

## Essential Planning – Getting Started

Our ongoing financial planning relationship will address all areas of your financial life. Below is a list of many, but not all, of the questions that individuals, couples, and young families face.

### Goal Creation and Prioritization

- Have you thought about when you'd like to retire?
- Have you thought about your next big purchase?
- Do you have an Emergency fund?

### Income Planning

- Do you make enough money to support your goals?
- Are you shifting from two incomes to one?
- Do you fall short each month or come out ahead?
- How should you direct excess cash?

### Expense Management

- How can you create spending that works?
- Do you have enough money in an Emergency Fund?
- What is the best system to keep track of your spending?
- Will you have to support your parents as they age?

### Tax Planning and Preparation

- How will marriage, children, or life changes impact your taxes?
- Are there tax strategies available to you?
- Are you correctly reporting your income, deductions, and credits annually?

### Debt Management

- How do you prioritize your debt payments?
- Are student loans at the best rate?
- Should you pay loans down or invest?

## Investments/Education/Retirement

- How do you decide where to allocate investment money each month?
- How are your investments performing?
- What is your investment strategy given your goals?
- When should you start saving for college?
- Which education options are best for you?
- When should you open and fund a 529 Plan?
- How much money do you need when you retire?

## Employee Benefits

- What benefits make sense to use?
- Are you maximizing your deferral options?

## Insurance

- Is your current insurance coverage adequate?
- How much protection do you need?
- Should you have disability insurance?
- Do you need an umbrella policy?

## Estate Planning

- Do you need a will or a trust, or both?
- How much life insurance do you need?
- Have you named a Guardian for children?
- Have you enacted Powers of Attorney?

## Housing

- Should you rent or own?
- How do you pay for a larger home?
- Is it time to refinance?
- How much can you afford to spend?
- Does it make financial sense to remodel?

## Fun Forecasting

- What are you doing to enjoy your life?
- How much will you need for that next big vacation?