

## INVESTMENT FORUM AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2017 11:50AM,

### Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Fellowship Hall

**Welcome to the Tom Crooker Investment Forum.** The Winter Term will meet 11:50AM to 1:15PM, on Wednesdays from January 18 to February 8, 2017, at Lord of Life Lutheran Church, 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax. Park in back of the church and enter through 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 Sunday evenings. Information or commentary in the agenda is based on market data as of Friday.

We have 112 registered for the Winter 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 21 registered who are new to the Forum this term, some of whom are also new OLLI members. We will spend some time 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.** Still waiting for DOW 20,000! Markets pulled back last week, with the DOW down 0.4% and the S&P down 0.1%, but the NASDAQ up 1.0%. Hot sectors (financials) cooled, while lagging sectors (tech, consumer discretionary) surged.

Earnings season has started, with large banks posting some good numbers. The market, though, seems to be waiting for signals on economic policies and priorities from the new administration and Congress.

**Small Caps.** Time permitting, we will talk about small cap stocks, which typically have market caps under \$2 billion. In particular, we will look at an ETF which appeared on a recent Buy/Sell list, Vanguard Small-Cap ETF (VB.)

**Forum Moderator Needed.** We need a Forum Moderator for February 11 (Winter Term, 11:50AM, Lord of Life.) Is there a topic or investment that you want to discuss? This is your chance. I will help with agenda preparation and distribution.

Brenda Bloch-Young will be Moderator for the March 15, 2017 Forum.

***Buys and Sells.*** We did not collect the Buys and Sells last week, and have not done that since December 14. We will collect the list this week - buys and sells since December 14. It may be a long list, with end of year trades and tax positioning.

### **Forum Resources**

***Investment Forum Website.*** The Investment Forum has its own website, [www.olligmu.org/~finforum](http://www.olligmu.org/~finforum). Or the OLLI website, [www.olligmu.org](http://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. You can also access all Morningstar newsletter via the Fairfax County Library website, using your Fairfax County Library card number.

Al Smuzynski  
Investment Forum Moderator  
asmuzynski@verizon.net