INVESTMENT FORUM AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2017 11:50AM,

Lord of Life Lutheran Church

Market Perspective. The market declined for the week, on global worries, particularly North Korea and Syria, and whether pro-growth US policies will actually happen. The DOW was down 1.0%; the S&P down 1.1%; and NASDAQ down 1.2%. Equities are now down nearly 3% from their peak in March. “Defensive” sectors (utilities, real estate, consumer staples) gained, and interest rates have come down - raising bond prices.

Investment Outlook 2017. This was the title of an AAII program this past Saturday, presented by Sam Stovall of CFRA. Alan Glenn will summarize the highlights of the somewhat bullish forecast for the rest of the year.

Defense Sector With all the saber-rattling and expected defense build-up, lets take a look at the defense sector. (Actually, defense is part of the industrials’ sector, so we will look at both.)

Future Topics

Economic Policies and Tax Reform. Brenda Bloch-Young will be the Forum Moderator on April 26, and will provide further thoughts on tax reform and the economic agenda, and how they may impact markets.

Value Investing (continued.) Tom Crooker and James Dann will provide further thoughts on May 3 and we will look at more value stock funds.

Retail Sector. On May 10, Ray Willson will look at the retail sector. “Bricks and mortar" retail has been hit hard, with Amazon and e-commerce as the biggest culprit. Where is retail heading? More pain, or is it at the bottom and upside ahead?

How Do You Pick Stocks? From our survey last May, I estimate that about half of us buy individual stocks. The other half buy only funds or use advisors, but I know that some of them would like to venture into the brave world of stock picking. For the stock pickers who have been doing it for some time, I would like you to share with us exactly how you select stocks - what you do from the time you think a stock is interesting, to when you click on “Place Order.” Including:

- What financial publications you read on an ongoing basis.
- Where and how you find stocks to put on your “shopping list,” that you may be interested in buying.
- What steps do you go through to consider buying? Valuation and financial metrics, opinions, articles from sources that you trust or believe worthwhile.
- What is they typical timeline from first thinking about a stock to final purchase?

- How difficult is it to click on the "Place Order" icon?
- Do you have second thoughts after the purchase?
- Do you have anecdotes or war stories about decisions that either went right, or wrong?

Please let me know if you are willing to share your experiences. We will spread these discussions over time.

Buys and Sells (weeks ending 4/12/2017)

<u>Buys</u>
Vanguard Short-Term Investment Grade Fund (VFSTX)
Ford (F) - add to
Carnival Corporation (CCL)
FedEx (FDX)
American Tower (AMT)

<u>Sells</u>
Nordstrom (JWN)
Ross Stores (ROST)
Schlumberger (SLB)
TEVA Pharmaceuticals (TEVA)
NVIDIA (NVDA)
Time Warner (TWX)
CVS (CVS)
Citizens Financial Group (CFG)
Zions Bancorp (ZION)
Accenture (ACN)
Abbott (ABT)
Amgen (AMGN)
Bristol Myers (BMY)
Gilead (GILD)
Novartris (NVS)
Anheuser Busch (BUD)

Rebalancing - sold partial positions in JP Morgan (JPM), Lockheed Martin (LMT), General Electric (GE) and purchased 3 bond ETFs: VCSH, JQC, BKLN

<u>Thinking About . . .</u>
Adding to NVIDIA (NVDA)

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