Eirst Trust

Stock Index Performance						
Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2013	5-yr.	
Dow Jones Industrial Avg. (16,988)	-0.81%	4.24%	13.62%	29.65%	15.01%	
S&P 500 (1,986)	-1.05%	9.00%	20.39%	32.38%	16.14%	
NASDAQ 100 (4,069)	-0.49%	14.34%	29.87%	36.94%	20.69%	
S&P 500 Growth	-0.79%	9.88%	22.69%	32.75%	17.00%	
S&P 500 Value	-1.32%	8.05%	17.95%	31.97%	15.27%	
S&P MidCap 400 Growth	-0.81%	5.02%	15.33%	32.68%	17.80%	
S&P MidCap 400 Value	-1.61%	9.02%	19.91%	34.25%	17.37%	
S&P SmallCap 600 Growth	-0.73%	-0.97%	11.85%	42.68%	18.30%	
S&P SmallCap 600 Value	-1.36%	2.24%	15.24%	39.98%	17.11%	
MSCI EAFE	-1.27%	1.36%	9.01%	22.78%	7.18%	
MSCI World (ex US)	-1.72%	3.52%	9.83%	15.29%	6.90%	
MSCI World	-1.17%	5.69%	15.06%	26.68%	11.41%	
MSCI Emerging Markets	-3.16%	8.06%	9.81%	-2.60%	6.02%	

Source: Bloomberg. Returns are total returns. The *5-yr. return is an average annual.* One-week, YTD, 12-mo. and 5-yr. performance returns calculated through 9/12/14.

S&P Sector Performance					
Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2013	5-yr.
Consumer Discretionary	-1.36%	3.03%	15.58%	43.08%	22.38%
Consumer Staples	-1.06%	6.40%	14.66%	26.14%	15.54%
Energy	-3.65%	5.93%	13.74%	25.05%	13.12%
Financials	-0.35%	7.96%	18.08%	35.59%	11.80%
Health Care	-0.54%	16.08%	27.09%	41.46%	19.59%
Industrials	-0.64%	3.89%	19.29%	40.64%	17.77%
Information Technology	0.04%	14.95%	30.27%	28.43%	16.51%
Materials	-1.86%	8.75%	21.30%	25.60%	13.51%
Telecom Services	-2.62%	4.62%	8.78%	11.47%	13.49%
Utilities	-3.12%	13.39%	19.02%	13.21%	12.55%

Source: Bloomberg. Returns are total returns. The *5-yr. return is an average annual.* One-week, YTD, 12-mo. and 5-yr. performance returns calculated through 9/12/14.

Bond Index Performance					
Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2013	5-yr.
U.S. Treasury: Intermediate	-0.39%	1.33%	1.93%	-1.34%	2.58%
GNMA 30 Year	-0.51%	3.81%	5.44%	-2.17%	3.84%
U.S. Aggregate	-0.64%	3.65%	5.10%	-2.02%	4.12%
U.S. Corporate High Yield	-0.62%	4.57%	9.00%	7.44%	11.61%
U.S. Corporate Investment Grade	-0.92%	5.24%	8.17%	-1.53%	6.48%
Municipal Bond: Long Bond (22+)	-0.21%	11.81%	15.13%	-6.01%	6.46%
Global Aggregate	-1.16%	2.28%	3.92%	-2.60%	2.90%

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 9/12/14.

Key Rates					
As of 9/12/14					
Fed Funds	0.00-0.25%	5-yr CD	1.39%		
LIBOR (1-month)	0.15%	2-yr T-Note	0.56%		
CPI - Headline	2.00%	5-yr T-Note	1.82%		
CPI - Core	1.90%	10-yr T-Note	2.61%		
Money Market Accts.	0.48%	30-yr T-Bond	3.35%		
Money Market Funds	0.01%	30-yr Mortgage	4.19%		
6-mo CD	0.35%	Prime Rate	3.25%		
1-yr CD	0.68%	Bond Buyer 40	4.46%		

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

Market Indicators	
As of 9/12/14	
TED Spread	22 bps
Investment Grade Spread (A2)	131 bps
ML High Yield Master II Index Spread	403 bps

Sources: Bloomberg and Merrill Lynch via Bloomberg.

Market Watch

Week of September 15th

Weekly Fund Flows							
Estimated Flows to Long-Term Mutual Funds for the Week Ended 9/3/14							
	Current	Current Week		ous			
Domestic Equity	-\$5.305	Billion	-\$2.207	Billion			
Foreign Equity	\$1.281	Billion	\$1.621	Billion			
Taxable Bond	\$1.768	Billion	\$2.954	Billion			
Municipal Bond	\$661	Million	\$731	Million			
Change in Money Market Fund Assets for the Week Ended 9/10/14							
	Current	Current Week		ous			
Retail	-\$0.47	Billion	\$0.14	Billion			
Institutional	\$6.99	Billion	-\$8.87	Billion			
Source: Investment Company Institute.							

Factoids for the week of September 8 - 12, 2014

Monday, September 8, 2014

A survey from Towers Watson revealed that U.S. employers are planning to give 3.0% pay raises, on average, in 2015, according to USA TODAY. Pay raises averaged 2.9% in 2013 and are expected to be 2.9% in 2014. The Consumer Price Index stood at 2.0% in July, so raises are outpacing the rate of inflation. Top performing employees are expected to receive 4.5% raises this year, compared to 2.6% for average-rated workers. The median annual salary among the nation's 106.6 million workers is approximately \$40,560, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Private equity (PE) firms have been very active in the global IPO market since the start of 2013, according to *Forbes*. In 2013, PE-backed IPOs raised a record \$58.5 billion across 187 deals. In the first half of 2014, PE-backed companies raised \$55.9 billion across 134 deals. Activity in Q2'14 was robust. PE-backed companies raised a record (quarterly) \$38.1 billion across 87 deals.

Wednesday, September 10, 2014

Data from AAA indicates that the average price of a gallon of gasoline in the U.S. has declined by 6.2%, to \$3.48, since Memorial Day (5/26/14), according to Bloomberg. It represents the largest decline from the start of the summer driving season since 2008. The price of crude oil, which makes up about two-thirds of the cost of gasoline, is down 12% since 5/26. AAA sees gas prices falling another 10 to 20 cents per gallon by the end of October as retailers switch to the less expensive winter-blend. Refineries in the U.S. have been operating at record-high levels. Plants processed 16.63 million barrels of crude oil a day the week of July 11, the most since the Energy Information Administration started tracking it in 1989.

Thursday, September 11, 2014

A report from the Government Accountability Office (GAO) stated that the amount of federal student debt held by Americans 65 and older totaled \$18.2 billion in 2013, up sixfold since 2005, according to *Bloomberg Businessweek*. Nearly 31% of these student loans were in default in 2013. More elderly Americans are seeing their retirement benefits cut in order to repay education debt. The government reduced Social Security payments or other retirement benefits to 155,000 people last year to pay off student loans, up from 31,000 in 2002, according to the GAO.

Friday, September 12, 2014

Moody's reported that the global speculative-grade default rate stood at 2.1% in August, the same as July, according to its own release. Moody's is forecasting a default rate of 2.3% for December 2014 and 2.6% by August 2015. The historical average for the default rate on speculative-grade debt has been approximately 4.7% since 1983. The U.S. speculative-grade default rate stood at 1.8% in August, the same as July. The default rate on senior loans stood at 0.80% in August, down from 0.96% in July, according to Standard & Poor's LCD. The historical average is 2.96%.