

INVESTMENT FORUM AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 2016, 11:50AM, Lord of Life Lutheran Church

Welcome to the Tom Crooker Investment Forum. The Summer Term will meet 11:50AM to 1:15PM, on Wednesdays from June 15 to July 20, 2016, at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. Park in back of the church and enter in the back entrance. We normally meet in the Fellowship Hall, or in the sanctuary if the Fellowship Hall is unavailable.

I prepare the agenda each weekend and distribute it by e-mail, usually by Monday mornings. Information or commentary in the agenda is based on market data as of Friday.

We have 94 registered for the Spring term. The Lord of Life Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary accommodates this number. While most members of the Investment Forum have been coming for years, we have 18 new to the Forum this term, some of whom are also new OLLI members. We will spend some time at our first meeting of each new term on what the Forum is about, how it is conducted, with some observations from long-time members. I will ask each of the new members to briefly introduce yourself, and what you hope to learn at the Forum. (All comments and participation is voluntary.)

Market Perspective. Too bad the market did not close the week on Wednesday, when the S&P was near its all time high. Then two bad days. For the week, the DOW was up 0.3%, the S&P down 0.1%, and the NASDAQ down 1.0%. The S&P is now up 2.6% YTD, and 1.7% below its all-time high.

Market drivers were continued uncertainty about “Brexit,” which vote comes up on June 23. A close vote is predicted, and nobody seems to know how markets (European and worldwide) will react if the vote is to leave. And then, the continued fall in interest rates. The 10-year T yields 1.64%, as the world is clamoring for US Treasuries because, unlike many other nations’ debt - it has a positive interest rate!

Fund of the Week. A member suggests that we look at Parnassus Core Equity Institutional Fund (PRBLX), a “socially conscious” mutual fund that has posted good results, and compare it to the Vanguard Equity Index Fund (VEIPX) that we looked at last week.

Stock of the Week. NVDA (NVDA.) What exactly do they do? Several of you have purchased it recently.

Member Survey. 45 of you have completed the surveys, which I am tabulating (it is a lot of work!) and we will look at the results soon. I am still collecting surveys, and will have several blank surveys available this Wednesday, for you (including new members) to take and fill out, if you have not already done so.

Mutual Funds. Next week, **June 22**, James Dann will discuss how he evaluates and selects managed mutual funds.

Buys and Sells

We did not take the Buy/Sell list last week. We will take it this week, for two weeks or since you last saw it come around.

Forum Resources

Investment Forum Website. The Investment Forum has its own website, www.olligmu.org/~finforum. Or the OLLI website, www.olligmu.org, and from the Main Menu, click on “Clubs, Group Blogs, and Ongoing Activities,” and then “Investment Forum.” The current agenda and previous agendas are posted, as well as articles in the financial press that members recommend.

Morningstar Dividend Investor. This newsletter comes out monthly, has a model portfolio of dividend-paying stocks and extensive current analyses of dividend stocks and perspectives on the market. A number of Forum members are avid readers of the newsletter. I will advise how you can receive copies of the newsletter.

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