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Unemployment: Jobs data were mixed this week. Initial Jobless Claims fell from 224K to 214K. Continuing Jobless Claims increased from 1,885K to 1,923K.



Consumer Goods & Materials: The annual measure of Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 2.7% in November, less than the 3.1% forecast.



Durable Goods: Durable Goods orders fell 2.2% in October (MoM), following a 0.7% increase in September.



Housing and Building: Existing Home Sales increased for the 4th month in a row, rising from 4.11M (Oct) to 4.13M (Nov).



Yield Curve: The yield curve was unchanged this week. 2-year yields fell from 3.48% to 3.46%. 10-year yields dropped from 4.16% to 4.14%. Prices & rates move in opposite directions.



M2 Money Stock: The money supply held steady at \$22.30T (Nov), now roughly 72% of current GDP. Meanwhile, advance GDP growth accelerated from 3.8% in Q2 to 4.3% in Q3.



Manufacturing & Services: ISM Manufacturing PMI slipped from 48.7 (Oct) to 48.2 (Nov). Meanwhile, Services PMI inched up from 52.4 to 52.6, reinforcing steady expansion (50 is the contraction/expansion line).



S&P 500: The S&P 500 rose 95.44 points this week, closing at 6,929.94 (up 17.82% YTD). The CBOE Volatility Index (VIX) decreased from 18 to 16.85.



Consumer Confidence: Conference Board (CB) Consumer Confidence fell for the 5th consecutive month. It decreased from 92.9 (Nov) to 89.1 (Dec), reflecting a continued drop in confidence in economic activity.

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