

Thrivent Member Network – Mid-Atlantic 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: [thriventfinancial.com/member-network/mid-atlantic](https://thriventfinancial.com/member-network/mid-atlantic) or at: [facebook.com/MidAtlanticRegion.Thrivent](https://facebook.com/MidAtlanticRegion.Thrivent).

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## Ready to give back? The choice is yours.

### Thrivent Choice

Through Thrivent Choice®, you can contribute to organizations and causes you care about—and influence how Thrivent distributes some of its charitable funding.

Each day, organizations across the country are doing incredible things to strengthen communities and change lives. Clients can support that important work by directing Choice Dollars® to any of more than 40,000 enrolled churches and nonprofit organizations.

- By directing Choice Dollars, eligible clients with membership recommend where Thrivent distributes a portion of its charitable funding.
- Clients become eligible to direct Choice Dollars based on their insurance premiums and contract values.



### Share your recommendation

Thrivent clients with membership can nominate churches and nonprofit organizations for enrollment in the program. Once enrolled, the organization is included in the online Thrivent Choice® catalog and can:

- Receive online personal donations through Thrivent's online giving platform. Thrivent pays the processing fees\* so that 100% of the donation goes to the organization.
- Be supported by Thrivent Action Teams.
- Receive Choice Dollars® grant funding.

Learn more by visiting [Thrivent.com/Choice](https://Thrivent.com/Choice).

## Live Generously® T-shirt vote results

### The winning design is Heart of Generosity

Thank you for helping us choose the 2022 Live Generously® T-shirt design.

T-shirts are available to individuals who lead or participate in a Thrivent Action Team. Clients who apply for a Thrivent Action Team on or after Jan. 1, 2022, will receive black T-shirts with the new design.

The Live Generously T-shirt is a representation of our clients' generosity in action. Clients and volunteers earn a T-shirt by leading or participating in fun and unique Thrivent volunteer projects. When you see a Live Generously T-shirt,



we hope you are reminded of the impact we make when we all give back together.

Thrivent's generosity programs make it easy to give of yourself and live a more meaningful life. If you're a Thrivent client with membership, you can apply to lead your own Thrivent Action Team today by visiting [Thrivent.com/ActionTeams](https://Thrivent.com/ActionTeams).

## Make a difference in your community, with your community

### Thrivent Action Teams

Supporting your community is easy with Thrivent Action Teams. Apply to lead a group in a fundraiser, educational event or service activity. Then, gather a team of volunteers to make an impact together. Thrivent provides a customized kit of resources to get you started. Your team provides the passion to bring it to life.

### Thrivent Action Team Ideas

#### Holiday care packages for our military

You and your team collect wet wipes, books, journals, snacks, water mixes, and packing materials. Then use the seed money for postage to send the packages to our troops. Visit Operation Gratitude ([operationgratitude.com](https://www.operationgratitude.com)) for more ideas on how to get involved.

#### Christmas Eve worship kit

Provide a candlelight service at home for those participating in the service on line. In the kit include battery operated candles, song book or print hymns and scripture. Use seed money for postage and boxes for the kit.

#### Christmas themed scavenger hunt kit

Create kits for carloads to participate in a scavenger hunt. Create a list of decorations to find in your community, gather snacks, Christmas music and car decorations and make a kit to send to family and friends.

#### Fresh Christmas arrangements

Use the seed money to order supplies, put together arrangements and deliver to those in a nursing home to brighten their holiday season.

#### Winter weather blessing bags

Use the seed money to start collecting hand warmers, gloves, soap and scarves and share these blessing bags with delivery drivers who come to your front porch, construction workers, or first responders who are working out in the cold weather.

#### Family quarantine kit

Create a kit with games and snacks to leave on the front porch of a family in your community who must quarantine.

#### Appreciation kits for daycare or healthcare workers

Use the seed money to start building kits with snacks, coffee and cookies. You and your team create handwritten thank you notes to include in the kits.

#### Holidays in a box

Create care packages for college students who are not able to come home for the holidays. Use the seed money to provide snacks and holiday decorations.

#### New year, new you

Use the seed money to print meal planners, recipes and goal setting planners. Purchase party favors to celebrate your team participating in the New Year New You challenge to celebrate the challenge kick off on New Year's Eve.

For more information or to apply for your Thrivent Action Team, please visit [Thrivent.com/ActionTeams](https://www.thrivent.com/ActionTeams).



## 5 Ways to avoid impulse spending during the holidays

### 01 Remember your family's goals

Don't forget the bigger picture when holiday shopping. It's nice to treat loved ones, but there are other ways to do so that don't involve an expensive gift. Keep in mind other upcoming financial goals, so you remain on track.

### 02 Make a list

Before setting out to buy gifts for family and friends, write down what you want to give each person. Once you've found their gift, cross them off the list, and leave the store before finding something that could tempt another purchase.

### 03 Don't focus on a sale

Many impulse buys are prompted by seeing items on sale. Getting a great deal may feel justified, but it all adds up. Don't lose sight of what you are spending. Even with a lower price, it's still more expensive than not purchasing the item altogether.

### 04 Shop when you are relaxed

Shopping while stressed can lead to indulgent purchases. Feeling relaxed as possible while buying gifts will help you stay on track and enjoy the experience.

### 05 Remember what you (or they) already own

You come across sweaters on sale and remember your child loves the color blue. At 50% off, it makes sense to buy one as a gift. However, you remember they already own several tops in that color and move on. Apply that mentality when shopping for yourself and others.

# 2021 Calendar of events

For additional events, details or to RSVP, visit our website at [thriventfinancial.com/member-network/mid-atlantic](https://thriventfinancial.com/member-network/mid-atlantic) or email [midatlantictmn@thrivent.com](mailto:midatlantictmn@thrivent.com).

## September

### 23 **21st Century Medicare: Planning to Protect Your Healthcare Rights and Retirement Savings**

**Online workshop, 1 p.m. and 8 p.m.**  
[Register here.](#)

Medicare can be great when you do what's right for you. During this workshop, Emily Gang, The Medicare Coach will cover things that you can do to both help yourself and your loved ones to prepare for Medicare. She will also discuss where and when to start the application process along with important tips once on Medicare to save money.

## October

### 28 **Pay Checks and Play Checks: Retirement Solutions for Life**

**Online event, 1 p.m. and 8 p.m.**  
[Register here.](#)

Want to know how you can plan for a secure retirement, even in these uncertain times? Want to learn a proven approach to retirement that is tailored to your priorities? During this event with Economist, Author and Retirement Expert, Tom Hegna, you'll learn a proven approach for creating a retirement strategy tailored to your goals and priorities. Tom Hegna authored, *Pay Checks and Play Checks: Retirement Solutions for Life*, a guide to retirement planning in uncertain times.

## November

### 11 **Zero Fail Mission**

**Online event, 8 p.m.**  
[Register here.](#)

Retired Colonel Mark W. Tillman, the Nation's 12th Presidential Pilot, will share his first-hand account of piloting President George W. Bush on September 11, 2001, and later transporting the Commander in Chief into the war zone of Baghdad, Iraq for Thanksgiving dinner with the troops. Colonel Tillman will emphasize the concept of a Zero Fail Mission, which can be applied in both business and everyday life—detailed planning, measurable expectations and personal responsibility.

## December

### 05 **Virtual Christmas Concert with Amy Grant**

**Online event, 7 p.m.**  
[Register here.](#)

Join six-time GRAMMY® award winning artist Amy Grant for an Exclusive Virtual Christmas Concert. Take some time to treat your friends and family to the sounds of this joyous season. Catch up on exciting Thrivent updates and celebrate Christmas as a community.

## December

### 12 **Home For The Holidays: Celebration of Membership**

**Online event, 7 p.m.**  
[Register here.](#)

Join five-time GRAMMY® nominated artist Matthew West and special guest GRAMMY® award winning artist Mandisa for Thrivent's Home For The Holidays Virtual Concert. Sing along to your favorite Christmas Classics as we celebrate a years' worth of generosity with clients like you! Hear the impact of Thrivent's Generosity Programs, catch up on exciting updates, and celebrate Christmas as a community.

### 16 **Family Trivia Night: Christmas Edition**

**Online event, 8 p.m.**  
[Register here.](#)

The tree is decorated, the stockings are hung, now grab the family and join Thrivent for an evening of fun! During this virtual event, we will play Christmas Themed Trivia against other local Thrivent Members while our friend, John Michael Hinton hosts an evening full of laughter. Driven by a passion to encourage people to embrace joy and find purpose, John Michael Hinton uses the power of illusion, storytelling and humor in a mix that you won't soon forget.

## 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](https://thrivent.com) or calling 800-847-4836.

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