## **INVESTMENT FORUM AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2019 11:50AM**

#### LORD OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH 5114 Twinbrook Road, Fairfax VA 22032

The Forum Fall Term runs through November 13. We will meet as a "club" at 10:30AM, starting November 20, at Tallwood, TA-1, until the beginning of the Winter term.

*Market Perspective.* The S&P finished the week just under its all-time high. For the week the S&P was up 0.7%; the DOW was up 1.2%; and the NASDAQ was up 1.9%. Earnings reports are coming in good. Interest rates have moved up some, and the yield curve is its steepest in several months (a good sign) but still relatively flat.

## **Discussion Topics**

Tom Crooker will look at the shift to bearishness by many investors, and dividend paying ETFs.

I will look at the Federal Government's Thrift Savings Plan (TSP). Should retired Feds stay in the TSP, or roll out of the TSP into an IRA? I will suggest low-cost ETFs that are similar to the TSP funds.

Bob Baker will look at interesting trades on the Buy/Sell list from the past several weeks. Let me or Bob know if there is one you would like to discuss.

Garrett Ruhl will discuss growth and income allocations.

# **Upcoming Topics**

<u>Financial Advisors.</u> On <u>November 6</u>, our panel (Jerry Schrager, Tom Crooker, Corky Rainey, and Brenda Bloch-Young,) will discuss their Financial Advisors. There is a wide range of services, and how customers use them: fees based as % of portfolio; other fee arrangements; with discretionary trading authority or advice only; other services provided (legal and estate planning,) elder care advice, etc..

<u>Bond funds.</u> I will compare yields and risks of several bond, preferred stock, and convertible bond funds. I will also give a tutorial on duration and what it means for bond prices. Forum veterans have heard this before; I'll keep it brief.

#### **Buys and Sells**

This list is from two weeks ago. We will collect buys and sells for the past two weeks, this week.

Buys (week ending 10/13/2019 Canon (CAJ) FedEx (FDX) Dow (DOW)

<u>Sells (week of 10/13/2019</u> Kinder Morgan (KMI) Dow (DOW)

Thinking About . . .

*Investment Forum Website.* The Investment Forum has its own website. From the OLLI website, select "Clubs/Groups" at the top right of the home page. Select "Inve\$tment Forum" from the menu. The current and and previous agendas are posted, as well as articles in the financial press that members recommend.

Al Smuzynski Investment Forum Moderator asmuzynski@verizon.net