Your GuideStone Financial Resources

Started in 1918 to provide financial relief to aging ministers and their widows, GuideStone is one of the largest faith-based entities to offer financial services for church and denominational workers. Formerly known to Southern Baptists as the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, GuideStone’s mission to support aging ministers and their widows and orphans began with a $100,000 gift from the Sunday School Board (now LifeWay Christian Resources) and almost $1,000,000 in gifts from John D. Rockefeller and his son.

It is supported by the fees earned on its services and the growth of its investments.

In 2007, GuideStone voluntarily stopped receiving Cooperative Program funds in order to release those funds to enhance the spread of the Gospel through other SBC ministries. Prior to then, 100 percent of the Cooperative Program funds received by GuideStone was used to support its Mission:Dignity ministry that provides relief support for retired pastors, denominational workers, and their widows who live in financial need.

Formerly called “Adopt an Annuitant,” GuideStone’s Mission:Dignity provides assistance for more than seventeen hundred retired ministers, denominational workers, or their widows living on meager incomes. Many of these individuals once served small, often rural, churches which were unable to provide retirement support for them during their years of ministry. Operating largely by donations that GuideStone receives, manages, and disperses, more than $7.1 million was given to these deserving individuals in the last recorded year.

What financial services are offered by GuideStone Financial Resources? First, GuideStone provides several retirement plans for churches, Christian...
organizations, and individuals desiring to set up and maintain a retirement plan. These include employer-sponsored plans, deferred compensation plans, and even individual retirement plans. Originally only marketed to pastors and their families, over the years these retirement plans eventually were offered to a wide array of Christian organizations and the individuals connected to them.

Additionally, GuideStone offers opportunities for non-retirement investments directly through GuideStone or through financial advisors. GuideStone also offers a wide variety of insurance plans. These include various levels of health plans. Group medical plans are provided for any group that possesses two or more employees. Since insurance plays such a critical role in contemporary society, other coverage options beside medical insurance include dental, life, disability, property, and casualty insurance.

Furthermore, GuideStone provides financial services geared to specific financial needs of organizations and individuals. These include executive benefit services and actuarial services.


A controlled affiliate of GuideStone Financial Resources, GuideStone Capital Management, LLC, is the investment advisor for GuideStone Funds. At the end of 2016 this affiliate managed $13 billion in assets. In its advisory role GuideStone Capital Management currently serves more than 800 plan sponsors and more than 220,000 participants. Investments are not permissible in any company that is publicly recognized (as determined by GuideStone) as being in the liquor, tobacco, gambling, pornography, or abortion industries, or any company whose products, services, or activities are publicly recognized as being incompatible with the moral and ethical posture of GuideStone.

In recent years GuideStone Funds has won numerous national awards for outstanding investment performance from industry ranking firms like Lipper, fi360, and Morningstar. GuideStone Funds in March 2012 became the first ever Christian-based, socially screened mutual fund family to win the prestigious Lipper trophy for Best Overall Small Fund Group in the US, ranking 31 out of 182 eligible companies with up to $40 billion in assets. Additionally, individual GuideStone Funds were honored in 2013, 2014, and 2015 by the Lipper organization.

To accomplish its mission GuideStone Financial Resources develops its products and services in consultation with churches, state conventions, representatives from the other national entities, and the experience and expertise of the personnel from the six Southern Baptist theological seminaries. GuideStone maintains a long tradition of cooperating and working alongside other Convention entities, and encourages its employees to donate time and resources to Southern Baptist ministries all around the world. The spirit of these initiatives demonstrates the long history of cooperation in Southern Baptist life. Indeed this principle of cooperation is one of the eighteen spiritual principles enshrined in The Baptist Faith and Message.