

Election Day 2016 is here and done. Donald Trump has been elected our new President. Obviously with the contentious run-up in this particular campaign, many people now have questions as to what this means for our personal financial picture as well as our country as a whole.

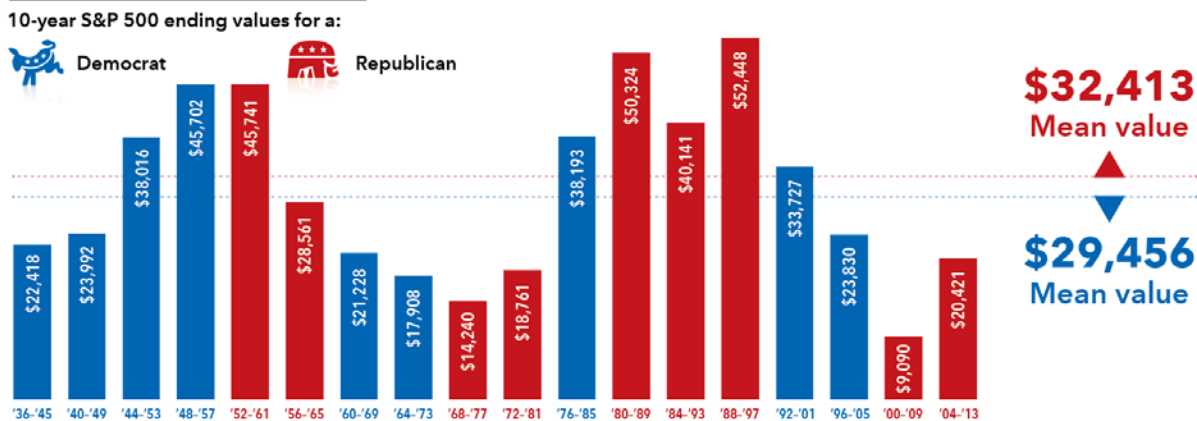
In the days ahead, there will be many and varied opinions from every financial pundit around. But no one truly knows at this early date what policies actually will be implemented by the new administration as it develops. We don't know yet exactly how those policies, when implemented, will affect the economy, the investment markets, and our financial plans.

On this topic, Joe and I would like to pass along a few thoughts. The underlying basis of our practice, in working for our clients, is that we look at the big picture, a client's entire financial picture from inception to end of life. We are long term investors, and that is something we stress to you at every opportunity. Only by taking this approach can we be assured of doing the best possible job for you as your life unfolds day by day, month by month, year by year. **WE INVEST FOR THE LONG TERM!**

So, we will be watching and monitoring carefully market activity going forward. One thing we do have faith in is the ability of people, companies, and markets to adapt. We still have an open society, a pretty much free market system, and opportunities for talented persons to innovate and succeed. So, let's give some long-term perspective.

Below is a chart of market results (measured by the S&P 500) for every ten-year period for investments made at the beginning of an election year. It is interesting to note that there is only one ten-year period (2000-2009) where the S&P 500 was actually a loss at the end of ten years. And it doesn't seem to matter which party won the election.

Growth of a Hypothetical \$10,000 Investment Made at the Beginning of an Election Year



Each 10-year period begins on January 1 of the first year shown and ends on December 31 of the final year shown. For example, the first period listed (1936-1945) covers 1/1/36 through 12/31/45.
Past results are not predictive of results in future periods.
 Standard & Poor's 500 Composite Index is a market capitalization-weighted index based on the results of 500 widely held common stocks. The market index is unmanaged and, therefore, has no expenses. Investors cannot invest directly in an index.

For those of you who might be concerned about that one "losing decade", here are some other facts: The ¹Russell 2000 index (small cap stocks) was up 3.51% in that decade; the ²Russell Mid-Cap index was up 4.98%; the ³MSCI EAFE (international stocks) was up 1.58%, and the ⁴Barclays U.S. Aggregate bond index was up 6.33% during the 2000-2009 decade. A properly diversified portfolio would still have made money even though the large-company S&P 500 did not. Of course, it is the S&P 500 and the Dow Jones Industrials that get all the media attention, but our portfolios are more diversified than that.

In conclusion, we offer the same advice we always do: We have worked with you to develop your personal financial plan, and we encourage you to stay the course, visit with us to make adjustments as life changes occur, and let us manage the market expectations and ins and outs of investment choices and decisions. That is what we do.

As always, if you have concerns or questions, please give us a call. We hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday season.

The statements above are the opinion of Kevin N. Tucker, CFP, as of November 9, 2016, and are subject to change at any time without notice. The above statements are not a recommendation of any investment product nor a solicitation to buy or sell any security. Past performance is not an indication of future results.

¹ *Russell 2000 is an index of 2000 smaller-company stocks traded in the US.*

² *Russell MidCap Index measures the performance of 800 smaller companies*

³ *The MSCI EAFE (Europe, Australasia, Far East) is an index considered to be representative of the returns of 21 developed foreign stock markets. It is a total return index.*

⁴ *Barclays US Aggregate indexes measure the performance of investment grade, U.S. dollar-denominated, fixed-rate taxable bond market securities with the maturities shown, including Treasuries, Agency, mortgage-related, and corporate securities.*



Mark your calendars for our Christmas Open House

Friday, December 9th, from 3pm – 6:30 pm.

Plan to stop by to celebrate with us! We'll have food, beverages, and fun to share.