

# MainStay Candriam Emerging Markets Equity Fund

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## Message from the President and Annual Report

October 31, 2023

### Special Notice:

Beginning in July 2024, new regulations issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) will take effect requiring open-end mutual fund companies and ETFs to (1) overhaul the content of their shareholder reports and (2) mail paper copies of the new tailored shareholder reports to shareholders who have not opted to receive these documents electronically.

If you have not yet elected to receive your shareholder reports electronically, please contact your financial intermediary or visit [newyorklifeinvestments.com/accounts](https://newyorklifeinvestments.com/accounts).

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INVESTMENTS

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# Message from the President

Volatile economic and geopolitical forces drove market behavior during the 12-month reporting period ended October 31, 2023. While equity markets generally gained ground, bond prices trended broadly lower.

Although the war in Ukraine, the outbreak of hostilities in the Middle East and several other notable events affected financial assets, inflation and interest rate trends stood at the forefront of market developments during most of the period. As the reporting period began, high levels of inflation already showed signs of easing in the face of aggressive rate hikes by the U.S. Federal Reserve (the “Fed”). From a peak of 9.1% in June 2022, the annualized U.S. inflation rate dropped to 7.1% in November 2022, and to 3.2% in October 2023. At the same time, the Fed increased the benchmark federal funds rate from 3.75%–4.00% at the beginning of the reporting period to 5.25%–5.50% as of October 31, 2023. As the pace of rate increases slowed during the period, investors hoped for an early shift to a looser monetary policy. However, comments from Fed members late in the period reinforced the central bank’s hawkish stance in response to surprisingly robust U.S. economic growth and rising wage pressures, thus increasing the likelihood that interest rates would stay higher for longer. International developed markets exhibited similar dynamics of elevated inflation and rising interest rates.

Despite the backdrop of high interest rates—along with political dysfunction in Washington D.C. and intensifying global geopolitical instability—equity markets managed to advance, supported by healthy consumer spending trends and persistent domestic economic growth. The S&P 500<sup>®</sup> Index, a widely regarded benchmark of large-cap U.S. market performance, gained ground, bolstered by the strong performance of energy stocks amid surging petroleum prices and mega-cap, growth-oriented, technology-related shares, which rose as investors flocked to companies creating the infrastructure for developments in artificial intelligence. Smaller-cap stocks and value-oriented shares produced milder returns. Among industry sectors, energy and

information technology posted the strongest gains. Real estate declined most sharply under pressure from rising mortgage rates and weak levels of office occupancy. Developed international markets outperformed U.S. markets, with Europe benefiting during the first half of the period from unexpected economic resilience in the face of rising energy prices and the ongoing war in Ukraine. Emerging markets posted positive results but lagged developed markets, largely due to slow economic growth in China despite the relaxation of pandemic-era lockdowns.

Bond prices were driven lower by rising yields and increasing expectations of high interest rates for an extended period of time. The U.S. yield curve steepened, with the 30-year Treasury yield exceeding 5% for the first time in more than a decade. The yield curve remained inverted, with the 10-year Treasury yield ending the period at 4.88%, compared with 5.07% for the 2-year Treasury yield. Corporate bonds outperformed long-term Treasury bonds, but still trended lower under pressure from rising yields and an uptick in default rates. Among corporates, lower-credit-quality instruments performed slightly better than their higher-credit-quality counterparts, while floating rate securities performed better still.

In the face of today’s uncertain market environment, New York Life Investments remains dedicated to providing the guidance, resources and investment solutions you need to pursue your financial goals.

Thank you for trusting us to help meet your investment needs.

Sincerely,



Kirk C. Lehneis  
President

The opinions expressed are as of the date of this report and are subject to change. There is no guarantee that any forecast made will come to pass. This material does not constitute investment advice and is not intended as an endorsement of any specific investment. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

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## Annual Report

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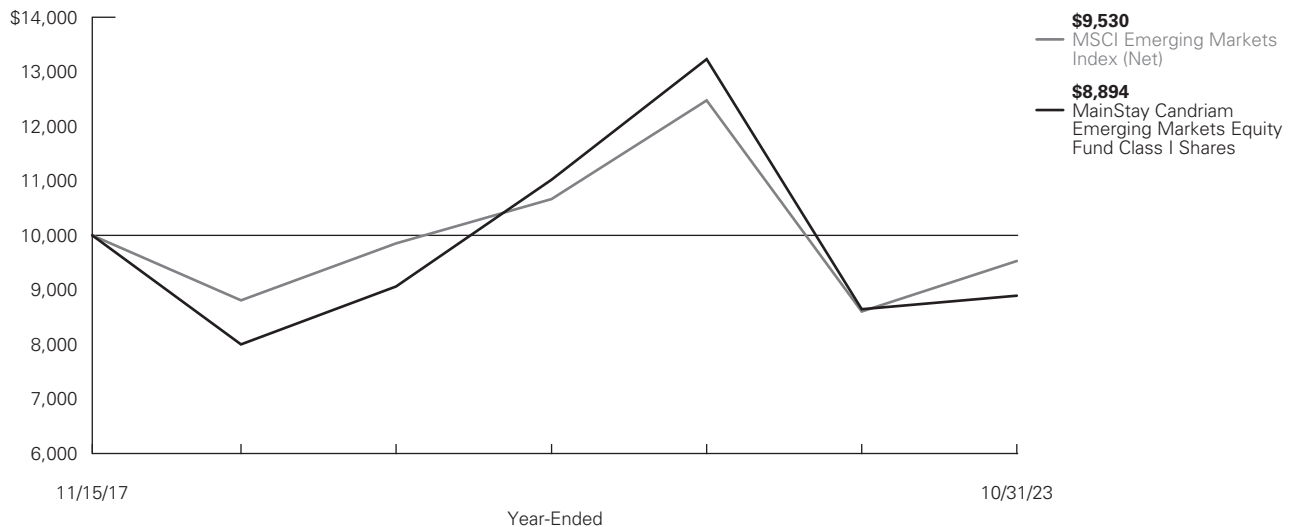
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**Investors should refer to the Fund's Summary Prospectus and/or Prospectus and consider the Fund's investment objectives, strategies, risks, charges and expenses carefully before investing. The Summary Prospectus and/or Prospectus contain this and other information about the Fund. You may obtain copies of the Fund's Summary Prospectus, Prospectus and Statement of Additional Information, which includes information about the MainStay Funds Trust's Trustees, free of charge, upon request, by calling toll-free 800-624-6782, by writing to NYLIFE Distributors LLC, Attn: MainStay Marketing Department, 30 Hudson Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302 or by sending an e-mail to [MainStayShareholderServices@nylim.com](mailto:MainStayShareholderServices@nylim.com). These documents are also available via the MainStay Funds' website at [newyorklifeinvestments.com](http://newyorklifeinvestments.com). Please read the Fund's Summary Prospectus and/or Prospectus carefully before investing.**

# Investment and Performance Comparison (Unaudited)

Performance data quoted represents past performance. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Because of market volatility and other factors, current performance may be lower or higher than the figures shown. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate, and as a result, when shares are redeemed, they may be worth more or less than their original cost. The graph below depicts the historical performance of Class I shares of the Fund. Performance will vary from class to class based on differences in class-specific expenses and sales charges. For performance information current to the most recent month-end, please call 800-624-6782 or visit [newyorklifeinvestments.com](http://newyorklifeinvestments.com).

The performance table and graph do not reflect the deduction of taxes that a shareholder would pay on distributions or Fund share redemptions. Total returns reflect maximum applicable sales charges as indicated in the table below, if any, changes in share price, and reinvestment of dividend and capital gain distributions. The graph assumes the initial investment amount shown below and reflects the deduction of all sales charges that would have applied for the period of investment. Performance figures may reflect certain fee waivers and/or expense limitations, without which total returns may have been lower. For more information on share classes and current fee waivers and/or expense limitations (if any), please refer to the Notes to Financial Statements.



## Average Annual Total Returns for the Year-Ended October 31, 2023

| Class                              | Sales Charge   |                         | Inception Date | One Year | Five Years | Since Inception | Gross Expense Ratio <sup>1</sup> |
|------------------------------------|--|-------------------------|----------------|----------|------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Class A Shares                     | Maximum 5.50% Initial Sales Charge                         | With sales charges      | 11/15/2017     | -3.04%   | 0.65%      | -3.19%          | 1.77%                            |
|                                    |  | Excluding sales charges |                | 2.60     | 1.80       | -2.27           | 1.77                             |
| Investor Class Shares <sup>2</sup> | Maximum 5.00% Initial Sales Charge                         | With sales charges      | 11/15/2017     | -2.79    | 0.53       | -3.33           | 1.88                             |
|                                    |  | Excluding sales charges |                | 2.33     | 1.67       | -2.41           | 1.88                             |
| Class C Shares                     | Maximum 1.00% CDSC if Redeemed Within One Year of Purchase | With sales charges      | 11/15/2017     | 0.61     | 0.92       | -3.11           | 2.64                             |
|                                    |  | Excluding sales charges |                | 1.61     | 0.92       | -3.11           | 2.64                             |
| Class I Shares                     | No Sales Charge  |                         | 11/15/2017     | 2.87     | 2.14       | -1.95           | 1.54                             |
| Class R6 Shares                    | No Sales Charge  |                         | 11/15/2017     | 2.82     | 2.13       | -1.93           | 1.40                             |

1. The gross expense ratios presented reflect the Fund's "Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses" from the most recent Prospectus, as supplemented, and may differ from other expense ratios disclosed in this report.
2. Prior to June 30, 2020, the maximum initial sales charge was 5.50%, which is reflected in the applicable average annual total return figures shown.

The footnotes on the next page are an integral part of the table and graph and should be carefully read in conjunction with them.

| <b>Benchmark Performance*</b>  | <b>One Year</b> | <b>Five Years</b> | <b>Since Inception</b> |
|--|-----------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| MSCI Emerging Markets Index (Net) <sup>1</sup>                         | 10.80%          | 1.59%             | -0.80%                 |
| Morningstar Diversified Emerging Markets Category Average <sup>2</sup> | 11.15           | 2.52              | -0.57                  |

\* Returns for indices reflect no deductions for fees, expenses or taxes, except for foreign withholding taxes where applicable. Results assume reinvestment of all dividends and capital gains. An investment cannot be made directly in an index.

1. The MSCI Emerging Markets Index (Net) is the Fund's primary benchmark. The MSCI Emerging Markets Index (Net) is a free float-adjusted market capitalization index that is designed to measure equity market performance in the global emerging markets.
2. The Morningstar Diversified Emerging Markets Category Average is representative of funds that tend to divide their assets among 20 or more nations, although they tend to focus on the emerging markets of Asia and Latin America rather than on those of the Middle East, Africa, or Europe. These funds invest predominantly in emerging market equities, but some funds also invest in both equities and fixed income investments from emerging markets. Results are based on average total returns of similar funds with all dividends and capital gain distributions reinvested.

**The footnotes on the preceding page are an integral part of the table and graph and should be carefully read in conjunction with them.**

## Cost in Dollars of a \$1,000 Investment in MainStay Candriam Emerging Markets Equity Fund (Unaudited)

The example below is intended to describe the fees and expenses borne by shareholders during the six-month period from May 1, 2023 to October 31, 2023, and the impact of those costs on your investment.

### Example

As a shareholder of the Fund you incur two types of costs: (1) transaction costs, including exchange fees and sales charges (loads) on purchases (as applicable), and (2) ongoing costs, including management fees, distribution and/or service (12b-1) fees and other Fund expenses (as applicable). This example is intended to help you understand your ongoing costs (in dollars) of investing in the Fund and to compare these costs with the ongoing costs of investing in other mutual funds. The example is based on an investment of \$1,000 made at the beginning of the six-month period and held for the entire period from May 1, 2023 to October 31, 2023.

This example illustrates your Fund's ongoing costs in two ways:

### Actual Expenses

The second and third data columns in the table below provide information about actual account values and actual expenses. You may use the information in these columns, together with the amount you invested, to estimate the expenses that you paid during the six months ended October 31, 2023. Simply divide your account value by \$1,000 (for example, an

\$8,600 account value divided by \$1,000 = 8.6), then multiply the result by the number under the heading entitled "Expenses Paid During Period" to estimate the expenses you paid on your account during this period.

### Hypothetical Example for Comparison Purposes

The fourth and fifth data columns in the table below provide information about hypothetical account values and hypothetical expenses based on the Fund's actual expense ratio and an assumed rate of return of 5% per year before expenses, which is not the Fund's actual return. The hypothetical account values and expenses may not be used to estimate the actual ending account balances or expenses you paid for the six-month period shown. You may use this information to compare the ongoing costs of investing in the Fund with the ongoing costs of investing in other mutual funds. To do so, compare this 5% hypothetical example with the 5% hypothetical examples that appear in the shareholder reports of the other mutual funds.

Please note that the expenses shown in the table are meant to highlight your ongoing costs only and do not reflect any transactional costs, such as exchange fees or sales charges (loads). Therefore, the fourth and fifth data columns of the table are useful in comparing ongoing costs only and will not help you determine the relative total costs of owning different funds. In addition, if these transactional costs were included, your costs would have been higher.

| Share Class           | Beginning Account Value 5/1/23 | Ending Account Value (Based on Actual Returns and Expenses) 10/31/23 | Expenses Paid During Period <sup>1</sup> | Ending Account Value (Based on Hypothetical 5% Annualized Return and Actual Expenses) 10/31/23 | Expenses Paid During Period <sup>1</sup> | Net Expense Ratio During Period <sup>2</sup> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Class A Shares        | \$1,000.00                     | \$949.10   | \$ 6.44                                  | \$1,018.60   | \$ 6.67                                  | 1.31%  |
| Investor Class Shares | \$1,000.00                     | \$947.80   | \$ 7.27                                  | \$1,017.74   | \$ 7.53                                  | 1.48%  |
| Class C Shares        | \$1,000.00                     | \$944.60   | \$10.93                                  | \$1,013.96   | \$11.32                                  | 2.23%  |
| Class I Shares        | \$1,000.00                     | \$949.60   | \$ 4.96                                  | \$1,020.11   | \$ 5.14                                  | 1.01%  |
| Class R6 Shares       | \$1,000.00                     | \$950.30   | \$ 4.96                                  | \$1,020.11   | \$ 5.14                                  | 1.01%  |

- Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio of each class multiplied by the average account value over the period, divided by 365 and multiplied by 184 (to reflect the six-month period). The table above represents the actual expenses incurred during the six-month period. In addition to the fees and expenses which the Fund bears directly, it also indirectly bears a pro rata share of the fees and expenses of the underlying funds in which it invests. Such indirect expenses are not included in the above-reported expense figures.
- Expenses are equal to the Fund's annualized expense ratio to reflect the six-month period.

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**Country Composition as of October 31, 2023 (Unaudited)**

|                   |       |                                |               |
|-------------------|-------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| China             | 30.7% | Turkey                         | 1.6%          |
| India             | 17.4  | Poland                         | 0.8           |
| Taiwan            | 15.8  | Malaysia                       | 0.8           |
| Republic of Korea | 12.1  | Peru                           | 0.3           |
| Brazil            | 6.9   | Russia                         | 0.0‡          |
| South Africa      | 4.3   | Other Assets, Less Liabilities | <u>-0.5</u>   |
| Mexico            | 4.2   |                                | <u>100.0%</u> |
| Indonesia         | 3.3   |                                |               |
| Thailand          | 2.3   |                                |               |

‡ Less than one-tenth of a percent.

See Portfolio of Investments beginning on page 11 for specific holdings within these categories. The Fund's holdings are subject to change.

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**Top Ten Holdings and/or Issuers Held as of October 31, 2023 (excluding short-term investments) (Unaudited)**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. Ltd. | 6. Bharti Airtel Ltd.                                 |
| 2. Alibaba Group Holding Ltd.                  | 7. Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd.                       |
| 3. Tencent Holdings Ltd.                       | 8. Ping An Insurance Group Co. of China Ltd., Class H |
| 4. SK Hynix, Inc.                              | 9. KB Financial Group, Inc.                           |
| 5. Reliance Industries Ltd.                    | 10. Axis Bank Ltd.                                    |

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# Portfolio Management Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited)

Questions answered by Paulo Salazar, Philip Screve and Lamine Saidi of Candriam, the Fund's Subadvisor.

## How did MainStay Candriam Emerging Markets Equity Fund perform relative to its benchmark and peer group during the 12 months ended October 31, 2023?

For the 12 months ended October 31, 2023, Class I shares of MainStay Candriam Emerging Markets Equity Fund returned 2.87%, underperforming the 10.80% return of the Fund's benchmark, the MSCI Emerging Markets Index (Net) (the "Index"). Over the same period, Class I shares also underperformed the 11.15% return of the Morningstar Diversified Emerging Markets Category Average.<sup>1</sup>

## What factors affected the Fund's relative performance during the reporting period?

The Fund underperformed the Index, largely due to disappointments related to China's reopening and re-escalating U.S.-China tensions, which clouded emerging markets with significant uncertainties.

In November 2022, U.S. Consumer Price Index numbers came in softer than expected, raising hopes that monetary policies would soon loosen. That same month, U.S. President Biden and Chinese Premier Xi signaled a willingness to mend relations during the G20 summit. Led by China, emerging markets saw a temporary rebound in response to this encouraging news. Although the U.S. Federal Reserve (the "Fed") maintained its hawkish stance on interest rate hikes, undermining optimism regarding monetary loosening, China completely reversed its long-standing "zero-COVID-19" policy to make way for an economic reopening. China's move prompted a sharp rebound in Chinese equities, led mainly by higher beta<sup>2</sup> and speculative market segments, including Chinese real estate and U.S.-listed China ADRs (American depository receipts). Due to the Fund's largely defensive Chinese position, with a focus on higher quality companies and a lack of exposure to higher-beta and speculative segments, relative performance was negatively affected by this rebound.

Later in the reporting period, the initial optimism around China's reopening and recovery lessened, as geopolitical risk returned to the table, and trade data out of China indicated that the recovery might not be as strong as expected. Despite news of improving corporate governance for some Chinese e-commerce names—including Alibaba and JD.com announcing the listing of underlying businesses—Chinese consumer discretionary companies remained under pressure as e-commerce competition increased and consumer spending in China remained below expectations. As a result, the Fund's exposure to Chinese consumer discretionary stocks further detracted from relative performance. Despite Chinese policy support, optimism soon

faded as headwinds from rising rates and a stronger dollar dampened investors' appetite for risk assets.

Elsewhere, American short sellers raised questions regarding financial dealing by Adani Group, a leading Indian conglomerate, which weighed on the market sentiment for Indian equities. Still, the Indian market gained ground as inflationary headwinds receded and expectations of peak tightening materialized. India remained the region's defensive market, outperforming its regional counterparts as corporate growth soared in response to high levels of government spending, and consumer spending rose heading into festive season. The technology-heavy South Korean and Taiwanese markets also produced strong returns, riding the artificial intelligence ("AI") tailwind, and driving gains in the semiconductor industry. Despite initial investor excitement about the potential positive impact of the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act on Korea's electric vehicle ("EV") supply chain, the market saw a fierce correction among EV-related names, as slowing demand and excessive capacity concerns raised questions. In Latin America, although there were some initial worries regarding the government spending plan of Lula da Silva, Brazil's new president, markets steadily recovered as inflation came under better control. Mexico also remained a bright spot, as those markets benefited from increasing investments associated with U.S. reshoring efforts and resilient domestic demand. In emerging Europe, Polish and Greek election results restored political stability, despite concerns that regional weakness could spread. Turkey performed strongly as its central bank took steps to control inflation.

Within the commodities complex, gold prices recovered somewhat due to lingering uncertainty regarding U.S. financials, advancing expectations of a possible pivot from the Fed. Oil saw a sharp recovery, as the OPEC+ group of petroleum exporting nations announced a series of production cuts to support prices, while the unfortunate break out of conflict in the Middle East added to supply concerns. Industrial metals prices remained largely flat due to demand weakness in China and unease regarding a global economic slowdown.

## During the reporting period, which sectors and/or countries were the strongest positive contributors to the Fund's relative performance and which sectors and/or countries were particularly weak?

At a country level, Taiwan and, to a lesser extent, Turkey made the strongest positive contributions to the Fund's returns relative to the Index. (Contributions take weightings and total returns into account.) In both countries, positive selection effect drove the Fund's relative returns. Conversely, positions in China, Brazil and Indonesia detracted most from relative performance. Adverse stock selection was the main driver of the negative returns from

1. See "Investment and Performance Comparison" for other share class returns, which may be higher or lower than Class I share returns, and for more information on benchmark and peer group returns.
2. Beta is a measure of volatility in relation to the market as a whole. A beta higher than 1 indicates that a security or portfolio will tend to exhibit higher volatility than the market. A beta lower than 1 indicates that a security or portfolio will tend to exhibit lower volatility than the market.

China. Brazil and Indonesia produced negative returns and underperformed due to a combination of weak stock selection and overweight allocation.

At the sector level, the Fund saw positive relative contributions from consumer staples and, to a lesser extent, utilities and information technology. Selection effect produced the positive relative contributions in consumer staples and information technology. In the lagging utilities sector, the Fund's underweight allocation bolstered relative returns. Conversely, industrials, consumer discretionary and financials detracted most from relative performance, driven primarily by adverse stock selection. Industrials also detracted from relative returns.

**During the reporting period, which individual stocks made the strongest positive contributions to the Fund's absolute performance and which stocks detracted the most?**

Positions in Alchip Technologies, Accton Technology and Varun Beverages made the strongest positive contributions to the Fund's absolute returns during the reporting period. Shares in Alchip, a Taiwanese semiconductor design company with extensive experience in advanced nodes, rose as a result of the company's significant exposure to AI projects. Accton, a Taiwanese manufacturer of networking and communications equipment, also benefited from increased demand for AI-related products. Shares in Varun Beverages, a key player in the Indian beverages industry and second largest PepsiCo franchisee, performed well in response to the company's market share gains and new product launches against a backdrop of increased electrification in India that allowed for better refrigeration.

The main detractors to absolute returns during the reporting period included LG Chem and Merdeka Copper Gold. Shares in LG Chem, a Korean petrochemical and advanced materials manufacturer with major exposure to the EV battery and cathode industries, corrected strongly due to increasing margin pressure and investor concerns regarding EV demand. Shares in Merdeka Copper Gold, a leading Indonesian miner with ambitious development plans in copper, gold and nickel related to EV battery manufacturing, also suffered as investors increasingly questioned the company's capital expenditure needs in an environment of weaker basic metal prices, higher yields and end demand concerns. Both companies remained in the Fund at decreased weightings as of the end of the reporting period.

**What were some of the Fund's largest purchases and sales during the reporting period?**

The largest purchases during the reporting period involved positions in Korean memory chip manufacturer SK Hynix and

Taiwanese semiconductor and foundry giant Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC). The Fund gradually added to its position in SK Hynix in response to a progressive turnaround in the company's DRAM and NAND businesses, and in recognition of the company's leading position in developing HBM (High Bandwidth Memory), likely to benefit from increased AI demand. Similarly, the Fund added to its position in TSMC in response to a gradual semiconductor sector recovery driven by increased AI demand.

During the same period, we exited the Fund's position in Eicher Motor, a leading Indian motorcycle manufacturer, and reduced holdings in Samsung SDI, a leading Korean EV battery manufacturer. We sold the position in Eicher Motor as a consequence of seasonal demand concerns and the potential for investors to lock in profits, reallocating the assets among better opportunities elsewhere in the Indian automotive industry. We reduced the position in Samsung SDI on margin pressure amid fierce competition in the EV battery market in an environment of increased battery commoditization.

**How did the Fund's sector and/or country weightings change during the reporting period?**

We increased the Fund's materials and financials exposure, partly to bring these underweight positions more closely in line with the Index, and partly to take advantage of the potential impact on cyclical sectors of China's reopening. Conversely, we reduced the Fund's exposure to industrials and health care to bring these overweight positions more closely in line with the Index.

**How was the Fund positioned at the end of the reporting period?**

As of October 31, 2023, the Fund held overweight positions relative to the Index in the consumer staples and information technology sectors. Conversely, the Fund held underweight positions in the utilities and the materials sectors.

The opinions expressed are those of the portfolio managers as of the date of this report and are subject to change. There is no guarantee that any forecasts will come to pass. This material does not constitute investment advice and is not intended as an endorsement of any specific investment.

# Portfolio of Investments October 31, 2023<sup>†</sup>

|   | Shares    | Value            |
|---|-----------|------------------|
| <b>Common Stocks 99.3%</b>  |           |                  |
| <b>Brazil 5.7%</b>  |           |                  |
| Banco do Brasil SA (Banks)  | 168,000   | \$ 1,611,107     |
| Localiza Rent a Car SA (Ground Transportation)                                    | 108,000   | 1,089,693        |
| MercadoLibre, Inc. (Broadline Retail) (a)   | 860       | 1,067,037        |
| NU Holdings Ltd., Class A (Banks) (a)   | 128,000   | 1,049,600        |
| PRIO SA (Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels) (a)   | 184,000   | 1,740,824        |
| Raia Drogasil SA (Consumer Staples Distribution & Retail)                         | 220,000   | 1,125,800        |
| WEG SA (Electrical Equipment)   | 116,000   | 759,490          |
|   |           | <u>8,443,551</u> |
| <b>China 30.7%</b>  |           |                  |
| Aier Eye Hospital Group Co. Ltd., Class A (Health Care Providers & Services)      | 250,756   | 627,395          |
| Airtac International Group (Machinery)  | 23,000    | 751,657          |
| Alibaba Group Holding Ltd. (Broadline Retail) (a)                                 | 486,000   | 4,971,637        |
| Anhui Huaheng Biotechnology Co. Ltd., Class A (Chemicals)                         | 55,044    | 763,445          |
| ANTA Sports Products Ltd. (Textiles, Apparel & Luxury Goods)                      | 52,000    | 587,099          |
| Baidu, Inc., Class A (Interactive Media & Services) (a)                           | 78,000    | 1,023,686        |
| Bank of Jiangsu Co. Ltd., Class A (Banks)   | 2,099,960 | 1,979,984        |
| Beijing Compass Technology Development Co. Ltd., Class A (Capital Markets) (a)    | 84,990    | 683,581          |
| BYD Co. Ltd., Class H (Automobiles)   | 46,981    | 1,425,295        |
| BYD Electronic International Co. Ltd. (Communications Equipment)                  | 310,000   | 1,291,460        |
| China Merchants Bank Co. Ltd., Class H (Banks)                                    | 310,000   | 1,180,537        |
| China Resources Land Ltd. (Real Estate Management & Development)                  | 357,902   | 1,340,089        |
| CMOC Group Ltd., Class H (Metals & Mining)  | 2,189,239 | 1,303,710        |
| Contemporary Amperex Technology Co. Ltd., Class A (Electrical Equipment)          | 21,082    | 534,677          |
| Flat Glass Group Co. Ltd., Class H (Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment) (a) | 180,000   | 322,495          |
| JD.com, Inc., Class A (Broadline Retail)  | 46,000    | 586,665          |
| Kanzhun Ltd., ADR (Interactive Media & Services) (a)                              | 20,000    | 296,000          |
| Kingsoft Corp. Ltd. (Entertainment)   | 44,000    | 153,503          |
| Kuaishou Technology (Interactive Media & Services) (a)(b)                         | 148,000   | 952,276          |
| Li Auto, Inc., Class A (Automobiles) (a)  | 58,000    | 990,972          |

|  | Shares    | Value             |
|--|-----------|-------------------|
| <b>China (continued)</b>   |           |                   |
| Longshine Technology Group Co. Ltd., Class A (Software)                                    | 162,971   | \$ 415,996        |
| Luzhou Laojiao Co. Ltd., Class A (Beverages)   | 26,000    | 762,474           |
| Meituan (Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure) (a)(b)   | 164,000   | 2,317,932         |
| NARI Technology Co. Ltd., Class A (Electrical Equipment)                                   | 224,394   | 691,448           |
| NetEase, Inc. (Entertainment)  | 80,000    | 1,720,584         |
| Ningbo Deye Technology Co. Ltd., Class A (Machinery)                                       | 33,164    | 313,236           |
| Nongfu Spring Co. Ltd., Class H (Beverages) (b)  | 250,000   | 1,423,277         |
| PDD Holdings, Inc., ADR (Broadline Retail) (a)   | 23,000    | 2,332,660         |
| PetroChina Co. Ltd., Class H (Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels)                                 | 3,180,000 | 2,072,522         |
| Ping An Insurance Group Co. of China Ltd., Class H (Insurance)                             | 478,000   | 2,449,481         |
| Proya Cosmetics Co. Ltd., Class A (Personal Care Products)                                 | 55,076    | 781,650           |
| Shandong Gold Mining Co. Ltd., Class H (Metals & Mining) (b)                               | 540,000   | 1,017,169         |
| Shanghai Baosight Software Co. Ltd., Class A (Software)                                    | 108,081   | 630,193           |
| Shenzhen Inovance Technology Co. Ltd., Class A (Machinery)                                 | 79,926    | 660,107           |
| Shenzhen Transsion Holdings Co. Ltd., Class A (Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals) | 40,000    | 733,305           |
| Tencent Holdings Ltd. (Interactive Media & Services)                                       | 132,000   | 4,878,362         |
| Yadea Group Holdings Ltd. (Automobiles) (b)  | 350,000   | 639,596           |
|  |           | <u>45,606,155</u> |
| <b>India 17.4%</b>   |           |                   |
| ABB India Ltd. (Electrical Equipment)  | 29,000    | 1,431,317         |
| APL Apollo Tubes Ltd. (Metals & Mining)  | 70,000    | 1,316,030         |
| Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Ltd. (Health Care Providers & Services)                        | 19,000    | 1,099,922         |
| Axis Bank Ltd. (Banks)   | 204,000   | 2,405,722         |
| Bajaj Finance Ltd. (Consumer Finance)  | 20,000    | 1,799,847         |
| Bharti Airtel Ltd. (Wireless Telecommunication Services)                                   | 244,000   | 2,679,762         |
| HDFC Bank Ltd. (Banks)   | 72,000    | 1,276,839         |
| ICICI Bank Ltd. (Banks)  | 132,000   | 1,451,213         |
| Indraprastha Gas Ltd. (Gas Utilities)  | 210,000   | 964,385           |

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of, and should be read in conjunction with, the financial statements.

# Portfolio of Investments October 31, 2023<sup>†</sup> (continued)

|   | Shares    | Value             |
|---|-----------|-------------------|
| <b>Common Stocks (continued)</b>  |           |                   |
| <b>India (continued)</b>  |           |                   |
| KPIT Technologies Ltd. (Software)   | 62,000    | \$ 906,669        |
| Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. (Automobiles)  | 70,000    | 1,226,322         |
| Reliance Industries Ltd. (Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels)                              | 120,000   | 3,297,527         |
| SBI Cards & Payment Services Ltd. (Consumer Finance)                                | 110,000   | 985,800           |
| Tata Elxsi Ltd. (Software)  | 8,000     | 732,675           |
| Tata Motors Ltd. (Automobiles)  | 156,000   | 1,177,887         |
| Torrent Pharmaceuticals Ltd. (Pharmaceuticals)                                      | 56,000    | 1,294,254         |
| Varun Beverages Ltd. (Beverages)  | 169,000   | 1,844,697         |
|   |           | <u>25,890,868</u> |
| <b>Indonesia 3.3%</b>   |           |                   |
| Aneka Tambang Tbk. (Metals & Mining)  | 5,000,000 | 536,670           |
| Bank Central Asia Tbk. PT (Banks)   | 3,100,000 | 1,707,586         |
| Bank Mandiri Persero Tbk. PT (Banks)  | 3,400,000 | 1,214,668         |
| Merdeka Copper Gold Tbk. PT (Metals & Mining) (a)                                   | 3,800,000 | 533,459           |
| Sumber Alfaria Trijaya Tbk. PT (Consumer Staples Distribution & Retail)             | 5,300,000 | 964,243           |
|   |           | <u>4,956,626</u>  |
| <b>Malaysia 0.8%</b>  |           |                   |
| Press Metal Aluminium Holdings Bhd. (Metals & Mining)                               | 1,140,000 | 1,177,206         |
| <b>Mexico 4.2%</b>  |           |                   |
| America Movil SAB de CV (Wireless Telecommunication Services)                       | 2,200,000 | 1,816,961         |
| Cemex SAB de CV (Construction Materials) (a)  | 1,200,000 | 720,839           |
| Gruma SAB de CV, Class B (Food Products)  | 81,000    | 1,409,514         |
| Grupo Aeroportuario del Pacifico SAB de CV, Class B (Transportation Infrastructure) | 30,000    | 349,953           |
| Grupo Financiero Banorte SAB de CV, Class O (Banks)                                 | 244,000   | 1,980,258         |
|   |           | <u>6,277,525</u>  |
| <b>Peru 0.3%</b>  |           |                   |
| Credicorp Ltd. (Banks)  | 3,200     | 399,872           |
| <b>Poland 0.8%</b>  |           |                   |
| Dino Polska SA (Consumer Staples Distribution & Retail) (a)(b)                      | 13,200    | 1,248,845         |

|   | Shares    | Value             |
|---|-----------|-------------------|
| <b>Republic of Korea 12.1%</b>  |           |                   |
| Coupang, Inc. (Broadline Retail) (a)  | 44,000    | \$ 748,000        |
| Daejoo Electronic Materials Co. Ltd. (Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components) | 7,800     | 398,504           |
| DB Insurance Co. Ltd. (Insurance)   | 31,000    | 2,017,622         |
| JYP Entertainment Corp. (Entertainment)   | 12,400    | 942,016           |
| KB Financial Group, Inc. (Banks)  | 64,000    | 2,440,487         |
| LG Chem Ltd. (Chemicals)  | 3,800     | 1,238,014         |
| Samsung Biologics Co. Ltd. (Life Sciences Tools & Services) (a)(b)                    | 2,000     | 1,049,943         |
| Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd. (Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals)             | 53,000    | 2,625,375         |
| Samsung Engineering Co. Ltd. (Construction & Engineering) (a)                         | 82,000    | 1,442,005         |
| Samsung SDI Co. Ltd. (Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components)                 | 800       | 252,046           |
| SK Hynix, Inc. (Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment)                             | 56,000    | 4,822,332         |
|   |           | <u>17,976,344</u> |
| <b>Russia 0.0% ‡</b>  |           |                   |
| Magnit PJSC (Consumer Staples Distribution & Retail) (c)(d)                           | 6,769     | —                 |
| <b>South Africa 4.3%</b>  |           |                   |
| Capitec Bank Holdings Ltd. (Banks)  | 13,800    | 1,225,351         |
| FirstRand Ltd. (Financial Services)   | 500,000   | 1,648,290         |
| Gold Fields Ltd. (Metals & Mining)  | 124,000   | 1,653,134         |
| Naspers Ltd., Class N (Broadline Retail) (a)  | 11,600    | 1,810,770         |
|   |           | <u>6,337,545</u>  |
| <b>Taiwan 15.8%</b>   |           |                   |
| Accton Technology Corp. (Communications Equipment)                                    | 152,000   | 2,336,118         |
| Alchip Technologies Ltd. (Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment)                   | 19,000    | 1,537,691         |
| Chailease Holding Co. Ltd. (Financial Services)                                       | 256,000   | 1,385,170         |
| CTBC Financial Holding Co. Ltd. (Banks)   | 2,380,000 | 1,786,743         |
| Delta Electronics, Inc. (Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components)              | 194,000   | 1,737,537         |
| E Ink Holdings, Inc. (Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components)                 | 92,000    | 476,522           |
| Quanta Computer, Inc. (Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals)                    | 136,000   | 792,477           |
| Realtek Semiconductor Corp. (Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment)                | 54,000    | 668,445           |

|  | Shares        | Value                 |
|--|---------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Common Stocks (continued)</b>   |               |                       |
| <b>Taiwan (continued)</b>  |               |                       |
| Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. Ltd. (Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment) | 750,000       | \$ 12,232,157         |
| Voltronic Power Technology Corp. (Electrical Equipment)                                | 15,000        | 598,890               |
|  |               | <u>23,551,750</u>     |
| <b>Thailand 2.3%</b>   |               |                       |
| Airports of Thailand PCL, NVDR (Transportation Infrastructure) (a)                     | 860,000       | 1,597,134             |
| Bangkok Dusit Medical Services PCL, NVDR (Health Care Providers & Services)            | 1,000,000     | 737,289               |
| CP ALL PCL, NVDR (Consumer Staples Distribution & Retail)                              | 320,000       | 491,897               |
| Kasikornbank PCL, NVDR (Banks)   | 180,000       | 658,552               |
|  |               | <u>3,484,872</u>      |
| <b>Turkey 1.6%</b>   |               |                       |
| BIM Birlesik Magazalar A/S (Consumer Staples Distribution & Retail)                    | 194,000       | 1,863,326             |
| Turkiye Garanti Bankasi A/S (Banks)  | 270,000       | 448,105               |
|  |               | <u>2,311,431</u>      |
| Total Common Stocks<br>(Cost \$150,532,227)  |               | <u>147,662,590</u>    |
| <b>Preferred Stock 1.2%</b>  |               |                       |
| <b>Brazil 1.2%</b>   |               |                       |
| Itau Unibanco Holding SA (Banks)   | 338,000       | 1,798,019             |
| Total Preferred Stock<br>(Cost \$1,619,265)  |               | <u>1,798,019</u>      |
| Total Investments<br>(Cost \$152,151,492)  | 100.5%        | 149,460,609           |
| Other Assets, Less Liabilities   | (0.5)         | (722,469)             |
| Net Assets   | <u>100.0%</u> | <u>\$ 148,738,140</u> |

† Percentages indicated are based on Fund net assets.

^ Industry and country classifications may be different than those used for compliance monitoring purposes.

‡ Less than one-tenth of a percent.

- (a) Non-income producing security.
- (b) May be sold to institutional investors only under Rule 144A or securities offered pursuant to Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- (c) Illiquid security—As of October 31, 2023, the total market value deemed illiquid under procedures approved by the Board of Trustees was \$0, which represented less than one-tenth of a percent of the Fund's net assets. (Unaudited)
- (d) Security in which significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) were used in determining fair value.

Abbreviation(s):

ADR—American Depositary Receipt

NVDR—Non-Voting Depositary Receipt

PCL—Provision for Credit Losses

# Portfolio of Investments October 31, 2023<sup>†</sup> (continued)

The following is a summary of the fair valuations according to the inputs used as of October 31, 2023, for valuing the Fund's assets:

| Description                     | Quoted<br>Prices in<br>Active<br>Markets for<br>Identical<br>Assets<br>(Level 1) | Significant<br>Other<br>Observable<br>Inputs<br>(Level 2) | Significant<br>Unobservable<br>Inputs<br>(Level 3) | Total                 |
|---------------------------------|--|---|--|-----------------------|
| <b>Asset Valuation Inputs</b>   |  |   |  |                       |
| Investments in Securities (a)   |  |   |  |                       |
| Common Stocks                   | \$ 147,662,590   | \$ —  | \$ —   | \$ 147,662,590        |
| Preferred Stock                 | 1,798,019  | —   | —  | 1,798,019             |
| Total Investments in Securities | <u>\$ 149,460,609</u>  | <u>\$ —</u>   | <u>\$ —</u>  | <u>\$ 149,460,609</u> |

(a) For a complete listing of investments and their industries, see the Portfolio of Investments.

The table below sets forth the diversification of the Fund's investments by industry.

### Industry Diversification

|  | Value                | Percent †^    |
|--|----------------------|---------------|
| Automobiles                                    | \$ 5,460,072         | 3.7%          |
| Banks  | 24,614,643           | 16.6          |
| Beverages                                      | 4,030,448            | 2.7           |
| Broadline Retail                               | 11,516,769           | 7.7           |
| Capital Markets                                | 683,581              | 0.5           |
| Chemicals                                      | 2,001,459            | 1.3           |
| Communications Equipment                       | 3,627,578            | 2.4           |
| Construction & Engineering                     | 1,442,005            | 1.0           |
| Construction Materials                         | 720,839              | 0.5           |
| Consumer Finance                               | 2,785,647            | 1.9           |
| Consumer Staples Distribution & Retail         | 5,694,111            | 3.8           |
| Electrical Equipment                           | 4,015,822            | 2.7           |
| Electronic Equipment, Instruments & Components | 2,864,609            | 1.9           |
| Entertainment                                  | 2,816,103            | 1.9           |
| Financial Services                             | 3,033,460            | 2.0           |
| Food Products                                  | 1,409,514            | 0.9           |
| Gas Utilities                                  | 964,385              | 0.6           |
| Ground Transportation                          | 1,089,693            | 0.7           |
| Health Care Providers & Services               | 2,464,606            | 1.7           |
| Hotels, Restaurants & Leisure                  | 2,317,932            | 1.6           |
| Insurance                                      | 4,467,103            | 3.0           |
| Interactive Media & Services                   | 7,150,324            | 4.8           |
| Life Sciences Tools & Services                 | 1,049,943            | 0.7           |
| Machinery                                      | 1,725,000            | 1.2           |
| Metals & Mining                                | 7,537,378            | 5.1           |
| Oil, Gas & Consumable Fuels                    | 7,110,873            | 4.8           |
| Personal Care Products                         | 781,650              | 0.5           |
| Pharmaceuticals                                | 1,294,254            | 0.9           |
| Real Estate Management & Development           | 1,340,089            | 0.9           |
| Semiconductors & Semiconductor Equipment       | 19,583,120           | 13.2          |
| Software                                       | 2,685,533            | 1.8           |
| Technology Hardware, Storage & Peripherals     | 4,151,157            | 2.8           |
| Textiles, Apparel & Luxury Goods               | 587,099              | 0.4           |
| Transportation Infrastructure                  | 1,947,087            | 1.3           |
| Wireless Telecommunication Services            | 4,496,723            | 3.0           |
|  | 149,460,609          | 100.5         |
| Other Assets, Less Liabilities                 | (722,469)            | (0.5)         |
| Net Assets                                     | <u>\$148,738,140</u> | <u>100.0%</u> |

† Percentages indicated are based on Fund net assets.

^ Industry classifications may be different than those used for compliance monitoring purposes.

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of, and should be read in conjunction with, the financial statements.



# Statement of Assets and Liabilities as of October 31, 2023

## Assets

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Investment in securities, at value<br>(identified cost \$152,151,492) | \$149,460,609      |
| Cash  | 2,014,896          |
| Cash denominated in foreign currencies<br>(identified cost \$210,944) | 211,081            |
| Receivables:  |                    |
| Investment securities sold  | 682,758            |
| Fund shares sold  | 217,611            |
| Dividends   | 73,369             |
| Securities lending  | 1,580              |
| Other assets  | <u>60,671</u>      |
| Total assets  | <u>152,722,575</u> |

## Liabilities

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| Payables:                              |                      |
| Fund shares redeemed                   | 3,387,265            |
| Foreign capital gains tax (See Note 2) | 295,269              |
| Investment securities purchased        | 123,875              |
| Manager (See Note 3)                   | 118,710              |
| Custodian                              | 47,154               |
| Professional fees                      | 6,529                |
| Transfer agent (See Note 3)            | 3,816                |
| Shareholder communication              | 628                  |
| NYLIFE Distributors (See Note 3)       | 521                  |
| Trustees                               | 5                    |
| Accrued expenses                       | <u>663</u>           |
| Total liabilities                      | <u>3,984,435</u>     |
| Net assets                             | <u>\$148,738,140</u> |

## Composition of Net Assets

|   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| Shares of beneficial interest outstanding (par value of \$.001 per share) unlimited number of shares authorized | \$ 17,646            |
| Additional paid-in-capital  | <u>180,370,602</u>   |
|   | 180,388,248          |
| Total distributable earnings (loss)   | <u>(31,650,108)</u>  |
| Net assets  | <u>\$148,738,140</u> |

## Class A

|  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| Net assets applicable to outstanding shares    | <u>\$ 1,909,527</u> |
| Shares of beneficial interest outstanding      | <u>227,703</u>      |
| Net asset value per share outstanding          | \$ 8.39             |
| Maximum sales charge (5.50% of offering price) | <u>0.49</u>         |
| Maximum offering price per share outstanding   | <u>\$ 8.88</u>      |

## Investor Class

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Net assets applicable to outstanding shares    | <u>\$ 197,589</u> |
| Shares of beneficial interest outstanding      | <u>23,629</u>     |
| Net asset value per share outstanding          | \$ 8.36           |
| Maximum sales charge (5.00% of offering price) | <u>0.44</u>       |
| Maximum offering price per share outstanding   | <u>\$ 8.80</u>    |

## Class C

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Net assets applicable to outstanding shares              | <u>\$ 70,575</u> |
| Shares of beneficial interest outstanding                | <u>8,629</u>     |
| Net asset value and offering price per share outstanding | <u>\$ 8.18</u>   |

## Class I

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| Net assets applicable to outstanding shares              | <u>\$ 20,400,695</u> |
| Shares of beneficial interest outstanding                | <u>2,404,811</u>     |
| Net asset value and offering price per share outstanding | <u>\$ 8.48</u>       |

## Class R6

|  |                      |
|--|----------------------|
| Net assets applicable to outstanding shares              | <u>\$126,159,754</u> |
| Shares of beneficial interest outstanding                | <u>14,981,596</u>    |
| Net asset value and offering price per share outstanding | <u>\$ 8.42</u>       |



# Statement of Operations for the year ended October 31, 2023

## Investment Income (Loss)

### Income

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| Dividends (net of foreign tax withholding of \$365,403) | \$ 3,344,740     |
| Securities lending, net                                 | 4,511            |
| Other   | <u>43,526</u>    |
| Total income  | <u>3,392,777</u> |

### Expenses

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Manager (See Note 3)                                   | 1,504,198        |
| Custodian  | 144,330          |
| Professional fees                                      | 102,829          |
| Registration   | 71,791           |
| Transfer agent (See Note 3)                            | 22,677           |
| Shareholder communication                              | 9,922            |
| Distribution/Service—Class A (See Note 3)              | 5,511            |
| Distribution/Service—Investor Class (See Note 3)       | 631              |
| Distribution/Service—Class C (See Note 3)              | 978              |
| Trustees   | 3,881            |
| Miscellaneous  | <u>8,314</u>     |
| Total expenses before waiver/reimbursement             | 1,875,062        |
| Expense waiver/reimbursement from Manager (See Note 3) | (346,253)        |
| Reimbursement from prior custodian <sup>(a)</sup>      | <u>(266)</u>     |
| Net expenses   | <u>1,528,543</u> |
| Net investment income (loss)                           | <u>1,864,234</u> |

## Realized and Unrealized Gain (Loss)

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Net realized gain (loss) on:                                      |                       |
| Unaffiliated investment transactions <sup>(b)</sup>               | (12,058,313)          |
| Foreign currency transactions                                     | <u>(192,760)</u>      |
| Net realized gain (loss)  | <u>(12,251,073)</u>   |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on:          |                       |
| Unaffiliated investments <sup>(c)</sup>                           | 9,332,687             |
| Translation of other assets and liabilities in foreign currencies | <u>330</u>            |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation)              | <u>9,333,017</u>      |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)                           | <u>(2,918,056)</u>    |
| Net increase (decrease) in net assets resulting from operations   | <u>\$ (1,053,822)</u> |

(a) Represents a refund for overbilling of custody fees.

(b) Realized gain (loss) on security transactions recorded net of foreign capital gains tax in the amount of \$(70,937).

(c) Net change in unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments recorded net of foreign capital gains tax in the amount of \$(142,871).

# Statements of Changes in Net Assets

for the years ended October 31, 2023 and October 31, 2022

|   | 2023                 | 2022                 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets</b>  |                      |                      |
| Operations:   |                      |                      |
| Net investment income (loss)  | \$ 1,864,234         | \$ 1,623,183         |
| Net realized gain (loss)  | (12,251,073)         | (17,148,783)         |
| Net change in unrealized appreciation<br>(depreciation)                                 | <u>9,333,017</u>     | <u>(28,313,998)</u>  |
| Net increase (decrease) in net assets<br>resulting from operations                      | <u>(1,053,822)</u>   | <u>(43,839,598)</u>  |
| Distributions to shareholders:  |                      |                      |
| Class A   | (17,148)             | (13,154)             |
| Investor Class  | (1,668)              | (2,228)              |
| Class I   | (145,979)            | (35,091)             |
| Class R6  | <u>(1,134,919)</u>   | <u>(751,850)</u>     |
| Total distributions to shareholders   | <u>(1,299,714)</u>   | <u>(802,323)</u>     |
| Capital share transactions:   |                      |                      |
| Net proceeds from sales of shares   | 60,890,791           | 69,723,839           |
| Net asset value of shares issued to<br>shareholders in reinvestment of<br>distributions | 1,018,121            | 792,715              |
| Cost of shares redeemed   | <u>(19,933,822)</u>  | <u>(8,846,223)</u>   |
| Increase (decrease) in net assets derived<br>from capital share transactions            | <u>41,975,090</u>    | <u>61,670,331</u>    |
| Net increase (decrease) in net assets   | 39,621,554           | 17,028,410           |
| <b>Net Assets</b>   |                      |                      |
| Beginning of year   | <u>109,116,586</u>   | <u>92,088,176</u>    |
| End of year   | <u>\$148,738,140</u> | <u>\$109,116,586</u> |

# Financial Highlights selected per share data and ratios

| Class A  | Year Ended October 31, |          |          |          |         |
|--|------------------------|----------|----------|----------|---------|
|  | 2023                   | 2022     | 2021     | 2020     | 2019    |
| Net asset value at beginning of year                     | \$ 8.24                | \$ 12.73 | \$ 10.66 | \$ 8.97  | \$ 7.98 |
| Net investment income (loss) (a)                         | 0.08                   | 0.13     | 0.04     | 0.02     | 0.10    |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)                  | 0.14                   | (4.56)   | 2.06     | 1.85     | 0.93    |
| Total from investment operations                         | 0.22                   | (4.43)   | 2.10     | 1.87     | 1.03    |
| <b>Less distributions:</b>                               |                        |          |          |          |         |
| From net investment income                               | (0.07)                 | (0.06)   | (0.03)   | (0.18)   | (0.04)  |
| Net asset value at end of year                           | \$ 8.39                | \$ 8.24  | \$ 12.73 | \$ 10.66 | \$ 8.97 |
| Total investment return (b)                              | 2.60%                  | (34.95)% | 19.68%   | 21.14%   | 12.96%  |
| <b>Ratios (to average net assets)/Supplemental Data:</b> |                        |          |          |          |         |
| Net investment income (loss)                             | 0.84%                  | 1.25%    | 0.30%    | 0.22%    | 1.18%   |
| Net expenses (c)   | 1.33%                  | 1.44%    | 1.47%    | 1.50%    | 1.50%   |
| Expenses (before waiver/reimbursement) (c)               | 1.55%                  | 1.77%    | 1.75%    | 2.00%    | 1.77%   |
| Portfolio turnover rate                                  | 60%                    | 105%     | 74%      | 122%     | 107%    |
| Net assets at end of year (in 000's)                     | \$ 1,910               | \$ 2,144 | \$ 2,921 | \$ 1,111 | \$ 77   |

(a) Per share data based on average shares outstanding during the year.

(b) Total investment return is calculated exclusive of sales charges and assumes the reinvestment of dividends and distributions. For periods of less than one year, total return is not annualized.

(c) In addition to the fees and expenses which the Fund bears directly, it also indirectly bears a pro-rata share of the fees and expenses of the underlying funds in which it invests. Such indirect expenses are not included in the above expense ratios.

| Investor Class   | Year Ended October 31, |          |          |           |           |
|--|------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
|  | 2023                   | 2022     | 2021     | 2020      | 2019      |
| Net asset value at beginning of year                     | \$ 8.22                | \$ 12.70 | \$ 10.65 | \$ 8.95   | \$ 7.97   |
| Net investment income (loss) (a)                         | 0.06                   | 0.12     | 0.02     | 0.02      | 0.07      |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)                  | 0.13                   | (4.55)   | 2.05     | 1.84      | 0.94      |
| Total from investment operations                         | 0.19                   | (4.43)   | 2.07     | 1.86      | 1.01      |
| <b>Less distributions:</b>                               |                        |          |          |           |           |
| From net investment income                               | (0.05)                 | (0.05)   | (0.02)   | (0.16)    | (0.03)    |
| Net asset value at end of year                           | \$ 8.36                | \$ 8.22  | \$ 12.70 | \$ 10.65  | \$ 8.95   |
| Total investment return (b)                              | 2.33%                  | (34.99)% | 19.49%   | 21.11%(c) | 12.71%(c) |
| <b>Ratios (to average net assets)/Supplemental Data:</b> |                        |          |          |           |           |
| Net investment income (loss)                             | 0.68%                  | 1.09%    | 0.15%    | 0.17%     | 0.76%     |
| Net expenses (d)   | 1.50%                  | 1.57%    | 1.52%    | 1.52%     | 1.66%     |
| Expenses (before waiver/reimbursement) (d)               | 1.72%                  | 1.88%    | 1.81%    | 2.03%     | 1.92%     |
| Portfolio turnover rate                                  | 60%                    | 105%     | 74%      | 122%      | 107%      |
| Net assets at end of year (in 000's)                     | \$ 198                 | \$ 256   | \$ 507   | \$ 360    | \$ 121    |

(a) Per share data based on average shares outstanding during the year.

(b) Total investment return is calculated exclusive of sales charges and assumes the reinvestment of dividends and distributions. For periods of less than one year, total return is not annualized.

(c) Total investment return may reflect adjustments to conform to generally accepted accounting principles.

(d) In addition to the fees and expenses which the Fund bears directly, it also indirectly bears a pro-rata share of the fees and expenses of the underlying funds in which it invests. Such indirect expenses are not included in the above expense ratios.

# Financial Highlights selected per share data and ratios

| Class C  | Year Ended October 31, |          |           |          |         |
|--|------------------------|----------|-----------|----------|---------|
|  | 2023                   | 2022     | 2021      | 2020     | 2019    |
| Net asset value at beginning of year                     | \$ 8.05                | \$ 12.48 | \$ 10.52  | \$ 8.85  | \$ 7.91 |
| Net investment income (loss) (a)                         | (0.02)                 | 0.04     | (0.08)    | (0.05)   | (0.01)  |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)                  | 0.15                   | (4.47)   | 2.04      | 1.83     | 0.95    |
| Total from investment operations                         | 0.13                   | (4.43)   | 1.96      | 1.78     | 0.94    |
| <b>Less distributions:</b>                               |                        |          |           |          |         |
| From net investment income                               | —                      | —        | —         | (0.11)   | —       |
| Net asset value at end of year                           | \$ 8.18                | \$ 8.05  | \$ 12.48  | \$ 10.52 | \$ 8.85 |
| Total investment return (b)                              | 1.61%                  | (35.50)% | 18.63%(c) | 20.23%   | 11.88%  |
| <b>Ratios (to average net assets)/Supplemental Data:</b> |                        |          |           |          |         |
| Net investment income (loss)                             | (0.18)%                | 0.36%    | (0.63)%   | (0.52)%  | (0.13)% |
| Net expenses (d)   | 2.25%                  | 2.31%    | 2.27%     | 2.27%    | 2.40%   |
| Expenses (before waiver/reimbursement) (d)               | 2.48%                  | 2.64%    | 2.57%     | 2.78%    | 2.67%   |
| Portfolio turnover rate                                  | 60%                    | 105%     | 74%       | 122%     | 107%    |
| Net assets at end of year (in 000's)                     | \$ 71                  | \$ 141   | \$ 212    | \$ 217   | \$ 56   |

(a) Per share data based on average shares outstanding during the year.

(b) Total investment return is calculated exclusive of sales charges and assumes the reinvestment of dividends and distributions. For periods of less than one year, total return is not annualized.

(c) Total investment return may reflect adjustments to conform to generally accepted accounting principles.

(d) In addition to the fees and expenses which the Fund bears directly, it also indirectly bears a pro-rata share of the fees and expenses of the underlying funds in which it invests. Such indirect expenses are not included in the above expense ratios.

| Class I  | Year Ended October 31, |           |          |          |         |
|--|------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|---------|
|  | 2023                   | 2022      | 2021     | 2020     | 2019    |
| Net asset value at beginning of year                     | \$ 8.33                | \$ 12.85  | \$ 10.77 | \$ 8.99  | \$ 8.00 |
| Net investment income (loss) (a)                         | 0.12                   | 0.16      | 0.05     | 0.05     | (0.02)  |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)                  | 0.12                   | (4.58)    | 2.11     | 1.87     | 1.07    |
| Total from investment operations                         | 0.24                   | (4.42)    | 2.16     | 1.92     | 1.05    |
| <b>Less distributions:</b>                               |                        |           |          |          |         |
| From net investment income                               | (0.09)                 | (0.10)    | (0.08)   | (0.14)   | (0.06)  |
| Net asset value at end of year                           | \$ 8.48                | \$ 8.33   | \$ 12.85 | \$ 10.77 | \$ 8.99 |
| Total investment return (b)                              | 2.87%                  | (34.65)%  | 20.05%   | 21.60%   | 13.28%  |
| <b>Ratios (to average net assets)/Supplemental Data:</b> |                        |           |          |          |         |
| Net investment income (loss)                             | 1.28%                  | 1.65%     | 0.38%    | 0.55%    | (0.26)% |
| Net expenses (c)   | 1.01%                  | 1.06%     | 1.07%    | 1.15%    | 1.15%   |
| Expenses (before waiver/reimbursement) (c)               | 1.29%                  | 1.54%     | 1.52%    | 1.79%    | 1.52%   |
| Portfolio turnover rate                                  | 60%                    | 105%      | 74%      | 122%     | 107%    |
| Net assets at end of year (in 000's)                     | \$ 20,401              | \$ 12,977 | \$ 4,532 | \$ 30    | \$ 40   |

(a) Per share data based on average shares outstanding during the year.

(b) Total investment return is calculated exclusive of sales charges and assumes the reinvestment of dividends and distributions. Class I shares are not subject to sales charges. For periods of less than one year, total return is not annualized.

(c) In addition to the fees and expenses which the Fund bears directly, it also indirectly bears a pro-rata share of the fees and expenses of the underlying funds in which it invests. Such indirect expenses are not included in the above expense ratios.

# Financial Highlights selected per share data and ratios

| Class R6   | Year Ended October 31, |           |           |           |           |
|--|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|  | 2023                   | 2022      | 2021      | 2020      | 2019      |
| Net asset value at beginning of year                     | \$ 8.28                | \$ 12.79  | \$ 10.71  | \$ 9.00   | \$ 8.01   |
| Net investment income (loss) (a)                         | 0.11                   | 0.17      | 0.08      | 0.05      | 0.10      |
| Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)                  | 0.13                   | (4.57)    | 2.06      | 1.86      | 0.95      |
| Total from investment operations                         | 0.24                   | (4.40)    | 2.14      | 1.91      | 1.05      |
| <b>Less distributions:</b>                               |                        |           |           |           |           |
| From net investment income                               | (0.10)                 | (0.11)    | (0.06)    | (0.20)    | (0.06)    |
| Net asset value at end of year                           | \$ 8.42                | \$ 8.28   | \$ 12.79  | \$ 10.71  | \$ 9.00   |
| Total investment return (b)                              | 2.82%                  | (34.65)%  | 20.05%    | 21.61%    | 13.29%    |
| <b>Ratios (to average net assets)/Supplemental Data:</b> |                        |           |           |           |           |
| Net investment income (loss)                             | 1.24%                  | 1.63%     | 0.58%     | 0.51%     | 1.11%     |
| Net expenses (c)   | 1.01%                  | 1.06%     | 1.07%     | 1.15%     | 1.15%     |
| Expenses (before waiver/reimbursement) (c)               | 1.23%                  | 1.40%     | 1.32%     | 1.53%     | 1.42%     |
| Portfolio turnover rate                                  | 60%                    | 105%      | 74%       | 122%      | 107%      |
| Net assets at end of year (in 000's)                     | \$ 126,160             | \$ 93,598 | \$ 83,916 | \$ 83,230 | \$ 49,111 |

(a) Per share data based on average shares outstanding during the year.

(b) Total investment return is calculated exclusive of sales charges and assumes the reinvestment of dividends and distributions. Class R6 shares are not subject to sales charges. For periods of less than one year, total return is not annualized.

(c) In addition to the fees and expenses which the Fund bears directly, it also indirectly bears a pro-rata share of the fees and expenses of the underlying funds in which it invests. Such indirect expenses are not included in the above expense ratios.

# Notes to Financial Statements

## Note 1—Organization and Business

MainStay Funds Trust (the "Trust") was organized as a Delaware statutory trust on April 28, 2009. The Trust is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"), as an open-end management investment company, and is comprised of thirty-seven funds (collectively referred to as the "Funds"). These financial statements and notes relate to the MainStay Candriam Emerging Markets Equity Fund (the "Fund"), a "diversified" fund, as that term is defined in the 1940 Act, as interpreted or modified by regulatory authorities having jurisdiction, from time to time.

The following table lists the Fund's share classes that have been registered and commenced operations:

| Class          | Commenced Operations |
|----------------|----------------------|
| Class A        | November 15, 2017    |
| Investor Class | November 15, 2017    |
| Class C        | November 15, 2017    |
| Class I        | November 15, 2017    |
| Class R6       | November 15, 2017    |

Class A and Investor Class shares are offered at net asset value ("NAV") per share plus an initial sales charge. No initial sales charge applies to investments of \$1 million or more (and certain other qualified purchases) in Class A and Investor Class shares. A contingent deferred sales charge ("CDSC") of 1.00% may be imposed on certain redemptions of Class A and Investor Class shares made within 18 months of the date of purchase on shares that were purchased without an initial sales charge. Class C shares are offered at NAV without an initial sales charge, although a 1.00% CDSC may be imposed on certain redemptions of such shares made within one year of the date of purchase of Class C shares. Class I and Class R6 shares are offered at NAV without a sales charge. Depending upon eligibility, Class C shares convert to either Class A or Investor Class shares at the end of the calendar quarter eight years after the date they were purchased. Additionally, Investor Class shares may convert automatically to Class A shares. Under certain circumstances and as may be permitted by the Trust's multiple class plan pursuant to Rule 18f-3 under the 1940 Act, specified share classes of the Fund may be converted to one or more other share classes of the Fund as disclosed in the capital share transactions within these Notes. The classes of shares have the same voting (except for issues that relate solely to one class), dividend, liquidation and other rights, and the same terms and conditions, except that under distribution plans pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act, Class C shares are subject to higher distribution and/or service fees than Class A and Investor Class shares. Class I and Class R6 shares are not subject to a distribution and/or service fee.

The Fund's investment objective is to seek long-term capital appreciation.

## Note 2—Significant Accounting Policies

The Fund is an investment company and accordingly follows the investment company accounting and reporting guidance of the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification

*Topic 946 Financial Services—Investment Companies*. The Fund prepares its financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") in the United States of America and follows the significant accounting policies described below.

**(A) Securities Valuation.** Investments are usually valued as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (the "Exchange") (usually 4:00 p.m. Eastern time) on each day the Fund is open for business ("valuation date").

Pursuant to Rule 2a-5 under the 1940 Act, the Board of Trustees of the Trust (the "Board") has designated New York Life Investment Management LLC ("New York Life Investments" or the "Manager") as its Valuation Designee (the "Valuation Designee"). The Valuation Designee is responsible for performing fair valuations relating to all investments in the Fund's portfolio for which market quotations are not readily available; periodically assessing and managing material valuation risks; establishing and applying fair value methodologies; testing fair valuation methodologies; evaluating and overseeing pricing services; ensuring appropriate segregation of valuation and portfolio management functions; providing quarterly, annual and prompt reporting to the Board, as appropriate; identifying potential conflicts of interest; and maintaining appropriate records. The Valuation Designee has established a valuation committee ("Valuation Committee") to assist in carrying out the Valuation Designee's responsibilities and establish prices of securities for which market quotations are not readily available. The Fund's and the Valuation Designee's policies and procedures ("Valuation Procedures") govern the Valuation Designee's selection and application of methodologies for determining and calculating the fair value of Fund investments. The Valuation Designee may value the Fund's portfolio securities for which market quotations are not readily available and other Fund assets utilizing inputs from pricing services and other third-party sources. The Valuation Committee meets (in person, via electronic mail or via teleconference) on an ad-hoc basis to determine fair valuations and on a quarterly basis to review fair value events with respect to certain securities for which market quotations are not readily available, including valuation risks and back-testing results, and preview reports to the Board.

The Valuation Committee establishes prices of securities for which market quotations are not readily available based on such methodologies and measurements on a regular basis after considering information that is reasonably available and deemed relevant by the Valuation Committee. The Board shall oversee the Valuation Designee and review fair valuation materials on a prompt, quarterly and annual basis and approve proposed revisions to the Valuation Procedures.

Investments for which market quotations are not readily available are valued at fair value as determined in good faith pursuant to the Valuation Procedures. A market quotation is readily available only when that quotation is a quoted price (unadjusted) in active markets for identical investments that the Fund can access at the measurement date, provided that a quotation will not be readily available if it is not reliable. "Fair value" is defined as the price the Fund would reasonably expect to receive upon selling an asset or liability in an orderly transaction to an independent

buyer in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability. Fair value measurements are determined within a framework that establishes a three-tier hierarchy that maximizes the use of observable market data and minimizes the use of unobservable inputs to establish a classification of fair value measurements for disclosure purposes.

"Inputs" refer broadly to the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, including assumptions about risk, such as the risk inherent in a particular valuation technique used to measure fair value using a pricing model and/or the risk inherent in the inputs for the valuation technique. Inputs may be observable or unobservable. Observable inputs reflect the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability based on market data obtained from sources independent of the Fund. Unobservable inputs reflect the Fund's own assumptions about the assumptions market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability based on the information available. The inputs or methodology used for valuing assets or liabilities may not be an indication of the risks associated with investing in those assets or liabilities. The three-tier hierarchy of inputs is summarized below.

- Level 1—quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for an identical asset or liability
- Level 2—other significant observable inputs (including quoted prices for a similar asset or liability in active markets, interest rates and yield curves, prepayment speeds, credit risk, etc.)
- Level 3—significant unobservable inputs (including the Fund's own assumptions about the assumptions that market participants would use in measuring fair value of an asset or liability)

The level of an asset or liability within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of an input, both individually and in the aggregate, that is significant to the fair value measurement. The aggregate value by input level of the Fund's assets and liabilities as of October 31, 2023, is included at the end of the Portfolio of Investments.

The Fund may use third-party vendor evaluations, whose prices may be derived from one or more of the following standard inputs, among others:

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| • Broker/dealer quotes         | • Benchmark securities   |
| • Two-sided markets            | • Reference data (corporate actions or material event notices) |
| • Bids/offers                  | • Monthly payment information                                  |
| • Industry and economic events | • Reported trades  |

An asset or liability for which a market quotation is not readily available is valued by methods deemed reasonable in good faith by the Valuation Committee, following the Valuation Procedures to represent fair value. Under these procedures, the Valuation Designee generally uses a market-based approach which may use related or comparable assets or liabilities, recent transactions, market multiples, book values and other relevant information. The Valuation Designee may also use an income-based valuation approach in which the anticipated future cash flows of the asset or liability are discounted to calculate fair value. Discounts may also be applied due to the nature and/or duration of any

restrictions on the disposition of the asset or liability. Fair value represents a good faith approximation of the value of a security. Fair value determinations involve the consideration of a number of subjective factors, an analysis of applicable facts and circumstances and the exercise of judgment. As a result, it is possible that the fair value for a security determined in good faith in accordance with the Valuation Procedures may differ from valuations for the same security determined for other funds using their own valuation procedures. Although the Valuation Procedures are designed to value a security at the price the Fund may reasonably expect to receive upon the security's sale in an orderly transaction, there can be no assurance that any fair value determination thereunder would, in fact, approximate the amount that the Fund would actually realize upon the sale of the security or the price at which the security would trade if a reliable market price were readily available. During the year ended October 31, 2023, there were no material changes to the fair value methodologies.

Securities which may be valued in this manner include, but are not limited to: (i) a security for which trading has been halted or suspended or otherwise does not have a readily available market quotation on a given day; (ii) a debt security that has recently gone into default and for which there is not a current market quotation; (iii) a security of an issuer that has entered into a restructuring; (iv) a security that has been delisted from a national exchange; (v) a security subject to trading collars for which no or limited trading takes place; and (vi) a security whose principal market has been temporarily closed at a time when, under normal conditions, it would be open. Securities valued in this manner are generally categorized as Level 2 or 3 in the hierarchy. As of October 31, 2023, securities that were fair valued in such a manner are shown in the Portfolio of Investments.

Certain securities held by the Fund may principally trade in foreign markets. Events may occur between the time the foreign markets close and the time at which the Fund's NAVs are calculated. These events may include, but are not limited to, situations relating to a single issuer in a market sector, significant fluctuations in U.S. or foreign markets, natural disasters, armed conflicts, governmental actions or other developments not tied directly to the securities markets. Should the Valuation Designee conclude that such events may have affected the accuracy of the last price of such securities reported on the local foreign market, the Valuation Designee may, pursuant to the Valuation Procedures, adjust the value of the local price to reflect the estimated impact on the price of such securities as a result of such events. In this instance, securities are generally categorized as Level 3 in the hierarchy. Additionally, certain foreign equity securities are also fair valued whenever the movement of a particular index exceeds certain thresholds. In such cases, the securities are fair valued by applying factors provided by a third-party vendor in accordance with the Valuation Procedures and are generally categorized as Level 2 in the hierarchy. No foreign equity securities held by the Fund as of October 31, 2023 were fair valued in such a manner.

If the principal market of certain foreign equity securities is closed in observance of a local foreign holiday, these securities are valued using the last closing price of regular trading on the relevant exchange and fair

# Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

valued by applying factors provided by a third-party vendor in accordance with the Valuation Procedures. These securities are generally categorized as Level 2 in the hierarchy. No securities held by the Fund as of October 31, 2023, were fair valued in such a manner.

Equity securities, rights and warrants, if applicable, are valued at the last quoted sales prices as of the close of regular trading on the relevant exchange on each valuation date. Securities that are not traded on the valuation date are valued at the mean of the last quoted bid and ask prices. Prices are normally taken from the principal market in which each security trades. These securities are generally categorized as Level 1 in the hierarchy.

Temporary cash investments acquired in excess of 60 days to maturity at the time of purchase are valued using the latest bid prices or using valuations based on a matrix system (which considers such factors as security prices, yields, maturities and ratings), both as furnished by independent pricing services. Temporary cash investments that mature in 60 days or less at the time of purchase ("Short-Term Investments") are valued using the amortized cost method of valuation, unless the use of such method would be inappropriate. The amortized cost method involves valuing a security at its cost on the date of purchase and thereafter assuming a constant amortization to maturity of the difference between such cost and the value on maturity date. Amortized cost approximates the current fair value of a security. Securities valued using the amortized cost method are not valued using quoted prices in an active market and are generally categorized as Level 2 in the hierarchy.

The information above is not intended to reflect an exhaustive list of the methodologies that may be used to value portfolio investments. The Valuation Procedures permit the use of a variety of valuation methodologies in connection with valuing portfolio investments. The methodology used for a specific type of investment may vary based on the market data available or other considerations. The methodologies summarized above may not represent the specific means by which portfolio investments are valued on any particular business day.

**(B) Income Taxes.** The Fund's policy is to comply with the requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"), applicable to regulated investment companies and to distribute all of its taxable income to the shareholders of the Fund within the allowable time limits.

The Manager evaluates the Fund's tax positions to determine if the tax positions taken meet the minimum recognition threshold in connection with accounting for uncertainties in income tax positions taken or expected to be taken for the purposes of measuring and recognizing tax liabilities in the financial statements. Recognition of tax benefits of an uncertain tax position is permitted only to the extent the position is "more likely than not" to be sustained assuming examination by taxing authorities. The Manager analyzed the Fund's tax positions taken on federal, state and local income tax returns for all open tax years (for up to three tax years) and has concluded that no provisions for federal, state and local income tax are required in the Fund's financial statements. The

Fund's federal, state and local income tax and federal excise tax returns for tax years for which the applicable statutes of limitations have not expired are subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service and state and local departments of revenue.

**(C) Foreign Taxes.** The Fund may be subject to foreign taxes on income and other transaction-based taxes imposed by certain countries in which it invests. A portion of the taxes on gains on investments or currency purchases/repatriation may be reclaimable. The Fund will accrue such taxes and reclaims as applicable, based upon its current interpretation of tax rules and regulations that exist in the markets in which it invests.

The Fund may be subject to taxation on realized capital gains, repatriation proceeds and other transaction-based taxes imposed by certain countries in which it invests. The Fund will accrue such taxes as applicable based upon its current interpretation of tax rules and regulations that exist in the market in which it invests. Capital gains taxes relating to positions still held are reflected as a liability in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities, as well as an adjustment to the Fund's net unrealized appreciation (depreciation). Taxes related to capital gains realized, if any, are reflected as part of net realized gain (loss) in the Statement of Operations. Changes in tax liabilities related to capital gains taxes on unrealized investment gains, if any, are reflected as part of the change in net unrealized appreciation (depreciation) on investments in the Statement of Operations. Transaction-based charges are generally assessed as a percentage of the transaction amount.

**(D) Dividends and Distributions to Shareholders.** Dividends and distributions are recorded on the ex-dividend date. The Fund intends to declare and pay dividends from net investment income and distributions from net realized capital and currency gains, if any, at least annually. Unless a shareholder elects otherwise, all dividends and distributions are reinvested at NAV in the same class of shares of the Fund. Dividends and distributions to shareholders are determined in accordance with federal income tax regulations and may differ from determinations using GAAP.

**(E) Security Transactions and Investment Income.** The Fund records security transactions on the trade date. Realized gains and losses on security transactions are determined using the identified cost method. Dividend income is recognized on the ex-dividend date, net of any foreign tax withheld at the source, and interest income is accrued as earned using the effective interest rate method. Distributions received from real estate investment trusts may be classified as dividends, capital gains and/or return of capital.

Investment income and realized and unrealized gains and losses on investments of the Fund are allocated pro rata to the separate classes of shares based upon their relative net assets on the date the income is earned or realized and unrealized gains and losses are incurred.

**(F) Expenses.** Expenses of the Trust are allocated to the individual Funds in proportion to the net assets of the respective Funds when the expenses are incurred, except where direct allocations of expenses can be made. Expenses (other than transfer agent expenses and fees incurred



under the shareholder services plans and/or the distribution plans further discussed in Note 3(B)) are allocated to separate classes of shares pro rata based upon their relative net assets on the date the expenses are incurred. The expenses borne by the Fund, including those of related parties to the Fund, are shown in the Statement of Operations.

**(G) Use of Estimates.** In preparing financial statements in conformity with GAAP, the Manager makes estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates and assumptions.

**(H) Foreign Currency Transactions.** The Fund's books and records are maintained in U.S. dollars. Prices of securities denominated in foreign currency amounts are translated into U.S. dollars at the mean between the buying and selling rates last quoted by any major U.S. bank at the following dates:

- (i) market value of investment securities, other assets and liabilities— at the valuation date; and
- (ii) purchases and sales of investment securities, income and expenses—at the date of such transactions.

The assets and liabilities that are denominated in foreign currency amounts are presented at the exchange rates and market values at the close of the period. The realized and unrealized changes in net assets arising from fluctuations in exchange rates and market prices of securities are not separately presented.

Net realized gain (loss) on foreign currency transactions represents net currency gains or losses realized as a result of differences between the amounts of securities sale proceeds or purchase cost, dividends, interest and withholding taxes as recorded on the Fund's books, and the U.S. dollar equivalent amount actually received or paid. Net currency gains or losses from valuing such foreign currency denominated assets and liabilities, other than investments at valuation date exchange rates, are reflected in unrealized foreign exchange gains or losses.

**(I) Securities Lending.** In order to realize additional income, the Fund may engage in securities lending, subject to the limitations set forth in the 1940 Act and relevant guidance by the staff of the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"). If the Fund engages in securities lending, the Fund will lend through its custodian, JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., ("JPMorgan"), acting as securities lending agent on behalf of the Fund. Under the current arrangement, JPMorgan will manage the Fund's collateral in accordance with the securities lending agency agreement between the Fund and JPMorgan, and indemnify the Fund against counterparty risk. The loans will be collateralized by cash (which may be invested in a money market fund) and/or non-cash collateral (which may include U.S. Treasury securities and/or U.S. government agency securities issued or guaranteed by the United States government or its agencies or instrumentalities) at least equal at all times to the market value of the securities loaned. Non-cash collateral held at year end is segregated and cannot be transferred by the Fund. The Fund bears the risk of delay in recovery of, or loss of rights in, the securities loaned. The Fund may also

record a realized gain or loss on securities deemed sold due to a borrower's inability to return securities on loan. The Fund bears the risk of any loss on investment of cash collateral. The Fund will receive compensation for lending its securities in the form of fees or it will retain a portion of interest earned on the investment of any cash collateral. The Fund will also continue to receive interest and dividends on the securities loaned and any gain or loss in the market price of the securities loaned that may occur during the term of the loan will be for the account of the Fund. Income earned from securities lending activities, if any, is reflected in the Statement of Operations. As of October 31, 2023, the Fund did not have any portfolio securities on loan.

**(J) Foreign Securities Risk.** The Fund may invest in foreign securities, which carry certain risks that are in addition to the usual risks inherent in domestic securities. Foreign regulatory regimes and securities markets can have less stringent investor protections and disclosure standards and less liquid trading markets than U.S. regulatory regimes and securities markets, and can experience political, social and economic developments that may affect the value of investments in foreign securities. These risks include those resulting from currency fluctuations, future adverse political or economic developments and possible imposition of currency exchange blockages or other foreign governmental laws or restrictions. Economic sanctions and other similar governmental actions or developments could, among other things, effectively restrict or eliminate the Fund's ability to purchase or sell certain foreign securities or groups of foreign securities, and thus may make the Fund's investments in such securities less liquid or more difficult to value. These risks are likely to be greater in emerging markets than in developed markets. The ability of issuers of debt securities held by the Fund to meet their obligations may be affected by, among other things, economic or political developments in a specific country, industry or region. For example, the Fund's portfolio has significant investments in the Asia-Pacific region. The development and stability of the Asia-Pacific region can be adversely affected by, among other regional and global developments, trade barriers, exchange controls and other measures imposed or negotiated by the countries with which they trade. Some Asia-Pacific countries can be characterized as emerging markets or newly industrialized and may experience more volatile economic cycles and less liquid markets than developed countries.

**(K) Indemnifications.** Under the Trust's organizational documents, its officers and trustees are indemnified against certain liabilities that may arise out of performance of their duties to the Trust. Additionally, in the normal course of business, the Fund enters into contracts with third-party service providers that contain a variety of representations and warranties and that may provide general indemnifications. The Fund's maximum exposure under these arrangements is unknown, as this would involve future claims that may be made against the Fund that have not yet occurred. The Manager believes that the risk of loss in connection with these potential indemnification obligations is remote. However, there can be no assurance that material liabilities related to such obligations will not arise in the future, which could adversely impact the Fund.

# Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

## Note 3—Fees and Related Party Transactions

**(A) Manager and Subadvisor.** New York Life Investments, a registered investment adviser and an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of New York Life Insurance Company ("New York Life"), serves as the Fund's Manager, pursuant to an Amended and Restated Management Agreement ("Management Agreement"). The Manager provides offices, conducts clerical, recordkeeping and bookkeeping services and keeps most of the financial and accounting records required to be maintained by the Fund. Except for the portion of salaries and expenses that are the responsibility of the Fund, the Manager pays the salaries and expenses of all personnel affiliated with the Fund and certain operational expenses of the Fund. The Fund reimburses New York Life Investments in an amount equal to the portion of the compensation of the Chief Compliance Officer attributable to the Fund. Candriam (the "Subadvisor"), a registered investment adviser and an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of New York Life, serves as the Subadvisor to the Fund and is responsible for the day-to-day portfolio management of the Fund. Pursuant to the terms of a Subadvisory Agreement ("Subadvisory Agreement") between New York Life Investments and Candriam, New York Life Investments pays for the services of the Subadvisor.

Pursuant to the Management Agreement, the Fund pays the Manager a monthly fee for the services performed and the facilities furnished at an annual rate of the Fund's average daily net assets as follows: 1.00% up to \$1 billion and 0.975% in excess of \$1 billion. During the year ended October 31, 2023, the effective management fee rate was 1.00% of the Fund's average daily net assets, exclusive of any applicable waivers/reimbursements.

New York Life Investments has contractually agreed to waive fees and/or reimburse expenses so that Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses (excluding taxes, interest, litigation, extraordinary expenses, brokerage and other transaction expenses relating to the purchase or sale of portfolio investments and acquired (underlying) fund fees and expenses) for Class A and Class I shares do not exceed 1.50% and 1.01%, respectively, of the Fund's average daily net assets. New York Life Investments will apply an equivalent waiver or reimbursement, in an equal number of basis points of the Class A shares waiver/reimbursement, to Investor Class and Class C. In addition, New York Life Investments has also contractually agreed to waive fees and/or reimburse expenses so that Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses (excluding taxes, interest, litigation, extraordinary expenses, brokerage and other transaction expenses relating to the purchase or sale of portfolio investments, and acquired (underlying) fund fees and expenses) for Class R6 shares do not exceed those of Class I. These agreements will remain in effect until February 28, 2024, and shall renew automatically for one-year terms unless New York Life Investments provides written notice of termination prior to the start of the next term or upon approval of the Board.

During the year ended October 31, 2023, New York Life Investments earned fees from the Fund in the amount of \$1,504,198 and waived fees and/or reimbursed expenses in the amount of \$346,253 and paid the Subadvisor fees of \$578,973.

JPMorgan provides sub-administration and sub-accounting services to the Fund pursuant to an agreement with New York Life Investments. These services include calculating the daily NAVs of the Fund, maintaining the general ledger and sub-ledger accounts for the calculation of the Fund's NAVs, and assisting New York Life Investments in conducting various aspects of the Fund's administrative operations. For providing these services to the Fund, JPMorgan is compensated by New York Life Investments.

Pursuant to an agreement between the Trust and New York Life Investments, New York Life Investments is responsible for providing or procuring certain regulatory reporting services for the Fund. The Fund will reimburse New York Life Investments for the actual costs incurred by New York Life Investments in connection with providing or procuring these services for the Fund.

**(B) Distribution and Service Fees.** The Trust, on behalf of the Fund, has entered into a distribution agreement with NYLIFE Distributors LLC (the "Distributor"), an affiliate of New York Life Investments. The Fund has adopted distribution plans (the "Plans") in accordance with the provisions of Rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act.

Pursuant to the Class A and Investor Class Plans, the Distributor receives a monthly fee from the Class A and Investor Class shares at an annual rate of 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Class A and Investor Class shares for distribution and/or service activities as designated by the Distributor. Pursuant to the Class C Plan, Class C shares pay the Distributor a monthly distribution fee at an annual rate of 0.75% of the average daily net assets of the Class C shares, along with a service fee at an annual rate of 0.25% of the average daily net assets of the Class C shares, for a total 12b-1 fee of 1.00%. Class I and Class R6 shares are not subject to a distribution and/or service fee.

The Plans provide that the distribution and service fees are payable to the Distributor regardless of the amounts actually expended by the Distributor for distribution of the Fund's shares and service activities.

**(C) Sales Charges.** The Fund was advised by the Distributor that the amount of initial sales charges retained on sales of Class A and Investor Class shares during the year ended October 31, 2023, were \$140 and \$71, respectively.

**(D) Transfer, Dividend Disbursing and Shareholder Servicing Agent.** NYLIM Service Company LLC, an affiliate of New York Life Investments, is the Fund's transfer, dividend disbursing and shareholder servicing agent pursuant to an agreement between NYLIM Service Company LLC and the Trust. NYLIM Service Company LLC has entered into an agreement with SS&C Global Investor & Distribution Solutions, Inc. ("SS&C"), pursuant to which SS&C performs certain transfer agent services on behalf of NYLIM Service Company LLC. New York Life Investments has contractually agreed to limit the transfer agency expenses charged to the Fund's share classes to a maximum of 0.35% of that share class's average daily net assets on an annual basis after deducting any applicable Fund or class-level expense reimbursement or small account fees. This agreement will remain in effect until February

28, 2024, and shall renew automatically for one-year terms unless New York Life Investments provides written notice of termination prior to the start of the next term or upon approval of the Board. During the year ended October 31, 2023, transfer agent expenses incurred by the Fund and any reimbursements, pursuant to the aforementioned Transfer Agency expense limitation agreement, were as follows:

| Class          | Expense  | Waived |
|----------------|----------|--------|
| Class A        | \$ 1,535 | \$—    |
| Investor Class | 599      | —      |
| Class C        | 233      | —      |
| Class I        | 15,363   | —      |
| Class R6       | 4,947    | —      |

**(E) Small Account Fee.** Shareholders with small accounts adversely impact the cost of providing transfer agency services. In an effort to reduce total transfer agency expenses, the Fund has implemented a small account fee on certain types of accounts. As described in the Fund's prospectus, certain shareholders with an account balance of less than \$1,000 (\$5,000 for Class A share accounts) are charged an annual per account fee of \$20 (assessed semi-annually), the proceeds from which offset transfer agent fees as reflected in the Statement of Operations. This small account fee will not apply to certain types of accounts as described further in the Fund's prospectus.

**(F) Capital.** As of October 31, 2023, New York Life and its affiliates beneficially held shares of the Fund with the values and percentages of net assets as follows:

|          |          |      |
|----------|----------|------|
| Class I  | \$24,345 | 0.1% |
| Class R6 | 24,334   | 0.0‡ |

‡ Less than one-tenth of a percent.

## Note 4-Federal Income Tax

As of October 31, 2023, the cost and unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of the Fund's investment portfolio, including applicable derivative contracts and other financial instruments, as determined on a federal income tax basis, were as follows:

|                           | Federal Tax Cost | Gross Unrealized Appreciation | Gross Unrealized Depreciation | Net Unrealized Appreciation/Depreciation |
|---------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Investments in Securities | \$157,681,526    | \$11,841,742                  | \$(20,062,482)                | \$(8,220,740)                            |

As of October 31, 2023, the components of accumulated gain (loss) on a tax basis were as follows:

| Ordinary Income | Accumulated Capital and Other Gain (Loss) | Other Temporary Differences | Unrealized Appreciation (Depreciation) | Total Accumulated Gain (Loss) |
|-----------------|---|-----------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| \$1,815,873     | \$(24,908,932)                            | \$—                         | \$(8,557,049)                          | \$(31,650,108)                |

The difference between book-basis and tax-basis unrealized appreciation (depreciation) is primarily due to wash sale adjustments and Passive Foreign Investment Company ("PFIC") adjustments.

The following table discloses the current year reclassifications between total distributable earnings (loss) and additional paid-in capital arising from permanent differences; net assets as of October 31, 2023 were not affected.

| Total Distributable Earnings (Loss) | Additional Paid-In Capital |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| \$3,065                             | \$(3,065)                  |

The reclassifications for the Fund are primarily due to excise taxes paid.

As of October 31, 2023, for federal income tax purposes, capital loss carryforwards of \$24,908,932, as shown in the table below, were available to the extent provided by the regulations to offset future realized gains of the Fund. Accordingly, no capital gains distributions are expected to be paid to shareholders until net gains have been realized in excess of such amounts.

| Capital Loss Available Through | Short-Term Capital Loss Amounts (000's) | Long-Term Capital Loss Amounts (000's) |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Unlimited                      | \$22,758                                | \$2,151                                |

During the years ended October 31, 2023 and October 31, 2022, the tax character of distributions paid as reflected in the Statements of Changes in Net Assets was as follows:

|                          | 2023        | 2022      |
|--------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Distributions paid from: |             |           |
| Ordinary Income          | \$1,299,714 | \$802,323 |

## Note 5—Custodian

JPMorgan is the custodian of cash and securities held by the Fund. Custodial fees are charged to the Fund based on the Fund's net assets and/or the market value of securities held by the Fund and the number of certain transactions incurred by the Fund.

## Note 6—Line of Credit

The Fund and certain other funds managed by New York Life Investments maintain a line of credit with a syndicate of banks in order to secure a source of funds for temporary purposes to meet unanticipated or excessive redemption requests.

# Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Effective July 25, 2023, under the credit agreement (the "Credit Agreement"), the aggregate commitment amount is \$600,000,000 with an additional uncommitted amount of \$100,000,000. The commitment fee is an annual rate of 0.15% of the average commitment amount payable quarterly, regardless of usage, to JPMorgan, who serves as the agent to the syndicate. The commitment fee is allocated among the Fund and certain other funds managed by New York Life Investments based upon their respective net assets and other factors. Interest on any revolving credit loan is charged based upon the Federal Funds Rate, Daily Simple Secured Overnight Financing Rate ("SOFR") + 0.10%, or the Overnight Bank Funding Rate, whichever is higher. The Credit Agreement expires on July 23, 2024, although the Fund, certain other funds managed by New York Life Investments and the syndicate of banks may renew the Credit Agreement for an additional year on the same or different terms or enter into a credit agreement with a different syndicate of banks. Prior to July 25, 2023, the aggregate commitment amount and the commitment fee were the same as those under the current Credit Agreement. During the year ended October 31, 2023, there were no borrowings made or outstanding with respect to the Fund under the Credit Agreement.

## Note 7—Interfund Lending Program

Pursuant to an exemptive order issued by the SEC, the Fund, along with certain other funds managed by New York Life Investments, may participate in an interfund lending program. The interfund lending program provides an alternative credit facility that permits the Fund and certain other funds managed by New York Life Investments to lend or borrow money for temporary purposes directly to or from one another, subject to the conditions of the exemptive order. During the year ended October 31, 2023, there were no interfund loans made or outstanding with respect to the Fund.

## Note 8—Purchases and Sales of Securities (in 000's)

During the year ended October 31, 2023, purchases and sales of securities, other than short-term securities, were \$132,895 and \$86,061, respectively.

The Fund may purchase securities from or sell securities to other portfolios managed by the Subadvisor. These interportfolio transactions are primarily used for cash management purposes and are made pursuant to Rule 17a-7 under the 1940 Act. During the year ended October 31, 2023, such purchases were \$22,996.

## Note 9—Capital Share Transactions

Transactions in capital shares for the years ended October 31, 2023 and October 31, 2022, were as follows:

| Class A   | Shares   | Amount       |
|---|----------|--------------|
| Year ended October 31, 2023:                                    |          |              |
| Shares sold   | 16,378   | \$ 149,198   |
| Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions  | 1,938    | 17,148       |
| Shares redeemed   | (57,528) | (516,759)    |
| Net increase (decrease) in shares outstanding before conversion | (39,212) | (350,413)    |
| Shares converted into Class A (See Note 1)                      | 6,792    | 60,925       |
| Net increase (decrease)   | (32,420) | \$ (289,488) |
| Year ended October 31, 2022:                                    |          |              |
| Shares sold   | 103,556  | \$ 1,141,430 |
| Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions  | 1,080    | 13,154       |
| Shares redeemed   | (78,458) | (865,939)    |
| Net increase (decrease) in shares outstanding before conversion | 26,178   | 288,645      |
| Shares converted into Class A (See Note 1)                      | 4,437    | 49,329       |
| Net increase (decrease)   | 30,615   | \$ 337,974   |

| Investor Class  | Shares   | Amount      |
|---|----------|-------------|
| Year ended October 31, 2023:                                    |          |             |
| Shares sold   | 4,509    | \$ 40,548   |
| Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions  | 189      | 1,668       |
| Shares redeemed   | (11,260) | (101,809)   |
| Net increase (decrease) in shares outstanding before conversion | (6,562)  | (59,593)    |
| Shares converted into Investor Class (See Note 1)               | 1,179    | 10,594      |
| Shares converted from Investor Class (See Note 1)               | (2,161)  | (19,757)    |
| Net increase (decrease)   | (7,544)  | \$ (68,756) |
| Year ended October 31, 2022:                                    |          |             |
| Shares sold   | 5,012    | \$ 55,702   |
| Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions  | 183      | 2,228       |
| Shares redeemed   | (10,689) | (111,295)   |
| Net increase (decrease) in shares outstanding before conversion | (5,494)  | (53,365)    |
| Shares converted into Investor Class (See Note 1)               | 182      | 1,857       |
| Shares converted from Investor Class (See Note 1)               | (3,454)  | (40,618)    |
| Net increase (decrease)   | (8,766)  | \$ (92,126) |

| <b>Class C</b>  | <b>Shares</b> | <b>Amount</b> |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Year ended October 31, 2023:                                    |               |               |
| Shares sold   | 703           | \$ 6,000      |
| Shares redeemed   | (7,078)       | (61,830)      |
| Net increase (decrease) in shares outstanding before conversion | (6,375)       | (55,830)      |
| Shares converted from Class C (See Note 1)                      | (2,527)       | (22,213)      |
| Net increase (decrease)   | (8,902)       | \$ (78,043)   |
| Year ended October 31, 2022:                                    |               |               |
| Shares sold   | 2,570         | \$ 28,268     |
| Shares redeemed   | (1,811)       | (18,804)      |
| Net increase (decrease) in shares outstanding before conversion | 759           | 9,464         |
| Shares converted from Class C (See Note 1)                      | (186)         | (1,857)       |
| Net increase (decrease)   | 573           | \$ 7,607      |

| <b>Class I</b>   | <b>Shares</b> | <b>Amount</b> |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Year ended October 31, 2023:                                   |               |               |
| Shares sold  | 1,673,240     | \$ 15,800,238 |
| Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions | 14,494        | 129,432       |
| Shares redeemed  | (840,143)     | (7,263,043)   |
| Net increase (decrease)  | 847,591       | \$ 8,666,627  |
| Year ended October 31, 2022:                                   |               |               |
| Shares sold  | 1,475,630     | \$ 15,043,035 |
| Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions | 2,077         | 25,483        |
| Shares redeemed  | (273,007)     | (2,590,693)   |
| Net increase (decrease)  | 1,204,700     | \$ 12,477,825 |

| <b>Class R6</b>   | <b>Shares</b> | <b>Amount</b> |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Year ended October 31, 2023:                                    |               |               |
| Shares sold   | 4,914,202     | \$ 44,894,807 |
| Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions  | 98,069        | 869,873       |
| Shares redeemed   | (1,334,945)   | (11,990,381)  |
| Net increase (decrease) in shares outstanding before conversion | 3,677,326     | 33,774,299    |
| Shares converted from Class R6 (See Note 1)                     | (3,328)       | (29,549)      |
| Net increase (decrease)   | 3,673,998     | \$ 33,744,750 |
| Year ended October 31, 2022:                                    |               |               |
| Shares sold   | 5,207,580     | \$ 53,455,404 |
| Shares issued to shareholders in reinvestment of distributions  | 61,678        | 751,850       |
| Shares redeemed   | (521,083)     | (5,259,492)   |
| Net increase (decrease) in shares outstanding before conversion | 4,748,175     | 48,947,762    |
| Shares converted from Class R6 (See Note 1)                     | (988)         | (8,711)       |
| Net increase (decrease)   | 4,747,187     | \$ 48,939,051 |

## Note 10—Other Matters

As of the date of this report, the Fund faces a heightened level of risk associated with current uncertainty, volatility and state of economies, financial markets, rising interest rates, and labor and health conditions around the world. Events such as war, acts of terrorism, recessions, rapid inflation, the imposition of international sanctions, earthquakes, hurricanes, epidemics and pandemics and other unforeseen natural or human disasters may have broad adverse social, political and economic effects on the global economy, which could negatively impact the value of the Fund's investments. Developments that disrupt global economies and financial markets may magnify factors that affect the Fund's performance.

## Note 11—Subsequent Events

In connection with the preparation of the financial statements of the Fund as of and for the year ended October 31, 2023, events and transactions subsequent to October 31, 2023, through the date the financial statements were issued, have been evaluated by the Manager for possible adjustment and/or disclosure. No subsequent events requiring financial statement adjustment or disclosure have been identified.

# Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Shareholders of the Fund and Board of Trustees  
MainStay Funds Trust:

## ***Opinion on the Financial Statements***

We have audited the accompanying statement of assets and liabilities of MainStay Candriam Emerging Markets Equity Fund (the Fund), one of the funds constituting MainStay Funds Trust, including the portfolio of investments, as of October 31, 2023, the related statement of operations for the year then ended, the statements of changes in net assets for each of the years in the two-year period then ended, and the related notes (collectively, the financial statements) and the financial highlights for each of the years in the five-year period then ended. In our opinion, the financial statements and financial highlights present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Fund as of October 31, 2023, the results of its operations for the year then ended, the changes in its net assets for each of the years in the two-year period then ended, and the financial highlights for each of the years in the five-year period then ended, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

## ***Basis for Opinion***

These financial statements and financial highlights are the responsibility of the Fund's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and financial highlights based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB) and are required to be independent with respect to the Fund in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements and financial highlights are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements and financial highlights, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements and financial highlights. Such procedures also included confirmation of securities owned as of October 31, 2023, by correspondence with the custodian and brokers; when replies were not received from brokers, we performed other auditing procedures. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements and financial highlights. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

**KPMG LLP**

We have served as the auditor of one or more New York Life Investment Management investment companies since 2003.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

December 22, 2023



## Federal Income Tax Information

### (Unaudited)

The Fund is required under the Internal Revenue Code to advise shareholders in a written statement as to the federal tax status of dividends paid by the Fund during such fiscal years.

For the fiscal year ended October 31, 2023, the Fund designated approximately \$1,570,494 under the Internal Revenue Code as qualified dividend income eligible for reduced tax rates.

The dividends paid by the Fund during the fiscal year ended October 31, 2023 should be multiplied by 1.70% to arrive at the amount eligible for the corporate dividend-received deduction.

In accordance with federal tax law, the Fund elected to provide each shareholder with their portion of the Fund's foreign taxes paid and the income sourced from foreign countries. Accordingly, the Fund made the following designations regarding its fiscal year ended October 31, 2023:

- the total amount of taxes credited to foreign countries was \$436,340.
- the total amount of income sourced from foreign countries was \$3,710,141.

In February 2024, shareholders will receive an IRS Form 1099-DIV or substitute Form 1099, which will show the federal tax status of the distributions received by shareholders in calendar year 2023. The amounts that will be reported on such 1099-DIV or substitute Form 1099 will be the amounts you are to use on your federal income tax return and will differ from the amounts which we must report for the Fund's fiscal year ended October 31, 2023.

## Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures and Proxy Voting Record

The Fund is required to file with the SEC its proxy voting record for the 12-month period ending June 30 on Form N-PX. A description of the policies and procedures that are used to vote proxies relating to portfolio securities of the Fund is available free of charge upon request by calling 800-624-6782 or visiting the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). The most recent Form N-PX or proxy voting record is available free of charge upon request by calling 800-624-6782; visiting [newyorklifeinvestments.com](http://newyorklifeinvestments.com); or visiting the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

## Shareholder Reports and Quarterly Portfolio Disclosure

The Fund is required to file its complete schedule of portfolio holdings with the SEC 60 days after its first and third fiscal quarter on Form N-PORT. The Fund's holdings report is available free of charge upon request by calling New York Life Investments at 800-624-6782.

# Board of Trustees and Officers (Unaudited)

The Trustees and officers of the Fund are listed below. The Board oversees the MainStay Group of Funds (which consists of MainStay Funds and MainStay Funds Trust), MainStay VP Funds Trust, MainStay MacKay DefinedTerm Municipal Opportunities Fund, MainStay CBRE Global Infrastructure Megatrends Term Fund, the Manager and the Subadvisors, and elects the officers of the Funds who are responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Fund. Information pertaining to the Trustees and officers is set forth below. Each Trustee serves until his or her successor is elected and qualified or until his or her resignation, death or

removal. Under the Board's retirement policy, unless an exception is made, a Trustee must tender his or her resignation by the end of the calendar year during which he or she reaches the age of 75. Officers are elected annually by the Board. The business address of each Trustee and officer listed below is 51 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10010. A majority of the Trustees are not "interested persons" (as defined by the 1940 Act and rules adopted by the SEC thereunder) of the Fund ("Independent Trustees").

|                           | <b>Name and Year of Birth</b>    | <b>Term of Office, Position(s) Held and Length of Service</b>                                | <b>Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years</b>  | <b>Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee</b> | <b>Other Directorships Held by Trustee</b>  |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| <b>Interested Trustee</b> | <b>Naïm Abou-Jaoudé*</b><br>1966 | <b>MainStay Funds:</b> Trustee since 2023<br><b>MainStay Funds Trust:</b> Trustee since 2023 | Chief Executive Officer of New York Life Investment Management LLC (since 2023). Chief Executive Officer of Candriam (an affiliate of New York Life Investment Management LLC) (2007 to 2023). | 81  | <i>MainStay VP Funds Trust:</i> Trustee since 2023 (31 portfolios); <i>MainStay MacKay DefinedTerm Municipal Opportunities Fund:</i> Trustee since 2023; <i>MainStay CBRE Global Infrastructure Megatrends Term Fund:</i> Trustee since 2023; and <i>New York Life Investment Management International (Chair)</i> since 2015 |

\* This Trustee is considered to be an "interested person" of the MainStay Group of Funds, MainStay VP Funds Trust, MainStay CBRE Global Infrastructure Megatrends Term Fund and MainStay MacKay DefinedTerm Municipal Opportunities Fund, within the meaning of the 1940 Act because of his affiliation with New York Life Investment Management LLC and Candriam, as described in detail above in the column entitled "Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years."



## Independent Trustees

| Name and Year of Birth         | Term of Office, Position(s) Held and Length of Service   | Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years   | Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee | Other Directorships Held by Trustee   |
|--------------------------------|--|--|--|---|
| <b>David H. Chow</b><br>1957   | <p><b>MainStay Funds:</b> Trustee since January 2016, Advisory Board Member (June 2015 to December 2015);</p> <p><b>MainStay Funds Trust:</b> Trustee since January 2016, Advisory Board Member (June 2015 to December 2015)</p>   | Founder and CEO, DanCourt Management, LLC (since 1999)   | 81   | <p><i>MainStay VP Funds Trust:</i> Trustee since January 2016, Advisory Board Member (June 2015 to December 2015) (31 portfolios);</p> <p><i>MainStay MacKay DefinedTerm Municipal Opportunities Fund:</i> Trustee since January 2016, Advisory Board Member (June 2015 to December 2015);</p> <p><i>MainStay CBRE Global Infrastructure Megatrends Term Fund:</i> Trustee since 2021;</p> <p><i>VanEck Vectors Group of Exchange-Traded Funds:</i> Trustee since 2006 and Independent Chairman of the Board of Trustees from 2008 to 2022 (57 portfolios); and</p> <p><i>Berea College of Kentucky:</i> Trustee since 2009, Chair of the Investment Committee since 2018</p>       |
| <b>Karen Hammond</b><br>1956   | <p><b>MainStay Funds:</b> Trustee since December 2021, Advisory Board Member (June 2021 to December 2021);</p> <p><b>MainStay Funds Trust:</b> Trustee since December 2021, Advisory Board Member (June 2021 to December 2021)</p> | Retired, Managing Director, Devonshire Investors (2007 to 2013); Senior Vice President, Fidelity Management & Research Co. (2005 to 2007); Senior Vice President and Corporate Treasurer, FMR Corp. (2003 to 2005); Chief Operating Officer, Fidelity Investments Japan (2001 to 2003) | 81   | <p><i>MainStay VP Funds Trust:</i> Trustee since December 2021, Advisory Board Member (June 2021 to December 2021) (31 portfolios);</p> <p><i>MainStay MacKay DefinedTerm Municipal Opportunities Fund:</i> Trustee since December 2021, Advisory Board Member (June 2021 to December 2021);</p> <p><i>MainStay CBRE Global Infrastructure Megatrends Term Fund:</i> Trustee since December 2021, Advisory Board Member (June 2021 to December 2021);</p> <p><i>Two Harbors Investment Corp.:</i> Director since 2018;</p> <p><i>Rhode Island State Investment Commission:</i> Member since 2017; and</p> <p><i>Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rhode Island:</i> Director since 2019</p> |
| <b>Susan B. Kerley</b><br>1951 | <p><b>MainStay Funds:</b> Chair since January 2017 and Trustee since 2007;</p> <p><b>MainStay Funds Trust:</b> Chair since January 2017 and Trustee since 1990***</p>  | President, Strategic Management Advisors LLC (since 1990)  | 81   | <p><i>MainStay VP Funds Trust:</i> Chair since January 2017 and Trustee since 2007 (31 portfolios)**;</p> <p><i>MainStay MacKay DefinedTerm Municipal Opportunities Fund:</i> Chair since January 2017 and Trustee since 2011;</p> <p><i>MainStay CBRE Global Infrastructure Megatrends Term Fund:</i> Trustee since June 2021; and</p> <p><i>Legg Mason Partners Funds:</i> Trustee since 1991 (45 portfolios)</p>   |

# Board of Trustees and Officers (Unaudited) (continued)

|                      | Name and Year of Birth             | Term of Office, Position(s) Held and Length of Service  | Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years   | Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen by Trustee | Other Directorships Held by Trustee  |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Independent Trustees | <b>Alan R. Latshaw</b><br>1951     | <b>MainStay Funds:</b> Trustee since 2006;<br><b>MainStay Funds Trust:</b> Trustee since 2007***  | Retired; Partner, Ernst & Young LLP (2002 to 2003); Partner, Arthur Andersen LLP (1989 to 2002); Consultant to the MainStay Funds Audit and Compliance Committee (2004 to 2006)  | 81   | <i>MainStay VP Funds Trust:</i> Trustee since 2007 (31 portfolios)**;<br><i>MainStay MacKay DefinedTerm Municipal Opportunities Fund:</i> Trustee since 2011; and<br><i>MainStay CBRE Global Infrastructure Megatrends Term Fund:</i> Trustee since June 2021  |
|                      | <b>Jacques P. Perold</b><br>1958   | <b>MainStay Funds:</b> Trustee since January 2016, Advisory Board Member (June 2015 to December 2015);<br><b>MainStay Funds Trust:</b> Trustee since January 2016, Advisory Board Member (June 2015 to December 2015) | Founder and Chief Executive Officer, CapShift Advisors LLC (since 2018); President, Fidelity Management & Research Company (2009 to 2014); President and Chief Investment Officer, Geode Capital Management, LLC (2001 to 2009)  | 81   | <i>MainStay VP Funds Trust:</i> Trustee since January 2016, Advisory Board Member (June 2015 to December 2015) (31 portfolios);<br><i>MainStay MacKay DefinedTerm Municipal Opportunities Fund:</i> Trustee since January 2016, Advisory Board Member (June 2015 to December 2015);<br><i>MainStay CBRE Global Infrastructure Megatrends Term Fund:</i> Trustee since June 2021;<br><i>Allstate Corporation:</i> Director since 2015; and<br><i>MSCI Inc.:</i> Director since 2017 |
|                      | <b>Richard S. Trutanic</b><br>1952 | <b>MainStay Funds:</b> Trustee since 1994;<br><b>MainStay Funds Trust:</b> Trustee since 2007***  | Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Somerset & Company (financial advisory firm) (since 2004); Managing Director, The Carlyle Group (private investment firm) (2002 to 2004); Senior Managing Director, Partner and Board Member, Groupe Arnault S.A. (private investment firm) (1999 to 2002) | 81   | <i>MainStay VP Funds Trust:</i> Trustee since 2007 (31 portfolios)**;<br><i>MainStay MacKay DefinedTerm Municipal Opportunities Fund:</i> Trustee since 2011; and<br><i>MainStay CBRE Global Infrastructure Megatrends Term Fund:</i> Trustee since June 2021  |

\*\* Includes prior service as a Director of MainStay VP Series Fund, Inc., the predecessor to MainStay VP Funds Trust.

\*\*\* Includes prior service as a Director/Trustee of certain predecessor entities to MainStay Funds Trust.

## Officers of the Trust (Who are not Trustees)\*

| Name and Year of Birth             | Position(s) Held and Length of Service   | Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years   |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>Kirk C. Lehneis</b><br>1974     | President, MainStay Funds, MainStay Funds Trust (since 2017)   | Chief Operating Officer and Senior Managing Director (since 2016), New York Life Investment Management LLC and New York Life Investment Management Holdings LLC; Member of the Board of Managers (since 2017) and Senior Managing Director (since 2018), NYLIFE Distributors LLC; Chairman of the Board and Senior Managing Director, NYLIM Service Company LLC (since 2017); Trustee, President and Principal Executive Officer of IndexIQ Trust, IndexIQ ETF Trust and IndexIQ Active ETF Trust (since 2018); President, MainStay CBRE Global Infrastructure Megatrends Term Fund (since 2021), MainStay MacKay DefinedTerm Municipal Opportunities Fund and MainStay VP Funds Trust (since 2017)**; Senior Managing Director, Global Product Development (2015 to 2016); Managing Director, Product Development (2010 to 2015), New York Life Investment Management LLC |
| <b>Jack R. Benintende</b><br>1964  | Treasurer and Principal Financial and Accounting Officer, MainStay Funds (since 2007), MainStay Funds Trust (since 2009) | Managing Director, New York Life Investment Management LLC (since 2007); Treasurer and Principal Financial and Accounting Officer, MainStay CBRE Global Infrastructure Megatrends Term Fund (since 2021), MainStay MacKay DefinedTerm Municipal Opportunities Fund (since 2011) and MainStay VP Funds Trust (since 2007)**; and Assistant Treasurer, New York Life Investment Management Holdings LLC (2008 to 2012)   |
| <b>J. Kevin Gao</b><br>1967        | Secretary and Chief Legal Officer, MainStay Funds and MainStay Funds Trust (since 2010)                                  | Managing Director and Associate General Counsel, New York Life Investment Management LLC (since 2010); Secretary and Chief Legal Officer, MainStay CBRE Global Infrastructure Megatrends Term Fund (since 2021), MainStay MacKay DefinedTerm Municipal Opportunities Fund (since 2011) and MainStay VP Funds Trust (since 2010)**  |
| <b>Kevin M. Gleason</b><br>1967    | Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer, MainStay Funds and MainStay Funds Trust (since June 2022)                   | Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer, IndexIQ Trust, IndexIQ ETF Trust and Index IQ Active ETF Trust (since June 2022); Vice President and Chief Compliance Officer, MainStay CBRE Global Infrastructure Megatrends Term Fund, MainStay VP Funds Trust and MainStay MacKay DefinedTerm Municipal Opportunities Fund (since June 2022); Senior Vice President, Voya Investment Management and Chief Compliance Officer, Voya Family of Funds (2012 to 2022)  |
| <b>Scott T. Harrington</b><br>1959 | Vice President—Administration, MainStay Funds (since 2005), MainStay Funds Trust (since 2009)                            | Managing Director, New York Life Investment Management LLC (including predecessor advisory organizations) (since 2000); Member of the Board of Directors, New York Life Trust Company (since 2009); Vice President—Administration, MainStay CBRE Global Infrastructure Megatrends Term Fund (since 2021), MainStay MacKay DefinedTerm Municipal Opportunities Fund (since 2011) and MainStay VP Funds Trust (since 2005)**   |

\* The officers listed above are considered to be “interested persons” of the MainStay Group of Funds, MainStay VP Funds Trust, MainStay CBRE Global Infrastructure Megatrends Term Fund and MainStay MacKay DefinedTerm Municipal Opportunities Fund within the meaning of the 1940 Act because of their affiliation with the MainStay Group of Funds, New York Life Insurance Company and/or its affiliates, including New York Life Investment Management LLC, New York Life Insurance Company, NYLIM Service Company LLC, NYLIFE Securities LLC and/or NYLIFE Distributors LLC, as described in detail in the column captioned “Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years.” Officers are elected annually by the Board.

\*\* Includes prior service as an Officer of MainStay VP Series Fund, Inc., the predecessor to MainStay VP Funds Trust.

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# MainStay Funds

## Equity

### U.S. Equity

MainStay Epoch U.S. Equity Yield Fund  
MainStay Fiera SMID Growth Fund  
MainStay PineStone U.S. Equity Fund  
MainStay S&P 500 Index Fund  
MainStay Winslow Large Cap Growth Fund  
MainStay WMC Enduring Capital Fund  
MainStay WMC Growth Fund  
MainStay WMC Small Companies Fund  
MainStay WMC Value Fund

### International Equity

MainStay Epoch International Choice Fund  
MainStay PineStone International Equity Fund  
MainStay WMC International Research Equity Fund

### Emerging Markets Equity

MainStay Candriam Emerging Markets Equity Fund

### Global Equity

MainStay Epoch Capital Growth Fund  
MainStay Epoch Global Equity Yield Fund  
MainStay PineStone Global Equity Fund

## Fixed Income

### Taxable Income

MainStay Candriam Emerging Markets Debt Fund  
MainStay Floating Rate Fund  
MainStay MacKay High Yield Corporate Bond Fund  
MainStay MacKay Short Duration High Yield Fund  
MainStay MacKay Strategic Bond Fund  
MainStay MacKay Total Return Bond Fund  
MainStay MacKay U.S. Infrastructure Bond Fund  
MainStay Short Term Bond Fund

### Tax-Exempt Income

MainStay MacKay California Tax Free Opportunities Fund<sup>1</sup>  
MainStay MacKay High Yield Municipal Bond Fund  
MainStay MacKay New York Tax Free Opportunities Fund<sup>2</sup>  
MainStay MacKay Short Term Municipal Fund  
MainStay MacKay Strategic Municipal Allocation Fund  
MainStay MacKay Tax Free Bond Fund

### Money Market

MainStay Money Market Fund

### Mixed Asset

MainStay Balanced Fund  
MainStay Income Builder Fund  
MainStay MacKay Convertible Fund

### Speciality

MainStay CBRE Global Infrastructure Fund  
MainStay CBRE Real Estate Fund  
MainStay Cushing MLP Premier Fund

### Asset Allocation

MainStay Conservative Allocation Fund  
MainStay Conservative ETF Allocation Fund  
MainStay Defensive ETF Allocation Fund  
MainStay Equity Allocation Fund  
MainStay Equity ETF Allocation Fund  
MainStay ESG Multi-Asset Allocation Fund  
MainStay Growth Allocation Fund  
MainStay Growth ETF Allocation Fund  
MainStay Moderate Allocation Fund  
MainStay Moderate ETF Allocation Fund

## Manager

### New York Life Investment Management LLC

New York, New York

### Subadvisors

#### Candriam<sup>3</sup>

Strassen, Luxembourg

#### CBRE Investment Management Listed Real Assets LLC

Radnor, Pennsylvania

#### Cushing Asset Management, LP

Dallas, Texas

#### Epoch Investment Partners, Inc.

New York, New York

#### Fiera Capital Inc.

New York, New York

#### IndexIQ Advisors LLC<sup>3</sup>

New York, New York

#### MacKay Shields LLC<sup>3</sup>

New York, New York

#### NYL Investors LLC<sup>3</sup>

New York, New York

### PineStone Asset Management Inc.

Montreal, Québec

### Wellington Management Company LLP

Boston, Massachusetts

### Winslow Capital Management, LLC

Minneapolis, Minnesota

## Legal Counsel

### Dechert LLP

Washington, District of Columbia

## Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

### KPMG LLP

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

## Distributor

### NYLIFE Distributors LLC<sup>3</sup>

Jersey City, New Jersey

## Custodian

### JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.

New York, New York

1. This Fund is registered for sale in AZ, CA, NV, OR, TX, UT, WA and MI (Class A and Class I shares only), and CO, FL, GA, HI, ID, MA, MD, NH, NJ and NY (Class I shares only).
2. This Fund is registered for sale in CA, CT, DE, FL, MA, NJ, NY and VT.
3. An affiliate of New York Life Investment Management LLC.

**For more information**

800-624-6782

[newyorklifeinvestments.com](http://newyorklifeinvestments.com)

"New York Life Investments" is both a service mark, and the common trade name, of certain investment advisors affiliated with New York Life Insurance Company. The MainStay Funds<sup>®</sup> are managed by New York Life Investment Management LLC and distributed by NYLIFE Distributors LLC, 30 Hudson Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302, a wholly owned subsidiary of New York Life Insurance Company. NYLIFE Distributors LLC is a Member FINRA/SIPC.

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