Pre-publication draft of pending article on MHProNews for facts-evidence-analysis (FEA) check by third-party artificial intelligence (AI) systems.

Thrivent for Lutherans-Christians Probed for Questionable Investments Seemingly Counter to Thrivent's Claims. Berkshire Hathaway and Champion Homes Manufactured Housing Concerns Raised. FEA

According to the "popular tool for tracking investment data" fintel.io, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has a broad portfolio of investments that includes firms that are directly involved in HUD Code manufactured housing. Thrivent has an array of investments in the following sectors, shown as follows in no particular order of importance. Retail. Tech. Media/Entertainment. Housing. Finance. ETFs. Automotive. RVs. Education. Energy. Healthcare/Pharmaceuticals. Rentals. Food. Restaurants. Apparel. Cosmetics. Gambling. Insurance. "**Plan your finances for the people, causes and community you love**," says a header near the top of the Thrivent.com website on 10.25.2025 (bolded added herein by MHProNews as shown for emphasis). From the Thrivent Financial for Lutherans about us page: "**Finances as a force for good**" and "With our unique combination of financial services and generosity solutions, Thrivent helps our clients make the most of all they've been given." Also from the thrivent.com about us page on this date: "We believe money is a tool, not a goal," and "**We've inspired generations to make financial choices guided by their Christian values**. We provide the expertise and support that enable our clients to take care of themselves and others." "Grounded in values that shape us," and "Our unique business model as a membership-owned financial services organization allows us to take a client-focused, long-term view to all we do—helping people and their communities thrive." The headline question regarding this facts-evidence-analysis (FEA) probe into Thrivent is this. Does Thrivent truly invest in a manner consistent with their own claims? Are there investments into firms linked to manufactured housing in keeping with "Christian values" or not?

MHProNews and a related article on the Patch has been exploring Thrivent for its investment in Champion Homes (SKY). According to Google's AI preview and a Lutheran publication linked here has previously come under fire over the morality of its investments.

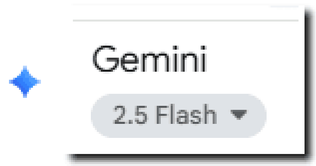
According to a facts-evidence-analysis (FEA) check by left-leaning Google's artificial intelligence (AI) system Gemini, was the following.

The investments made by Thrivent Financial in companies like Champion Homes and, by extension, other firms allied with Berkshire Hathaway and MHI, appear to place the organization in a potentially **contradictory position**. They are invested in firms whose business practices in the manufactured housing sector—including market concentration, high consumer costs, and opposition to key affordable housing legislative fixes—are claimed by critics to be in opposition to the values of **Christian stewardship, justice, and care for the vulnerable** that Thrivent professes.

The full remarks by Gemini are shown in Part I. Other AI provided FEAs follow as well.

This MHVille FEA is underway.

Part I. The screen capture of the Q&A that produced the following response is linked here



The uploaded documents and external research provide a strong foundation for an FEA report on Thrivent Financial's investments, particularly in relation to the manufactured housing industry and its stated Christian values.

Here is the analysis and information, supported by plain text hyperlinks:

Analysis of Thrivent Financial's Investments and Stated Christian Values

Thrivent's Christian and Value-Based Claims

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans (now Thrivent, with an expanded Christian focus) is a membership-owned fraternal organization. It explicitly states that it is "Grounded in values that shape us," and that it inspires generations to make financial choices **guided by their Christian values**. Its mission includes helping clients "make the most of all they've been given" with finances as a **"force for good"**.

Controversies Regarding Investments and Values

Thrivent has faced criticism for specific investment holdings and policies that critics argue conflict with its Christian-based values:

- **Financial Neutrality on Abortion:** In 2014, Thrivent adopted a "Financial Neutrality Policy" regarding charitable funding, which resulted in the cessation of support for over 50 pro-life Christian charities that had previously received funding. The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) expressed **deep concern** over this policy.
- **Private Prisons and Weapons:** Thrivent has faced awareness campaigns and public criticism for holdings in **private prison contractors** (CoreCivic and GEO Group) and **weapons manufacturers**, with activists arguing these investments contradict a Christian organization's purpose.
- **Expansion and ESG Shift:** Thrivent's expansion beyond its traditional Lutheran base to a broader Christian community was met with some internal criticism.

Furthermore, while Thrivent launched an ESG-focused ETF in 2022, it later **removed the ESG focus** from the fund by early 2025.

The Manufactured Housing Industry and Champion/Berkshire Concerns

Thrivent is reported to have a portfolio of investments that includes firms directly involved in **HUD Code manufactured housing**, such as an increased stake in **Champion Homes (SKY)**.

The central concern, as raised by industry observers, is that this investment risks not only financial returns but also the integrity of Thrivent's mission due to:

- **Antitrust and Predatory Lending Allegations:** Champion Homes is a member of the Manufactured Housing Institute (MHI), a trade group that, along with Berkshire Hathaway's manufactured housing subsidiaries (like Clayton Homes and 21st Mortgage), has been repeatedly cited in **antitrust research** and investigative reports for allegedly enabling market consolidation at the expense of consumers and independent businesses. The pattern of behavior has been linked to potential **oligopoly** and **monopolization** plays.
- **Conflict with Christian Stewardship:** Critics argue that supporting firms accused of predatory practices runs counter to the Christian principle of **"truth, justice, and care for the vulnerable"**.
- **Berkshire Hathaway's Political-Moral Stances:** Berkshire Hathaway's Chairman, Warren Buffett, has been described as one of the **abortion industry's top financiers** and co-founded an underground railroad for abortions in 1969. Berkshire Hathaway subsidiaries were found to have been among the top corporate supporters of **anti-abortion-rights politicians** in some regions. Separately, the **National Legal and Policy Center (NLPC)** has raised ethical and legal concerns, including a lawsuit and an SEC complaint against Warren Buffett and Berkshire Hathaway regarding corporate governance, the Bill Gates/Jeffrey Epstein issue, and the handling of shareholder proposals. While a magistrate judge recommended dismissing the NLPC claims against Buffett and Berkshire in one case, the legal actions highlight ongoing ethical scrutiny. The political and ethical stances of Berkshire and its leadership could pose a conflict for an investor like Thrivent that claims to be guided by Christian values.

The ROAD to Housing Act 2025 Controversy

- **Flawed Legislation:** Manufactured Housing Association for Regulatory Reform **(MHARR)**, a trade group representing independent producers, has consistently pointed out that the **ROAD to Housing Act of 2025** is seriously flawed and may **undermine existing federal law** (specifically the 'enhanced preemption' provision of the Manufactured Housing Improvement Act of 2000) unless amended.

- **Risk of Less Affordable Housing:** MHARR and other critics argue that if the ROAD to Housing Act 2025 is not amended to mandate the aggressive enforcement of **enhanced preemption** and to address the lack of **Duty to Serve (DTS)** lending for chattel loans, there is a risk of **less affordable housing** being created, potentially leading to increased homelessness. They have urged Congress to include MHARR-backed amendments or to strip the bill from the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

Conclusion on Contradictions

The investments made by Thrivent Financial in companies like Champion Homes and, by extension, other firms allied with Berkshire Hathaway and MHI, appear to place the organization in a potentially **contradictory position**. They are invested in firms whose business practices in the manufactured housing sector—including market concentration, high consumer costs, and opposition to key affordable housing legislative fixes—are claimed by critics to be in opposition to the values of **Christian stewardship, justice, and care for the vulnerable** that Thrivent professes.

Data Source Reliability Check

- **Fintel.io:** Fintel.io is a **popular tool** for tracking investment data, but it is **not considered a definitive source**. Its data should be **cross-referenced** with official filings from the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) due to potential discrepancies and data aggregation methods that could inflate institutional ownership figures. Institutional holdings data can also be delayed.

Part II.

Part III