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Kirk Abrahamson Managing Director Abrahamson Wealth Management

OCTOBER 10th IS DAF GIVING DAY

Donor Advised Fund (DAF) Day is a new giving day dedicated to promoting the use of donor-advised funds for charitable donations. The first-ever DAF Day is being celebrated on October 10, 2024. This initiative was launched by a coalition of nonprofits, fundraising platforms, and DAF sponsors to encourage people to give from their DAF accounts on this specific day.

A donor-advised fund is a charitable savings account that allows individuals to set aside assets for charitable purposes while receiving an immediate tax benefit. Donors can then recommend grants from their DAF to various qualified charities over time.

Are you considering participating in DAF Day or looking to learn more about donor-advised funds? <u>Click here</u> to learn more about how a DAF can help with your charitable intentions and potential tax benefits available to you.

October 2024

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MARKET UPDATES & HEADLINES

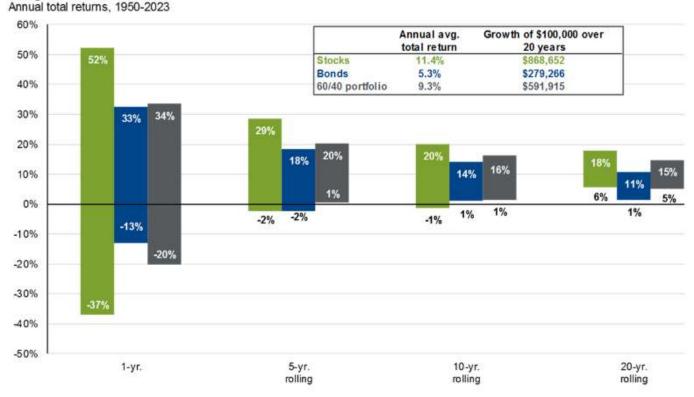
SUMMARY - September is typically the weakest month of the year for stocks, but thanks to the much-anticipated federal funds rate cut, the S&P 500 turned in its first positive performance in a September since 2019, achieving its 43rd record high of the year.

"The Federal Reserve [Fed] is recalibrating policy, and we are likely to see a series of rate cuts over the coming months as it gets closer to neutral, which is ultimately market friendly," Raymond James Chief Investment Officer Larry Adam said.

The Fed took an unusual – but not entirely unexpected – step, cutting interest rates by 50 basis points (bps), rather than the usual 25, and is on track to successfully navigate a "soft landing" for the economy for the first time since 1995. The economy is showing resilience, the labor market remains stable, and inflation appears to be on a better path.

Time, diversification and the volatility of returns

Range of stock, bond and blended total returns



Time, diversification and the volatility of returns: This chart shows historical returns by holding period for stocks, bonds and a 60/40 portfolio, rebalanced annually, over different time horizons. The bars show the highest and lowest returns experienced during each time periods (1-year, 5-year rolling, 10-year rolling and 20-year rolling). This page advocates for having a simple balanced portfolio and a long time horizon.

Source: Bloomberg, FactSet, Federal Reserve, Robert Shiller, Standard & Poor's, Strategas/Ibbotson, J.P. Morgan Asset Management. Returns shown are based on calendar year returns from 1950 to 2023. Stocks represent the S&P 500 Shiller Composite for periods prior to 1936 and the S&P 500 thereafter. Bonds represent Strategas/Ibbotson for periods prior to 1976 and the Bloomberg Aggregate thereafter. Growth of \$100,000 is based on annual average total returns from 1950 to 2023. Guide to the Markets – U.S. Data are as of September 30, 2024.



RATE REPORT

CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT: FDIC INSURED

- 3 month: 4.30% - 4.55%

- 6 month: 4.00% - 4.15%

- 12 month: 3.75% - 4.05%

- 24 month: 3.60% - 4.00%

Annual percentage yields (APYs) as of 10/09/2024. Rates are subject to change and availability. Minimum quantity may apply.

MONEY MARKET MUTUAL FUNDS

 Current 7-day average yields ranging 4.71% - 4.84% as of 10/04/2024. Call for specific fund information.

CORPORATE BONDS

Rates on corporate bonds are typically higher than CDs but will vary based on credit quality and maturity.

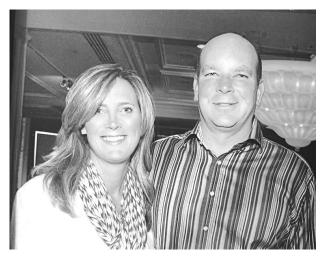
TAILORED SOLUTIONS

If you would like to discuss your cash management needs further, <u>contact us</u> for a private discussion so that we can tailor a strategy to help you meet your specifications.



ONE-ON-ONE: KIRK ABRAHAMSON

Kirk has been serving the financial needs of his clients since 1986, beginning his career at Merrill Lynch. Like Mike, Kirk is a graduate of the University of Northern Iowa where the two met on the basketball court. Kirk and his wife, Dianna, recently celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary, and have two adult daughters, Kylie and Laney.



How did you and Dianna meet? We met at Merrill Lynch in 1987. Dianna was working as a life insurance administrator in the office at the time, and I had only been in the business for about a year. We married in April of 1989, where I had to hobble down the aisle due to a basketball injury sustained the morning of! Luckily, I was able to continue playing pick-up basketball until well into my 50s.

What can you share with us about Kylie and Laney? Our girls are currently living in the Denver area and are residential realtors with Coldwell Banker. Recently, they have expanded their business to include furniture refinishing and restoration, as well as home decorating and staging.

How do you and Dianna enjoy spending time together? Dianna and I are very active, and both play golf and enjoy a spirited game of pickleball on occasion. In addition, we also enjoy hosting card and game nights at our home and entertaining friends and family.

Where might we run into you about town? You'd be most likely to find us on the golf course together in the warmer months. As former south siders, you might also run into us at Skip's or Francie's grabbing a bite, or at G. Mig's out west, especially for a weekend breakfast.

About FDIC Insurance: Currently, the FDIC limits the insured amount (including principal and interest) for all deposits held in the same capacity to \$250,000 per depositor, per insured depository institution and \$250,000 for certain retirement accounts. The FDIC has permanently increased insurance coverage to \$250,000 for deposits held in all ownership categories, including single accounts, joint accounts and trust accounts. Therefore, excess holdings may not be insured. IRAs and certain other retirement accounts will maintain the \$250,000 insurance coverage. About Liquidity: Funds may not be withdrawn until the maturity date Or redemption date, However, the brokered CD, are negotiable, which mean, that although not obligated to do so, Raymond James and other broker/dealers presently maintain an active secondary market at current interest rates, Market value will fluctuate and, if the CD is cashed out prior to maturity, the proceeds may be more or less than the original purchase price, Holding CDs until term assures the holder of par value redemption. CDs are redeemable at par upon death of beneficial holder. FDIC insurance does not protect against market losses due to selling CDs in the secondary market prior to maturity. An investment in a money market fund is neither insured nor guaranteed by the FDIC or any other government agency. Although the fund seeks to preserve the value of your investment at \$1.00 per share, it is possible to lose money by investing in the fund. Investors should consider the investment objective, risks, charges, and expenses carefully before investing. The prospectus, which contains this and other important information, is available from your Financial Advisor and should be read carefully before investing. CDs offer FDIC or FSLIC insurance and a fixed rate of return whereas both principal and yield of investment securities will fluctuate with changes in market conditions. Additional information is also available on the SEC Certificates of Deposit website here. The performance data qu



RETIREMENT INCOME PLANNING



Planning for retirement income is a crucial step in ensuring a comfortable and financially secure future. As you approach retirement, it's essential to evaluate your current financial situation, set clear goals, and develop a strategy to manage your income sources effectively. By understanding the tax implications of your withdrawals and planning for potential expenses, we can create a sustainable plan that supports your desired lifestyle throughout retirement. Let's explore some key elements of a successful retirement income plan to help you achieve peace of mind and financial stability.

- <u>Assess Current Financial Situation</u>: Start by evaluating your current assets, liabilities, income, and expenses to understand your financial standing.
- <u>Estimate Retirement Expenses</u>: Calculate your expected monthly and annual expenses during retirement, considering inflation and potential healthcare costs.
- <u>Identify Income Sources</u>: List all potential income sources such as Social Security, pensions, retirement accounts (401(k), IRA), and any other investments.
- <u>Tax Bracket Management</u>: Strategize withdrawals to minimize tax impact. Consider the timing and amount of withdrawals to stay within lower tax brackets, when possible, and explore tax-efficient investment options.
- Review and Adjust: Regularly review your plan and adjust based on changes in your financial situation or goals.

Effective retirement income planning is essential for achieving financial security and peace of mind in your golden years. By carefully assessing your financial situation and managing your income sources and tax brackets, we can help create a sustainable plan that supports your desired lifestyle.

NEXT MONTH

- In November, we will discuss some year-end planning reminders and tips as 2024 draws to a close.
- We'll spotlight our newest team member, Fran Donnelly and learn more about how she spends her free time in Des Moines.
- We would love to hear from you! If there's an item or topic you'd like for us to discuss in greater detail, drop us a note and we'll be sure to address it in future editions of the newsletter.





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