

PFLAG SPIRIT

July 2022



Volume XXVIII, Number 6

Newsletter of Parents, Families, & Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Fort Worth Chapter, P.O. Box 8279, Fort Worth, TX 76124. Published monthly except January.

MISSION: PFLAG 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.

Transgender Support Group Meets on the LAST SUNDAY of Every Month

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

Share Our Stories - Share Our Strength



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

PFLAG Fort Worth Meets on the FIRST THURSDAY of Every Month

Support Your LGBTQ+
Family, Friends, and Loved Ones

Come to PFLAG Fort Worth Meetings
FIRST THURSDAY of every month

Celebration Community Church
908 Pennsylvania Avenue
Fort Worth, TX

Gather at 6:45pm / Meeting at 7:00pm
Email for Zoom instructions info@pflagfortworth.org

PFLAG Dates to Remember

06/26 Trans Support Group	VIRTUAL
07/07 PFLAG Fort Worth Monthly Meeting	Page 1
07/13 Food & Fun Confab	Page 5
07/14 PFLAG Dallas Monthly Meeting	See below
07/25 Supper Club for Samaritan House	Page 4
07/31 Trans Support Group	VIRTUAL
08/04 PFLAG Fort Worth Monthly Meeting	Page 1

To attend VIRTUAL PFLAG Fort Worth events, please EMAIL info@pflagfortworth.org for Zoom link
 For information about PFLAG Dallas events, please see their website—pflagdallas.org or their [Facebook](#).

Website <http://pflagfortworth.org>
National website <http://www.pflag.org>
To contact us, email info@pflag.org



PFLAG Fort Worth in Dallas Pride Parade

Trans Is Gorgeous!

Human Rights Campaign (HRC), the nation's largest lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ+) civil rights organization, released a new video titled "My First Pride." In the video, transgender and non-binary people ages 8-65 years old recount their first experiences at Pride and discuss how it feels to celebrate Pride at a time when the LGBTQ+ community is under attack in statehouses across the country. The video calls on viewers to fight against anti-transgender legislation in the states and help make Pride feel like a real celebration. As eight-year-old Violet says in the video, "trans is gorgeous." [Read more here](#)

Celebrate Being an LGBTQ+ Scientist

For the LGBTQ+ community, cities are usually safe havens, says Nathan Shaner, a fluorophore developer in the Department of Neurosciences of the University of California, San Diego, who is gay. "Everywhere else is you never know, so you have to be careful," he says. Shaner believes in LGBTQ+ visibility. Both in academic and commercial interactions, he outs himself quickly. "Then at least it's up front and you can see a reaction if there's going to be one," he says. Tamir Gonen, a structural biologist at the University of California, Los Angeles, has a rainbow tag on his Twitter handle. He is not gay but, to him, the flag states publicly he is aware that the LGBTQ+ community needs a supportive environment. [Read more here](#)

Global Forgiveness Day

We don't need to be told that holding on to anger is bad for us — that is why Global Forgiveness Day, celebrated on July 7 each year, is so special to us. Established to increase the goodwill among people, Global Forgiveness Day asks everyone to try and set their differences aside and create a world full of healing and letting go of negativity. [Read more here](#)

LGBTQ+ History at National Parks

While there's currently only one national park site explicitly dedicated to LGBTQ+ history and culture, queer individuals and communities have left their mark on every site in the national park system. Here are five stories about the LGBTQ+ community protecting and fighting for each other. [Read more here](#)

Join us for a cool, bug-free indoor picnic at our PFLAG meeting on July 7 at 6:45

PFLAG has been providing support and acceptance for over 40 years. We can help you and your family. Family support and acceptance are critical to the health and wellbeing of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer. Parents, grandparents, family members, etc. need support too. **Join us at 6:45 on the first Thursday of every month live or at 7:00 on Zoom.** All are welcome at PFLAG!



Alabama's LGBTQ-Affirming High School

In Birmingham, Alabama, families, and friends of students of Magic City Acceptance Academy attended the charter school's inaugural graduation ceremony. MCAA is a charter school that promises an "LGBTQ-affirming learning environment" for students who "have dropped out, are not thriving at traditional schools."

[Read more here](#)

Welcoming Schools Program

Since 2004, the Human Rights Campaign Foundation's *Welcoming Schools* program has been providing youth-serving professionals in schools and districts around the country with the resources, training and tools needed to establish learning environments that are both inclusive and affirming of young LGBTQ+ identities. The program's ultimate goal is to nurture academic achievement by providing physical and emotional safety for all LGBTQ+ students and their families. The need to expand the program into secondary schooling has become increasingly apparent. [Read more here](#)

LGBTQ Saves

"LGBTQ Saves' mission is to provide safe and brave spaces for social and personal development of LGBTQ youth."

Learn more about LGBTQ Saves here. [Read more here](#)



First Jefferson Unitarian Universalist Church

Affirming the inherent worth and dignity of all human beings.
Sunday Services at 11:00 a.m.

1959 Sandy Lane,
Fort Worth, Texas 76112
817 - 451 - 1505
www.firstjefferson.org



Transgender Visibility

TRANS SUPPORT GROUP meets on ZOOM LAST SUNDAY of EVERY MONTH 3:00-5:00

To join the Zoom meeting, please email info@pflagfortworth.org. PFLAG Fort Worth partners with St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Hurst, TX, to provide this Trans Support Group.

Trans Deaths in 2022

At least 17 Trans women have been killed so far in 2022. [Read about their lives here.](#)

HRC Foundation's Dismantling a Culture of Violence report demonstrates how anti-transgender stigma, denial of opportunity and increased risk factors compound to create a culture of violence -- and provides clear ways that each of us can directly make an impact to make our society a safer place for transgender and gender non-conforming people. [Dismantling a Culture of Violence report is here](#)

Mark Burns Runs for Congress in Alabama

Mark Burns, a Christian nationalist MAGA pastor declared that if he is elected, he will reinstate the House Un-American Activities Committee so the government can "start executing people" guilty of treason. He said he wants parents of trans kids to be held for child abuse, Burns said. "There is no such thing as trans kids, there are only abusive parents who are pushing that evil sexual orientation onto their child's mind." [Read more here](#)

Group Cracks Trans "Cold Cases"

The Trans Doe Task Force works to educate police departments and medical examiners on ways to handle cases where victims may be transgender. They also use tools like DNA and genealogy to identify remains. In 1983, the remains of someone who was stabbed to death were found on a beach in San Mateo County, California. "This individual was assigned male and wearing feminine coded clothing and was found within hours of death on the beach," Redgrave says. Although the victim had female characteristics, the medical examiner listed the body as that of a male. [Read more here](#)

To Understand and Support

To better understand gender identity and expression, read this guide. The more we understand, the more able we'll be to support the trans, nonbinary, and LGBTQ people and create a safer, kinder world. [Read more here](#)

For immediate support in a time of crisis, please contact [Trans Lifeline](#) - 877-565-8860 or the [Trevor Project Lifeline](#) - 866-488-7386

[Translifeline](#)
[877.565.8860](#)

"We the people" means ALL of us!

Important Pew Research Report - *The Experiences, Challenges and Hopes of Transgender and Nonbinary U.S. Adults*

Transgender and nonbinary people have gained visibility in the U.S. in recent years as celebrities from Laverne Cox to Caitlyn Jenner to Elliot Page have spoken openly about their gender transitions. On March 30, 2022, the White House issued a proclamation recognizing Transgender Day of Visibility, the first time a U.S. president has done so. More recently, singer and actor Janelle Monáe came out as nonbinary while the U.S. State Department and SSA announced that Americans will be allowed to select "X" rather than "male" or "female" for their sex marker on their passport and Social Security applications. [Read more here](#)

Equality Texas' Resources for the LGBTQ+ community continues to evolve. Please check this out if you are in need of any kind of assistance.

[Please click here for Resources for Covid, Health Care, Crisis Hotlines, Food, Housing, Family, Youth](#)

"LGBT-Free Zones" Abolished in Poland

In a great victory for democracy, human rights and respect for people, a Polish court ruled recently that four so-called "LGBT-free zones" must be abolished. The areas were established in 2019, when local authorities throughout the predominantly Catholic country declared themselves free of "LGBT ideology," and banned the promotion of homosexuality and other minority sexual identities, especially in schools. [Read more here](#)

What Does It Mean to Be Non-Binary?

Most people identify as male or female, but others don't feel they fit into a fixed gender category. For instance, you or someone you know might feel "in-between" a man or a woman or beyond the gender spectrum altogether. If you feel like you don't belong within a certain category, you might be non-binary. But how do you know for sure? [Read more here](#) to learn more about non-binary as a gender identity.

Zander Moricz—LGBTQ+ in Florida

Zander Moricz is the youngest plaintiff on the lawsuit against the Governor Ron DeSantis and the state of Florida. He says he is fighting to defend human rights and the LGBTQ+ community as he heads to Harvard this fall. [Read more here](#)

Good Morning America Hosts Zander Moricz

[Read more here](#)

Fellow Travelers Outside the Norm

Before I came out as queer, being autistic taught me the power of resilience. The LGBTQ+ and autistic communities can learn from and empower each other as fellow travelers outside the norm. [Read more here](#)

Westside Unitarian Universalist Church

We are a Welcoming Congregation!

901 Page Avenue
Fort Worth, TX
76110



817-924-MYUU (6988)
www.westsideuu.org

Sundays: Coffee at 9:30 a.m., Services at 10:00 a.m.

Important Dates in July

7– Global Forgiveness Day
14 - Non-Binary Peoples Day
16 - International Drag Day

“Hotter Than July” in Detroit

Hotter Than July started in 1996 to celebrate Detroit's Black LGBTQ+ community. It holds the title as the world's second oldest Black LGBTQ+ Pride with over 9,000 in attendance in person in 2019. Hosted by LGBT Detroit, this week long of events partners with community leaders and supporters by offering various safe spaces for educating and showcasing the culture. [Read more here](#)

LGBTQ+ Rights in Spain

Spain's Cabinet recently approved a draft bill on LGBTQ+ rights which aims to increase the rights of trans and gender nonconforming minors. Unlike the bill's 2021 version, the current text extends the rights to non-citizens living in Spain. If the bill is approved 16-year-old Spaniards will have the right to legally change their gender identities and names without parental, governmental or medical infringement after stating their desired changes twice in four months. Those aged 14 to 15 would need parental approval, but a judge could intervene if needed. [Read more here](#)

Registration Open for Lavender Law Conference

The 2021 Lavender Law® Conference and Career Fair was our most successful family reunion yet! We are eager to be in sunny Los Angeles, California, from July 27-29 for our next Lavender Law®. We look forward to seeing you! [Read more here](#)

Unitarian Universalist Bookstore Recommends...

UU inspirit Book and Gift Shop highlights powerful and necessary resources that honor and celebrate the contributions of the LGBTQ community and look to the future as the fight for equality continues. You can browse their full collection of LGBTQ+ titles. [View titles here](#)



Sign up for email distribution of the newsletter!

Get more than just the newsletter — a select number of action alerts and important bulletins from PFLAG and other equal rights advocacy organizations.

PFLAG FORT WORTH ON PAYPAL

There are now two ways to interact with PFLAG Fort Worth through PayPal!

To make a one time donation:

paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/2047249

If you have Questions or trouble with the link, please contact info@pflagfortworth.org.

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 a PayPal account, it's free and easy to set up), and voila you're all set! The advantage to doing it online is you won't have to remember to renew every year!

Questions? Email info@pflagfortworth.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Share the LOVE Share the SMILES

Did you know that you can shop online and support PFLAG Fort Worth at the same time? Simply log in to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/75-2472648>, confirm that you want to make PFLAG Fort Worth your preferred charity, and SHOP!

There's no cost to you, and it's anonymous - we do not see any purchase information. Bookmark your smile.amazon.com link on every device and you are good to go. Not sure how to get this set up? Email info@pflagfortworth.org for specific steps.

Thank You!

Looking for a Way to Help?

WHO: PFLAG Fort Worth's Samaritan House Supper Club

WHAT: Serve Dinner to Samaritan House residents
You can also make a dish to contribute if you can't make it

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 Lisa at 817-382.7353

PFLAG FORT WORTH ON SOCIAL MEDIA

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/pflagfortworth/>



FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @pflagftworth





**Interested in helping an LGBTQ kid?
Check out Big Brothers Big Sisters**

<https://bbbstx.org/>



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters**



(Continued from page 4)



**To our PFLAG Fort Worth
Members and Friends**



The PFLAG mission of support, education, and advocacy is as vital as ever. We are asking you to continue your support by renewing your membership, joining us, 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 to 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 in the 2020-2021 year:

- Speaking to Fort Worth Public Schools teachers/counselors and administrators to advance equality
- Offering a speaker meeting and having a support group on the 1st Thursday of every month at Celebration Community Church in Fort Worth. (moved to Zoom during pandemic)
- Providing dinner for up to 50 residents at our monthly Supper Club at the Samaritan House in Fort Worth.
- Making Christmas stockings for the children living in Samaritan House family apartments, donating money toward Halloween costumes, and tutoring residents.
- Proudly marching in the Fort Worth and Dallas Pride parades. Staffing a Booth at the Fort Worth Festival and Picnic. (Postponed due to pandemic.)

- Briefing employees at several businesses, universities, and federal agencies on our mission of advocacy, support and education.
- Partnering with the TCU Education Department and TCC to share PFLAG's mission.
- Offering a Trans Support Group in partnership with St. Stephens's Episcopal Church in Hurst TX.

GOALS for October 2021 – September 2022:

- Offer a scholarship to graduating seniors of LGBTQ SAVES
- Develop ways to become more visible to those who need us and don't know we're 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, the goal for scholarship awards. **We are making a difference and need you with us.** Help PFLAG Fort Worth move equality forward during our October 2021-September 2022 year.

Please support PFLAG Fort Worth with your generosity and commitment to our mission of support, education, and advocacy. Join us! Renew! Donate!
If you have already renewed, THANK YOU!!



**Want more PFLAG time?
Join Us at Our Food & Fun Confab Social
Monthly on the SECOND WEDNESDAY at 6:30**

**Shaw's Patio Bar & Grill
1051 W Magnolia Ave
Fort Worth, TX 76104**

**6:30 pm Every Month
2nd Wednesday**

Membership Application



<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$ 25	Date	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$ 45	Name	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining Member	\$ 100	Address	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor/Life	\$ 500	City	_____
Make checks payable to:	PFLAG/Fort Worth	State	_____ Zip _____
Mail to:	P.O. Box 8279	Phone	_____
	Fort Worth TX 76124	Email	_____
RENEWAL _____	NEW _____		

You can also set up a recurring membership on our website!!