

Thrivent Member Network – Heartland Region

Network News

About the newsletter

Network News provides financial insights, local stories, local partnerships and upcoming events happening in your region.

Want to know more?

Visit us at:

thrivent.com/member-network/heartland
or at: facebook.com/TMNHHeartland.

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All about Thrivent Action Teams

Thrivent Action Teams empower clients with membership to put generosity into action

Where can you make a meaningful difference in your community? Identify a need, then apply to lead a fundraiser, service activity or educational event. Thrivent provides the resources, digital tools and inspiration you need to bring a Thrivent Action Team to life—including up to \$250 in seed money. Gather your friends, family or neighbors, and get started today!

We're making it even more meaningful to apply to lead a project this fall with a Thrivent Action Team Drive

\$250, \$500 or \$1,000 could go to a cause you care about!

If you have already completed, applied or will apply, for your action team project between October 1, 2024, and December 31, 2024, and your action team is approved, you will be automatically entered in a drawing for a chance to select a Thrivent Choice®-enrolled organization to receive a \$1,000, \$500 or \$250 donation from your Thrivent Member Network.

Get started and apply by visiting our [Thrivent Action Teams website](#).

Open to members of the Heartland Thrivent Member Network, the sponsor of this program. All eligible members of the TMN who submit an action team application between October 1 and December 31, 2024, at 11:59 pm Central Time, will be entered into the drawing. Three TMN members will be randomly selected to make a non-binding recommendation that the TMN make a \$1,000, \$500 or \$250 donation to an organization in the Thrivent Choice catalog; no money or anything of value will be provided to any entrant. Odds of being selected depend on number of entrants. Drawing will be held approximately January 6, 2025. If a selected entrant does not respond within five calendar days of notification by email, or otherwise fails to cooperate, a new entrant will be randomly selected.



Thrivent Action Team ideas

Thrivent Action Teams are so easy!
There's three categories to choose from:



Service projects

Donate your time toward a helpful deed, useful labor or an act of kindness.



Fundraisers

Raise funds to benefit an organization, individual, family or cause.



Educational events

Donate your time toward a helpful deed, useful labor or an act of kindness.

Some ideas

- **Assemble backpacks for kids** who need school supplies, or launch an after-school snack program for kids dealing with food insecurity. Use the seed money to purchase snacks, backpacks and supplies. The fall and early winter are great times to replenish school supplies that have run out at this point in the year.

- **Put together a harvest festival** or Trunk or Treat with your church. Use the seed money to help purchase food for meals, supplies for games or candy and decorations for trunks.
- **Create and send Christmas cards** to troops overseas. Use seed money to buy card supplies and postage.
- **Shop for Bible Study materials** or social event supplies for a local Christian club on a high school or college campus near you.
- **Help an elderly neighbor** with yardwork or housework. Use seed money to buy cleaning supplies.
- **Host an adoption/foster support event** and raise funds for an adoption or foster agency. Spend seed money on food or activities for the event.
- **Go shopping to purchase goods** for a local food pantry or Thanksgiving dinner basket drive. Many pantries are consistently looking for hygiene and cleaning products, as they do not receive many of those types of items and families appreciate them greatly.

- **Host a workshop** to teach people in your community something new— anything from personal finance and budgeting to mental health awareness to self defense or even how to cook healthy, budget-friendly meals. Use the seed money to hire an expert, rent out a space, or for marketing and promotional materials.
- **Add some coziness** to a hospital room by gathering a group of friends to make blankets for patients at your local children's hospital. Use the seed money to purchase blanket materials and supplies.
- **Have a trivia night** to raise awareness and money for your favorite cause. Use the seed money to promote the event, purchase food and the trivia program or buy door prizes for donors.

Still need inspiration?

Get this list of [75 ideas for impact!](#)



Featured Thrivent Action Teams

2024 Trivia Night for the Dream Factory of Southeast Missouri

Client Renee A. put her Thrivent Action Team toward silent auction item fillers and supplies for the 2024 Trivia Night for the Dream Factory of Southeast Missouri. By using the seed money in this way, it assisted in raising funds for the "Dream" children and upcoming dreams. The 2024 Trivia Night is one of two large fundraisers put on per year to be able to grant dreams to chronically and critically ill children. They raised \$30,500 that evening.

Renee said of the event, "One of our 'Dream' children was able to attend and give a speech about how her dream affected her life and her family. It was very touching to hear the story directly from her. Her dream was funded by last years' Trivia Night and the attendees really took to the story. We again beat our annual goal for the Trivia Night and we grow year after year."

What an amazing impact on community

and a great example of a Thrivent Action Team!

What is the Dream Factory?

The Dream Factory is the largest all-volunteer driven children's wish-granting organization that does not limit its mission to children who have life-threatening illness. The organization believes children with chronic illnesses and disorders also suffer from substantial emotional and physical pain. The mission of The Dream Factory is to grant dreams to children 3 through 18 who are critically or chronically ill.

Interested in getting involved with the Dream Factory of Southeast Missouri?

Check out their [website](#).

The Safe House of Southeast Missouri

Mission: to provide safe refuge and support services to those affected by domestic abuse and violence, to provide training and education to

increase awareness of and prevention of domestic violence for the community they serve, and to advocate for social change and public policy that protect a person's right to live free of abuse.

Jessica M. Hill, Executive Director, commented, "The Safe House of Southeast Missouri has a wonderful partnership with our local Thrivent Action Teams! We always look forward to Joyce C. and other generous Thrivent clients stopping by with items from our agency's wish list that have been purchased with TAT funds." The organization relies almost exclusively on community support for much-needed items such as cleaning supplies for the shelter, hygiene products and school supplies for shelter residents, and canned good for their food pantry.

Ready to get involved? The Safe House of Southeast Missouri would be very grateful to receive hygiene products, cleaning supplies, twin- and full-size bedding, and paper products which are used in their shelter every day. Check out their [wishlist](#).

2024 Calendar of events

We love meeting friends and family. Invite and register them for an upcoming event! Thrive With Purpose™, together. For additional events, details or to RSVP, visit our website thrivent.com/member-network/heartland or email HeartlandTMN@Thrivent.com.

October



19 Fall Family Fun – Boo at the Zoo

Join Thrivent at Boo at the Zoo for a spook-tacular (non-scary) Halloween experience.

We will get together for a meal and activity! Then families of all ages can enjoy festive decorations, entertainers and more at the St. Louis Zoo's nighttime experience. Note: This is not a trick-or-treating event.

St. Louis Zoo – 1 Government Drive, St. Louis, MO 63110, 6 p.m. CT

Find the link to register on our [events page](#).

29 Maximizing Social Security with Mary Beth Franklin

Knowing when to claim may boost your benefits.

While Social Security is the foundation of retirement income, it may replace only about 40% of your pre-retirement paycheck. Learn the impact of eligibility requirements on your monthly benefit and discover the importance of creating a strategy that's right for you.

Join us for Maximizing Social Security with expert Mary Beth Franklin. When it comes to claiming benefits, your age, marital status and work history can make a big difference.

**Virtual event
12 p.m. CT & 8:30 p.m. CT**

[Register today!](#)

November

06 The Washington Update – Live!

How does what's happening in Washington affect your bottom line? During The Washington Update, get non-partisan analysis from expert Jeff Bush. His insights give perspective to the changing landscape in the nation's capital and its impact on taxes, investments and retirement planning.

Join us for The Washington Update and hear Jeff Bush speak live in person. The changing landscape in Washington can have an impact on your retirement plans and investment decisions.

St. Louis – TBD

Please see our [events page](#) for details on time, location and how to register.

Get your 2025 Thrivent calendar

Each year, Thrivent asks our membership to send us their original photos to include in the calendar that we offer as a membership benefit. This year's theme: "Everyday Blessings."

If you are a Thrivent client with membership, you can order one copy of the calendar at no cost to you. You can also download some of the digital images once they become available. Make sure to order your [beautiful calendar](#) today!



Stay connected

To receive the most up-to-date information on events, activities and communication, please update or add your email address by logging on to thrivent.com or calling 800-847-4836.

No products will be sold. For additional disclosures, see Thrivent.com/social.

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2024 Calendar of events

December

03 Giving Tuesday

Giving Tuesday is a global movement focused on philanthropy and altruism. It takes place annually on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving.

Giving Tuesday was developed to counter those days' focus on consumption. Instead of encouraging people to collectively spend money on "hot deals," the initiative promotes radical generosity—a shared commitment to doing good and helping people in need. Many organizations, including Thrivent, celebrate Giving Tuesday as a meaningful cultural moment and an opportunity to amplify the impact of philanthropy.

There are two components to Giving Tuesday at Thrivent, both of which are open to everyone:

- **Donate!** This year we are featuring [Home Sweet Home](#), whose mission is to give under-served families a sense of pride and to improve the quality of their lives by providing basic household furnishings.
- **Participate.** Thrivent Member Networks are hosting a variety of virtual and in-person events in honor of Giving Tuesday.

For more information on the Thrivent match, how to donate and registration for events, please see [our website](#).

05 Charitable Planning to Maximize Impact

Join us for an online workshop that introduces Thrivent Charitable and outlines the benefits of incorporating charitable planning into an overall financial strategy. Giving examples illustrate how Thrivent Charitable's giving solutions are created based on your financial circumstances and charitable interests.

Virtual event
11:30 a.m. CT

To register, please see [our website](#).

Vote with purpose in fall board elections

This fall, Thrivent is holding elections for its national board of directors as well as the Thrivent Member Network regional boards. For more information on the elections and to vote, visit Thrivent.com/vote. The 2024 election dates are October 8 to November 26.

Go where the growth is

The financial advisor career is projected to grow more than four times the rate of real estate agents. People will always crave the purpose-based, human-to-human financial advice Thrivent financial advisors offer.

Learn more about this in-demand career: thriventcareers.com/outlook.

Thrivent provides Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) without regard to race, religion, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, pregnancy, national origin, age, disability, marital status, citizenship status, military or veteran status, genetic information, or any other status protected by applicable local, state, or federal law. This policy applies to all employees and job applicants.



Thrivent is a membership-owned fraternal organization, as well as a holistic financial services organization, providing financial advice, investments, insurance, banking and generosity programs to help people make the most of all they've been given.



Advice | Investments | Insurance | Banking | Generosity