

Northwest

Thrivent Member Network Quarterly

SUMMER 2021

Thrivent Quarterly

Your Thrivent Member Network is your connection to special Thrivent client programs and resources that can help you create impact in your communities and improve the lives of others.

We are proud to serve over 100,000 clients across Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington.

We are part of Thrivent, a membership-owned, holistic financial services organization that is committed to providing financial advice, investments, insurance, banking and generosity programs. Thrivent exists to help people achieve financial clarity and make the most of all they've been given.

To find the latest resources and events happening in our region, scan this QR code with your phone camera:



Life Happens, Be Ready

You've probably heard the phrase 'expect the unexpected'. It's ironic, right? While you might not be able to predict the future, you can take steps to prepare for those unexpected bumps in the road or curveballs.

To help, Thrivent is partnering with Life Happens®, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing Americans unbiased information to make smart insurance choices. Join us on July 27th to find out how to protect the life you've worked hard to build and give peace of mind to those you love. See [page four](#) for details.

Planning for the Unexpected

From vacations to planning for college, creating life plans with loved ones is one of the many joys in life. But when it comes to more sensitive topics, like unexpected deaths or disability, it can be tempting to avoid conversations altogether.

Seventy-five percent of Americans agree that financially preparing for life's unknowns is a way to show your loved ones you care about them. — 2019 Insure Your Love Consumer Survey, Life Happens®



Good News

- ❯ Life insurance is probably less expensive than you think it is.
- ❯ Due to streamlined processes, buying life insurance is easier than it has ever been.
- ❯ Not only does life insurance protect your family and your legacy, it can also offer living benefits.

Whether you need to start an insurance policy or assess your current coverage, we encourage you to take the next step to ensure you and your loved ones are protected. Contact your financial professional for assistance.



42% of families say they would face financial hardship within six months if the primary wage earner died. For 25%, it would be within just one month.



More than half of consumers say they haven't purchased life insurance because they don't know how much they need or what type to buy.

Sources: 2020 Insurance Barometer Study; 2021 Insurance Barometer Study, LIMRA and Life Happens

Protecting Your Identity & Wallet

Learn what you can do to decrease the chances of becoming a victim of financial fraud.

Know How Fraudsters Work

- » **Online transactions:** If you are sending personal or financial information online, always look for the security lock icon on your internet browser's status bar. Click the lock to confirm the connection is secure and the certificate is valid to verify a safe transmission of your information.
- » **Phone calls:** There are many variations of scamming calls. One of the most popular ones right now is a caller claiming to be from the IRS stating that you owe back taxes that need to be paid immediately.
- » **Emails / Text Messages:** Scammers will ask you to reply with personal information or to click on a link that could install malicious software on your device to access your personal information. These messages can be personal and targeted, and often follow the news headlines.



Guard Your Information

- » **Check personal accounts frequently.**
- » **Protect your computer with a** security software from a reliable source.
- » **Sign up for identity theft protection services** – see page 4 for resources.
- » **Check your credit reports and sign up for credit monitoring alerts** with Experian, TransUnion or Equifax.
- » **Create electronic logins to your accounts** even if you don't want online access because by creating a login and password, you can prevent an imposter from doing it.
- » **Create strong passwords** with 15+ characters when you can, avoid using the same password for multiple accounts, and use two-factor authentication when available.
- » **Use secure internet connections.** Make sure your home internet is secure, and limit use of public Wi-Fi to only trustworthy establishments or connect to the internet with your phone's hotspot if possible.
- » **Shred documents with personal information.**

Learn to Say No

- » **Don't share sensitive data.** Make a commitment to never give any sensitive information over the phone, in texts or in emails.
- » **Be on guard with communications asking for money.** That includes cash, checks, money orders and gift cards. If someone contacts you asking for donations for an organization you think is legitimate, look at the email address or other identifying information. If you're unsure, call the organization to ask if they contacted you.
- » **Don't open suspicious emails and texts.** Delete any that come through that look suspicious. If you do open one, don't open any links or attachments that might be included.

Report Fraud

- » While you may feel embarrassed about being a victim of fraud, it's important to quickly share what happened. Report it to all organizations where you have financial accounts, as well as local law enforcement and the FTC. Reporting it doesn't just protect you, it helps authorities track down fraudsters and alert others. See page 4 for details.

Women & Money – Closing the Gender Gap



More and more women are taking an active role with their finances. Yet, a recent Kiplinger study shows that women's confidence around financial security is only 62%¹.

If your financial confidence could use a boost, first find out what's holding you back, then take the necessary steps that will enable you to make informed money decisions.

Identify Your Challenges

- Income gap** – women typically earn less than men during their lifetime for a variety of reasons.
- Confidence gap** – historically women have not been the one managing their family finances.
- Age gap** – statistically, women live longer than men and need to plan for their income to last longer.
- Crunched for time** – women often take the lead in running their household, while also working and maintaining a social life which can impact priorities for financial planning.
- Fewer learning opportunities** – personal finance is rarely part of school curriculum and for many families it's still considered a 'taboo' subject.

Steps to Empowerment

- Take an interest** – whether you have a partner or are single, the only way to get comfortable with financial matters is to get involved.
- Set goals** – no matter the size of your goal, the best way to achieve it is to plan for it. Ask yourself what you want and then set deadlines for working towards it.
- Educate yourself** – information on finances is widely available and can be explored through many different avenues such as books, classes and more.
- Commit to communicate** – no question is a bad question. Ask your financial professional or loved one for clarification when there's something you don't understand. In return, actively listen and keep the conversation going.
- Ask for help** – you don't have to be the expert or go at it alone. A financial professional can help you prioritize and strategize as you go, no matter where you are starting from.

Becoming an active participant in your finances doesn't happen overnight. Start with the basics and go from there. As you're building your knowledge and comfort level, you're also building toward financial empowerment so you can make the most of all you've been given.

¹<https://www.kiplinger.com/article/retirement/t037-c032-s014-the-complicated-relationship-of-women-and-finances.html>

Northwest Members Thrive with Purpose



Senior Project Raises Funds & Coaches Kids

High school student Logan Lockwood, along with his coaches, family and ten teammates, helped 27 3rd-8th grade boys improve their baseball skills in Filer, Idaho. With the support of Thrivent Action Team funds, this heart-warming baseball camp raised funds for the Filer High School baseball fund which will be used to keep the baseball program going strong.



A Blessing for 'Blessing Beds'

About a dozen volunteers stood outside Walmart for a day and helped raise over \$3,000 in donations to support Blessing Beds, located in Pullman, Washington. The mission of this non-profit is to help get kids off the floor by providing free beds to families in need, all built and assembled entirely by volunteers with 100% donated supplies. Local financial professional, Shawn Greenfield, organized this Thrivent Action Team.

Interested in leading Thrivent Action Team to fund a passion project in your community?



Learn more:
<http://bit.ly/LearnActionTeams>

2021 Calendar of Events

Enjoy these live online virtual events from the safety and comfort of your home on your computer or mobile device.



For additional event details and to register, scan this QR code with your phone camera or connect with us here:
<https://bit.ly/TMNnwevents>

July

27 Life Happens, Be Ready.

Discover how insurance can protect your loved ones, your business and more with Faisa Stafford, President & CEO of Life Happens a nonprofit dedicated to helping people make smart insurance choices.

August

03 Women, Wealth & Wisdom

Learn real-world lessons from women who took control of their finances and enriched their lives in ways beyond their bank account.

05 Financial Foundations: Your Blueprint to Thrive

Learn how to build a foundation to handle setbacks, continue to move towards your financial goals and protect your loved ones at this educational event that will discuss the three most important days in your life to plan for.

10 Closing the Racial Wealth Gap

Discover how to create financial prosperity and an intergenerational legacy. Eugene Mitchell, founder of the \$50 Billion Community Empowerment Movement will share strategies from his book, "Closing the Racial Wealth Gap—7 Untold Rules for Black Prosperity and Legacy".

September

Thursdays - Money is a Tool Series

While money is commonly thought to be the goal, we believe money is purely a tool to accomplish your goals. Tune in for this three-part series to hear from industry thought-leaders on how to uncover what matters to you most and begin using money as a tool to thrive.

Resources

Planning for the Unexpected:

<http://bit.ly/lifeinsurancequestions>

Help Protect Our Families Campaign (thrivent.com)

Women & Money:

<http://bit.ly/ClosingtheGenderGap>

Protecting Your Identity & Wallet:

<http://bit.ly/onguard-thrivent>

» Programs available to Thrivent Clients:

<http://bit.ly/thrivent-identityprotection>

» The Federal Trade Commission (FTC)

Report identity theft and file a complaint for other types of financial fraud: <https://www.ftc.gov/>

» Three primary agencies—Equifax, Experian and TransUnion—to get your credit reports, or to place freezes on credit checks.

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No products will be sold at these events.

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Advice | Investments | Insurance | Banking | Generosity

About Thrivent

Thrivent is 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.

Member benefits and programs are not guaranteed contractual benefits. The interpretation of the provisions of these benefits and programs is at the sole discretion of Thrivent. Thrivent reserves the right to change, modify, discontinue, or refuse to provide any of the membership benefits or any part of them, at any time.

You should only purchase and keep insurance and annuity products that best meet the financial security needs of you and your family and never purchase or keep any insurance or annuity products to be eligible for non-guaranteed membership benefits.