



## Gammon, Wespeth Announce Partnership to Address Financial Wellness for Clergy of Color

A strategic partnership between Gammon Theological Seminary (Gammon) and Wespeth Benefits and Investments' Clergy Financial Well-Being Initiative (Initiative) will expand the programming and resources available to help United Methodist clergy address financial challenges, with a focus on underserved/underrepresented and pandemic-impacted pastors.

Together we will seek out new ways to share materials, make connections and create opportunities that support our shared vision. Supported in part by funding from the Lilly Endowment Inc. as part of its initiative to address the economic challenges of pastoral leaders, [read the full press release here.](#)



## Saving Grace Upcoming Webinars and Updates

### Webinar August 9: *Saving Grace* Learning Community

**Clergy Focus:** On **August 9 at 3:00 p.m. Central time**, Bonnie Marden, Initiative project manager, will moderate a group of foundation and conference leaders sharing insights from their experiences hosting the *Saving Grace* course primarily with clergy participants. Learn how this financial literacy curriculum is equipping pastors and laity to increase their financial well-being by taking charge of their personal financial stewardship. Peer learning and inspiration guaranteed!

**REGISTER TODAY!**

## Webinar August 23: *Saving Grace* Can Change Your Church!

**Congregation Focus:** On **August 23 at 6:30 p.m. Central time**, Ken Sloane, Director of Stewardship & Generosity at Discipleship Ministries, will host a webinar featuring four United Methodist leaders who offered *Saving Grace* in their local settings with laity. The panelists will discuss the impact offering *Saving Grace* classes can have on your church, as well as stories of how this personal wellness curriculum has impacted individuals' lives and well-being.

**REGISTER TODAY!**

## Scholar Recipients Identified, *Saving Grace* a New Option for Educational Requirement

The [Excellence in Clergy Leadership Scholarship](#) continues to provide much-needed funding to help future United Methodist clergy leaders avoid student loan debt. This year, a predicted 61 scholars have been awarded funding for their seminary education. As part of the financial literacy requirement of the scholarship program, recipients can participate in the *Saving Grace* curriculum this year. Wespeth's EY exercises can also fulfill this requirement.

In addition, eight of the 11 United Methodist seminaries have committed to hosting the *Saving Grace* curriculum for students.

GBHEM is hosting *Saving Grace* for a group of scholarship recipients this summer, facilitated by The Reverend Phil Jamieson, president of the United Methodist Foundation of the Memphis and Tennessee Conferences.



## More Favorable Temporary Rules for Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program to Expire October 31

The U.S. Department of Education's Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program was created to encourage individuals, like you and the clergy in your community, to pursue careers in public service. Several of the PSLF Program's standard eligibility requirements have been temporarily suspended—the more favorable temporary rules expire **October 31**.

The PSLF Program was designed to “forgive,” or eliminate, the student loan debt remaining from Direct Loans after qualifying individuals have made 10 years' worth of qualifying payments, while working full-time for a qualifying employer, which can include a local church. Please share this information immediately with your

constituents. [You can read more about the PSLP Program and watch a webinar here.](#)

The Church Pension Group of the Episcopal Church will host an informational webinar on the PSLF Program on **September 7 from 1:00 to 2:15 pm, Central time**—and clergy and lay from all denominations are welcome.

**REGISTER TODAY!**

### UMC Clergy Financial Well-Being Initiative

For more information about this initiative and clergy financial well-being resources, visit: <https://www.wespath.org/for-plan-sponsors/UMC-clergy-financial-well-being>

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**Successfully expanding financial literacy depends on strategic collaboration.  
We look forward to working with you in 2022.**

Connected in Christian Service,

Dale Jones, *Wespath Project Director*  
David Bell, *Project Chair*

Bonnie Marden, *Project Manager*  
Lisa Greenwood, *NAUMF Executive Director*

**A collaborative project led by Wespath Benefits and Investments, General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Discipleship Ministries and National Association of United Methodist Foundations funded by a Lilly Endowment Inc. grant through their Initiative to Address Economic Challenges Facing Pastoral Leaders.**



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If you do not wish to receive future editions of the Clergy Financial Well-Being Initiative newsletter, please e-mail [clergyfinance@wespath.org](mailto:clergyfinance@wespath.org).