WEST SHORE BANK

WEEKLY RECAP - March 17, 2025

Economic & Market Commentary

Despite a strong rally in stock markets on Friday, major indices finished moderately lower pressured by the unknowns related to tariffs. Early last week saw tremendous selling pressure as economic and earnings growth concerns mounted and markets posted the worst one-day declines in roughly two years. Nevertheless, President Trump voiced optimism about the economy's longer-run prospects and argued that focus needs to remain on the future and not on short-term market performance. He shrugged off questions about tariff clarity, saying tariffs would more likely expand rather than contract near term. Indeed, April 2nd is the target date for a new round of retaliatory tariffs. These retaliatory tariffs are earmarked to address countries that already have significant tariffs in place on U.S. goods in an effort to level the global trading field. Business and consumer confidence have taken a hit as well as the February NFIB Small Business Optimism Index fell 2.1 percentage points to 100.7, and the March preliminary reading of University of Michigan Consumer Sentiment survey posted a sharp decline to 57.9 from February's reading of 64.0. Consumer inflation expectations rose with 1-yr inflation expectations of +4.9% vs February final of +4.3% and 5-yr inflation expectations of +3.9% vs February final of +3.5%. This is important as the Fed closely monitors inflation expectations. It was not all bad on the economic front as inflation in February came in cooler than expected. February headline CPI was up +0.2% m/m, below the +0.3% consensus and up +2.8% y/y. Core CPI also rose 0.2% m/m against +0.3% forecast and up 3.1% y/y. Also, labor market data held steady as weekly jobless claims came in lower than expected and the January Job Openings and Labor Turnover (JOLT) report printed at 7,740K, a bit higher than the 7,700K consensus and still well above its historical average, signaling the labor market remains solid.

Index Tot	al Returns	- March 1	4. 2025

	1-Wk	YTD	1-Yr
MSCI-Developed	-1.11	9.41	8.40
MSCI-Emerging	-0.74	4.46	9.30
Dow Jones	-2.98	-2.10	8.53
S&P 500	-2.23	-3.85	10.96
S&P 400	-1.93	-5.94	1.54
NASDAQ	-2.40	-7.93	10.86
Russell 2000	-1.45	-8.11	2.00
Barclay's U.S. Bond Index			
Aggregate	-0.06	2.08	5.09
Int. Gov. Credit	-0.01	1.75	5.55
High Yield	-0.67	1.08	8.40
5-year Muni	-0.30	1.05	2.34
Municipal	-0.89	0.07	1.15



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U.S. Treasury Yields				S&P 500 Sector Total Returns - March 14, 2025			
	Latest	Week	1-Year	Sector	1-Wk	YTD	1-Yr
Treasury Yields	Close	Ago	Ago	Health Care	-2.89	5.44	1.02
U.S. 1-Yr	4.07	4.04	5.05	Energy	2.64	4.85	1.65
U.S. 2-Yr	4.02	4.00	4.69	Utilities	2.01	4.21	28.59
U.S. 3-Yr	4.01	4.01	4.47	Materials	-2.07	2.28	-3.55
U.S. 5-Yr	4.09	4.09	4.29	Real Estate	-2.36	1.97	10.06
U.S. 10-Yr	4.32	4.32	4.30	Consumer Staples	-4.19	1.92	10.93
U.S. 30-Yr	4.62	4.61	4.44	Financials	-1.22	0.48	20.83
Municipal Yields - Bloom	nberg/Barclay	rs Index		Industrials	-2.31	-0.43	9.21
	Latest	Week	1-Year	Comm. Services	-3.46	-3.21	20.43
Issue Type	Close	Ago	Ago	Info Tech	-2.05	-9.33	10.28
U.S. AAA	3.62	3.47	3.21	Con. Discretion	-3.60	-13.67	9.52
U.S. AA	3.65	3.51	3.23		P/E	P/E NTM	Dividend
U.S. A	4.01	3.87	3.66	Index Characteristics	NTM	10yr-Avg.	Yield
U.S. Baa	4.50	4.38	4.26	S&P 500 - Large Cap	20.40	18.59	1.29
U.S. Municipal	3.77	3.63	3.38	S&P 400 - Mid Cap	14.68	15.93	1.49
Michigan	3.87	3.73	3.53	S&P 600 - Small Cap	14.61	15.69	1.70

Sources: FactSet, NFIB, U of M, U.S. Dept. of Labor,