit plans or savings plans, including, but not limited to, those plans qualified under Sections 401(k), 403(b) or 457 of the Internal Revenue Code, profit-sharing plans and money purchase pension plans.

The Trust also reserves the right to enter into agreements that reduce or eliminate sales charges for other groups or classes of shareholders, including for Fund shares included in other investment plans such as “wrap accounts.” If you own Fund shares as part of another account or package, such as an IRA or a sweep account, you should read the terms and conditions that apply for that account. Those terms and conditions may supersede the terms and conditions discussed here. Contact your Broker for further information.

**Each financial intermediary may impose different sales loads and waivers. Certain sales load waiver variations are described in Appendix A to the Prospectus.** Investors who are converted from Institutional Class shares by their financial intermediary will not be subject to a sales load at the time of conversion.

### **Conversions**

Subject to the Adviser’s approval, if investors currently holding Class A shares meet the criteria for eligible investors and would like to convert to Institutional Class shares, there are no tax consequences and investors are not subject to the redemption/exchange fees. To inquire about converting your Class A shares to Institutional Class shares, please call 1-877-522-8860.

Investors who hold Institutional Class shares of a Fund through a financial intermediary’s fee-based program, but who subsequently become ineligible to participate in the program or withdraw from the program (while continuing their relationship with the financial intermediary as a brokerage client), may be subject to conversion of their Institutional Class shares by their financial intermediary to another class of shares of the Fund having expenses (including Rule 12b-1 fees) that may be higher than the expenses of the Institutional Class shares. Investors should contact their financial intermediary to obtain information about their eligibility for the financial intermediary’s fee-based program and the class of shares they would receive upon such a conversion.

### **How to Sell Shares and Delivery of Redemption Proceeds**

You can sell your Fund shares any day the NYSE is open for regular trading, either directly to the Funds or through your Financial Intermediary. The Funds will be deemed to have received a redemption order when a Financial Intermediary or, if applicable, a Financial Intermediary’s authorized designee, receives the order.

Payments to shareholders for shares of the Funds redeemed directly from the Funds will be made as promptly as possible, but no later than seven days after receipt by the Transfer Agent of the written request in proper form, with the appropriate documentation as stated in the Prospectus, except that the Funds may suspend the right of redemption or postpone the date of payment during any period when (a) trading on the NYSE

is restricted as determined by the SEC or the NYSE is closed for other than weekends and holidays; (b) an emergency exists as determined by the SEC making disposal of portfolio securities or valuation of net assets of the Funds not reasonably practicable; or (c) for such other period as the SEC may permit for the protection of the Funds' shareholders. Under unusual circumstances, the Funds may suspend redemptions, or postpone payment for more than seven days, but only as authorized by SEC rules.

The value of shares on redemption or repurchase may be more or less than the investor's cost, depending upon the market value of the Funds' portfolio securities at the time of redemption or repurchase.

### **Telephone Redemptions**

Shareholders with telephone transaction privileges established on their account may redeem Fund shares up to \$100,000 by telephone. Upon receipt of any instructions or inquiries by telephone from the shareholder, the Funds or their authorized agents may carry out the instructions and/or respond to the inquiry consistent with the shareholder's previously established account service options. For joint accounts, instructions or inquiries from either party will be carried out without prior notice to the other account owners. In acting upon telephone instructions, the Funds and their agents use procedures that are reasonably designed to ensure that such instructions are genuine. These include recording all telephone calls, requiring pertinent information about the account and sending written confirmation of each transaction to the registered owner.

Fund Services will employ reasonable procedures to confirm that instructions communicated by telephone are genuine. If Fund Services fails to employ reasonable procedures, the Funds and Fund Services may be liable for any losses due to unauthorized or fraudulent instructions. If these procedures are followed, however, to the extent permitted by applicable law, neither the Funds nor their agents will be liable for any loss, liability, cost or expense arising out of any redemption request, including any fraudulent or unauthorized request. For additional information, contact Fund Services.

## **DETERMINATION OF SHARE PRICE**

The NAV of the Funds is determined as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (the "NYSE") (generally 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time), each day the NYSE is open for business. The NYSE annually announces the days on which it will not be open for trading. It is expected that the NYSE will not be open for trading on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Washington's Birthday/Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

NAV is calculated by adding the value of all securities and other assets attributable to the Funds (including interest and dividends accrued, but not yet received), then subtracting liabilities attributable to the Funds (including accrued expenses). The net asset amount attributable to the Class A shares and Institutional Class shares is divided by the number of shares held by investors of the applicable class.

Generally, the Funds' investments are valued at market value or, in the absence of a market value, at fair value as determined in good faith by the Trust's Valuation Committee pursuant to procedures approved by or under the direction of the Board. Pursuant to those procedures, the Valuation Committee considers, among other things: (1) the last sales price on the securities exchange, if any, on which a security is primarily traded; (2) the mean between the bid and asked prices; (3) price quotations from an approved pricing service; and (4) other factors as necessary to determine a fair value under certain circumstances.

Securities primarily traded in the NASDAQ Global Market<sup>®</sup> for which market quotations are readily available shall be valued using the NASDAQ<sup>®</sup> Official Closing Price ("NOCP"). If the NOCP is not available, such securities shall be valued at the last sale price on the day of valuation, or if there has been no sale on such day, at the mean between the bid and asked prices. OTC securities which are not traded in the NASDAQ

Global Market<sup>®</sup> shall be valued at the most recent sales price. Securities and assets for which market quotations are not readily available (including restricted securities which are subject to limitations as to their sale) are valued at fair value as determined in good faith under procedures approved by or under the direction of the Board.

Debt securities are valued on the basis of valuations provided by independent third-party pricing services, approved by the Board, or at fair value as determined in good faith by procedures approved by the Board. Any such pricing service, in determining value, will use information with respect to transactions in the securities being valued, quotations from dealers, market transactions in comparable securities, analyses and evaluations of various relationships between securities and yield to maturity information.

The Funds' securities, including ADRs, EDRs and GDRs, which are traded on securities exchanges are valued at the last sale price on the exchange on which such securities are traded, as of the close of business on the day the securities are being valued or, lacking any reported sales, at the mean between the last available bid and asked price. Securities that are traded on more than one exchange are valued on the exchange determined by the Adviser to be the primary market.

In the case of foreign securities, the occurrence of certain events after the close of foreign markets, but prior to the time a Fund's NAV is calculated (such as a significant surge or decline in the U.S. or other markets) often will result in an adjustment to the trading prices of foreign securities when foreign markets open on the following business day. If such events occur, a Fund will value foreign securities at fair value, taking into account such events, in calculating the NAV. In such cases, use of fair valuation can reduce an investor's ability to seek to profit by estimating a Fund's NAV in advance of the time the NAV is calculated. The Adviser anticipates that a Fund's portfolio holdings will be fair valued only if market quotations for those holdings are considered unreliable or are unavailable.

An option that is written or purchased by a Fund shall be valued using composite pricing via the National Best Bid and Offer quotes. Composite pricing looks at the last trade on the exchange where the option is traded. If there are no trades for an option on a given business day, as of closing, a Fund will value the option at the mean of the highest bid price and lowest ask price across the exchanges where the option is traded. For options where market quotations are not readily available, fair value shall be determined by the Trust's Valuation Committee.

All other assets of the Funds are valued in such manner as the Board in good faith deems appropriate to reflect their fair value.

### **Redemptions In-Kind**

The Trust has elected to be governed by Rule 18f-1 under the 1940 Act so that the Funds are obligated to redeem their shares solely in cash up to the lesser of \$250,000 or 1% of its net asset value during any 90-day period for any shareholder of the Funds. Each Fund has reserved the right to pay the redemption price of its shares in excess of \$250,000 or 1% of its net asset value either totally or partially, by a distribution in-kind of portfolio securities (instead of cash). The securities so distributed would be valued at the same amount as that assigned to them in calculating the NAV per share for the shares being sold. If a shareholder receives a distribution in-kind, the shareholder could incur brokerage or other charges in converting the securities to cash. A redemption, whether in cash or in-kind, is a taxable event for you.

The Funds do not intend to hold any significant percentage of its portfolio in illiquid securities, although the Funds, like virtually all mutual funds, may from time to time hold a small percentage of securities that are illiquid. In the unlikely event the Funds were to elect to make an in-kind redemption, the Funds expect that they would follow the Trust protocol of making such distribution by way of a pro rata distribution of securities that are traded on a public securities market or are otherwise considered liquid pursuant to the Fund's liquidity

policies and procedures. Except as otherwise may be approved by the Trustees, the securities that would not be included in an in-kind distribution include (1) unregistered securities which, if distributed, would be required to be registered under the Securities Act of 1933 (the “1933 Act”), as amended; (2) securities issued by entities in countries which (a) restrict or prohibit the holding of securities by non-nationals other than through qualified investment vehicles, such as a fund, or (b) permit transfers of ownership of securities to be effected only by transactions conducted on a local stock exchange; and (3) certain Fund assets that, although they may be liquid and marketable, must be traded through the marketplace or with the counterparty to the transaction in order to effect a change in beneficial ownership.

## **DISTRIBUTIONS AND TAX INFORMATION**

### **Distributions**

Distributions from net investment income and distributions from net profits from the sale of securities are generally made annually. Also, the Funds typically distribute any undistributed net investment income on or about December 31 of each year. Any net capital gains realized through the period ended October 31 of each year will also be distributed by December 31 of each year.

Each distribution by the Funds is accompanied by a brief explanation of the form and character of the distribution. In January of each year, the Funds will issue to each shareholder a statement of the federal income tax status of all distributions.

### **Tax Information**

Each series of the Trust is treated as a separate entity for federal income tax purposes. Each Fund, as a series of the Trust, has elected and intends to continue to be treated as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), and to comply with all applicable requirements regarding the source of its income, diversification of its assets and timing and amount of distributions. The Funds’ policy is to distribute to its shareholders all of its investment company taxable income and any net realized long term capital gains for each fiscal year in a manner that complies with the distribution requirements of the Code, so that the Funds will not be subject to any federal income or excise taxes in any year. If a Fund does not qualify as a regulated investment company, it will be taxed as a corporation. However, the Funds can give no assurances that distributions will be sufficient to eliminate all taxes in every year. To avoid the nondeductible 4% Federal excise tax, each Fund must distribute (or be deemed to have distributed) by December 31 of each calendar year (i) at least 98% of its ordinary income for such year, (ii) at least 98.2% of the excess of its realized capital gains over its realized capital losses for the 12-month period ending on October 31 of such year, and (iii) any amounts from the prior calendar year that were not distributed and on which no federal excise tax was paid by the Funds or by their shareholders. The Funds intend to declare and pay dividends and other distributions, as stated in the Prospectus.

In order to qualify as a regulated investment company, a Fund must, among other things, derive at least 90% of its gross income each year from dividends, interest, payments with respect to loans of stock and securities, gains from the sale or other disposition of stock or securities or foreign currency gains related to investments in stock or securities, or other income (generally including gains from options, futures or forward contracts) derived with respect to the business of investing in stock, securities or currency, and net income derived from an interest in a qualified publicly traded partnership. The Funds must also satisfy the following two asset diversification tests. At the end of each quarter of each taxable year, (i) at least 50% of the value of a Fund’s total assets must be represented by cash and cash items (including receivables), U.S. Government securities, the securities of other regulated investment companies, and other securities, with such other securities being limited in respect of any one issuer to an amount not greater than 5% of the value of a Fund’s total assets and not more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer, and (ii) not more than 25% of the value of a Fund’s total assets may be invested in the securities of any one issuer (other than U.S. Government securities or the securities of other regulated investment companies), the securities of any two

or more issuers (other than the securities of other regulated investment companies) that the Funds control (by owning 20% or more of their outstanding voting stock) and that are determined to be engaged in the same or similar trades or businesses or related trades or businesses, or the securities of one or more qualified publicly traded partnerships. The Funds also must distribute each taxable year sufficient dividends to their shareholders to claim a dividends paid deduction equal to at least the sum of 90% of the Funds' investment company taxable income before the dividends paid deduction (which generally includes dividends, interest, and the excess of net short-term capital gain over net long-term capital loss) and 90% of the Funds' net tax-exempt interest, if any.

Net investment income generally consists of interest and dividend income, less expenses. Net realized capital gains for a fiscal period are computed by taking into account any capital loss carryforwards of the Funds. Capital losses sustained and not used in a taxable year may be carried forward indefinitely to offset capital gains of the Funds in future years.

Distributions of net investment income and net short-term capital gains are taxable to shareholders as ordinary income. For individual shareholders, a portion of the distributions paid by the Funds may be qualified dividend income currently eligible for taxation at long-term capital gain rates to the extent the Funds report the amount distributed as a qualifying dividend and certain holding period requirements are met. In the case of corporate shareholders, a portion of the distributions may qualify for the intercorporate dividends-received deduction to the extent the Funds report the amount distributed as a qualifying dividend. The aggregate amount so reported to either individual or corporate shareholders cannot, however, exceed the aggregate amount of qualifying dividends received by the Funds for their taxable year. In view of the Funds' investment policies, it is expected that dividends from domestic corporations will be part of the Funds' gross income and that, accordingly, part of the distributions by the Funds may be eligible for qualified dividend income treatment for individual shareholders, or for the dividends-received deduction for corporate shareholders. However, the portion of the Funds' gross income attributable to qualifying dividends is largely dependent on the Funds' investment activities for a particular year and therefore cannot be predicted with any certainty. Further, the dividends-received deduction may be reduced or eliminated if Fund shares held by a corporate investor are treated as debt financed or are held for fewer than 46 days. Dividends from a Fund and gains from the sale of Fund shares are subject to the federal 3.8% Medicare tax applicable to taxpayers in the higher income brackets.

Long-term capital gain distributions are taxable to shareholders as long-term capital gains regardless of the length of time a shareholder held his or her Fund shares. There is no requirement that a Fund take into consideration any tax implications when implementing its investment strategy. Capital gain distributions are not eligible for qualified dividend income treatment or the dividends received deduction referred to in the previous paragraph. Distributions of any net investment income and net realized capital gains will be taxable as described above, whether received in shares or in cash. Shareholders who choose to receive distributions in the form of additional shares will have a cost basis for federal income tax purposes in each share so received equal to the NAV of a share on the reinvestment date. Distributions are generally taxable when received or deemed to be received. However, distributions declared in October, November or December to shareholders of record on a date in such a month and paid the following January are taxable as if received on December 31. Distributions are includable in alternative minimum taxable income in computing liability for the alternative minimum tax of a shareholder who is an individual. Shareholders should note that the Funds may make taxable distributions of income and capital gains even when share values have declined.

For taxable years beginning after 2017 and before 2025, non-corporate taxpayers generally may deduct 20% of "qualified business income" derived either directly or through partnerships or S corporations. For this purpose, "qualified business income" generally includes ordinary real estate investment trust ("REIT") dividends and income derived from master limited partnership ("MLP") investments. There is currently no mechanism for the Funds, to the extent that the Funds invest in REITs or MLPs, to pass through to non-

corporate shareholders the character of ordinary REIT dividends or income derived from MLP investments so as to allow such shareholder to claim this deduction. It is uncertain whether future legislation or other guidance will enable the Funds to pass through to non-corporate shareholders the ability to claim this deduction.

The Funds may be subject to foreign withholding taxes on dividends and interest earned with respect to securities of foreign corporations.

Redemption of Fund shares may result in recognition of a taxable gain or loss. Any loss realized upon redemption or sales of shares within six months from the date of their purchase will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of any amounts treated as distributions of long-term capital gains during such six-month period. Any loss realized upon a redemption or sale may be disallowed under certain wash sale rules to the extent shares of the Funds are purchased (through reinvestment of distributions or otherwise) within 30 days before or after the redemption.

Under the Code, the Funds will be required to report to the Internal Revenue Service all distributions of taxable income and capital gains as well as gross proceeds from the redemption of Fund shares, except in the case of exempt shareholders, which includes most corporations. Pursuant to the backup withholding provisions of the Code, distributions of any taxable income and capital gains and proceeds from the redemption of Fund shares may be subject to withholding of federal income tax at a rate set under Section 3406 of the Code in the case of non-exempt shareholders who fail to furnish the Funds with their Social Security or taxpayer identification numbers and with required certifications regarding their status under the federal income tax law. If the withholding provisions are applicable, any such distributions and proceeds, whether received in cash or reinvested in additional shares, will be reduced by the amounts required to be withheld. Corporate and other exempt shareholders should provide the Funds with their taxpayer identification numbers or certify their exempt status in order to avoid possible erroneous application of backup withholding. Backup withholding is not an additional tax and any additional amounts may be credited against a shareholder's ultimate federal tax liability if proper documentation is timely provided. The Funds reserve the right to refuse to open an account for any person failing to provide a certified taxpayer identification number.

The Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act ("FATCA") imposes a 30% withholding tax on the Funds' distributions, including capital gains distributions, and on gross proceeds from the sale or other disposition of shares of the Funds if paid to a foreign entity unless: (i) if the foreign entity is a "foreign financial institution," it undertakes certain due diligence, reporting, withholding and certification obligations, (ii) if the foreign entity is not a "foreign financial institution," it identifies certain of its U.S. investors or (iii) the foreign entity is otherwise excepted under FATCA. If applicable, and subject to any intergovernmental treaty, withholding under FATCA is required with respect to certain distributions from the Funds. Recently issued proposed Treasury Regulations generally eliminate withholding under FATCA gross proceeds, which would include certain capital gains distributions and gross proceeds from a sale or disposition of Fund shares. If withholding is required under FATCA on a payment related to your shares, investors that otherwise would not be subject to withholding (or that otherwise would be entitled to a reduced rate of withholding) on such payment generally will be required to seek a refund or credit from the IRS to obtain the benefits of such exemption or reduction. The Funds will not pay any additional amounts in respect to amounts withheld under FATCA. You should consult your tax advisor regarding the effect of FATCA based on your individual circumstances.

The foregoing discussion of U.S. federal income tax law relates solely to the application of that law to U.S. citizens or residents and U.S. domestic corporations, estates the income of which is subject to United States federal income taxation regardless of its source, and trusts that are (1) subject to the primary supervision of a court within the United States and one or more United States persons have the authority to control all

substantial decisions of the trust or (2) have a valid election in effect under applicable United States Treasury regulations to be treated as a United States person. Each shareholder who is not a U.S. person should consider the U.S. and foreign tax consequences of ownership of shares of the Funds, including the possibility that such a shareholder may be subject to a U.S. withholding tax at a rate of 30% (or at a lower rate under an applicable income tax treaty) on amounts constituting ordinary income.

This discussion and the related discussion in the Prospectus have been prepared by Fund management. The information above is only a summary of some of the tax considerations generally affecting the Funds and their shareholders. No attempt has been made to discuss individual tax consequences and this discussion should not be construed as applicable to all shareholders' tax situations. Tax consequences are not the primary consideration in implementing a Fund's investment objectives. Investors should consult their own tax advisors to determine the suitability of the Funds and the applicability of any state, local or foreign taxation. No rulings with respect to tax matters of the Funds will be sought from the Internal Revenue Service. Sullivan & Worcester has expressed no opinion in respect of the tax information in the Prospectus or SAI.

### **DISTRIBUTION AGREEMENT**

The Trust has entered into a Distribution Agreement (the "Distribution Agreement") with Quasar Distributors, LLC, 777 East Wisconsin Avenue, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Milwaukee, WI 53202 (the "Distributor"), pursuant to which the Distributor acts as the Funds' distributor, provides certain administration services and promotes and arranges for the sale of Fund shares. The offering of each Fund's shares is continuous. The Distributor, Fund Services, and Custodian are all affiliated companies. The Distributor is a registered broker-dealer and member of FINRA.

The Distribution Agreement will continue in effect only if such continuance is specifically approved at least annually by the Board or by vote of a majority of the Fund's outstanding voting securities and, in either case, by a majority of the Trustees who are not parties to the Distribution Agreement or "interested persons" (as defined in the 1940 Act) of any such party. The Distribution Agreement is terminable without penalty by the Trust on behalf of the Funds on 60 days' written notice when authorized either by a majority vote of each Fund's shareholders or by vote of a majority of the Board, including a majority of the Trustees who are not "interested persons" (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the Trust, or by the Distributor on 60 days' written notice, and will automatically terminate in the event of its "assignment" (as defined in the 1940 Act).

For the last three fiscal periods ended September 30, 2017, 2018 and 2019, the aggregate amounts of underwriting commissions paid to and retained by the Distributor was \$0.

## **RULE 12b-1 DISTRIBUTION AND SERVICE PLAN**

The Partners Fund and Cornerstone Fund have adopted a Distribution and Service Plan (the “Plan”) pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act under which the Class A shares of the Funds pay the Distributor an amount which is accrued daily and paid quarterly, at an annual rate of 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Funds’ Class A shares. The Plan provides that the Distributor may use all or any portion of such fee to finance any activity that is principally intended to result in the sale of Fund shares, subject to the terms of the Plan, or to provide certain shareholder services. Amounts paid under the Plan, by the Partners Fund and Cornerstone Fund, are paid to the Distributor to reimburse it for costs of the services it provides and the expenses it bears in the distribution of the Funds’ Class A shares, including overhead and telephone expenses; printing and distribution of prospectuses and reports used in connection with the offering of a Fund’s shares to prospective investors; and preparation, printing and distribution of sales literature and advertising materials. In addition, payments to the Distributor under the Plan reimburse the Distributor for payments it makes to selected dealers and administrators which have entered into Service Agreements with the Distributor for services provided to shareholders of the Partners Fund and Cornerstone Fund. The services provided by selected dealers pursuant to the Plan are primarily designed to promote the sale of shares of the Funds and include the furnishing of office space and equipment, telephone facilities, personnel and assistance to the Funds in servicing such shareholders. The services provided by the administrators pursuant to the Plan are designed to provide support services to the Funds and include establishing and maintaining shareholders’ accounts and records, processing purchase and redemption transactions, answering routine client inquiries regarding the Funds and providing other services to the Funds as may be required.

Under the Plan, the Trustees are furnished quarterly with information detailing the amount of expenses paid under the Plan and the purposes for which payments were made. The Plan may be terminated at any time by vote of a majority of the Trustees of the Trust who are not interested persons. Continuation of the Plan is considered by such Trustees no less frequently than annually. With the exception of the Distributor in its capacity as the Funds’ principal underwriter, no interested person has or had a direct or indirect financial interest in the Plan or any related agreement.

While there is no assurance that the expenditures of Fund assets to finance the distribution of shares will have the anticipated results, the Board believes there is a reasonable likelihood that one or more of such benefits will result, and because the Board is in a position to monitor the distribution expenses, it is able to determine the benefit of such expenditures in deciding whether to continue the Plan.

For the fiscal period ended September 30, 2019, distribution-related expenditures primarily intended to result in the sale of the Partners Fund’s Class A shares that were made by the Fund totaled \$88,779, and distribution-related expenditures for the Cornerstone Fund’s Class A shares totaled \$1,496. The following tables show the dollar amounts by category allocated to each respective Fund’s Class A shares for distribution-related expenses:

<b>Actual Rule 12b-1 Expenditures Paid by the Partners Fund During the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2019</b>	
	<b><u>Total Dollars Allocated</u></b>
Advertising/Marketing	\$0
Printing/Postage	\$0
Payment to distributor	\$2,847
Payment to dealers	\$85,932
Compensation to sales personnel	\$0
Interest, carrying, or other financing charges	\$0
Other	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$88,779</u></b>

<b>Actual Rule 12b-1 Expenditures Paid by the Cornerstone Fund During the Fiscal Period Ended September 30, 2019</b>	
	<b><u>Total Dollars Allocated</u></b>
Advertising/Marketing	\$0
Printing/Postage	\$0
Payment to distributor	\$64
Payment to dealers	\$1,432
Compensation to sales personnel	\$0
Interest, carrying, or other financing charges	\$0
Other	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$1,496</u></b>

### **Sub-Accounting Service Fees**

In addition to the fees that the Funds may pay to the Transfer Agent, the Board has authorized the Funds to pay service fees, at the annual rate of up to 0.15% of applicable average net assets or \$20 per account, to intermediaries such as banks, broker-dealers, financial advisers or other financial institutions, for sub-administration, sub-transfer agency, recordkeeping (collectively, “sub-accounting services”) and other shareholder services associated with shareholders whose shares are held of record in omnibus, networked, or other group accounts or accounts traded through registered securities clearing agents. Any sub-accounting fees paid by the Fund are included in the total amount of “Other Expenses” listed in the Fund’s Fees and Expenses table in the Prospectus.

### **ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING PROGRAM**

The Trust has established an Anti-Money Laundering Program (the “Program”) as required by the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act of 2001 (“USA PATRIOT Act”). In order to ensure compliance with this law, the Trust’s Program provides for the development of internal practices, procedures and controls, designation of anti-money laundering compliance officers, an ongoing training program and an independent audit function to determine the effectiveness of the Program.

Procedures to implement the Program include, but are not limited to, determining that the Funds’ Distributor and Transfer Agent have established proper anti-money laundering procedures, reporting suspicious and/or

fraudulent activity, checking shareholder names against designated government lists, including Office of Foreign Asset Control (“OFAC”), and a complete and thorough review of all new opening account applications. The Trust will not transact business with any person or legal entity whose identity and beneficial owners, if applicable, cannot be adequately verified under the provisions of the USA PATRIOT Act.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Declaration of Trust permits the Trustees to issue an unlimited number of full and fractional shares of beneficial interest and to divide or combine the shares into a greater or lesser number of shares without thereby changing the proportionate beneficial interest in the Funds. Each share represents an interest in a Fund proportionately equal to the interest of each other share. Upon a Fund’s liquidation, all shareholders would share pro rata in the net assets of a Fund available for distribution to shareholders.

With respect to the Funds, the Trust may offer more than one class of shares. The Trust has adopted a Multiple Class Plan pursuant to Rule 18f-3 under the 1940 Act, detailing the attributes of each class of the Funds, and has reserved the right to create and issue additional series or classes. Each share of a series or class represents an equal proportionate interest in that series or class with each other share of that series or class. Currently, the Partners Fund and Cornerstone Fund offer two share classes – Class A and Institutional Class.

The shares of each series or class participate equally in the earnings, dividends and assets of the particular series or class. Expenses of the Trust which are not attributable to a specific series or class are allocated among all the series in a manner believed by management of the Trust to be fair and equitable. Shares have no pre-emptive or conversion rights. Shares, when issued, are fully paid and non-assessable, except as set forth below. Shareholders are entitled to one vote for each share held. Shares of each series or class generally vote together, except when required under federal securities laws to vote separately on matters that only affect a particular class, such as the approval of distribution plans for a particular class.

The Trust is not required to hold annual meetings of shareholders but will hold special meetings of shareholders of a series or class when, in the judgment of the Trustees, it is necessary or desirable to submit matters for a shareholder vote. Shareholders have, under certain circumstances, the right to communicate with other shareholders in connection with requesting a meeting of shareholders for the purpose of removing one or more Trustees. Shareholders also have, in certain circumstances, the right to remove one or more Trustees without a meeting. No material amendment may be made to the Declaration of Trust without the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of each portfolio affected by the amendment. The Declaration of Trust provides that, at any meeting of shareholders of the Trust or of any series or class, a Shareholder Servicing Agent may vote any shares as to which such Shareholder Servicing Agent is the agent of record and which are not represented in person or by proxy at the meeting, proportionately in accordance with the votes cast by holders of all shares of that portfolio otherwise represented at the meeting in person or by proxy as to which such Shareholder Servicing Agent is the agent of record. Any shares so voted by a Shareholder Servicing Agent will be deemed represented at the meeting for purposes of quorum requirements. Any series or class may be terminated (i) upon the merger or consolidation with, or the sale or disposition of all or substantially all of its assets to, another entity, if approved by the vote of the holders of two thirds of its outstanding shares, except that if the Board recommends such merger, consolidation or sale or disposition of assets, the approval by vote of the holders of a majority of the series’ or class’ outstanding shares will be sufficient, or (ii) by the vote of the holders of a majority of its outstanding shares, or (iii) by the Board by written notice to the series’ or class’ shareholders. Unless each series and class is so terminated, the Trust will continue indefinitely.

The Declaration of Trust also provides that the Trust shall maintain appropriate insurance (for example, fidelity bonding and errors and omissions insurance) for the protection of the Trust, its shareholders, Trustees, officers, employees and agents covering possible tort and other liabilities. Thus, the risk of a shareholder

incurring financial loss on account of shareholder liability is limited to circumstances in which both inadequate insurance existed and the Trust itself was unable to meet its obligations.

The Declaration of Trust does not require the issuance of stock certificates. If stock certificates are issued, they must be returned by the registered owners prior to the transfer or redemption of shares represented by such certificates.

Rule 18f-2 under the 1940 Act provides that as to any investment company which has two or more series outstanding and as to any matter required to be submitted to shareholder vote, such matter is not deemed to have been effectively acted upon unless approved by the holders of a “majority” (as defined in the Rule) of the voting securities of each series affected by the matter. Such separate voting requirements do not apply to the election of Trustees or the ratification of the selection of accountants. The Rule contains special provisions for cases in which an advisory contract is approved by one or more, but not all, series. A change in investment policy may go into effect as to one or more series whose holders so approve the change even though the required vote is not obtained as to the holders of other affected series.

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Investors in the Funds will be informed of the Funds’ progress through periodic reports. Financial statements certified by an independent registered public accounting firm will be submitted to shareholders at least annually. The annual report for the Funds for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2019, is a separate document provided upon request and the financial statements, accompanying notes and report of the independent registered public accounting firm appearing therein are incorporated by reference into this SAI.

## APPENDIX A

### Corporate Bond Ratings

#### **Moody's Investors Service, Inc.**

Aaa: Bonds which are rated Aaa are judged to be of the best quality. They carry the smallest degree of investment risk and are generally referred to as "gilt edge." Interest payments are protected by a large or by an exceptionally stable margin and principal is secure. While the various protective elements are likely to change, such changes as can be visualized are most unlikely to impair the fundamentally strong position of such issues.

Aa: Bonds which are rated Aa are judged to be of high quality by all standards. Together with the Aaa group they comprise what are generally known as high grade bonds. They are rated lower than the best bonds because margins of protection may not be as large as in Aaa securities or fluctuations or protective elements may be of greater amplitude or there may be other elements present which make long-term risks appear somewhat larger than in Aaa securities.

A: Bonds which are rated A possess many favorable investment attributes and are to be considered as upper medium grade obligations. Factors giving security to principal and interest are considered adequate but elements may be present which suggest a susceptibility to impairment sometime in the future.

Baa: Bonds which are rated Baa are considered as medium grade obligations, i.e., they are neither highly protected nor poorly secured. Interest payments and principal security appear adequate for the present but certain protective elements may be lacking or may be characteristically unreliable over any great length of time. Such bonds lack outstanding investment characteristics and in fact have speculative characteristics as well.

Ba: Bonds which are rated Ba are judged to have speculative elements; their future cannot be considered as well-assured. Often the protection of interest and principal payments may be very moderate and thereby not well safeguarded during both good and bad times over the future. Uncertainty of position characterizes bonds in this class.

B: Bonds which are rated B generally lack characteristics of the desirable investment. Assurance of interest and principal payments or of maintenance of other terms of the contract over any long period of time may be small.

Caa: Bonds which are rated Caa are of poor standing. Such issues may be in default or there may be present elements of danger with respect to principal or interest.

Ca: Bonds which are rated Ca represent obligations which are speculative in a high degree. Such issues are often in default or have other marked shortcomings.

C: Bonds which are rated C are the lowest rated class of bonds, and issues so rated can be regarded as having extremely poor prospectus of ever attaining any real investment standing. Moody's applies numerical modifiers, 1, 2 and 3 in each generic rating classification from Aa through B in its corporate bond rating system. The modified 1 indicates that the security ranks in the higher end of its generic rating category; the modifier 2 indicates a mid-range ranking; and the modifier 3 indicates that the issue ranks in the lower end of its generic rating category.

## **Standard & Poor's Ratings Group**

**AAA:** Bonds rated AAA are highest grade debt obligations. This rating indicates an extremely strong capacity to pay principal and interest.

**AA:** Bonds rated AA also qualify as high-quality debt obligations. Capacity to pay principal and interest is very strong, and in the majority of instances they differ from AAA issues only in small degree.

**A:** Bonds rated A have a strong capacity to pay principal and interest, although they are more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions.

**BBB:** Bonds rated BBB are regarded as having an adequate capacity to pay principal and interest. Whereas they normally exhibit adequate protection parameters, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity to pay principal and interest for bonds in this category than for bonds in the A category.

**BB, B, CCC, CC, C:** Bonds rated BB, B, CCC, CC and C are regarded on balance as predominantly speculative with respect to capacity to pay interest and repay principal BB indicates the least degree of speculation and C the highest. While such debt will likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these are outweighed by large uncertainties or major risk exposure to adverse conditions.

**BB:** Bonds rated BB have less near-term vulnerability to default than other speculative issues. However, it faces major ongoing uncertainties or exposure to adverse business, financial, or economic conditions which could lead to inadequate capacity to meet timely interest and principal payments. The BB rating category is also used for debt subordinated to senior debt that is assigned an actual or implied BBB- rating.

**B:** Bonds rated B have a greater vulnerability to default but currently have the capacity to meet interest payments and principal repayments. Adverse business, financial, or economic conditions will likely impair capacity or willingness to pay interest and repay principal. The B rating category is also used for debt subordinated to senior debt that is assigned an actual or implied BB or BB-rating.

**CCC:** Bonds rated CCC have a currently identifiable vulnerability to default and are dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions to meet timely payment of interest and repayment of principal. In the event of adverse business, financial, or economic conditions, it is not likely to have the capacity to pay interest and repay principal. The CCC rating category is also used for debt subordinated to senior debt that is assigned an actual or implied B or B- rating.

**CC:** The rating CC typically is applied to debt subordinated to senior debt which is assigned an actual or implied CCC- debt rating. The C rating may be used to cover a situation where a bankruptcy petition has been filed, but debt service payments are continued.

**CI:** The rating CI is reserved for income bonds on which no interest is being paid.

**D:** Bonds rated D are in payment default. The D rating category is used when interest payments or principal payments are not made on the date due even if the applicable grace period has not expired, unless S&P believes that such payments are jeopardized.

**Plus (+) or Minus (-):** The ratings from AA to CCC may be modified by the addition of a plus or minus sign to show relative standing with the major categories.

## APPENDIX B

### Commercial Paper Ratings

#### **Moody's Investors Service, Inc.**

Prime-1--Issuers (or related supporting institutions) rated "Prime-1" have a superior ability for repayment of senior short-term debt obligations. "Prime-1" repayment ability will often be evidenced by many of the following characteristics: leading market positions in well-established industries, high rates of return on funds employed, conservative capitalization structures with moderate reliance on debt and ample asset protection, broad margins in earnings coverage of fixed financial charges and high internal cash generation, and well-established access to a range of financial markets and assured sources of alternate liquidity.

Prime-2--Issuers (or related supporting institutions) rated "Prime-2" have a strong ability for repayment of senior short-term debt obligations. This will normally be evidenced by many of the characteristics cited above but to a lesser degree. Earnings trends and coverage ratios, while sound, will be more subject to variation. Capitalization characteristics, while still appropriate, may be more affected by external conditions. Ample alternative liquidity is maintained.

#### **Standard & Poor's Ratings Group**

A-1--This highest category indicates that the degree of safety regarding timely payment is strong. Those issues determined to possess extremely strong safety characteristics are denoted with a plus (+) sign designation.

A-2--Capacity for timely payment on issues with this designation is satisfactory. However, the relative degree of safety is not as high as for issues designated "A-1".