

A Closer Look:

Q3 2025: Our Global Strategies Recap

Our Founder



Robert C. Stimson, CPA Founder, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer

Company Overview

Little House Capital, LLC is an SEC Registered Investment Advisor. The firm was established to redefine the wealth management experience by integrating investment management, financial planning, and complex estate and tax strategies. We provide seamless and comprehensive goal-based solutions that seek to achieve desired outcomes for individuals, families, trusts, foundations, and endowments.

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Our proprietary global investment strategies consist of three key themes:

1) Income, 2) Core, and 3) Growth

Each strategy is tailored to align with distinct investment styles and risk objectives to meet the unique needs of every client. Our investment performance adheres to Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS), reflecting principles of full disclosure and fair representation. GIPS® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein. To receive additional GIPS reports and/or our firm's list of composite/pooled fund descriptions, please email your request to LHC@Littlehousecapital.com.

[For more information visit our website: <u>Littlehousecapital.com</u>]

Our comments in the note below refer to the *Core Maximizer Global Growth with Income strategy*, which represents a typical 60% Equity / 40% Fixed Income allocation. Our investment team employs active (i.e., tactical) allocation across various asset classes and evaluates performance against a pre-determined benchmark (i.e., strategic weighting).

Chart 1 below shows our tactical positioning vs. our strategic benchmark. The Income Maximizer Global 60/40 strategy has gained 11.8% YTD (11.0% net), versus the benchmark's 11.7%.

Current Top-Down Asset Class Positioning:

ASSET CLASS	UNDERWEIGHT	NEUTRAL	OVERWEIGHT	PRIOR RATING
EQUITIES			1	=
US LARGE CAP			1	1
US SMIDCAP		=		=
INTERNATIONAL	1			Û
EMERGING MARKETS	1			1
BONDS	1			1
TREASURIES		=		Û
CORPORATES			1	1
HIGH YIELD	1			Û
MUNICIPALS			1	1
ALTERNATIVES		=		1
PRECIOUS METALS	1			Û
COMMODITIES	1			<u>1</u>
EQUITY HEDGES	1			Û
HEDGE FUNDS			1	1
CASH		=		1

Chart 1: Tactical vs. Strategic Weighting / Source: Little House Capital

A more detailed explanation of our tactical positioning across equities, bonds, alternatives, and cash is included within.



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Equities—Overweight:

Markets extended their upward momentum in the third quarter of 2025, continuing to reach new all-time highs. What began early in the year as a period of geopolitical uncertainty, evolved into one of sustained equity strength and broadly positive earnings. With inflation trending lower and labor market conditions softening, the Federal Reserve has entered a phase of gradual rate cuts—expected to proceed cautiously and at a measured pace. While valuations appear elevated, strong balance sheets and earnings have bolstered investor confidence in the market's current standing.

The markets broaden out in the third quarter with small- and mid-cap stocks outperforming large-cap, with the Russell 2000 up 12.4%, while the S&P 500 posted an 8.1% return in the quarter. From a sector perspective, Information Technology (11.5%), Consumer Discretionary (10.5%), and Communication Services (9.5%) led the market during the quarter. Technology strength was fueled by ongoing momentum in artificial intelligence (AI) and robust earnings across the sector, as firms continue to secure strategic partnerships and invest in future innovation. Consumer discretionary names benefited from resilient spending on premium and luxury goods, particularly among brands with strong pricing power and global recognition. Communication services performance was driven by AI integration and

US Small Cap and Emerging Markets Gain

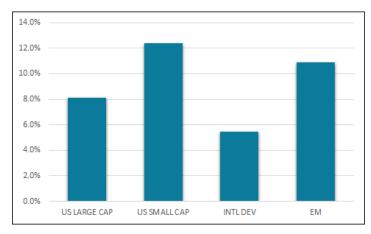


Chart 2: Q3 2025 Returns by Geography / Source: Bloomberg

stronger-than-expected streaming revenues. The lone area of weakness was Consumer Staples (-2.5%), where persistent inflation pressures led to margin compression and relative underperformance.

Our strategies were positioned to benefit from many of these themes. During the quarter, we maintained an overweight position to U.S. large-cap equities (+8.1%) relative to developed international (+4.5%). In regard to sectors, we continued to favor Information Technology—a sector that has consistently driven market performance this year—while also emphasizing high-quality U.S. companies with strong earnings visibility and durable balance sheets.

Heading into the fourth quarter, the economic backdrop remains mixed. Inflation has moderated but remains above the Fed's long-term target. Labor metrics—including employment, job openings, and wage growth—have softened, prompting the Fed's first rate cut in this cycle, with the potential for additional easing before year-end. Importantly, equity markets have continued to advance even ahead of policy stimulus, supported by steady capital investment and balance sheet health.

Tech and Communication Services Lead

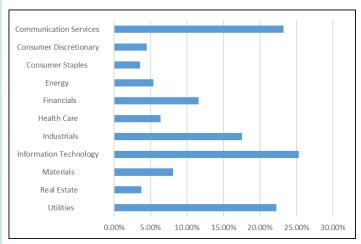


Chart 3: YTD Returns by GICS Economic Sector / Source: Bloomberg



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Bonds—Underweight:

Fixed income markets rebounded in the third quarter, following a period of volatility earlier in the year. Bonds have continued to play a crucial role in providing stability for diversified portfolios, while delivering meaningful returns for investors. Although recent equity performance has dominated headlines, the bond market also saw notable gains, particularly following the Fed's first rate cut of the cycle. The move supported broad price appreciation across U.S. Treasuries and corporate bonds, while a steepening yield curve created opportunities in intermediate- and long-duration segments. Municipal bonds also remained attractive, offering historically favorable yields relative to long-term Treasuries.

Performance for the year has reflected the market's sensitivity to interest rate expectations. Intermediate bonds outperformed, gaining approximately +7.3%, compared to +6.8% for long-dated maturities and +4.7% for short-duration bonds. As yields moved lower, duration once again became a key driver of total return, rewarding investors positioned further out on the curve. This reinforced the value of maintaining balanced duration exposure as the Fed transitions toward a more accommodative stance.

In response to the evolving macroeconomic environment, we continued to strategically extend the duration of our bond portfolios to position for future rate cuts and potential capital appreciation as yields decline. Our current positioning follows a barbell approach—built primarily with individual corporate bonds and taxable municipal holdings, supplemented by exchange-traded funds (ETFs) that are largely composed of U.S. Treasuries. This structure allows us to balance credit exposure with high-quality, liquid assets, while maintaining flexibility to adjust duration and credit risk as market conditions evolve.

Investment-grade corporate bonds rallied during the quarter, supported by narrowing credit spreads and steady demand. Municipal bonds experienced sustained inflows amid their compelling after-tax yields and solid fiscal conditions across state and local governments. For high-income investors, municipals continued to serve as a reliable, tax-advantaged component within diversified portfolios—providing steady income alongside strong equity performance elsewhere.

Intermediate Duration Outperforms

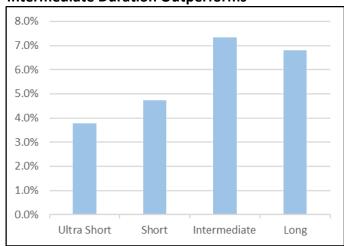


Chart 6: YTD Fixed Income Performance by Duration / Source: Bloomberg

The key takeaway from the quarter is that bond performance strengthened meaningfully, but future gains will depend on the Fed's path of rate cuts. While inflation remains above target, the softening labor market has already prompted monetary easing. Looking ahead to Q4, investors will be closely watching the Fed's timing and magnitude of additional cuts—both as a signal for continued market support and as a guide for positioning within fixed income portfolios.

Ultimately, as equities approach extended valuations, fixed income securities continue to provide a vital source of balance, stability, and income, reaffirming their role as a cornerstone of disciplined portfolio construction.



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Alternatives—Equal Weight:

We have reallocated our holdings to a more equally weighted position in alternative investments. This allocation is designed to be uncorrelated to traditional asset classes, especially as equities and fixed income have become increasingly more correlated in today's market. The goal is to reduce our overall portfolio volatility, while additionally seeking to benefit from uncorrelated growth.

Year-to-date as of 9/30/25, our alternatives sleeve — comprised of the Victory Market Neutral Income Fund (CBHIX), the Fulcrum Diversified Absolute Return Fund (FARIX), and the iShares Bitcoin Trust ETF — delivered returns of 4.8%, 9.7%, 17.9%, respectively. Our small allocation in the iShares Bitcoin Trust ETF has also allowed us to experience the significant growth in the digital currency. The results have provided a meaningful hedge against the US dollar while also witnessing upside gains and potential.

CBHIX is comprised of a multi-strategy market-neutral approach — seeking income from derivatives while maintaining low correlation to equity and fixed income markets. FARIX is a macro-driven absolute return strategy that offers a mix of traditional securities, along with currencies and commodities, to obtain returns while hedging against extreme losses. These funds help maintain a low portfolio beta, while also serving as a defensive component during periods of market stress.

Looking ahead, we continue to actively research new possibilities across multiple alternative investment opportunities. This includes, but is not limited to, private debt, private equity, and real assets. These segments offer appealing long-term potential as interest rates continue to decrease, and global infrastructure investment accelerates. We are mindful of the risk that these investments may contain, without detracting from the recent—and hopefully continued—success in the equity and fixed income markets.

Our team will continue to assess new opportunities to enhance diversification and improve portfolio resilience.

Cash—Equal Weight:

At the end of the quarter our cash position was ~4%, which is once again in line with our strategic benchmark. Excess cash in client portfolios remains primarily in government money market funds through Schwab and Fidelity. These funds invest in taxable short-term securities backed by the U.S. government, and provide capital stability, liquidity, and current income while minimizing default risk.

With current yields at around 4%, and having decreased, these holdings offer flexibility and downside protection as we assess opportunities on where to deploy additional capital. This position allows us to maintain a cautious stance while seeking to strategically allocate cash as market conditions evolve.

Short Term Yields Coming Down from Peak

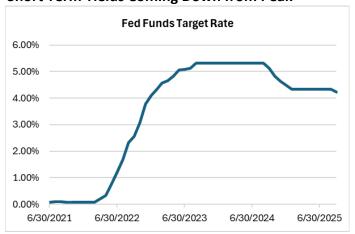


Chart 7: Fed Funds Target Rate / Source: Bloomberg



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Appendix

Asset Class Performance

	September	3 Months	6 Months	Year To Date	Last 12 Months	Last 3 Years
Communication Services	5.60%	12.04%	33.07%	23.20%	35.55%	168.28%
Consumer Discretionary	3.22%	9.54%	21.94%	4.41%	20.31%	75.16%
Consumer Staples	-1.56%	-2.36%	0.36%	3.51%	0.51%	35.22%
Energy	-0.43%	6.21%	-1.84%	5.31%	4.43%	36.93%
Financials	0.14%	3.22%	10.30%	11.54%	20.66%	87.23%
Health Care	1.78%	3.76%	-2.81%	6.31%	-7.95%	21.18%
Industrials	1.84%	4.91%	19.26%	17.50%	15.40%	95.21%
Information Technology	7.25%	13.19%	40.07%	25.25%	28.22%	176.24%
Materials	-2.08%	3.10%	7.48%	8.04%	-4.27%	41.49%
Real Estate	0.49%	2.59%	3.56%	3.67%	-2.24%	30.34%
Utilities	4.15%	7.57%	13.35%	22.21%	11.20%	46.64%

Chart 8: Asset Class Return Heatmap / Source: Bloomberg

The table above displays asset class performance across various time periods. The color shading represents return percentages, with lighter shades indicating higher returns and darker shades indicating lower or negative returns for each period. Returns are provided for specific time frames, including September, 3 Months, 6 Months, Year to Date, Last 12 Months, Last 3 Years, and Last 5 Years.

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Year End	Total Firm Assets (USD) (Millions)	Composite Assets (USD) (Thousands)	Number of Portfolios	Composite Returns Gross	Composite Returns Net	Custom Blended Benchmark Returns	Composite Dispersion	Composite 3-Yr Std Dev	Custom Blended Benchmark 3-Yr Std Dev
2024	647.80	42,737.39	20	13.15%	12.02%	10.78%	1.49%	10.88%	11.32%
2023	519.86	29,540.34	16	14.67%	13.53%	14.70%	0.51%	10.58%	11.07%
2022	388.00	28,181.20	17	-14.08%	-14.94%	-13.47%	0.62%	12.06%	12.71%
2021	324.27	30,930.06	17	9.44%	8.35%	10.40%	0.50%	9.54%	10.22%
2020	211.57	33,244.02	18	10.87%	9.77%	12.77%	0.72%	N/A ²	N/A ²
2019	169.54	19,843.08	14	18.71%	17.53%	18.54%	1.41%	N/A ²	N/A ²
2018*	124.33	12,621.81	9	-7.70%	-8.54%	-6.86%	N/A ¹	N/A ²	N/A ²

NA1 - Composite dispersion is not presented for periods with five or fewer portfolios in the composite for the entire year.

NA² - The three-year annualized standard deviation is not presented for periods before 36 consecutive months of data is available.

^{*} Performance is for a partial period from February 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018.

Period - As of 12/31/2024	Gross Returns	Net Returns	Custom Blended Benchmark Returns		
1-Year	13.15%	12.02%	10.78%		
5-Year	6.23%	5.17%	6.48%		
Since-Inception	5.85%	4.80%	6.15%		

^{*}Since-inception performance is calculated for the period beginning February 1, 2018.

Core Maximizer Global 60/40 Composite: This objective is for clients primarily seeking long-term growth of principal with a secondary emphasis on current income. Provides global exposure to asset classes while attempting to balance risk-adjusted returns. Blends a comprehensive set of individual equities, active strategies, and alternative instruments. Key risks include the general risks of common stock, fixed income, and preferred stock investments and specific risks due to the concentration of the portfolio within specific securities and sectors. Additional risks include that security prices may decline, and the strategy may experience loss of principal. Prior to December 2024, the composite was known as Core Maximizer Global Growth with Income. The Core Maximizer Global 60/40 composite is compared against a custom blended benchmark comprised of 3.6% Bloomberg Municipal Bond Index, 16.2% Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index, 16.2% Bloomberg US Intermediate Credit Index, 8% iShares 0-3 Month Treasury Bond ETF, 10.1% MSCI EAFE Index, 6.7% MSCI Emerging Markets Index, 7.8% Russell 2500 Index, 3.9% Russell 3000 Index, 27.4% S&P 500 Index. The custom benchmark is calculated by weighting the respective index returns on a daily basis. The Core Maximizer Global 60/40 composite has a minimum of \$25,000. The Core Maximizer Global 60/40 composite was created in January 2018 and incepted on January 31, 2018.

Little House Capital, LLC ("Little House") is a registered investment adviser with United States Securities and Exchange Commission in accordance with the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. The firm's full list of composite descriptions is available upon request.

Little House claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®) and has prepared and presented this report in compliance with the GIPS standards. Little House has been independently verified for the periods January 31, 2018 through December 31, 2023. The verification report is available upon request.

A firm that claims compliance with the GIPS standards must establish policies and procedures for complying with all the applicable requirements of the GIPS standards. Verification provides assurance on whether the firm's policies and procedures related to composite and pooled fund maintenance, as well as the calculation, presentation, and distribution of performance, have been designed in compliance with the GIPS standards and have been implemented on a firm-wide basis. Verification does not provide assurance on the accuracy of any specific performance report.

Results are based on fully discretionary accounts under management, including those accounts no longer with the firm. Past performance is not indicative of future results. Returns include the reinvestment of all income.

The currency used to express performance is USD. Gross-of-fee returns are reduced by trading costs. Net-of-fee returns are calculated using a model fee of 1%. The model fee was calculated by reducing the gross returns by the highest tier of the current composite fee schedule. Composite dispersion is measured by the asset-weighted standard deviation of annual gross returns of those portfolios included in the composite for the full year. The 3-year annualized standard deviation measures the variability of the composite gross returns and benchmark returns over the preceding 36-month period. Policies for valuing investments, calculating performance, and preparing GIPS Reports are available upon request.

The investment management fee schedule for the composite is tiered at: 1.00% on the first \$1,000,000, 0.90% on the next \$1,000,000, 0.80% on the next \$3,000,000, and 0.70% on assets over \$5,000,000.

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^{*}Performance is annualized for periods greater than 1 year.



Benchmarks:

Bloomberg Municipal Bond Index - The Bloomberg Municipal Bond Index measures the performance of the U.S. Municipal bond market, which covers the USD- denominated Long-Term tax-exempt bond market with four main sectors: state and local general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, insured bonds, and pre-refunded bonds.

Bloomberg US Intermediate Credit Index - The Bloomberg US Intermediate Credit Index measures the investment grade, US dollar-denominated, fixed-rate, taxable corporate and government-related bond markets with a maturity greater than 1 year and less than 10 years.

Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index - Bloomberg US Aggregate Bond Index, or the Agg, is a broad base, market capitalization-weighted bond market index representing intermediate term investment grade bonds traded in the United States.

iShares 0-3 Month Treasury Bond ETF - The iShares 0-3 Month Treasury Bond ETF seeks to track the investment results of an index composed of U.S. Treasury bonds with remaining maturities of less than or equal to three months. The expense ratio as of December 31, 2024 is 0.09%. The ETF returns reflect the closing prices, which are determined by the last traded price of the ETF.

MSCI EAFE Index (Net) - The MSCI EAFE Index measures the performance of large- and mid-cap companies across 21 developed markets countries around the world. Canada and the USA are not included. EAFE is an acronym that stands for Europe, Australasia, and the Far East.

MSCI Emerging Markets Index (Net) - The MSCI Emerging Markets Index captures large and mid cap representation across 24 Emerging Markets (EM) countries. With 1,252 constituents, the index covers approximately 85% of the free float-adjusted market capitalization in each country.

Russell 2500 Index - The Russell 2500 Index is a subset of the Russell 3000® Index. It includes approximately 2500 of the smallest securities based on a combination of their market cap and current index membership. The Russell 2500 Index is constructed to provide a comprehensive and unbiased barometer for the small to mid-cap segment.

Russell 3000 Index - The Russell 3000 Index measures the performance of the largest 3,000 US companies representing approximately 96% of the investable US equity market, as of the most recent reconstitution.

S&P 500 Index - The S&P 500 Index is a market-capitalization-weighted index of the 500 largest U.S. publicly traded companies.

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