

Elm Wealth Q1 2026 Investor Letter

for

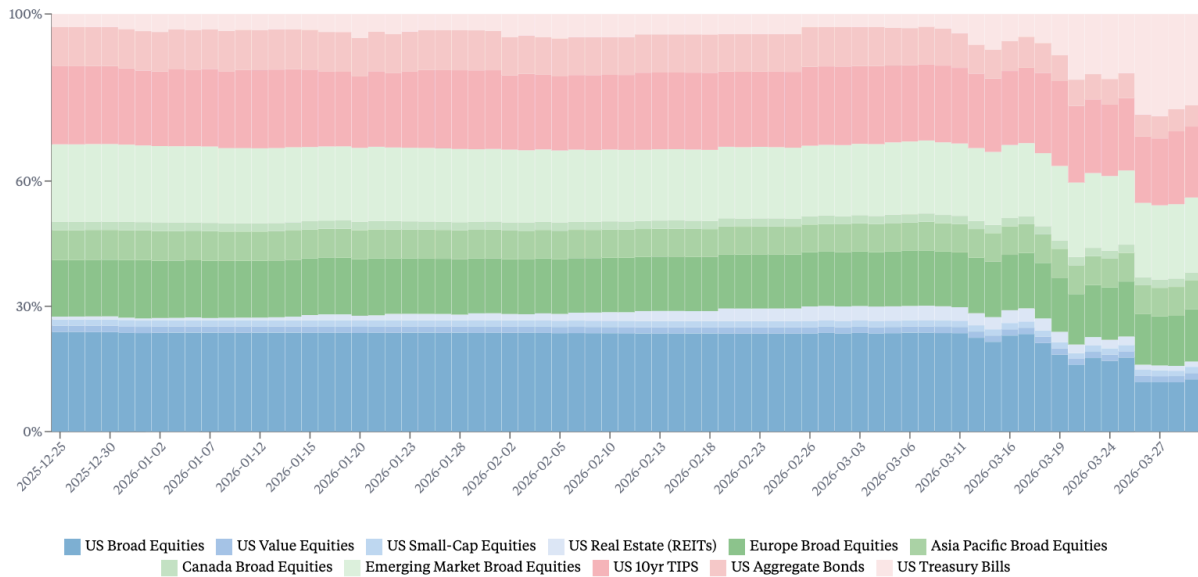
Elm Market Navigator (ELM) ETF Investors¹

Helping you and your families comfortably and efficiently maintain a significant long-term equity allocation

Q1 Review and Asset Allocation

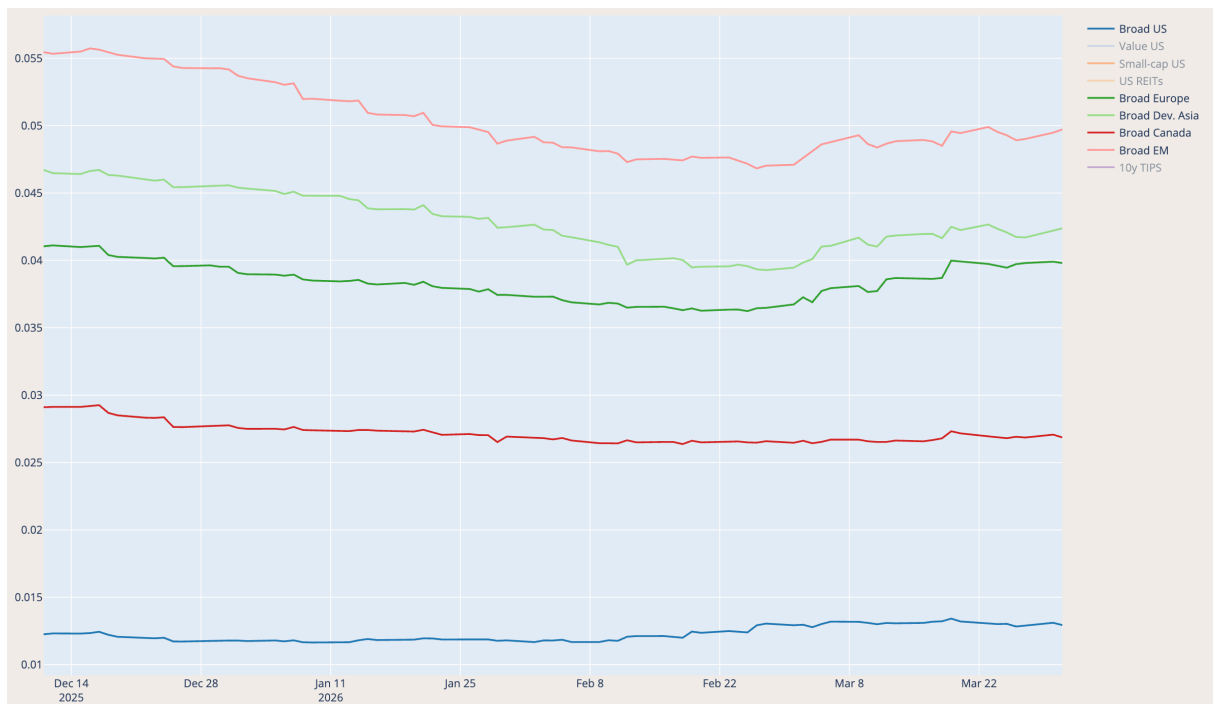
Q1 was very quiet on the asset allocation front until the last couple weeks of the quarter. Risk premia were little changed and major market risk levels remained “low risk” - using our 1-year momentum proxy - until March 12th when the US risk level started transitioning from a low to high state. As of quarter-end, the US risk level remained in the transition zone, around neutral. Non-US markets remained in the low risk state through quarter end, and require a drop of 2% (Europe) to 10% (Emerging Markets) to start transitioning.

Here we show the asset allocation over the quarter:

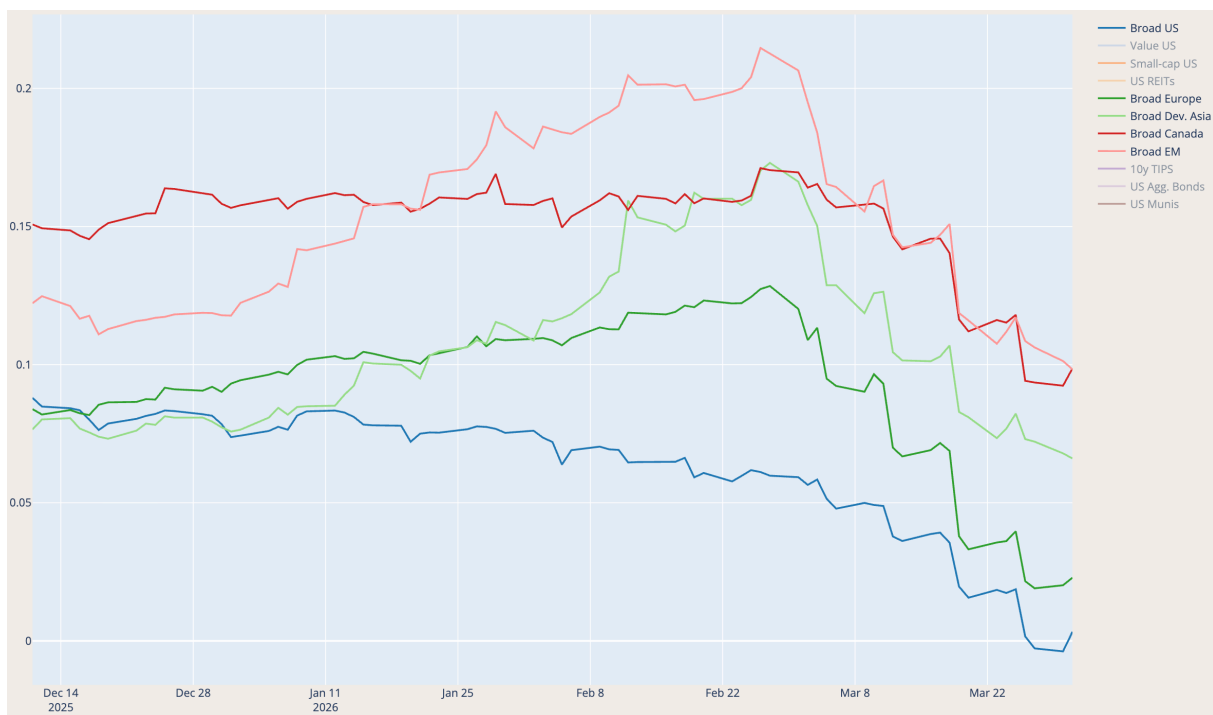


Here we show risk premia over the quarter:

¹ This quarterly letter and related materials are not intended to solicit future investment, but rather to elicit discussion and exploration of better ways to invest. Please see elmwealth.com for supporting research. This is a preliminary “flash” return estimate, net of fees; the official source of returns is your brokerage statement. **Past performance is not indicative of future results.**



And the momentum signal (as a proxy for risk level) over the quarter. +2% is the start of the transition zone from high-risk to low-risk:



As you can see the US finished the quarter right around “neutral” momentum, in the middle of the +/- 2% transition zone, with Europe sitting just at the top of the transition zone. Emerging Markets and Developed Asia would need to fall another 5-8% to start transitioning to negative momentum.

Market responses to Iran war

Unsurprisingly we’ve received a lot of questions around the market turmoil following the start of recent hostilities in Iran. In that vein, we thought it would be useful to show major market moves since 2/27 (start of the Iran conflict):

	Total Return	Level Change	Current Level (3/31)
US Equities	-5.00%		
Non-US Equities	-7.90%		
US 10y TIPS Real Yield	-1.26%	0.32%	2.04%
US 10y Breakevens		0.06%	2.31%
Gold	-11.01%		\$4,711
Brent Oil (Spot)	43.91%		\$104.03
Brent Oil (1y Fwd)	12.93%		\$76.06
BTC	4.07%		\$68,214
VIX (1m)	27.14%	5.39%	25.25%
VIX (1y)	8.52%	2.08%	26.48%

There are a few points which jump out at us:

- The equity market moves are very sizable for 1 month. However, zooming out a little, global equities are down less than 1% on the year. In a similar vein, 1y VIX is higher since the start of hostilities, but not dramatically higher. So it doesn't seem that the conflict, thus far at least, has wrought dramatic changes in equity market expectations.
- Long-term inflation breakevens are remarkably little changed. 10y real rates are a bit higher, but still well within the roughly 1.5% - 2.5% range they've been in for the past several years.
- There has been some impact on 1y forward oil, but much less compared to spot - markets do not seem to be, thus far, forecasting long-term disruption.

While markets can change very quickly, as can real-world events, through March at least we think this indicates a relatively modest medium-term market reaction to the conflict so far.

Q1 Research Roundup

- Most popular advice about how much of your portfolio should be in stocks is sorely lacking. We explore Yale professor James Choi's lifetime model and what it means for portfolios in [The New Yale Model](#).
- 351 ETF exchanges have quickly become one of the fastest-growing tax strategies in wealth management. In [Demystifying 351 Exchanges](#), we walk through the mechanics, the qualifying criteria, how they compare to other tax-aware strategies, and why we've decided not to pursue the option for Elm clients for the time being.
- In [An Endowment Asked Us for Some Advice](#), we respond to requests we've had for some advice on how to best manage an endowment portfolio by narrowing it down to two suggestions that are minimally disruptive and easy to implement. We believe the advice is relevant whether you're running an institution or your own long-term wealth.
- Perhaps you've heard that the market is dangerously concentrated in a few select tech stocks? In [Concentrating on Concentration](#), we look at why this isn't new, why the historical response to concentration has been costly, and what investors would be better rewarded for paying attention to instead.
- Finally, we shared the highlights from our [Financial Decision Making: Basics & Beyond](#) seminar in NYC last fall.

Housekeeping

Comprehensive information about the ELM ETF can be found at elmfunds.com.

As always, please don't hesitate to get in touch with us for any questions or suggestions, or just to say hello.

Wishing you a happy and healthy 2026 -

[Victor, James, & Jerry](#)



March 2026 Monthly Performance Report for ELM Market Navigator ETF[†]

Dynamic Index Investing®: Low Cost, Common Sense Asset Allocation Combining Diversification, Value and Momentum to Balance Growth Potential and Risk Management

Important Note: All returns prior to February 2025 reflect the returns of Elm Partners Portfolio LLC, which converted into ELM. February 2025 reflects a hybrid return.

ELM Market Navigator ETF Return Summary¹

Period	Baseline ⁵	ELM NAV	ELM Market Price
Monthly			
Mar-26	-4.86%	-5.00%	-5.24%
Feb-26	1.73%	2.23%	2.30%
Jan-26	2.58%	2.87%	2.67%
Dec-25	0.55%	0.73%	0.94%
Nov-25	0.42%	0.19%	0.16%
Oct-25	1.22%	1.27%	1.30%
Sep-25	2.54%	2.73%	2.69%
Aug-25	2.62%	2.75%	2.78%
Jul-25	0.69%	0.23%	0.00%
Jun-25	3.44%	3.14%	3.27%
May-25	3.80%	1.68%	1.74%
Apr-25	0.27%	0.44%	0.08%
Quarterly			
Q1 2026	-0.73%	-0.09%	-0.48%
Q4 2025	2.21%	2.20%	2.41%
Q3 2025	5.95%	5.79%	5.55%
Q2 2025	7.66%	5.32%	5.16%
Historical			
1 year	15.74%	13.78%	13.13%
5 Year	6.71%	5.82%	5.79%
10 Year	7.88%	7.89%	7.88%
Annual			
2026 (YTD) ²	-0.73%	-0.09%	-0.48%
2025	17.19%	14.75%	15.06%
2024	10.95%	8.00%	8.00%
2023	14.15%	8.82%	8.82%
2022	-12.97%	-10.20%	-10.20%
2021	12.03%	15.11%	15.11%
2020	9.86%	11.98%	11.98%
2019	19.30%	15.46%	15.46%
2018	-7.33%	-4.59%	-4.59%

[†] This note and related materials are not intended to solicit future investment, but rather to elicit discussion and exploration of better ways to invest. Please see elmfunds.com for additional information. **Past performance is not indicative of future results.**



2017	15.97%	18.38%	18.38%
2016	7.22%	6.84%	6.84%
2015	-3.17%	-3.62%	-3.62%
2014	2.48%	1.71%	1.71%
2013	10.10%	13.12%	13.12%
2012	12.72%	11.38%	11.38%
Fund Life-to-Date			
Return ³	7.14%	7.18%	7.17%
StdDev	9.94%	9.18%	9.19%
Fund Expense Ratio			
Total	0.24%		

1. All returns in this table are nominal (not inflation adjusted). **Past performance is not indicative of future performance.**

2. This is an unannualized return

3. Returns representing a start date of Jan 2012

4. Elm Partners Portfolio LLC (EPP LLC) converted to ETF (ticker ELM) on 2/11/2025. Reflects a combined NAV return of EPP LLC's 0.71% from 1/30/2025 to 2/11/2025 and ELM's 0.47% from 2/11/2025 to 2/28/2025. All subsequent returns are based on ELM's month end closing price.

5. The Baseline returns represent historically simulated returns, not actual returns. They use the most current model's Baseline weights, which represent the target allocation in a hypothetical Baseline environment (see the Asset Allocation table for the Baseline weights and more on the Baseline environment, as well as important definitions and disclosures), and are subject to all the many limitations that are known to limit the predictive power of historical simulations. These historical return figures do not include transactions costs, but they do include an estimate of the average expense ratio of the ETFs that would be used to build the Fund's portfolio.

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The ETF has a 0.24% net expense ratio.

The performance data quoted above represents past performance.

Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted above. Investment return and principal value will fluctuate, so that shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. For performance data current to the most recent month end, please call toll-free 1-800-617-0004.

The Fund has adopted the performance history of the Predecessor Fund beginning 12/30/2011, which operated as a private fund using substantially similar investment strategies. The Predecessor Fund's past performance, before and after taxes, does not necessarily indicate how the Fund will perform in the future. The fund is a newly registered ETF that commenced operations on 2/10/2025 by acquiring substantially all of the assets and liabilities of the Predecessor Fund.



Allocation Table: ELM Market Navigator ETF

	Elm Baseline Weights ¹	Baseline Deviation: ² Risk Premium	Baseline Deviation: ³ Risk Level	Current Target Weights	Risk Premium ⁴	Risk Level ⁵
				2026-03-31		
US Equity Assets	44.9%	-29.7%	4.5%	19.7%		
US Broad Equities	35.4%	-23.5%	3.6%	15.5%	1.3%	Low
US Real Estate (REITs)	5.0%	-3.2%	-0.5%	1.3%	1.4%	High
US Value Equities	2.2%	-1.5%	0.7%	1.5%	1.3%	Low
US Small-Cap Equities	2.2%	-1.5%	0.7%	1.5%	1.3%	Low
Non-US Equity Assets	30.1%	0.1%	9.0%	39.3%		
Europe Broad Equities	11.1%	-1.3%	2.7%	12.5%	4.0%	Low
Asia Pacific Broad Equities	4.6%	0.7%	1.5%	6.9%	4.2%	Low
Canada Broad Equities	1.9%	-0.6%	0.6%	2.0%	2.7%	Low
Emerging Market Broad Equities	12.5%	1.3%	4.2%	17.9%	5.0%	Low
Fixed Income	25.0%			41.0%		
US Treasury Bills	10.0%			20.0%		
US 10yr TIPS (Real Yield = 1.93%)	10.0%			16.1%		Neutral
US Aggregate Bonds	5.0%			4.8%		High
Total:	100.00%			100.00%		

1. Elm Baseline Weights: The Elm Baseline Weights represents what the portfolio's target allocations would be in the Baseline Environment, a hypothetical environment used for calibration purposes where every major equity market has about a 4% Risk Premium above Safe Assets and a "neutral" risk level. Elm considers 10 Year TIPS as the "safe asset" in our model.

2. Baseline Deviation Due to Risk Premium: The Target Weight's deviation from the Baseline Weights based on current Risk Premia. The maximum deviation due to Risk Premium is 2/3 of the Baseline Weight.

3. Baseline Deviation Due to Risk Level: The Target Weight's deviation from the Baseline Weights based on current Risk Level. The maximum deviation due to Risk Premium is 1/3 of the Baseline Weight.

4. Risk Premium: The long-term expected return of an asset class in excess of the safe asset return. For "Safe Asset" we use the expected return of 10y Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities (TIPS).

5. Risk Level: Market riskiness for a given asset class. Our proxy for measuring the risk environment is a momentum signal based on a trailing 1 year price average (adjusted for inflation and risk premium). Positive momentum (price > 1 Year moving average) indicates a low-risk environment, while negative momentum (price < 1 Year moving average) indicates a high-risk environment.



Instrument Table: ELM Market Navigator ETF

Description	Ticker	Market	% Weight	Annual Fees	Fund Size (\$BB)	ETF or Fund	Fund Manager	Change on Month ¹	Change on Year ¹
			100.00%	0.05%					
US Equity Assets			25.0%						
Vanguard Total Stock Market ETF	VTI	US	17.83%	0.03%	566.2	ETF	Vanguard	-5.00%	-4.01%
Schwab U.S. REIT ETF	SCHH	US	2.64%	0.07%	9.3	ETF	Schwab	-6.18%	3.43%
Vanguard Value ETF	VTV	US	1.70%	0.03%	164.3	ETF	Vanguard	-4.81%	3.30%
Vanguard Small-Cap ETF	VB	US	1.64%	0.03%	71.5	ETF	Vanguard	-5.12%	1.93%
Schwab US Broad Market ETF	SCHB	US	1.16%	0.03%	37.3	ETF	Schwab	-4.99%	-4.05%
Non-US Equity Assets			39.5%						
Vanguard FTSE Emerging Markets ETF	VWO	US	15.82%	0.06%	109.6	ETF	Vanguard	-6.97%	0.54%
Vanguard FTSE Pacific ETF	VPL	US	6.29%	0.07%	7.5	ETF	Vanguard	-10.28%	8.11%
JPMorgan BetaBuilders Europe ETF	BBEU	US	5.93%	0.09%	8.6	ETF	JP Morgan	-8.10%	-0.81%
iShares Core MSCI Europe ETF	IEUR	US	4.87%	0.10%	8.4	ETF	iShares	-8.16%	-1.00%
Vanguard FTSE Europe ETF	VGK	US	2.73%	0.06%	29.2	ETF	Vanguard	-8.14%	-0.94%
JPMorgan BetaBuilders Canada ETF	BBCA	US	1.96%	0.19%	10.1	ETF	JP Morgan	-5.31%	1.43%
iShares Core MSCI Emerging Markets ETF	IEMG	US	1.47%	0.09%	135.4	ETF	iShares	-9.13%	3.76%
iShares Core MSCI Pacific ETF	IPAC	US	0.38%	0.09%	2.4	ETF	iShares	-8.21%	4.51%
Fixed Income			35.6%						
Schwab US TIPS ETF	SCHP	US	19.31%	0.03%	15.7	ETF	Schwab	-1.26%	0.45%
Vanguard 0-3 Month Treasury Bill ETF	VBIL	US	9.88%	0.06%	6.8	ETF	Vanguard	0.30%	0.86%
iShares Core U.S. Aggregate Bond ETF	AGG	US	3.90%	0.03%	136.2	ETF	iShares	-1.79%	0.03%
Vanguard Total Bond Market ETF	BND	US	2.22%	0.03%	151.4	ETF	Vanguard	-1.74%	0.05%
First American Government Obligations Fund	FGXXX	US	0.27%	--	--	Fund	US Bank	0.00%	0.00%

1. Total return including dividends

As of 03/31/2026

The “Current Target Weights” shown on Page 3 represent the model’s target allocation, while the above Instrument Table reflects actual portfolio holdings as of the report date. Differences between the target and actual weights may occur for various reasons, including but not limited to, market movements, cash needs, and ongoing rebalance activity.

The fund’s most current holdings can be found at ElmFunds.com.



Important Risk Disclosures

Before you invest in the Elm ETF, please refer to and carefully consider the summary or statutory prospectus for important information about the investment company, including investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses. You may obtain a hard copy of the prospectus by calling 1-800-617-0004. The prospectus or summary prospectus should be read carefully before investing.

As with any fund, there are risks to investing. An investment in the Fund is not a deposit of a bank and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency. In addition to possibly not achieving your investment goals, you could lose all or a portion of your investment in the Fund over short- or long periods of time. Because the Fund is a Fund of Funds, the Fund is subject to the risks associated with the Underlying Funds in which it invests.

Fund of Funds Risk.

The Fund is a “fund of funds.” The term “fund of funds” is typically used to describe investment companies, such as the Fund, whose principal investment strategy involves investing in other investment companies (funds), rather than directly in securities of individual companies. An investment in the Fund will be subject to substantially the same risks as those associated with the Underlying Funds in proportion to the Fund’s allocation to those Underlying Funds, and the value of the Fund’s investment in Underlying Funds will fluctuate in response to the performance of the portfolios of the Underlying Funds. In addition, at times, certain of the segments of the market represented by Underlying Funds in which the Fund invests may be out of favor and underperform other segments.

Asset Allocation Risk.

The Fund, through its investments in Underlying Funds, may allocate its investments among various asset classes.

Common Stock Risk.

While common stocks have historically generated higher average returns than fixed income securities over the long-term, common stock has also experienced significantly more volatility in those returns, although under certain market conditions, fixed-income investments may have comparable or greater price volatility.

Large-Cap Companies Risk.

Larger, more established companies may be unable to respond quickly to new competitive challenges such as changes in technology and consumer tastes. Large companies also may not be able to attain the high growth rates of successful smaller companies.

Small- and Mid-Cap Companies Risk.

There may be less trading in the stocks of small- and mid-cap companies, which means that buy and sell transactions in that stock could have a larger impact on the stock’s price than is the case with larger company stocks.

Real Estate Investment Trust (“REIT”) Risk.

The Fund’s investment in REITs will subject the Fund to risks similar to those associated with direct ownership of real estate, including losses from casualty or condemnation, and changes in local and general economic conditions, supply and demand, interest rates, zoning laws, regulatory limitations on rents, property taxes and operating expenses.

Foreign Investments and Emerging Markets Risk.

Securities of non-U.S. issuers, including those located in foreign countries, may involve special risks caused by foreign political, social and economic factors, including exposure to currency fluctuations, less liquidity, less developed and less efficient trading markets, political instability and less developed legal and auditing standards.

Municipal Securities Risk.

The municipal market is volatile and can be significantly affected by adverse tax, legislative or political changes and the financial condition of the issuers of municipal securities.

**Interest Rate Risk.**

Changes in interest rates will affect the value of the Fund's investments.

Credit Risk.

An issuer of debt securities may not make timely payments of principal and interest and may default entirely in its obligations. A decrease in the issuer's credit rating may lower the value of debt securities.

Debt Securities Risk.

Increases in interest rates typically lower the value of debt securities held by the Fund. Investments in debt securities include credit risk. There is also the risk that a bond issuer may "call," or repay its high yielding bonds before their maturity dates.

High Yield Debt Securities ("Junk" Bond) Risk.

Below investment-grade debt securities (also referred to as high yield debt securities or "junk" bonds) involve greater risk of default or price changes due to changes in the credit quality of the issuer.

Cash Position Risk.

The ability of the Fund to meet its investment objective may be limited to the extent it holds its assets in cash (or cash equivalents) or is otherwise uninvested.

U.S. Government Obligations Risk.

The Fund will invest in securities issued by the U.S. government.

Market Risk.

The NAV of the Fund will change with changes in the market value of its portfolio securities. Investors may lose money.

High Portfolio Turnover Risk.

A high portfolio turnover rate (400% or more) has the potential to result in the realization and distribution to shareholders of higher capital gains, which may subject you to a higher tax liability. High portfolio turnover also necessarily results in greater transaction costs which may reduce Fund performance.

Management Risk.

The Fund is actively-managed and may not meet its investment objective based on the Adviser's success or failure to implement investment strategies for the Fund.

The Elm Market Navigator ETF is distributed by Quasar Distributors, LLC.