



ZUEHLKE
KARCZ

FINANCIAL GROUP

MONEY MATTERS

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4TH QUARTER 2024

A Plan for the Season

THINGS TO DO:



- Confirm cost of living: Next year's Social Security adjustment is typically announced in October.
- Adjust your coverage: Prepare your documents for Medicare open enrollment, if eligible. If you're working and your employer offers benefits, take the time to understand them.
- Refresh your plan: It's important to monitor your retirement and investment accounts regularly and make adjustments to insurance and estate plans as needed. The holidays can be a good time to do this if you want to discuss what you're planning with close friends or relatives.
- Fend off fraud: Start by tracking and reviewing all of your bank and credit card statements for irregular activity. You can also request a copy of your consumer credit profile and stay on the lookout for scams asking you to confirm or update your account information via email.
- Tend to your portfolio: If you're invested in mutual funds, don't forget about capital gains distribution dates that typically fall in December. Consider balancing your realized capital gains with losses where appropriate. Discuss with us whether this strategy might help lower your tax liability.
- Engage in smart giving: As deadlines for year-end gift and charitable contributions approach, make a strategy for your philanthropic goals. Consult with us if you're interested in donating stock.

Time to Contribute Yet

For the 2024 tax year, individual investors can contribute up to \$7,000 to either a traditional or Roth IRA. If you're age 50 or older, you can contribute an additional \$1,000. Contributing as much as you can as early as possible allows those assets more time to potentially grow and compound.

Keep in mind that contributions must be made by April 15, 2025.

Make checks payable to: **RAYMOND JAMES.**



Financial Calculators at Your Finger Tips

You can find highly engaging and educational financial calculators available on our website.



Over 50 interactive calculators provide resources to site visitors. These interactive calculators cover a wide range of topics from simple tax scenarios to complex loan questions. Some calculators available are Long-Term Care, Estate Planning, Home budget, Mortgage, Automobile, College, Cash Flow, Credit Card, Retirement, Insurance, Savings, Self employment, Roth Ira and Paycheck along with others.

Let's take a look closer at the retirement calculators. Here are three types of retirement calculators that can be useful prior and during your retirement journey.

One of the calculators can be used to determine how much you need to retire including what size your retirement nest egg should be.

The Retirement Income Estimator calculator can determine how much monthly income your retirement savings may provide during retirement. Your annual savings, expected rate of return and your current age all have an impact on your retirement's monthly income.

Finally, you can use the Retirement Planner calculator to know what it takes to work toward a secure retirement and create a retirement plan. View your retirement savings balance and your withdrawals for each year.

These calculators and many more are a great tools to help educate you on a wide variety of financial topics.

To access these calculators visit our website through the QR code or at:

www.ZKFinancial.com

Once you are on our website:

On the Toolbar select: Resources > Additional Links > Planning Tools and Calculator



**IMPORTANT
REMINDER**

Required Minimum Distributions

It's important that we initiate your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) by the end of the year, as failure to withdraw your RMD can result in an IRS penalty of up to 25% of the amount that should have been withdrawn.

RMDs must begin by age:

- Born June 30, 1949 or earlier RMD age is 70 ½
- Born July 1, 1949 to Dec. 31, 1950 RMD age is 72
- Birth Year: 1951 to 1959 RMD age is 73
- Birth Year 1960 + RMD age is 75

As we enter the last quarter of 2024, we would like to take a moment to thank all of you.

One of the things we're most thankful for is the privilege to partner with you in helping you achieve your financial goals. Our team understands that you have honored us with an important task, to help guide you along your financial journey in a way that feels true to your ideals. We're grateful for it, not just today, and not just around the holidays, but all year long.

As we ring in a new year, we're thankful for another chance to exceed your expectations, to work toward bigger goals, and to learn more about how we can help as your life unfolds. We wish you much success and prosperity throughout the year to come.

We wish you and your family a happy holiday season and a healthy and prosperous new year.

Thank you!

Can You Spot A Scam



"I received an urgent pop-up message telling me to take action immediately!"

Tech support scam

Pop-up messages, cold calls or emails are tactics used by scammers posing as legitimate tech support. Their goal is to deceive users into believing their computer has issues or has been hacked into, which can lead to victims providing control

Helpful tip!

Be cautious of unsolicited contact. If you are called unexpectedly, hang up and call the company directly on a verified phone number. Avoid clicking on suspicious messages and don't grant remote access to your device.

A Look Back In History



Let's take a look back at some historic events that happened this quarter in the past.

1. The first stock price ticker system using a telegraphic printer was invented by Edward A. Calahan in 1863; he unveiled his device in New York City on **November 15, 1867**.

2. The Enron scandal, which involved allegations of fraudulent accounting practices and executive compensation, unfolded over a period of months in 2001:

October 16, 2001: Enron reported a quarterly loss of \$618 million. After catching the attention of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). The SEC opened an investigation into the company's accounting practices and allegations that executives had inflated stock prices. **October 22, 2001:** The SEC opened a formal inquiry into Enron's accounting practices. **December 2, 2001:** Enron filed for bankruptcy protection under Chapter 11 of the United States Bankruptcy Code, marking the largest bankruptcy in U.S. history at the time.

3. The beginning of America's "Great Depression" is often cited as the dramatic crash of the stock market on "Black Thursday," **October 24, 1929** when 16 million shares of stock were quickly sold by panicking investors who had lost faith in the American economy.

4. Black Monday refers to the catastrophic worldwide stock market crash on **October 19, 1987**, when the DJIA fell 508 points, or 22.6%, in a single day. It remains the largest one-day decline ever. Other major stock markets saw similarly huge declines.

History.com Editors, <https://www.history.com/topics/us-states/wall-street-timeline>, January 3, 2019

Upcoming Holiday Schedule

In recognition of the upcoming holidays, our office is closed:



Thurs. Nov 28th - Closed
Fri. Nov. 29th - Closed
Tues. Dec. 24th - Closed
Wed. Dec. 25th - Closed
Wed. Jan. 1st - Closed
Mon. Jan. 20th - Closed

An Efficient Way to Communicate - TEXTING



You are able to communicate with us via text at 920-547-3336. This is a general texting number that connect with branch staff.

Texting service is only monitored

Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Please keep in mind that orders or money movement requests CAN NOT be requested via text.



1277 W. Mason St. ~ Green Bay, WI 54303

Office Hours: Mon.- Thurs. 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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ZK Financial is on Facebook and LinkedIn. We use these social media channels to post informational articles and to keep you up to date on the industry and events happening at our office.



ZK Financial Group—Raymond James
Financial Services



Richard Zuehlke



Heather Karcz

Family & Lifestyle

These questions can inspire conversation with your loved ones and can help capture their stories.

As you gather with loved ones for the holidays, think about preserving their memories and life lessons through oral histories. Here we've gathered some questions that can lead to meaningful conversations about your family and values.

8 questions to ask your loved ones

What's your favorite place to visit in the world?

Are there any funny stories you want to tell me about?

What's been the happiest moment of your life?

What are the most important life lessons you've learned?

What should I know about our family's medical history that could affect my health?

Tell me about some traditions that have been passed down through our family.

When and how did they get started?

How would you like to be remembered?

Is there anything you've always wanted to tell me but never have?

After these conversations, talk with us about how you can incorporate any family values into your financial plan.

"When you read this content we've shared and it causes you to think of others in your life who would benefit from seeing it, please share it with them."

*Sharing
is Caring*

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Changes in tax laws may occur at any time and could have a substantial impact upon each person's situation. While we are familiar with the tax provisions of the issues presented herein, as Financial Advisors of RJFS, we are not qualified to render advise on tax or legal matters. You should discuss tax or legal matters with the appropriate professional.