First Trust
Market Watch
Week of September 23rd

Stock Index Performance

Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2012	5-yr.
Dow Jones Industrial Avg. (15,451)	0.50%	20.13%	16.66%	10.24%	9.32%
S&P 500 (1,710)	1.32%	21.76%	19.72%	16.00%	8.76%
NASDAQ 100 (3,225)	1.46%	22.43%	14.56%	18.35%	14.28%
S&P 500 Growth	1.65%	21.13%	17.02%	14.71%	10.40%
S&P 500 Value	0.97%	22.43%	22.93%	17.77%	7.03%
S&P MidCap 400 Growth	1.43%	22.68%	24.44%	17.62%	11.90%
S&P MidCap 400 Value	1.19%	23.94%	26.86%	19.10%	9.72%
S&P SmallCap 600 Growth	1.39%	28.95%	28.57%	15.27%	11.13%
S&P SmallCap 600 Value	1.97%	27.23%	28.72%	18.88%	9.20%
MSCI EAFE	2.81%	17.12%	22.29%	17.32%	4.62%
MSCI World (ex US)	2.67%	11.30%	16.17%	16.83%	4.63%
MSCI World	1.94%	18.67%	19.68%	15.83%	6.30%
MSCI Emerging Markets	2.72%	-1.91%	4.05%	18.22%	6.23%

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 9/20/13.

S&P Sector Performance

Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2012	5-yr.
Consumer Discretionary	1.51%	29.88%	30.44%	24.14%	16.89%
Consumer Staples	1.38%	19.63%	16.60%	11.08%	10.98%
Energy	0.65%	17.27%	12.55%	4.64%	4.94%
Financials	1.61%	26.20%	31.22%	28.92%	-0.07%
Health Care	1.06%	30.90%	31.29%	17.89%	12.86%
Industrials	2.01%	25.25%	28.20%	15.42%	9.06%
Information Technology	1.11%	14.62%	5.61%	14.82%	10.91%
Materials	1.45%	15.03%	15.58%	15.24%	5.00%
Telecom Services	0.02%	7.39%	0.36%	18.31%	9.82%
Utilities	1.85%	10.70%	8.72%	1.31%	6.09%

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 9/20/13.

Bond Index Performance

Index	Week	YTD	12-mo.	2012	5-yr.
U.S. Treasury: Intermediate	0.67%	0.27%	0.37%	1.71%	3.45%
GNMA 30 Year	1.16%	0.66%	0.75%	2.44%	4.63%
U.S. Aggregate	0.98%	0.29%	0.43%	4.21%	5.06%
U.S. Corporate High Yield	1.00%	1.03%	1.43%	15.81%	12.26%
U.S. Corporate Investment Grade	1.21%	0.03%	0.27%	9.82%	8.55%
Municipal Bond: Long Bond (22+)	1.97%	2.42%	2.70%	11.26%	6.17%
Global Aggregate	1.25%	0.14%	1.15%	4.32%	4.65%

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 9/20/13.

Key Rates

As of 9/20/13

Fed Funds	0.00-0.25%	5-yr CD	1.32%
LIBOR (1-month)	0.18%	2-yr T-Note	0.33%
CPI - Headline	1.50%	5-yr T-Note	1.48%
CPI - Core	1.80%	10-yr T-Note	2.74%
Money Market Accts.	0.43%	30-yr T-Bond	3.76%
Money Market Funds	0.01%	30-yr Mortgage	4.42%
6-mo CD	0.38%	Prime Rate	3.25%
1-yr CD	0.63%	Bond Buyer 40	5.14%

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

Market Indicators

As of 9/20/13

TED Spread	24 bps
Investment Grade Spread (A2)	184 bps
ML High Yield Master II Index Spread	454 bps

Sources: Bloomberg and Merrill Lynch via Bloomberg.

Weekly Fund Flows

Estimated Flows to Long-Term Mutual Funds for the Week Ended 9/11/13

	Current Week		Previous	
Domestic Equity	$2.470	Billion	-$694	Million
Foreign Equity	$2.766	Billion	$1.597	Billion
Taxable Bond	-$2.808	Billion	-$4.718	Billion
Municipal Bond	-$2.706	Billion	-$2.048	Billion

Change in Money Market Fund Assets for the Week Ended 9/18/13

	Current Week		Previous	
Retail	-$2.76	Billion	$0.69	Billion
Institutional	$1.32	Billion	$19.31	Billion

Source: Investment Company Institute.

Factoids for the week of September 16 - 20, 2013

Monday, September 16, 2013

The six largest banks in the U.S. currently oversee 67% of all the assets in the U.S. financial system, according to CNNMoney.com. It amounts to $9.6 trillion, up 37% from five years ago. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation data shows that 42% of all loans outstanding from U.S. banks were issued by the five largest, up from 38% just before the financial crisis. Of the more than 1,400 banks that have closed their doors in the past five years, approximately 485 failed, while the rest were merged into other banks. The four largest banks employ a little over one million people, up from around 900,000 before the crisis.

Tuesday, September 17, 2013

Funds that invest in floating-rate bank loans, also known as senior loans, just reported their 65th consecutive week of net inflows, according to *Barron's*. Lipper data showed that these funds took in a net $1.2 billion in the most recent week. *The Wall Street Journal* reported that bank loan funds took in a net $46.7 billion in the first eight months of 2013. The S&P/LSTA Leveraged Loan Index was up 3.67%, on a total return basis, year-to-date through yesterday's close.

Wednesday, September 18, 2013

S&P 500 stock buybacks totaled $118.1 billion in Q2'13, up 18.1% from the $100.0 billion executed in Q1'13, according to S&P Dow Jones Indices. Buybacks totaled $111.8 billion in Q2'12. For the 12-month period ended June 28, buybacks totaled $421.0, up 4.7% from the previous 12-month period. The peak occurred in 2007, when companies spent $589.1 billion on buybacks over those 12 months. Through the first two quarters of 2013, S&P 500 companies spent $218.1 billion on buybacks and distributed $147.5 billion in stock dividends, up from $196.0 billion and $131.4 billion, respectively, for the same period a year ago. Two of the most active sectors in Q2'13 in terms of percentage of total buyback volume were Information Technology (31.5%) and Industrials (12.2%).

Thursday, September 19, 2013

Fresh data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics shows that housing, transportation and food accounted for 63% of every dollar spent by the average American in 2012, according to Yahoo! Finance. Here is the full breakdown: Housing (33%); Transportation (17%); Food (13%); Insurance (11%); Health Care (7%); Entertainment (5%); Cash Contributions (4%); Apparel and Services (3%); and All Other Expenditures (7%).

Friday, September 20, 2013

A recent study funded by Wells Fargo & Co. found that 41% of affluent women were "not at all" confident in their ability to invest, according to the *Los Angeles Times*. Only 8% said they were "highly confident." The survey polled 600 women in the U.S. with a median of $455,000 in liquid assets and $145,000 in household income. The survey also revealed that only 52% of women believe stocks are the best way to grow savings. A little over one-third (34%) said the stock market is "too risky" for them.