

Perspective

This morning's job report showed an elevation in unemployment to 4.3%. In general, the Federal Reserve mandate is to achieve maximum employment and keep prices stable through monetary policy (controlling the supply of money). Increasing interest rates to battle inflation runs the risk of pushing the economy into recession. To date, the consumer has remained strong and the economy has continued to grow. Today's employment report can portend a weaker consumer increasing the risk of inflation. The expectation of a rate cut (increasing the supply of money) in September is extraordinarily high. The likelihood of increased market volatility is as well. It bears repeating, investing in the stock market is a long term commitment. Our job is to balance short term liquidity needs (which should not be invested in the market) with long term investments.

Please click <u>here</u> for our August 2nd Morning Market Dashboard. We encourage you to focus on the year-to-date column. Markets never move in a straight-line progression and corrections are in integral part of the journey.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact us.

Lyn Cameron

"The best ability is availability. When you work with and for the best people in the business and you love what you do, showing up every day is a joy, but more than that, it is a privilege." -Charlie Cameron

LYN CAMERON, CFP® | Senior Vice President, Financial Advisor, Portfolio Manager Icameron@dadco.com | p: 503.863.5085 | f: 503.863.5095 CAMERON WEALTH PLANNING 222 SW Columbia Street, Suite 1400 Portland, OR 97201

360 SW Bond Street, Suite 300 Bend, OR 97702

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