

The S&P 500, Dow Jones Industrial Average and NASDAQ Composite all hit new highs last Thursday. Investors continue to react positively to strong economic growth, low inflation and expectations for double-digit corporate earnings growth in the fourth quarter of 2017.

Bond prices, as measured by the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index, fell 0.18% for the week on continued positive economic news and rumors that China may curb, or even halt, its purchase of U.S. Treasuries. China's currency regulator has since dismissed this rumor, which helped ease investors concerns. This drove the 10-year treasury yield up to 2.55% by the end of the week. (Bond yields move in the opposite direction of prices).

The Q4 2017 earnings season is revving up with 5% of companies in the S&P 500 reporting actual results for the quarter. So far, results are positive with 69% of those companies reporting positive earnings per share surprises and 85% reporting positive sales surprises. The estimated quarterly earnings growth rate for the S&P 500 is currently 10.2%, which was revised down from an estimated rate of 11.5% on September 30.

U.S. consumer prices excluding the volatile food and energy components recorded their largest increase in 11 months in December increasing the expectations for greater inflation in 2018. Prices for rental accommodations, health care, new and used motor vehicles and motor vehicle insurance all increased.

Reports, Speeches and Market Movers:

- Mon: Eurozone Merchandise Trade
- Tue: U.S. Empire State Manufacturing Survey, U.K. Consumer Price Index
- Wed: U.S. Industrial Production
- Thu: U.S. Housing Starts, U.S. Jobless Claims, U.S. Philadelphia Fed Business Outlook Survey, U.S. EIA Petroleum Status Report
- Fri: U.S. Consumer Sentiment, U.K Retail Sales

Weekly Market Commentary

January 16, 2018

Index Returns (%)						
Returns are as of 1/12/18	1Wk	1Mo	QTD	3Mo	YTD	1Yr
S&P 500	1.61	4.74	4.28	9.75	4.28	25.19
Dow Jones Industrial Average	2.02	5.37	4.44	13.61	4.44	32.85
Russell 2000	2.06	5.16	3.70	6.12	3.70	18.52
MSCI EAFE	2.26	6.97	4.67	7.41	4.67	27.55
MSCI Emerging Markets	0.32	8.48	4.53	7.86	4.53	38.08
BBg Barclays U.S. Agg. Bond	(0.18)	(0.25)	(0.50)	(0.22)	(0.50)	2.52
BBg Barclays U.S. Corporate 10+ Yr	0.22	0.53	(0.65)	2.22	(0.65)	9.96
BBg Barclays U.S. Corporate High Yield	(0.04)	0.83	0.69	0.96	0.69	7.07
NASDAQ Composite	1.75	5.88	5.21	10.44	5.21	32.32

Yields (%)			
	1/12/2018	YE 2017	1Yr Ago
2-Yr Treasury	2.00	1.88	1.17
10-Yr Treasury	2.55	2.41	2.36
BBg Barclays U.S. Corp High Yield	5.62	5.72	5.86
BBg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond	2.82	2.71	2.57

Currencies			
	1/12/2018	YE 2017	1Yr Ago
EUR : USD	1.22	1.20	1.06
GBP : USD	1.37	1.35	1.22
USD : Yen	111.06	112.69	114.72
USD : CAD	1.25	1.26	1.31

Commodities (\$)			
	1/12/2018	YE 2017	1Yr Ago
Gold	1,337.64	1,302.80	1,202.73
Silver	17.21	16.94	16.81
Natural Gas	3.20	2.95	3.29
WTI	64.30	60.42	53.99
Copper	321.85	330.05	254.60
Corn	346.25	350.75	358.00

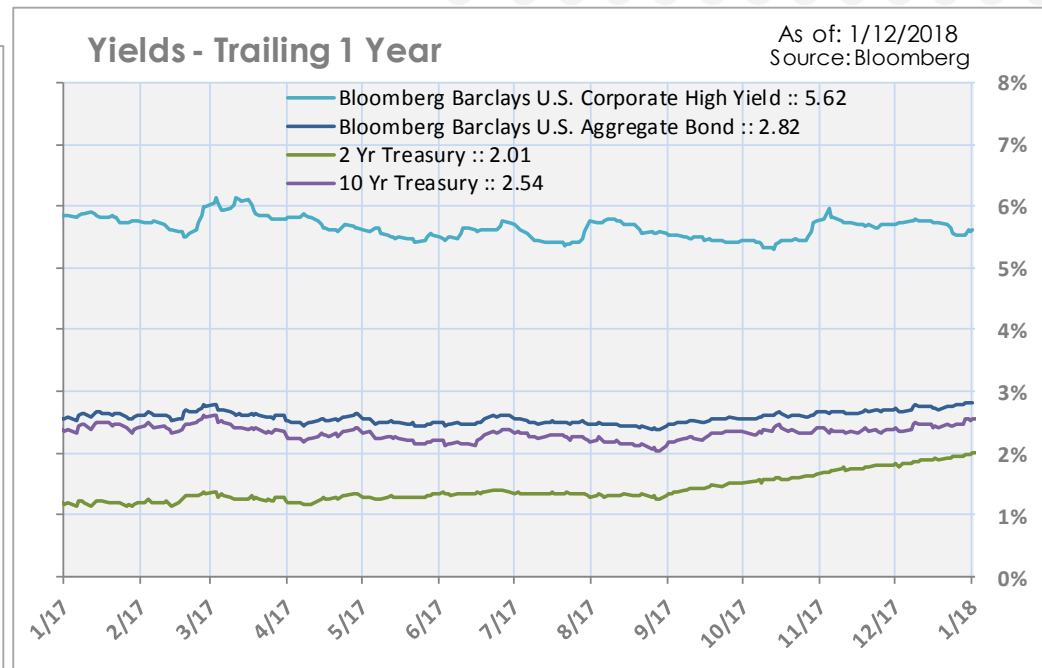
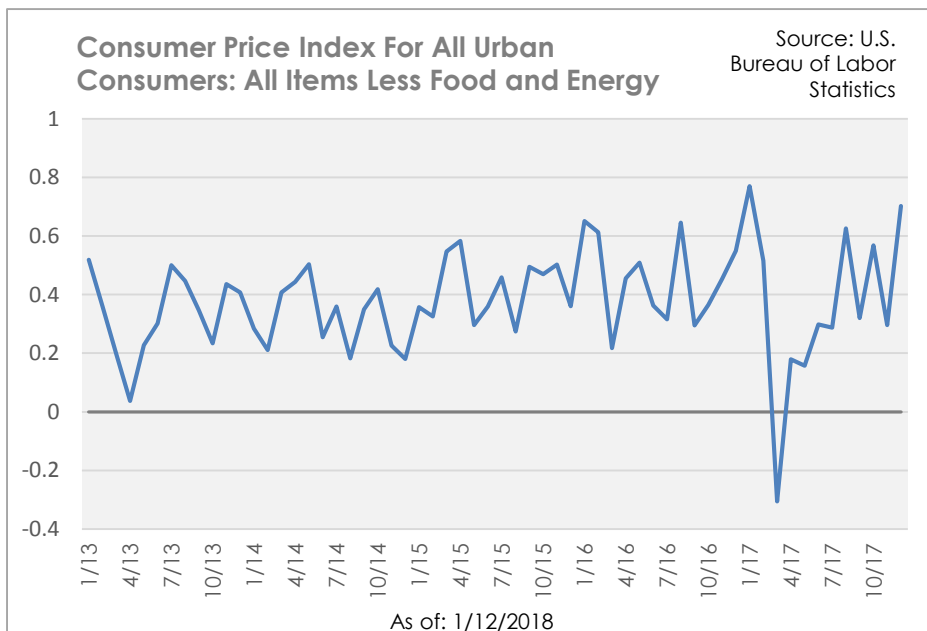
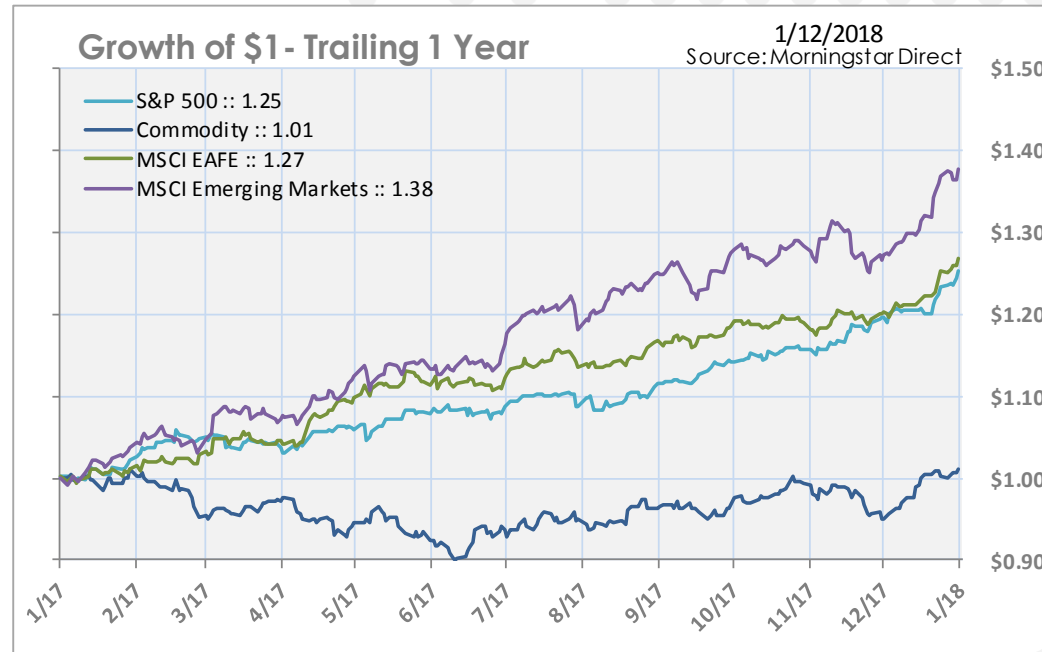
USD - U.S. Dollar, EUR - Euro, GBP - British Pound, JPY - Japanese Yen, CAD - Canadian Dollar

Past Performance is No Guarantee of Future Results

Germany's economic leadership remains in question despite three months passing since the general election this past September. In the latest turn, the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) led by Chancellor Angela Merkel has agreed to enter formal coalition talks with the Social Democratic Party (SPD) led by Martin Schulz. The SPD membership will vote on the deal on January 21st. If no deal is agreed to then the CDU will either have to lead the minority government or hold fresh elections.

Initial jobless claims unexpectedly rose 11,000 last week to a higher-than-expected 261,000. This is approximately 15,000 claims above last month's trend and may be an early indicator of a weak January employment report. Continuing claims showed improvement, down 35,000 claims to a 44-year low of 1.87 million claims.

Retail sales for December rose 0.4% percent led by sales by non-store retailers which rose 1.2%. Furniture, building materials and restaurant sales also benefited from a reinvigorated consumer.



Investors should consider an investment option's objectives, risks, fees and expenses carefully before investing. This and other information can be found in the applicable prospectus or summary prospectuses for the products indicated, which are available from MassMutual at www.massmutual.com/product-performance/product-performance-listing-page or by calling 1-866-444-2601. Please read them carefully before investing. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

Indexes are unmanaged, do not incur fees or expenses, do not reflect any deduction for taxes, and cannot be purchased directly by investors.

(1) Price-weighted average of 30 actively traded Blue Chip stocks, primarily industrials, but also including other service-oriented firms; may be used as a benchmark for large cap stocks. (2) Widely recognized, unmanaged index representative of common stocks of larger capitalized U.S. companies. (3) Broad-based index of over 5000 companies, which measure all domestic, and non-U.S. based common stocks listed on the NASDAQ Stock Market, Inc. (4) Unmanaged index representing the performance of small-cap U.S. stocks. (5) Unmanaged index consisting of approximately 1,200 stocks in developed market countries outside of North and South America, and represents approximately 85 percent of the total market capitalization in those countries. (6) Unmanaged index of fixed rate investment grade securities with at least one year to maturity combining the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Treasury Bond Index, the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Government-Related Bond Index, the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Corporate Bond Index, and the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Securitized Bond Index.

The Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index is an unmanaged index of fixed-rate investment-grade securities with at least one year to maturity, combining the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Treasury Bond Index, the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Government-Related Bond Index, the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Corporate Bond Index, and the Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Securitized Bond Index.

The Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Corporate High-Yield Bond Index covers the universe of fixed rate, non-investment-grade debt from corporate sectors.

The S&P 500® Index is a widely recognized, unmanaged index representative of common stocks of larger capitalized U.S. companies.

The Russell 2000 Index is a widely recognized, unmanaged index representative of common stocks of smaller capitalized U.S. companies.

The MSCI EAFE Index is a widely recognized, unmanaged index representative of equity securities in developed markets, excluding the U.S. and Canada.

The MSCI Emerging Markets (EM) Index is an unmanaged market capitalization-weighted index of equity securities of companies domiciled in various countries.

The Index is designed to represent the performance of emerging stock markets throughout the world and excludes certain market segments unavailable to U.S.-based investors.

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