

# NORTHSTAR

FINANCIAL PARTNERS

January, 2022

To recap 2021: Hunker down from COVID / Summer relief / Hunker down from COVID. Traded Trump for Biden. Infrastructure bill passes, but not much else. Extreme weather, fires, otherwise fairly mild. But wait- consumers in great shape, stock market up, wages generally higher. A year to remember.... And then move on.

How about 2022? Consumers are still in great shape and .... Uncertainty. How will Omicron turn out? Will China or Russia cause trouble for the US? When will the supply chains catch up? What unknown is out there for us?

The trick is to figure out how much is just noise and what is real. Most of the time all of the fuss is just that, noise, and not something to figure into the calculation. Here is what we think is important:

- The Omicron strain does not seem to be as severe as the Delta strain, meaning that businesses should be able to stay open and continue to grow
- Even though labor markets are tight, business investment is still strong, indicating continued growth in the economy
- Interest rates are still low, helping people buy homes, cars, vacations, etc. Just need the supply chains to catch up and the disease to relent.

The road to higher stock prices will be bumpy this year. Bonds will fight rising interest rates to show slight gains. Elections come in the fall. Enjoy 2022! 😊

This is the time of year that we make New Year's resolutions and set goals and make plans for the coming year. Here is a video by Eduardo Briceno that addresses: "How to get better at the things you care about", which can make us more effective at meeting those objectives in 2022.

[https://www.ted.com/talks/eduardo\\_briceno\\_how\\_to\\_get\\_better\\_at\\_the\\_things\\_you\\_care\\_about?language=en#t-51848](https://www.ted.com/talks/eduardo_briceno_how_to_get_better_at_the_things_you_care_about?language=en#t-51848)

Did you make a resolution to be more financially healthy this year? It's never too late to start organizing your finances, and with the new year this may be a good time to review. Here is a 10-point checklist of some key points to check on with your finances here in January and to guide you for the upcoming year.

[Your Guide To Year End Financial Planning: A 10-Point Checklist - NorthStar Financial Partners \(northstarfp.net\)](https://www.northstarfp.net/your-guide-to-year-end-financial-planning-a-10-point-checklist)

## Market Summary

As of December 31, 2021

<b>S&amp;P 500:</b>	4766.18
<b>Dow Ind.:</b>	36338.30
<b>Nasdaq:</b>	15644.97
<b>10 YR Treas.:</b>	1.51%

We want to announce a new advisor to our staff- Kirsten Keefe. Kirsten is a graduate of St. Mary's University in Winona, MN with a degree in Finance and Management. She started with our firm in August, as a paraplanner, with the plan for her to be an advisor in January, 2022. She has passed all of her licensing tests and is ready to go!

Over time, we will introduce her to clients of which she will eventually service and develop. She will also be encouraged to bring in new clients to the firm, from her natural market and referrals. She will be responsible for helping to develop client financial plans and monitoring financial portfolios.

For our 401(k) clients, Kirsten will handle new enrollments at our current 401(k) clients and solicit new plans for the firm. She has recently completed the course Fundamentals of Qualified Plans through FIS, giving her the basics of the 401(k) plan work done by our firm. It will be her responsibility, along with other members of the team, to build relationships with both plan sponsors and the individual participants, to better establish our position with their firm and employees.

A quote from Kirsten: *"The reason I am in this business is to honestly help people, help people reach their financial goals and ease the stress that comes with financial decisions. Seeing the weight lifted off people's shoulders when we develop a financial plan for them or help guide them to proper investment vehicles, is the reason the business is so fulfilling. It is my job to be an expert in this area and to share that expertise with clients to reduce their stress and direct them as we move ahead."*

We are excited to have Kirsten step up to be an advisor in our firm!

Thank you and take care-



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S&P 500: The Standard & Poor's (S&P) 500 Index tracks the performance of 500 widely held, large-capitalization US stocks. The Barclays US Aggregate Index covers the dollar-denominated investment-grade fixed-rate taxable bond market. The Morgan Stanley Capital International Europe, Australia, Far East (MSCI EAFE) Index is a capitalization-weighted index that tracks the total return of common stocks in 21 developed-market countries within Europe, Australia and the Far East. DJIA- A price-weighted average of 30 actively traded blue-chip stocks, primarily industrials including stocks that trade on the New York Stock Exchange Nasdaq- A market-capitalization weighted index of the more than 3,000 common equities listed on the Nasdaq stock exchange