

Dividend Discretionary Strategy

WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Dividend Discretionary Strategy

3Q | 2025

Strategy Overview:

Our Dividend Discretionary Strategy is designed to serve as the center piece of any investor's portfolio. The goal of the strategy is to grow our client's wealth by investing in "best of breed" companies along with high conviction ETFs for broad diversification. The strategy looks to invest long-term while being mindful of taxes; however, we can make tactical changes based on company fundamentals and overall market conditions.

Why Invest in Stocks: (Market data sourced from Thomson Reuters*) The US stock market remains one of the most powerful wealth building tools available to investors. In the 20th century the United States endured two world wars and several other large military conflicts, the Great Depression, a dozen or so recessions and financial panics, oil shocks, flu epidemics, and the resignation of a disgraced president; yet the Dow rose from 66 to 11,497. So far in the 21st century the United States has endured the Dot-Com Bubble, 9/11 and other terrorist attacks, two Middle East Wars, the Great Recession, and COVID-19; yet the Dow has risen from 11,497 to 44,902*.

Our Outlook: (Market data sourced Morgan Stanley and fsinsight)

The U.S. stock market in Q2 2025 experienced a dramatic recovery, with the S&P 500 gaining 10.6% after a sharp 12.1% correction triggered by tariff announcements, marking its strongest quarter since Q4 2024. Technology stocks led the rally, with the Nasdaq climbing nearly 18%, while growth stocks outperformed value stocks, reversing Q1 trends. Despite early volatility from tariff fears, a 90-day pause on reciprocal tariffs spurred a V-shaped recover, pushing the S&P500 and Nasdaq to all time highs by June's end. Corporate earnings grew by 5% while the labor market remained healthy.

Despite the rocky start in Q1 we remained constructive on the stocks through 2025 and our conviction was rewarded. Stocks had a V-shaped recovery in the second quarter and we took advantage of the volatility by tax loss harvesting and upgrading positions. New additions to the portfolio included Avantis US Small Cap ETF, iShares MSCI Euro Financial, and Pepsico and our portfolio has remained inline with its benchmark year to date while outperforming it over the last 12 months and 3 years. Going forward we expect stocks to continue higher with the potential for some weakness between middle of August through the end of September before a rally into year end driven by less than feared tariffs, strong earnings and a robust economy that hasn't seen any deterioration in the labor market so far. We expect the Federal Reserve will also begin lowering rates before the end of year which ill be a further tailwind for stocks.

Portfolio Characteristics

| Benchmark | Russell 1000 VL |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Capitalization | Large |
| Style | Value |
| Holdings | 33 |
| AUM | \$73.5 MM* |
| Current Yield | 2.40%* |

Suitable For

- Investors seeking long term capital appreciation and income.
- Investors who have a longtime horizon, at least 5 years or more.
- Investors who can handle high volatility and afford loss of principal.
- More appropriate for taxable accounts.
- Investors who need to frequently withdraw from the account.

Morgan Stanley

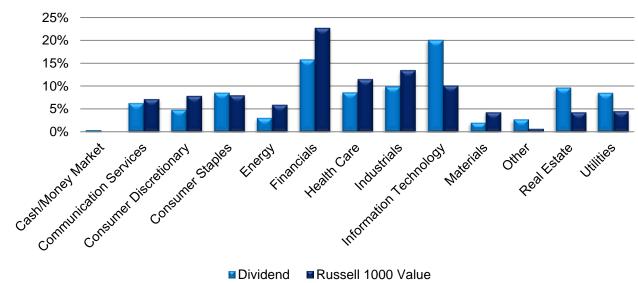
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Portfolio Holdings*

| Company | Ticker | Sector | Subsector | Headquarters |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| ABBVIE INC | ABBV | Health Care | Pharmaceuticals | Chicago, IL |
| ALPHABET INC (A) | GOOGL | Communication Services | Online Services | Mountain View, CA |
| ALTRIA GROUP INC | MO | Consumer Staples | Tobacco | Richmond, VA |
| AMERICAN EXPRESS CO | AXP | Financials | Consumer Finance | New York, NY |
| APPLE INC | AAPL | Information Technology | Computer Hardware | Cupertino, CA |
| AVANTIS U.S SMALL CAP EQUITY ETF | AVSC | US Small Caps | Core | Los Angeles, CA |
| BANK OF AMERICA CORP NEW | BAC | Financials | Banks | Charlotte, NC |
| BLACKSTONE INC | BX | Financials | Asset Managers | New York, NY |
| BROADCOM INC | AVGO | Information Technology | Semiconductors | San Jose, CA |
| DEERE & CO | DE | Industrials | Heavy Machinery & Vehicles | Moline, IL |
| DUKE ENERGY CORP NEW | DUK | Utilities | Multi-Utilities | Charlotte, NC |
| EXXON MOBIL CORP | XOM | Energy | Integrated Oil and Gas | Irving, TX |
| GAMING AND LEISURE PROPERTIES INC | GLPI | Real Estate | Specialty REITs | Wyomissing, PA |
| HOME DEPOT INC | HD | Consumer Discretionary | Home Improvement Retailers | Atlanta, GA |
| HONEYWELL INTERNATIONAL INC | HON | Industrials | Diversified Industrials | Charlotte, NC |
| INTERNATIONAL PAPER CO | IP | Materials | Paper | Memphis, TN |
| INTL BUSINESS MACHINES | IBM | Information Technology | Software and Computer Services | Armonk, NY |
| | | | | |
| ISHARES MSCI EUROPE FINANCIAL ETF | EUFN | Europe | Financials | New York, NY |
| | EUFN IDU | 0, | • | , |
| ISHARES MSCI EUROPE FINANCIAL ETF | | Europe | Financials | New York, NY |
| ISHARES MSCI EUROPE FINANCIAL ETF ISHARES U.S. UTILITIES ETF | IDU | Europe Utilities | Financials Core | New York, NY New York, NY |
| ISHARES MSCI EUROPE FINANCIAL ETF ISHARES U.S. UTILITIES ETF JOHNSON AND JOHNSON | IDU JNJ | Europe Utilities Health Care | Financials Core Pharmaceuticals | New York, NY New York, NY New Brunswick, NJ |
| ISHARES MSCI EUROPE FINANCIAL ETF ISHARES U.S. UTILITIES ETF JOHNSON AND JOHNSON JPMORGAN CHASE & CO | IDU JNJ JPM | Europe Utilities Health Care Financials | Financials Core Pharmaceuticals Banks | New York, NY New York, NY New Brunswick, NJ New York, NY |
| ISHARES MSCI EUROPE FINANCIAL ETF ISHARES U.S. UTILITIES ETF JOHNSON AND JOHNSON JPMORGAN CHASE & CO LOCKHEED MARTIN CORP | IDU JNJ JPM LMT | Europe Utilities Health Care Financials Industrials | Financials Core Pharmaceuticals Banks Defense | New York, NY New York, NY New Brunswick, NJ New York, NY Bethesda, MD |
| ISHARES MSCI EUROPE FINANCIAL ETF ISHARES U.S. UTILITIES ETF JOHNSON AND JOHNSON JPMORGAN CHASE & CO LOCKHEED MARTIN CORP MCDONALDS CORP | IDU JNJ JPM LMT MCD | Europe Utilities Health Care Financials Industrials Consumer Discretionary | Financials Core Pharmaceuticals Banks Defense Restaurants & Bars | New York, NY New York, NY New Brunswick, NJ New York, NY Bethesda, MD Chicago, IL |
| ISHARES MSCI EUROPE FINANCIAL ETF ISHARES U.S. UTILITIES ETF JOHNSON AND JOHNSON JPMORGAN CHASE & CO LOCKHEED MARTIN CORP MCDONALDS CORP META PLATFORMS INC | IDU JNJ JPM LMT MCD META | Europe Utilities Health Care Financials Industrials Consumer Discretionary Communication Services | Financials Core Pharmaceuticals Banks Defense Restaurants & Bars Online Services | New York, NY New York, NY New Brunswick, NJ New York, NY Bethesda, MD Chicago, IL Menlo Park, CA |
| ISHARES MSCI EUROPE FINANCIAL ETF ISHARES U.S. UTILITIES ETF JOHNSON AND JOHNSON JPMORGAN CHASE & CO LOCKHEED MARTIN CORP MCDONALDS CORP META PLATFORMS INC MICROSOFT CORP | IDU JNJ JPM LMT MCD META MSFT | Europe Utilities Health Care Financials Industrials Consumer Discretionary Communication Services Information Technology | Financials Core Pharmaceuticals Banks Defense Restaurants & Bars Online Services Software | New York, NY New York, NY New Brunswick, NJ New York, NY Bethesda, MD Chicago, IL Menlo Park, CA Redmond, WA |
| ISHARES MSCI EUROPE FINANCIAL ETF ISHARES U.S. UTILITIES ETF JOHNSON AND JOHNSON JPMORGAN CHASE & CO LOCKHEED MARTIN CORP MCDONALDS CORP META PLATFORMS INC MICROSOFT CORP PEPSICO INC | IDU JNJ JPM LMT MCD META MSFT PEP | Europe Utilities Health Care Financials Industrials Consumer Discretionary Communication Services Information Technology Consumer Staples | Financials Core Pharmaceuticals Banks Defense Restaurants & Bars Online Services Software Non-Alcoholic Beverages | New York, NY New York, NY New Brunswick, NJ New York, NY Bethesda, MD Chicago, IL Menlo Park, CA Redmond, WA Purchase, NY |
| ISHARES MSCI EUROPE FINANCIAL ETF ISHARES U.S. UTILITIES ETF JOHNSON AND JOHNSON JPMORGAN CHASE & CO LOCKHEED MARTIN CORP MCDONALDS CORP META PLATFORMS INC MICROSOFT CORP PEPSICO INC QUALCOMM INC | IDU JNJ JPM LMT MCD META MSFT PEP QCOM | Europe Utilities Health Care Financials Industrials Consumer Discretionary Communication Services Information Technology Consumer Staples Information Technology | Financials Core Pharmaceuticals Banks Defense Restaurants & Bars Online Services Software Non-Alcoholic Beverages Semiconductors | New York, NY New York, NY New Brunswick, NJ New York, NY Bethesda, MD Chicago, IL Menlo Park, CA Redmond, WA Purchase, NY San Diego, CA |
| ISHARES MSCI EUROPE FINANCIAL ETF ISHARES U.S. UTILITIES ETF JOHNSON AND JOHNSON JPMORGAN CHASE & CO LOCKHEED MARTIN CORP MCDONALDS CORP META PLATFORMS INC MICROSOFT CORP PEPSICO INC QUALCOMM INC RTX CORPORATION | IDU JNJ JPM LMT MCD META MSFT PEP QCOM RTX | Europe Utilities Health Care Financials Industrials Consumer Discretionary Communication Services Information Technology Consumer Staples Information Technology Industrials | Financials Core Pharmaceuticals Banks Defense Restaurants & Bars Online Services Software Non-Alcoholic Beverages Semiconductors Defense | New York, NY New York, NY New Brunswick, NJ New York, NY Bethesda, MD Chicago, IL Menlo Park, CA Redmond, WA Purchase, NY San Diego, CA Arlington, VA |
| ISHARES MSCI EUROPE FINANCIAL ETF ISHARES U.S. UTILITIES ETF JOHNSON AND JOHNSON JPMORGAN CHASE & CO LOCKHEED MARTIN CORP MCDONALDS CORP META PLATFORMS INC MICROSOFT CORP PEPSICO INC QUALCOMM INC RTX CORPORATION SIMON PROPERTY GROUP INC NEW | IDU JNJ JPM LMT MCD META MSFT PEP QCOM RTX SPG | Europe Utilities Health Care Financials Industrials Consumer Discretionary Communication Services Information Technology Consumer Staples Information Technology Industrials Real Estate Information Technology Health Care | Financials Core Pharmaceuticals Banks Defense Restaurants & Bars Online Services Software Non-Alcoholic Beverages Semiconductors Defense Retail REITs | New York, NY New York, NY New Brunswick, NJ New York, NY Bethesda, MD Chicago, IL Menlo Park, CA Redmond, WA Purchase, NY San Diego, CA Arlington, VA Indianapolis, ID |
| ISHARES MSCI EUROPE FINANCIAL ETF ISHARES U.S. UTILITIES ETF JOHNSON AND JOHNSON JPMORGAN CHASE & CO LOCKHEED MARTIN CORP MCDONALDS CORP META PLATFORMS INC MICROSOFT CORP PEPSICO INC QUALCOMM INC RTX CORPORATION SIMON PROPERTY GROUP INC NEW T-MOBILE US INC | IDU JNJ JPM LMT MCD META MSFT PEP QCOM RTX SPG TMUS UNH WMT | Europe Utilities Health Care Financials Industrials Consumer Discretionary Communication Services Information Technology Consumer Staples Information Technology Industrials Real Estate Information Technology | Financials Core Pharmaceuticals Banks Defense Restaurants & Bars Online Services Software Non-Alcoholic Beverages Semiconductors Defense Retail REITs Semiconductors | New York, NY New York, NY New Brunswick, NJ New York, NY Bethesda, MD Chicago, IL Menlo Park, CA Redmond, WA Purchase, NY San Diego, CA Arlington, VA Indianapolis, ID Dallas, TX |
| ISHARES MSCI EUROPE FINANCIAL ETF ISHARES U.S. UTILITIES ETF JOHNSON AND JOHNSON JPMORGAN CHASE & CO LOCKHEED MARTIN CORP MCDONALDS CORP META PLATFORMS INC MICROSOFT CORP PEPSICO INC QUALCOMM INC RTX CORPORATION SIMON PROPERTY GROUP INC NEW T-MOBILE US INC UNITEDHEALTH GROUP INC (DEL) | IDU JNJ JPM LMT MCD META MSFT PEP QCOM RTX SPG TMUS UNH | Europe Utilities Health Care Financials Industrials Consumer Discretionary Communication Services Information Technology Consumer Staples Information Technology Industrials Real Estate Information Technology Health Care | Financials Core Pharmaceuticals Banks Defense Restaurants & Bars Online Services Software Non-Alcoholic Beverages Semiconductors Defense Retail REITs Semiconductors Health Care Providers | New York, NY New York, NY New Brunswick, NJ New York, NY Bethesda, MD Chicago, IL Menlo Park, CA Redmond, WA Purchase, NY San Diego, CA Arlington, VA Indianapolis, ID Dallas, TX Hopkins, MN |

Sample Holdings within the model portfolio as of July 24th, 2025. These sample holdings are for informational purposes only and should not be deemed to be a recommendation to purchase or sell the securities mentioned. There are no guarantees that any securities mentioned will be held in a client's account. It should not be assumed that the securities transactions or holdings discussed were or will be profitable. Data are indicative only as of the given date. Holdings will fluctuate, and no assurance can be given that an actual portfolio will be able to obtain the same attributes. Please see additional importation at the end of this report.

Portfolio Sector Allocation*



* As of July 24th, 2025

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