



January 2016 Market Report

Jeff Weisker, FEG

2016 is off to a rocky start. As of January 20, 2016, global capital markets were reeling amidst a broad selloff as investors re-priced risky assets to the downside. Most notably, the U.S. stock market's decline now finds itself in [correction territory](#), having dropped over 12%. [Read more...](#)

4 Reasons Tax Time is Legacy Giving Time

From late January until early April nearly every potential legacy donor is using some portion of their time to pull together all of the documents required for tax filings with a financial planner...

1) Year End Gift Acknowledgement is an Ideal Time to Introduce... Most of the charities my family has made gifts too and several where I have served on the board seem to be reluctant to even mention the idea of a legacy gift. From a donor's perspective this truly surprises me, because most donors involved in any aspect of estate planning are going to be naming one or more charities to be benefactors of such a gift.

2) It is Never Too Early...Literally, any charity that had been kind enough to introduce the concept of legacy giving would have had our full attention!...

3) A Special First Quarter Communication Plan... The wonderful part of such legacy giving introduction communication is the fact that no specific ask must be made. You are merely bringing an important concept into focus. It can be quite low key.

4) Build a Network of Key Advisors... Here are types to consider:

- Certified Financial Planners
- CPAs
- Estate Planning Attorneys
- Insurance Agents
- Stock Brokers
- Other Financial Planners
- Clergy

... **Please Do Something** No matter whether you embark upon all four actions outlined above or just a

couple you will have a long-term impact upon the mission of your organization.

[Read](#) full article from Bloomerang blog bloomerang@newsletter.feedpress.it on our website.

IRS Identity Theft Fact Sheet

Each January the IRS publishes a fact sheet for identity theft victims. In FS-2016-3 the IRS stated, “The IRS knows identity theft can be frustrating and confusing for victims. When it comes to tax-related identity theft, the Internal Revenue Service wants to resolve cases as quickly as possible. The IRS has worked hard to help victims of identity theft by making improvements and shortening the time it takes to resolve these complex situations.”

There are six recommended steps in the IRS procedures.

1. **File** – If you are not able to eFile, you must file for the year using a paper tax return.
2. **Report** – Use IRS Form 14039, Identity Theft Affidavit, and send it in with your paper tax return.
3. **IRS Response** – The Identity Theft Victim Assistance (IDTVA) section of the IRS will respond with a letter.
4. **Scope and Issues** – IDTVA will check to see if other years of your returns are suspect. There may be other victims on the fraudulent return filed with your name. IRS will also check to make sure that the returns have accurate names, addresses and Social Security Numbers.
5. **Refunds** – After the IRS reviews various issues, it will process a refund, if you are so entitled. The IRS goal is to resolve the case within 120 days.
6. **Future Returns** – You will receive an Identity Protection PIN number in a letter from the IRS. You may use this number on your future tax returns.

If the IRS suspects fraud, it will contact you by letter. The letter may ask you to go to idverify.irs.gov to enter information. There also will be a toll-free number to the IRS Taxpayer Protection Program.

[Further information](#) from the Federal Trade Commission is available on www.identitytheft.gov.

Rising Rates: What it will mean for stocks and bonds

The global economic system has been in a state of flux over the last few years with different parts of the world experiencing the effects of the financial crisis and the varying regional recovery cycles. This is worth mentioning as our rate hike will, undoubtedly, impact the rest of the globe because of the size and scope of our economy.

[Read](#) the full article on our website.

19-point Checklist for Email Acknowledgements

1. **Subject Line:** ...you can have some fun, set the donor-centric tone...
5. **Tone:** ...informal, conversational tone...
8. **Impact statement:** ...second paragraph...impact the donation made...

11. **Humanization:** ...a photo...a thank you video.

15. **"Tax receipt" and org name:** ...should appear in plain text somewhere...

For full list of [19 point check list](#) visit our website.

IRS Opens 2016 Tax Season

In *IR 2016-05*, the IRS announced that tax season will open on January 19, 2016. Because April 15 is Emancipation Day, taxpayers may file until Monday, April 18. There are two exceptions – taxpayers in Maine and Massachusetts will observe Patriot's Day on April 18 and may file until April 19.

For more details [continue reading...](#)

Loaves & Fishes: Working for God

Caution: Working for God can be hazardous to your spiritual life!

Date: March 8, 2016 2:00 – 3:00 PM (EDT)

Presenter: Loreen Duquin

Sign up for this [free webinar](#) to learn more.