

The auditorium at Sugar River UMC will be set to welcome the public to a series of classes that will speak to key money management topics such as saving, earning, giving, spending and debt.

The class will be volunteer-led by William Dieck, a former educator and a graduate of similar financial courses. Classes will be held Tuesdays from 6:00 – 7:30 pm at 415 W. Verona Avenue, starting April 19th. There is ample on-site parking, the building is barrier-free, and course workbooks are included with each registration. Childcare may be provided if there is enough interest.

Often, it's not how much money we have, but having a proper relationship with our money and committing to our financial needs and goals appropriately that can dramatically change our comfort of living."

Dieck says: "My degree was in Mathematics, and yet I couldn't keep my checkbook balanced. I'd never written a budget in my life. Even when my wife and I thought we were getting ahead financially, it always turned out we were not. Taking a financial course like this one offered us tips and some eye-opening lessons that have made our path to financial wellness easier. It doesn't happen overnight; like any other fitness regimen, the good habits take time to develop. We're still on that journey today, and we are more financially fit than ever."

"Your financial wellness journey can be started anytime," Dieck continues, "even when it's seems too overwhelming to know where to start, or too hard to fit financial wellness in our lives, or that you're just too lost in a consumer world. There's lots of advice out there, from Biblical times to modern scholars, and we'll explore these lessons together. Let me help you take that first step. Once you start analyzing your giving, saving, and spending, it may be an easier path toward financial wellness than you think."

This seven-week "Saving Grace" course is designed to encourage participants and their families to have open discussions about money to help them reach financial goals, keeping in mind that being financially healthy is not strictly about how much money you make, but also how you manage what you have. Key focus points will be: attitudes toward money, building sound financial habits, and using tools to effectively manage financial resources. Registration is \$40 per family or couple, and includes one study guide. Additional guides are \$20 each if already registered.

The deadline to register is April 15th. Anyone wishing to participate can find more information and register online at sugarriverumc.org, by emailing SRAdmin@sugarriverumc.org, or calling 608-845-5855.