

“Walking with a friend in the dark is better than walking alone in the light.” – Helen Keller

For many of us the end of last week felt more like the end of July than the first official day of Fall. Never the less, a look at the weeklong forecast indeed shows the trend toward cooler temperatures is real. The past month has reminded us of the strength and unpredictability of Mother Nature. Models and the weather service can project the paths of storm fronts and hurricanes, and while they can be generally correct they are not exact. We can learn from trends and models, we often make informed decisions based on their guidance, yet ultimately “what will be, will be.” The projections of IRMA hitting the Caribbean, Cuba, and the Florida were correct; but which islands took the brunt, which coast of Florida saw the eye of IRMA? The more we try to predict with pinpoint accuracy the greater the margin for error becomes.

This holds true for the weather, and it holds true for investing. The change of seasons happens each year with relative predictability, but can you tell me the date and landfall of the first major hurricane next year? Large economies tend to operate in cycles, like the weather those cycles are not exact, and can be at times longer or shorter in length. Our current economic trend has been slow paced but relatively steady growth, that is below 3% annual GDP and below 2% inflation rates. As a result of this slow growth, the stock market has seen an extended climb upward, a lengthy bull market. It does not however look extremely over-valued, even if it is high; and we are not seeing multiple signals of our next recession. The other side of the cycle opposite economic growth.

Effective financial planning and working toward and maintaining your long-term vision of legacy, should revolve more around the cycles in your life and your needs, rather than predictions of specific events or market actions. The team at Utica Capital continues to build and adapt tools which help our clients with that legacy. Adding skills and trusted partners allows us to continue meeting your needs, in a repetitive yet ever changing world.

Enjoy the attached market update, call should you have any questions or concerns, and we hope you have a great week/month.