

November 9, 2023

Good Afternoon,

Last week was a great example of why we encourage clients to stick to long-term goals when the investment ride gets bumpy. After three months of declines it can be easy to get discouraged and consider changing investment strategies. Even some of Wall Street's big firms cut their outlook for stocks at the end of October. But last Friday, the S&P 500 finished off its biggest rally in a year with the benchmark index rising nearly 6%. So, what changed?

First, the Federal Reserve left interest rates unchanged, as expected, and slightly softened their language on the state of inflation. Friday's jobs report showed job growth last month was cooler than expected, with the US economy adding 150,000 jobs in October and the unemployment rate reaching its highest level since January 2022 at 3.9%. The labor market slowdown is a welcome sign for the Federal Reserve, which has noted more softening in the labor market will likely be needed to keep inflation on its downward trajectory. Gas and oil prices have dropped sharply over the past month with declines of 12% and 18%, respectively. These data points, among others, have eased concerns and helped push bond yields down sharply over the past 10 days – with a corresponding rise in stock prices.

So, we continue to ride the economic teeter totter of good and bad news. How the news is perceived is most important. Kind of like the golfer who was visited by St. Peter with good and bad news. St. Peter told him, “The good news is that there is golf in heaven. The bad news is that you have a tee time tomorrow morning.” Fore!

Please visit our website at www.canfg.com or the link below for the last Market Update from Commonwealth Financial Network® – the broker/dealer that supports us in helping you manage your financial life.

http://www.commonwealth.com/RepSiteContent/weekly_comm/commentary_redirect.htm

As always, if you would like to discuss this or anything regarding current market conditions or your portfolio, feel free to contact me at any time.

Happy Veterans Day to all who have served our country. Thank you!

Wade

Wade A. Sarkis, CFP®, AIF®
Managing Partner
Canandaigua Financial Group
45 Ontario Street
Canandaigua, NY 14424
(585) 396-2720

Securities and Advisory Services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network, Member FINRA, SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser
Note: Trade orders cannot be accepted via email or voicemail.