

# **GREENE WEALTH MANAGEMENT**

Your Journey Towards Financial Independence Begins Here

### **GWM Monthly Minute - September 2025**

#### **Economic and Market Update**

- Financial markets have been robust amid a fast-evolving global economic backdrop. For the year, US Stocks (Russell 3000) are up 10.5% and Developed International Stocks (MSCI ACWI ex-US) are up 22.0%. The Total US Bond market (Bloomberg Agg. Bond) is up 5.0%.
- Markets are positive across the board supported by momentum from easing trade concerns, solid and stable corporate earnings, and steady central bank policy. Specifically, trade deals announced in late July and August between the US and multiple large trading partners (EU, Japan, South Korea) has helped reduce traderelated uncertainty. There was also a recent 90-day extension of current tariff rates on imported goods from Mexico and China, as the U.S. works on more comprehensive deals to be finalized.
- While market direction has been positive in 2025 overall, there are a number of prevailing risks we are tracking. These include the potential challenge to economic growth from tariff policy, a slowing labor market, the geopolitical climate, and the path of Fed policy.
- This week the Fed has announced a benchmark interest rate cut of 25 basis points, cutting to 4.0% 4.25%. This marks the first interest rate cut in 2025. Fed Chairman Powell commented on the challenged mission to balance maximum employment with price stability (inflation). Those mandates are currently opposing with job gains slowing, unemployment ticking up recently, and moderate inflation increases. Nonetheless, the Fed finally felt compelled to lower rates and the baseline forecasts indicates 25 basis point cuts are expected in each of the two remaining Fed meetings over the balance of 2025.

Market Index Performance - as of August 31, 2025



#### Strategy Corner - Charitable Giving with a Donor Advised Fund

Our firm is privileged to work with clients that are charitably minded and prioritize leaving a legacy to impact people and the world around them. One of the most strategic options to build a charitable legacy (today and in the future) is through a donor advised fund (DAF). It is a strategy we commonly deploy in partnering with our clients to create a strategic charitable giving plan.

A donor advised fund (DAF) could be best described as a charitable investment account that provides simple, flexible, and efficient ways to manage charitable giving. The money or assets that go into a donor advised fund becomes an irrevocable transfer to a public charity with the specific intent of funding charitable gifts. This public charity serves as the administrator of the DAF.

#### How a DAF Works

- You make an irrevocable contribution from your personal assets. A DAF can be opened with as little as a \$25,000 initial contribution. Funding for a DAF can be done through a contribution of cash, securities, or appreciated assets.
- You immediately receive the maximum tax deduction allowed by the IRS.
- Name your DAF account, advisors, and any successors, or charitable beneficiaries.
- Your contribution is directed to a personal donor advised fund account which can be managed by GWM in a similar manner to other personal investment accounts.
- At your discretion, you can recommend grants to qualified charities and nonprofit
  organizations (501(c)(3)). A primary benefit of a DAF is that the charitable gift into the
  account is eligible for an immediate tax deduction, while you have the ability to gift from
  the account in subsequent years with no minimum annual gift amount.

Think of it as a Give-Grow-Grant process.

Please let us know if now is a good time to incorporate a strategic charitable gifting plan into our work financial planning work with you. It would be our pleasure to help maximize your long-term giving impact within broader planning strategies.

## What We're Reading



Matt Lowe, CFA, CFP® Managing Director

Greene Wealth Management 1301 Fifth Avenue, Suite 3410 Seattle, WA 98101 Phone 206-623-2200

Get In Touch

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Greene Wealth Management, LLC | 1301 Fifth Ave, Suite 3410 | Seattle, WA 98101 US

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