

## **INVESTMENT FORUM AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2016, 11:50AM, Lord of Life Lutheran Church**

The Forum will meet every Wednesday, 11:50AM, at Lord of Life, until the end of the Spring term on May 11. The Forum will start meeting at 10:30AM on May 18, at Tallwood, until the beginning of the Summer term on June 15.

**Market Perspective.** Bummer of a week. The DOW and S&P were both down 1.3%, and the NASDAQ was down 2.7%. Tech stocks were hit hard, with earnings' misses, except for Facebook and Amazon, both of which reported strong earnings. (Will Mark Zuckerberg be the World's richest man before his 35th birthday, in three years?) Otherwise, first-quarter earnings are down from a year ago, for the fourth straight quarter - although not as weak as many expected, and economic growth is slow globally.

**Brexit.** Great Britain will take a crucial vote on June 23, whether or not to remain in the European Union. The vote is expected to be close. On May 4, Brenda Bloch-Young will lead a discussion on what a Brexit may mean for Great Britain and the rest of the EU, and whether investors should be bailing out of European investments. We will look at a few European funds and stocks. Lots of moving pieces - interest rates, currency values, exports and imports, winners and losers, possibly with far-reaching impact.

### ***Future Topics***

Picking Investment Advisors. We last talked about this a year ago. Please let me know if you use an advisor (somebody you pay a fee to, to manage your portfolio or a part of it,) and are willing to share your experiences. Also if you use the services of "robo advisors."

Panel Discussion on Mutual Funds. A number of you have asked for more discussions on mutual funds. We will have a panel (date to be decided) on how you select mutual funds: how you judge the performance, what metrics you use; what publications, services, websites, and ratings you use. Please let me know if you would like to be a panelist.

**Investment Forum Member Survey.** In May, I will distribute a three page survey, similar to the one we took three years ago. It will be anonymous, and ask about allocations, sources of information, how often you trade, how much time you spend on investing, and suggestions for future topics. The survey should not take more than ten minutes to complete, and will be valuable for agenda topics.

***Forum Moderator needed for May 25, 10:30AM***

## ***Buys and Sells (week of April 27)***

### Buys

Apple (AAPL) 2 buys. Oops . . .  
Enterprise Products Partners (EPD)  
General Dynamics (GD)  
NVIDIA (NVDA)

### Sells

Colgate-Palmolive (CL)  
ExxonMobil (XOM)

### Thinking About . . .

American Express (AXP)  
Deere (DE)  
Vanguard High-Dividend Yield ETF (VYM)  
Verizon (VZ) - selling  
Compass Minerals (CMP)

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