



October 7, 2020

Dear Valued Clients:

We look forward to seeing many of you virtually at several upcoming conference annual meetings this fall! In the meantime, please find below a market summary from our Chief Investment Strategist, David Klassen, and a few updates from UCF.

“Global financial markets continued to be positive in the third quarter led by emerging markets. The strength of large cap securities in the U.S. resulted in a positive YTD return for the S&P 500. This is against a backdrop of continued economic uncertainty due to the coronavirus outbreak and the U.S. presidential election. For the third quarter, large cap stocks (S&P 500) returned 8.93%, and small cap stocks (Russell 2000 Index) were up 4.93%. International developed stocks were up 4.80% for the quarter, and emerging market equities were up 9.56%.

“Fixed income returns were positive within all strategies, led by riskier credit strategies particularly in the U.S. The U.S. 10-year Treasury yield fluctuated between 0.52% and 0.74% and ended the quarter at 0.69%. Third quarter performance for the Barclays Government Credit Index, a proxy for the broad U.S. fixed income market, was up 0.78%; bank loans were up 4.14%; and emerging market debt was up 2.28%.”

Account statements as of September 30, 2020, are available via the Client Access link on UCF’s website. If you **do not** have a login and password, please call us at 1-877-806-4989, or email us at info@ucfunds.org.

Matthew Wagner, Vice President, Institutional Relationships, has written a helpful guide that describes the building blocks for customized, workable and effective investment policy. Download the guide here: <https://bit.ly/3iUB2zr>. This is the first installment of a new Fiduciary Focus series that will be published regularly.

The United Church of Christ (UCC) has a long and commendable legacy of applying faith values to its economic practices, and this legacy guides UCF’s work in managing our client’s assets. Matthew Illian, Director of Responsible Investing, has created an infographic that shows the evolution of responsible investing in the UCC. View and download the infographic here: <https://bit.ly/3001roa>.

We invite you to join our next virtual Town Hall Meeting on October 27, at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Our team will share a recap of the third quarter of 2020 as well as our responsible investing efforts and progress. Register via this link: <https://bit.ly/3d1YbxC>.

Thank you for your trust in us as your partners in financial stewardship. If you have any questions, please contact us at 1-877-806-4989 or info@ucfunds.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charles Buck".

Charles Buck
President and CEO