

SPIRIT

December 2024 Volume XXX Number 12



PFLAG Fort Worth's
Holiday Social &
Potluck Dinner
Thurs. Dec 5 at 6:45pm
Celebration Community
Church Fellowship Hall
908 Pennsylvania



PFLAG Fort Worth

Important Dates

12/05 PFLAG Potluck Dinner
12/11 Food and Fun Confab
12/12 Dallas PFLAG Meeting
12/23 "Sam" House Supper Club
12/29 Trans Support Group
01/02 PFLAG Meeting
01/08 Food&Fun Confab
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For virtual PFLAG Fort Worth events, see our website at pflagfortworth.org for a link. For Dallas PFLAG - www.pflagdallas.org

Supporting LGBTQ Family and Friends

Wondering how to support an LGBTQ family member or friend during the holidays and/or all of the other days of the year? It's very normal to have complex feelings and responses when someone close to you comes out. PFLAG has tips on how to support your loved one and yourself. These tips include "Lead with love," "Listen with intention." "Remember that you're not alone." Read more here

PFLAG - Leading with Love

PFLAG.org writes, "as an LGBTQIA2S+ movement, we will continue to work towards what we always have: a country where all LGBTQIA2S+ people are safe, seen, and accepted for who we truly are, without exception. We are here together, and we will move forward. We've got this. We've got us. Read more here



PFLAG Fort Worth

Meeting and Support Group

First Thursday Every Month
6:45pm Social
7:00 Meeting/Support Groups
(7:00 on Zoomtoo)
Celebration Community
Church Fellowship Hall
908 Pennsylvania, Ft Worth

Transgender Support Group

Last Sunday Every Month 3:00-5:00 on Zoom

Share our stories, Share our strength.

Talk a little or a lot as you want

You do not need to be a member and there is no cost to attend.

Leading with love to make Texas a better, safer place for LGBTQ+



LET'S TALK
Transgender Support Group
In Partnership with
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church - Hurst
VIRTUAL on Zoom

LAST SUNDAY of Every Month 3-5pm Talk as much or as little as you want Share Our Stories - Share Our Strength

PFLAG Fort Worth Call or Email for Link 817-382-7353 info@pflagfortworth.org





Free Playgroup - LGBTQIA+

Lindsay Garrett of Indigo Therapy is starting a free playgroup for LGBTQIA+ parents and kids at her office in Hurst! When: Saturday Dec 7th 9am-11am Where: Indigo Therapy's Office, 1244 Southridge Ct. STE 100 Hurst, TX 76053 Who can attend: LGBTQIA+ parents with kids of any age, Parents of LGBTQIA+ kiddos with their kids RSVP to: Lindsay Garrett lindsay.garrett@indigotherapytx.org -



Include names and any diet needs for snacks:) Snacks and coffee provided

"Daniel Really Suits You"

Please watch this short video and "share it with your neighbors. We know that when people know us, they support us in our daily lives and at the ballot box. You wouldn't be on this list if you weren't one of them — but I bet you have friends, coworkers and classmates who aren't there yet." Please watch this with them. Watch video here

PFLAG Fort Worth's meeting/support group meets on December 5 because that's the *First* • *Thursday of the month*.

At 6:45pm we meet for our annual Holiday Potluck Dinner!

Come to the Fellowship Hall building behind Celebration Community Church in Fort Worth at 908 Pennsylvania Ave. Parking is free and easy to find. Please come to PFLAG Fort Worth because we need YOU. You do NOT need to be a member and there is no cost to attend.



HRC - "Facing the Future"

"What do we do now?" The HRC
(Human Rights Campaign) has compiled
a "resource to answer some of your
most pressing questions post-election.
This is NOT legal advice, but it does
provide information. Read more here

Tips to Get Through the Holidays
Whether this season means being alone
going back to be with your family of
origin, putting plans in place to help
you cope and get through the holidays
is essential. Read more here



PFLAG Confab - 2nd Wednesday

Mark your calendar now and join us for fun and conversation at Shaw's Patio Bar and Grill every 2nd Wednesday of the month about 6:00ish. Shaws is easy to find at 1051 W. Magnolia, just south of downtown Fort Worth. Ruby with the gorgeous red hair usually arrives first to save us a table. Parking is free and convenient. See you there!

I am not okay today.

So, in the absence of okay,
what else can I be?

I can be gentle.
I can be unashamed.
I can turn my pain into connection.
I can be a student of stillness.
I can be awake to nature.
I can sharpen my empathy
against the stone of my
discomfort.

I am not okay today, but I am many worthy things. Jarod K. Anderson



"And this is it.

This is the life we get here on earth.

We get to give away what we receive.

We get to believe in each other.

We get to forgive and be forgiven.

We get to love imperfectly.

And we never know what effect it will have for years to come.

And all of it...all of it is completely worth it."

- by Nadia Bolz-Weber in Accidental Saints



But, what if they lose?

Then we keep fighting for the rights of all people.

And, if they winn the cause auswer.



Books - Why and How the Clergy Lied

Looking for a gift for yourself or loved-ones? How about Goodreads highly recommends these books for anyone who is LGBTQ, an LGBTQ ally, or "simply a person interested in methods being used by political evangelicals." The author, D.L. Day is an investigative journalist and former pastor who combines his experience and his formal training to write these clear, complete explanations of how and why the clergy lied to disadvantage LGBTQ people throughout Christian history. Progressive Christianity.org says, "As one can clearly see in recent world developments and read in the book. there is a specific plan addressing every level of government and exactly how the reshuffle will take place. If you are progressive, or secular, or a fan of freedom, those cards will not fall in your favor." Read more here Read more here



Author D.L. Day can be followed and supported on Bluesky app at: @DLDayauthor.bsky.social





Be ready.

"Assigned Male Comics" is a webcomic about a transgender girl. The site updates 3 times every week. Read more here





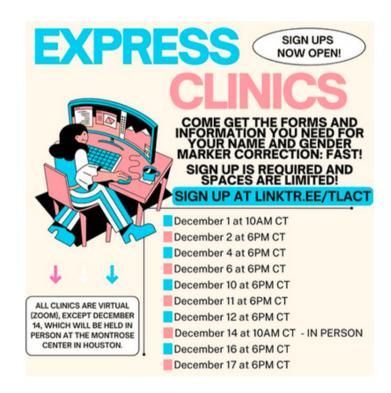


AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, STAY ALIVE.



LGBTQ Holiday Movies

Cosmopolitan suggests these LGBTQ holiday movies to make little "Grinch hearts grow three sizes." Read about the movies here



Trans Legal Aid Clinic of Texas

Need information about the process to get your ID documents correct as to name and gender? Trans Legal Aid clinic of Texas (TLACT) offers 10 sessions where you can meet virtually with volunteer attorneys for FREE. You can get resources, both written and video, to help you understand how to do this. There is limited availability and you MUST sign up to attend. Find out how to sign up etc. here.





Gendercool project champions shown here on the cover of The Advocate include Max Briggle, trans son of Adam and Amber Briggle of Denton, TX.

Read more about Max here. And read more here

Don't Panic - Do Something

Are you feeling uneasy, powerless? Don't panic. Take a deep breath and let it out slowly. Be kind to you.

And then think about steps you may want to take before January. Here's a list of "steps you might consider taking if it feels helpful." These steps include getting a passport, updating documents, talking to your doctor about medications and birth control, building/strengthening your support community, and becoming more media literate.

Read more here



Fatal Violence Against Trans in 2024

At least 29 trans and gender-expansive people were killed in 2024. "Since 2013, the Human Rights Campaign has tracked incidents of fatal trans violence... and provided action items that can help end the violence.

Read more here

988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline Dial 988 to connect to the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline. You can Call, Text, or Chat. Learn more here.

Coalition for Aging LGBT

- Coalition for Aging LGBT supports/informs LGBT ages 45+ in Tarrant, Dallas, Collin, and Denton counties has
- a program scheduled for Saturday, January 11, 2025.
 The morning will be devoted to Medicare and health
- issues. Lunch will be served. Then, the topic is how to use existing law to regain legal rights if Obergefell is
- overturned by SCOTUS. <u>Read more here</u>

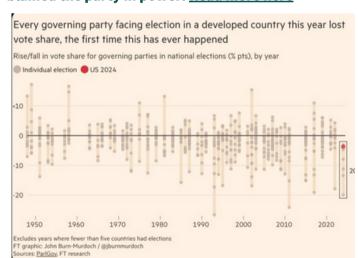


How to Get Smarter about the News

- Want to separate fact from fiction in the news? Alan
 C. Miller, Pulitzer Prize investigative journalist,
- founded the News Literacy Project in 2008 to give teachers a way to help students tell the difference
- between fact and fiction in the news media. This excellent resource is available for all! Using the News
- Literacy Project, we can more easily "determine the credibility of news and other information...what to
- trust, share, and act on." Read more here

What Happened?

In all developed countries on earth, the party in power lost in the election this year. Prices went up and inflation increased, so voters got mad and blamed the party in power. Read more here



Read more here



LGBTQ SAVES

LGBTQ SAVES' mission is "to provide safe, brave spaces for social and personal development of LGBTQ youth." For info write bertinand.gardiner@lgbtqsaves.org Read more here



Practical Steps for Trans from Mama Bears

On their FaceBook page, Mama Bears shares a helpful, practical things-to-do list that parents with trans youth as well as trans adults may want to consider at this time. This list was written by a trans journalist based in Washington, D.C., Erin Reed. Read more here

Funds for Trans

HRC provides a list "of resources and organizations that may provide emergency funding to individuals and families impacted by anti-LGBTQ+ legislation, to relocate or to access care or services outside of your current state of residence. Many of the organizations are new and are only taking applications at this time." Read more here





Make a difference and have fun with PFLAG Fort Worth serving supper at Sam House.

Looking for a Way to Help?

WHO: PFLAG Fort Worth's Sam House Supper Club WHAT: Serve Dinner to Sam House residents, bring

a dish to donate, or just come to serve. WHEN: Fourth Mondays, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

WHERE: Samaritan House, 929 Hemphill St, Fort

Worth, 76104

WHY: Because it makes a Difference Interested? <u>Contact Ruby at 817-382-7353</u>

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Important Dates in December

12/01 - World AIDS Day

12/08 - Pan Sexual/Panromantic Pride Day

12/10 - Human Rights Day

12/14 - HIV Cure Research Day



United Nations Human Rights Day

On December 10, 1948, the United Nations General
Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of
Human Rights. This declaration includes

"fundamental rights and freedoms to which all of us are entitled." Although not a binding document, it inspired more than 60 human rights instruments which together constitute an international

standard of human rights. Read more here.

"We have an opportunity to change perceptions by speaking up against hate speech, correcting

misinformation and countering disinformation."

Read more here

Be an Ally - Support Trans Equality

How can we be more effective allies for our LGBTQ+ children, parents, friends, co-workers, neighbors, etc.? Especially those who identify as trans and non-

binary. Here are some resources and suggestions from HRC (Human Rights Campaign) Read more here

Events Honoring World Aids Day

On December 5 at 3:00 come to "A Day With(out)
Art/World AIDS Day" at Fort Worth Modern Arts
Museum auditorium. Free. Read more here

On Saturday, December 7, come to The Shack at Panther Island Pavilion and enjoy great music as the

AIDS Outreach Center of Fort Worth has "a full fledge concert with top local bands, a legendary comedian to

emcee, and an international recording artist" as a fundraiser to help fight HIV/AIDS. Dress in your best western wear and come party! Read more here

Westside Unitarian Universalist Church

We Are a Welcoming Congregation

901 Page Fort Worth, TX 76110



817.924. MYUU (6988)

Sunday Service at 10:30 in person and on Facebook Live

To Our PFLAG Fort Worth Members and Friends

Membership and/or Donations

To join PFLAG Fort Worth and/or make a donation, please go to www.pflagfortworth.org

Also, there are two ways to interact with PFLAG Fort Worth through PayPal!

To make a donation go to paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/2047249

To set up a recurring membership, go to our website, pflagfortworth.org.

Click on the Membership tab on the top, then choose the level of membership you want.

Complete the process through PayPal (if you don't have PayPal, it's free and easy to set up).

The advantage to using PayPal online is you don't have to remember to renew every year!

The PFLAG mission of support, education, and advocacy is as vital as ever. Please continue your support by renewing your membership, attending meetings, and/or donating to PFLAG Fort Worth so we can fulfill our mission. Despite a growing acceptance of diversity in our society we are all too aware of hostility and worse toward LGBTQ persons. Please help PFLAG keep working toward the society we want; where people are informed, rights are protected, and families find care and understanding.

Among the ways we served our mission 2023-2024:

- \cdot Speaking to Fort Worth ISD teachers, counselors, and administrators about equality
- · Offering a monthly speaker and support group, in person and on Zoom
- · Providing a monthly dinner for up to 50 Fort Worth Samaritan House residents
- · Making Christmas stockings for Samaritan House children, providing money for Halloween costumes, and tutoring residents
- · Proudly marching in the Fort Worth and Dallas Pride parades
- · Staffing a booth at the Fort Worth Pride Festival and Picnic events

· Sharing our mission of advocacy, support, and education to business, universities, and federal agencies, including the TCU Education Department · Offering a monthly trans Support Group on Zoom with partner St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Hurst, TX

Goals for October 2024 - September 2025:

- \cdot Offer scholarship funding to graduating seniors of LGBTO SAVES
- · Develop ways to become more visible to those who need us and don't know we are here
- · Send an officer to the PFLAG National Conference
- · Continue advocating for the LGBTQ community with businesses, educators, and families

Everything we undertake has a financial outlay for materials, space, publicity, fees, insurance, printing, etc., and proudly, scholarship awards. We are making a difference and need you with us. Please help PFLAG Fort Worth move equality forward during the coming year with your financial generosity, time, and talent. Commit to our mission of support, education, and advocacy. Attend our meetings to connect with us!







PFLAG FORT WORTH, TEXAS

PFLAG Fort Worth promotes the health and well-being of LGBTQ people and their families and friends through support, to cope with an adverse society; education, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and advocacy, to end discrimination and secure equal civil rights. PFLAG provides opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.