2First Trust

Stock Index Performance Week YTD Index 12-mo. 2011 5-vr. Dow Jones Industrial Avg. (13,010) 3.42% 9.15% 18.80% 8.41% 2.90% S&P 500 (1,409) 3.65% 14.32% 24.06% 2.12% 1.79% NASDAQ 100 (2,640) 4.19% 17.23% 23.31% 3.69% 6.31% S&P 500 Growth 22.32% 4.70% 3.82% 3.70% 14.11% S&P 500 Value 3.61% 14.65% 26.19% -0.48% -0.30% S&P MidCap 400 Growth 3.74% 14.87% 22.19% -0.95% 6.32% 4.09% 24.85% S&P MidCap 400 Value 13.85% -2.40% 4.02% S&P SmallCap 600 Growth 3.48% 9.58% 19.76% 3.67% 4.94% S&P SmallCap 600 Value 4.26% 12.29% 25.81% -1.34% 3.83% MSCI EAFE 4.81% 12.32% 19.45% -12.14% -4.38% MSCI World (ex US) 18.04% -13.71% -3.44% 4.25% 11.66% 21.07% -5.54% MSCI World 4.15% 12.73% -1.42% MSCI Emerging Markets 2.70% 11.45% 15.50% -18.42% -1.10%

Source: Bloomberg. Returns are total returns. The 5-yr. return is an average annual. Oneweek, YTD, 12-mo. and 5-yr. performance returns calculated through 11/23/12.

S&P Sector Performance					
Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2011	5-yr.
Consumer Discretionary	4.40%	22.42%	31.81%	6.24%	9.02%
Consumer Staples	3.71%	12.18%	21.47%	14.03%	7.50%
Energy	3.76%	4.66%	14.00%	4.72%	1.00%
Financials	3.76%	23.75%	38.04%	-17.07%	-9.58%
Health Care	2.81%	17.52%	28.99%	12.77%	4.77%
Industrials	3.52%	11.38%	22.19%	-0.59%	0.83%
Information Technology	4.28%	13.62%	19.65%	2.43%	3.97%
Materials	4.51%	10.85%	18.84%	-9.68%	1.02%
Telecom Services	4.15%	19.25%	31.42%	6.33%	3.66%
Utilities	-0.90%	-2.30%	6.89%	20.02%	0.04%

Source: Bloomberg. Returns are total returns. The 5-yr. return is an average annual. Oneweek, YTD, 12-mo. and 5-yr. performance returns calculated through 11/23/12.

Bond Index Performance					
Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2011	5-yr.
U.S. Treasury: Intermediate	-0.29%	1.63%	1.85%	6.57%	4.69%
GNMA 30 Year	0.07%	2.18%	3.06%	7.97%	6.11%
U.S. Aggregate	-0.30%	4.08%	4.75%	7.84%	6.05%
U.S. Corporate High Yield	0.70%	13.06%	16.93%	4.98%	10.09%
U.S. Corporate Investment Grade	-0.40%	9.47%	10.80%	8.15%	7.74%
Municipal Bond: Long Bond (22+)	0.13%	12.80%	15.11%	14.88%	6.79%
Global Aggregate	0.17%	4.19%	5.05%	5.64%	5.20%

Source: Barclays Capital. Returns are total returns. The 5-yr. return is an average annual. One-week, YTD, 12-mo. and 5-yr. performance returns calculated through 11/23/12.

Key Rates					
As of 11/23/12					
Fed Funds	0.00-0.25%	5-yr CD	1.34%		
LIBOR (1-month)	0.21%	2-yr T-Note	0.27%		
CPI - Headline	2.20%	5-yr T-Note	0.69%		
CPI - Core	2.00%	10-yr T-Note	1.69%		
Money Market Accts.	0.48%	30-yr T-Bond	2.83%		
Money Market Funds	0.02%	30-yr Mortgage	3.45%		
6-mo CD	0.47%	Prime Rate	3.25%		
1-yr CD	0.73%	Bond Buyer 40	4.00%		

Sources: Bankrate.com, iMoneyNet.com and Bloomberg.

Market Indicators		
As of 11/23/12		
TED Spread	22 bps	
Investment Grade Spread (A2)	186 bps	
ML High Yield Master II Index Spread	571 bps	

Sources: Bloomberg and Merrill Lynch via Bloomberg.

Market Watch

Week of November 26th

Weekly Fund Flows						
Estimated Flows to Long-Term Mutual Funds for the Week Ended 11/14/12						
	Current	Current Week		Previous		
Domestic Equity	-\$6.629	Billion	-\$2.119	Billion		
Foreign Equity	-\$1.754	Billion	\$300	Million		
Taxable Bond	\$5.350	Billion	\$6.418	Billion		
Municipal Bond	\$1.263	Billion	\$1.084	Billion		
Change in Money Market Fund Assets for the Week Ended 11/20/12						
	Current	Current Week		Previous		
Retail	\$12.64	Billion	\$2.12	Billion		
Institutional	\$13.99	Billion	-\$4.66	Billion		
Source: Investment Company Institute						

Source: Investment Company Institute

Factoids for the week of November 19th - 23rd

Monday, November 19, 2012

The National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)/Wells Fargo housing market index rose five points to a seasonally adjusted reading of 46, the highest level since May 2006, according to MarketWatch.com. The index is approaching the 50 mark, which is the point where an equal number of builders view sales conditions as good versus poor. Builders are commenting that demand is up for new homes due to fewer foreclosed and distressed properties, according to NAHB Chairman Barry Rutenberg. The number of U.S. properties with foreclosure filings fell 19% in October (y-o-y), according to RealtyTrac. The 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged a record-low 3.34% for the week ended 11/15/12, according to Freddie Mac.

Tuesday, November 20, 2012

The estimated out-of-pocket costs for health care services during retirement years continues to climb. Fidelity Investments reported earlier this year that an average 65-year-old couple retiring in 2012 would need to pony up \$240,000 of savings to cover health care costs in retirement, according to Yahoo! Finance. Fidelity noted that health care inflation averaged 6.0% per year over the 11 years it has been conducting this research. Medicare covers 59% of all of the money spent on care for people 65 and older, according to EBRI. Out-of-pocket and private insurance accounts for 13% and 14%, respectively, with the rest covered by Medicaid and other sources.

Wednesday, November 21, 2012

A new study from the McKinsey Global Institute revealed that manufacturing is now among the most dynamic sectors of the U.S. and global economies, according to The Washington Post. Manufacturing helps drive productivity and standards of living higher. McKinsey estimates that manufacturing contributed 20% of the growth in global economic output for the decade ended 2010. It said manufacturing was responsible for 37% of global productivity growth from 1995 to 2005. The study found that at least 30% of "manufacturing jobs" today actually look like white-collar jobs. They include sales, engineering and design. These jobs tend to require higher education. A few decades ago individuals used to be able to secure a job in manufacturing with just a high school diploma. In today's U.S. economy, only 64% of men over the age of 25 (only a high school degree) are employed in the U.S. That is down from 72% a decade ago.

Thursday, November 22, 2012

Thanksgiving Holiday – Markets Closed

Friday, November 23, 2012

The consumer electronics industry will grow by an estimated 5.9% in the U.S. in 2012, according to the Consumer Electronics Association (CEA)[®]. Industry sales are expected to surpass \$206.0 billion. If so, it will mark the first time that annual revenues topped \$200 billion. The CEA sees industry sales rising to \$215.8 billion in 2013. Tablet sales are expected to grow 83% (y-o-y) to \$29.1 billion in 2012. Tablets are the fastest-growing product category in the history of the consumer electronics industry, according to Steve Koenig, CEA's director of industry analysis.