Good Morning,

Stocks jumped last week, especially on Friday, as a much better-than-expected jobs report had investors buying in large volumes. The report added to optimistic assessments of economic reopening already paved by fiscal and monetary stimulus. It was a positive surprise and employment may be increasing ahead of schedule, but there is a long road ahead, as we've only recovered about 10% of jobs lost. Unemployment remains incredibly high and will have to come down dramatically to support a solid recovery.

Despite investor confidence, we think the stock market is expensive and projects a very optimistic outlook for corporate earnings in 2021. While COVID-19 statistics are gradually improving, any signs of a secondary surge could prove a real setback. Also remember that this is an election year and a Democratic sweep would open up the range of outcomes for legislation, with increased corporate, individual, and capital gains taxes the most notable. With the historic fiscal and monetary stimulus being pumped into the economy, another crash is unlikely, but a pullback in the near term would not be surprising. This week's downturn in the Dow, and today's sharply lower opening, may signal that pullback has started.

I've been asked to keep forwarding humorous anecdotes and observations about life in the shutdown. However, with so many bad COVID jokes going around, I feel it's become a pundemic. Ouch, and I'm sorry.

Please visit our website at <u>www.canfg.com</u> 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.

Have a great week!

Wade

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