



PFLAG Fort Worth Serving Dinner to Sam House Residents (See Page 3)

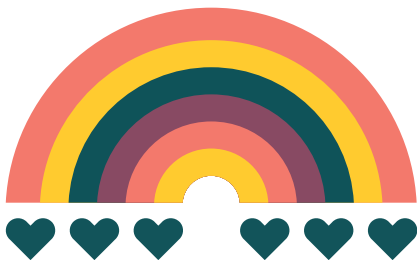
PFLAG Fort Worth

Important Dates

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To attend virtual PFLAG Fort Worth events, see our website for a link pflagfortworth.org

For Dallas PFLAG - www.pflagdallas.org



Together let's make Texas a better, safer place for LGBTQ+
Join PFLAG Fort Worth today!

#PFLAGProud

Make Our Voices Heard!

What's the best way to get those in power to hear us? It's by making phone calls to our representatives. 5Calls.org says, "Once our congressperson forms a public stance... it's hard for them to walk it back. The earlier they hear our opinion, the more likely it is we'll make an impact." [Read more here](#)

Fearful or shy about making calls? Whether we hesitate to call or not, a comic by Cordelia McGee-Tubb can be very helpful. Cordeliadillon, her online handle, is a cartoonist, a tech person, and enjoys helping older adults learn to use technology. Her comic "How to Call Your Reps when You have social anxiety" is helpful for all, whether or not we have social anxiety. [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 Zoom too)
Celebration Community Church Fellowship Hall
908 Pennsylvania, Ft Worth

Trans Virtual 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
or just listen.

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

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



CELEBRATION COMMUNITY CHURCH

908 PENNSYLVANIA AVE . FT WORTH . TX

#TRADITIONWITHOUTJUDGMENT

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP
EVERY SUNDAY AT 10AM

www.celebration-community-church.com

January Speaker – John Barnes
Uncertain about what 2025 has in store for you, your loved-ones, your friends? Join us at our PFLAG Fort Worth meeting on Thursday, January 2, in person or on Zoom to hear John Barnes speak about “What’s Next?!!” He address potential legal steps to take to protect the LGBTQ community in an uncertain future. John is a long-time member of PFLAG Fort Worth and a practicing attorney in Fort Worth. A former law professor, he is considered a top lawyer in Fort Worth in areas of probate and estate planning, with an AVVO rating of 10. [Contact John here](#)

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LGBTQ SAVES

LGBTQ SAVES’ mission is “to provide safe, brave spaces for social and personal development of LGBTQ youth.” For info send an email to bertinand.gardiner@lgbtqsaves.org
[Read more here](#)

PFLAG Fort Worth’s meeting/support group is the 1st Thursday of every month. We hope to see you on Thursday, January 2 at 6:45pm, when we meet for a social time. At 7:00, we have a speaker. At 8:00, we gather in small groups to share our stories.



Come talk as much or as little as you want, or just listen.

Our speakers are excellent, and many are from our LGBTQ+ community.

We meet in the Fellowship Hall behind Celebration Community Church at 908 Pennsylvania Ave., Fort Worth, TX. Parking is free and easy to find.

Family support and acceptance are critical to the health and wellbeing of LGBTQ+ individuals. Come to PFLAG Fort Worth to give and receive support.

You do NOT need to be a member, and there is NO COST to attend.

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How It Got Better: My LGBTQ+ Journey from Shame to Pride

Eleni Stephanides is a freelance writer living in the California Bay Area who shares her experience in deciding to come out in “How It Got Better: My LGBTQ+ Journey from Shame to Pride.” [Read more here](#)
Stephanides refers to a Yale School of Medicine 2019 study entitled The Global Closet Is Huge. The study reports that “the vast majority of the world’s sexual minority population – an estimated 83 percent of those who identify as lesbian, gay or bisexual – keep their orientation hidden from all or most of the people in their lives.”
[Read more here](#)

#PFLAGProud

“If given the chance to speak to my teenage self, I’d say to her now: it gets better for you-and once it does, you’ll see that it doesn’t end with you. Celebrate the victories we’ve made-but don’t let them lull you into complacency.” Eleni Stephanides

LEADING WITH LOVE

“Not when many young queers-both in rural towns and more urban areas-remain in the closet, compartmentalizing who they are out of fear of familial rejection. Not when in some countries, people can still be killed for living openly as gay.

“And not when the rights of some members of our community (such as queer people of color and transgender people) remain under threat. A Black man who can marry his partner but still has to worry about violence at the hands of police isn’t experiencing equality in the full sense of the word.” Eleni Stephanides

LEADING WITH LOVE

“Keep living with eyes, heart, ears, and hands open to the issues affecting members of both our queer community and the larger human family-because if there’s one thing being LGBT has taught me, it’s the importance of not leaving people to suffer in silence. And it’s the power that community, support, and the pride fostered within them can have over combating shame.” Eleni Stephanides

PFLAG Confab - 2nd Wednesday



Join us for fun and casual conversation every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:30ish. Ruby saves a table at Shaws Patio Bar and Grill, easily found at 1051 W. Magnolia, Fort Worth. See you there!

#PFLAGProud

Keep Up with Texas Legislature

The Texas Legislature meets from January 1 - May 31 2025. Some helpful sources of information on Bills that have been proposed, status of bills, hearings and action will be:

- *Equality Texas > [“Legislative Bill Tracker”](#)
- *Lambda Legal > [Review and commentary](#)
- *The Trans Formation Project: [Review, etc.](#)
- *The Texas Tribune > Community newspaper (News about Bills & TX Legislature) - [Read here](#)
- * The Dallas Voice weekly LGBTQ+ news has journalists in Austin and does excellent reporting. [Read more here](#)

#PFLAGProud

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Dr. King’s dream of “a nation where individuals are judged not by the color of their skin but by the content of their character” fits beautifully with our LGBTQ+ mission for equality and acceptance. David Magazine says, “MLK Day serves as a poignant reminder that the struggles for civil rights and LGBTQ rights are interconnected, woven into the fabric of a broader fight for justice.” [Read more here](#)

Important Dates in January

National Blood Donor Month

3rd Week – No Name-Calling Week

14 – Alice Nkom’s Birthday

18 – Rev. James Lewis Stoll’s Birthday

19 – Dolly Parton’s Birthday

20 - MLK Day

22 – Trans Prisoner Day of Action and Solidarity

27 - Holocaust Remembrance Day

No Name-Calling Week

The purpose is to end name-calling and other kinds of bullying by educating people about the harmful, long-term effect of bullying. [Read more here](#) [Read more here](#)

Holocaust Remembrance Day

On Holocaust Remembrance Day, we commemorate the millions of people murdered during Nazi persecution of Jews and other groups including LGBTQ people. [Read more here.](#) [Read more here.](#)

Dolly Parton

Dolly Parton is accepting and affirming of LGBTQ people. She says, ““God made us who we are and how we are.” Dolly’s strong faith includes her belief that “faith, family, country music and queer/trans acceptance can and should co-exist.” [Read more here](#)

National Blood Donor Month

Blood donation is vitally important. Blood banks have eliminated sexual orientation as a factor in blood donation. [Read more here](#)

Alice Nkom

Alice Nkom, the first female lawyer in Cameroon, Africa, and advocate for LGBTQ rights said, "I was threatened but I didn't give up ... people understand that this is a fight for human dignity." [Read more here](#)

Rev. James Lewis Stoll

James Lewis Stoll was the first ordained minister of an established denomination to come out as gay. In 1970, he led Unitarian Universalist’s to pass a gay rights resolution, the first-ever. [Read more here.](#)

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? [Contact Ruby at 817-382-7353](#)

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

PFLAG CONNECTS: COMMUNITIES



PFLAG Connects: Communities (PCC) provide a safe, virtual, moderated space where people with shared experiences can connect each month. PFLAG National’s current communities gather people of Latino, Black/African American, Asian American and Pacific Islander backgrounds—as well as military families (in partnership with our friends at the Modern Military Association of America[MMAA]), families with gender-diverse loved ones, and grandparents—to gain support, ask questions, and learn from others who have been through similar experiences. Meetings cater primarily to family members of LGBTQ+ people, and also welcome members of the LGBTQ+ community. For questions about the program contact Victor Vizcarrondo Velez (he/él), at vvizcarrondovelez@pflag.org. [Read more here](#)

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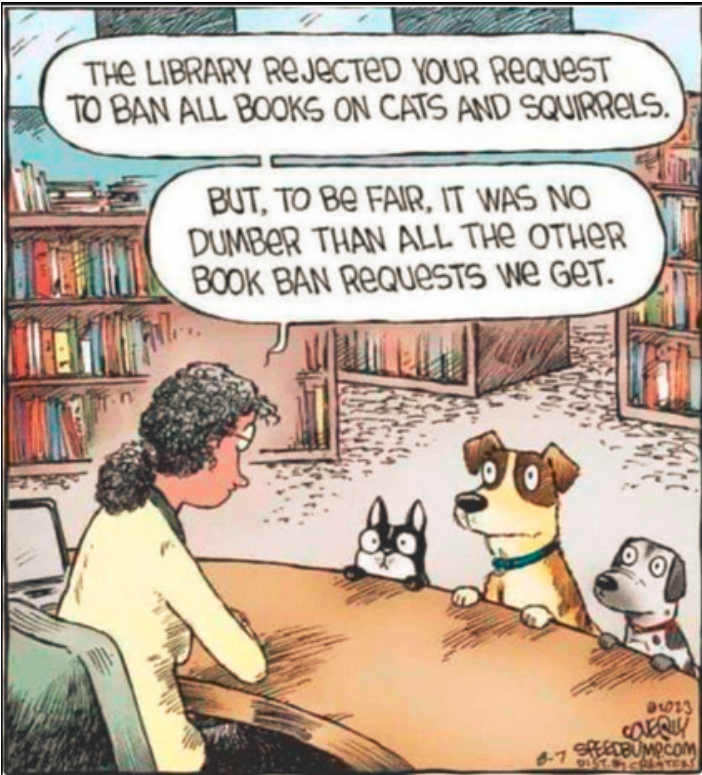
A Survival Guide for the Worried

Asli Aydintasbas is a journalist who lived in Turkey during the rise of authoritarianism there. She said, “I know how self-censorship starts in small ways but then creeps into operations on a daily basis. I am familiar with the rhythms of the battle to reshape the media, state institutions and the judiciary.” Asli believes there are strategies that can be helpful for LGBTQ and their allies to weather these next years and “come out stronger.” She shares these strategies here. Among others, these strategies include “Have Hope,” “Don’t Panic,” and “Don’t Disengage.” [Read more here](#)

Zoey Zephyr Marries

Zoey Zephyr, a trans woman who is in the Montana legislature, recently married Erin Reed, who writes a newsletter concerning trans rights. They met in 2022 “while protesting Texas’ investigations into the parents of trans youths.”

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Book banning continues... Cartoon thanks to Dave Coverly, creator of the cartoon “Speed Bump,” who lives in Ann Arbor, Michigan. [Read more here.](#)



Dave Coverly’s cartoons run in many newspapers and on websites. Some of his books are “Dogs Are People, Too” and “Cats are People, Too.” [Read more here](#)

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Ben Greene’s Good Queer News & Joy Nudges

Ben Greene is a trans man who lives in St. Louis. He is a speaker and author of the book, “My Child is Trans, Now What: A Joy Centered Approach to Support,” publishes a free newsletter called “Good Queer News,” and gives “Joy Nudges” on his Facebook page. [Read more here](#)

Ben Greene spreads joy and happiness where ever he goes. He has been guest speaker at PFLAG Fort Worth twice and plans to speak for free to every PFLAG group in the country because he loves PFLAG. And we love Ben! [Read more here](#)

Ben publishes a free newsletter called “Good Queer News.” We all need more good news. [Read more here](#)

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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 2022-2023:

- 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 stocking 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 are...

- Offer scholarship to graduating seniors of LGBTQ 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.