

[ADV] Wrapping up Q1 2024 with Doepel & Wikstrom Wealth Management

Greetings:

With a team focus on tax season, we find ourselves slightly behind schedule for this quarter's newsletter. However, there has been no shortage of market action. As we wrap up Q1 2024, we have experienced euphorically high markets—frankly, a little too high considering economic data. Since April began, we've witnessed a broad sweeping selloff across all sectors. Even with the recent downturn, the S&P 500 remains positive year-to-date, while the Dow Jones is barely hanging on to positive numbers for the year. This mirrors the story of the last 18 months of market return data; mega technology companies continue to drive growth. Additionally, dividend-paying stocks are positioned well and poised to take off in the coming cycle.

The economic data is shaky right now. CPI, which measures inflation data, continues to run high. This has caused the Fed to stay at current rates, whereas most economists and investment strategist anticipated rate cuts. The frozen fed rate has caused investors to pause and contemplate the health of the economy overall while trying to navigate higher-than-normal grocery and gas bills.

We believe we are still working through the financial aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. The nationwide shutdown and subsequent stimulus measures are gradually revealing their full impact; it simply takes time to shake off the effects.

Despite these challenges, we remain committed to tried-and-true investment principles. A hidden blessing lies in historically high yields. We have strategically deployed cash in money markets, certificates of deposit (CDs), and high-yield savings accounts to achieve better returns with minimal risk. For clients nearing retirement or already in retirement, we have adjusted bond portfolios to capture higher yields over longer periods. And for those clients still accumulating wealth, short-term market fluctuations present opportunities—so continue to invest steadily through the ups and downs.

Always remember that we are an extension of your home office. If you want to reconvene on market forecasting, general financial planning, or portfolio positioning, we're just a phone call away!

May is Raymond James Cares Month

As a continued commitment to our clients and community, we are hosting a donation drive to support the needs of our community. This year we are proud to support a local 501(c)(3) organization that provides essential assistance to approximately 120 families each month by offering food, clothing and basic household and hygienic items. If you

would like to join us and participate in supporting our community; we will be accepting the following donations in our office May 1st – May 24th 2024 Monday-Friday 9AM-4PM.

- Diapers (All sizes)
- Baby Wipes
- Sun Screen
- Lip Balm

If you are unable to bring donations to our office during regular business hours, please reach out to us, and we will explore alternative options for your participation. Your generosity will directly impact families in need, and all donations will be delivered to the organization for distribution on **June 2nd, 2024**.

Thank you for being an essential part of our community efforts!

We have new team photos at our new location!



Best Regards,

ERIN DOEPEL WIKSTROM, CFP®, AIF®

Financial Advisor

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To those of you who have referred your family, friends and business associates, we sincerely thank you.

Please note our new location:

127 Aurora Ave
Naperville, IL 60540

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