



## ***Introduction to EarnSaveGive: Opportunities for Certified Candidates***

*We know that leading a church to financial health with a deep spiritual culture of generosity happens best when the pastoral leader is financially healthy and knowledgeable. We know that clergy lead effectively when not overcome with anxiety about their own financial well-being. All clergy new to ministry in the Annual*

*Conference are invited to participate in EarnSaveGive, a commitment to improve personal financial well-being. Several opportunities are available to prepare you for this helpful and meaningful journey.*

### **Financial Education**

One goal of the Annual Conference is that new clergy would commit to personal financial well-being by increasing their financial literacy through education. Materials are provided to certified candidates at ***no charge*** to assist with your understanding of personal finances.

Related to the completion of the coursework, we ask you to agree to the following:

- Complete each module fully including related assignments within 12 months of receipt of the materials.
- Give prayerful consideration as to the offering of the course at your future church and/or in your community under your leadership or another leader.
- Commit to tithing or movement towards tithing as you improve your financial knowledge and money management.

You may choose, free of charge, one of the personal finance educational course materials listed below.

*Financial Peace University, [daveramsey.org](http://daveramsey.org)*

*Freed Up Financial Living, [goodsensemovement.org](http://goodsensemovement.org)*

*Another approved course subsidized at \$150 (or less) \_\_\_\_\_*

*(Contact Diane Owen for course approval; see contact info below.)*

### **Supplemental Reading**

You are encouraged to read “Earn.Save.Give. – Wesley’s Simple Rules for Money” by James A. Harnish. United Methodist clergy are expected to be well-versed in John Wesley’s theology and his view on money is no exception. A simple and quick read, this book will be sent to you at no charge upon your request.

### **Resources**

As part of your commitment to EarnSaveGive, you will receive a quarterly financial news email update designed to provide timely information that may benefit your personal financial well-

being as well as resources – books, websites, workshops - for leading a church to financial strength and a culture of generosity. While not all resources may be applicable to your current stage in the process, you will learn what resources are available for your future ministry.

### **Scholarships and Grants**

After you have been in appointment for one year, you are eligible to apply for the Seed and Save grant and the Student Debt Reduction grant. Both of these grants are provided through the Lilly grant initiative. All scholarships and grants are [available for your review here](#).

### **Financial Guidance**

As you enter ministry, your financial well-being and knowledge, personally and professionally, are important. You may choose to connect with a Financial Mentor and/or participate in a Financial Peer Coaching Circle. Review the descriptions below to learn more.

- **Financial Mentors** are experienced and wise pastors and lay persons available to encourage, support, and resource you during your journey to improve your financial well-being and strengthen your knowledge of leading your church.
- **Financial Peer Coaching Circle** provides an opportunity to partner with colleagues in a process to help each other clarify priorities, explore current thinking, generate relevant and realistic actions, guide and support action, and learn coaching skills from the coaching experience. A peer coaching circle would be formed around the exploration of personal and professional financial goals and challenges.

### **EarnSaveGive Financial Assessment**

You and your significant other (if applicable) are encouraged to individually take an on-line financial well-being assessment to obtain a general idea of your personal financial well-being. [Start here](#).

*While these are just a few of the opportunities for you to experience now and in the future, we want you to know that your personal well-being is essential – as a child of God and as a clergy leader. While the MN Annual Conference strives to support your efforts in all aspects of well-being, the Lilly initiative is particularly focused on the economic challenges facing our pastoral leaders of today and tomorrow. To obtain your free materials or to learn more about the opportunities listed, please contact Diane Owen, Lilly Grant Program Director, Dakotas-Minnesota Area of the UMC, at [diane.owen@dkmnareaumc.org](mailto:diane.owen@dkmnareaumc.org) or at 507-244-0311 (mobile office).*