

PFLAG SPIRIT

December 2022



Volume XXVIII, Number 11

Newsletter of PFLAG Fort Worth Chapter, P.O. Box 8279, Fort Worth, TX 76124. Published monthly except January.

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.

PFLAG Fort Worth - Support Group for Parents, Families, Friends, LGBTQ+ FIRST THURSDAY of Every Month

Join us *in person* or on Zoom

PFLAG Important Dates

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| 11/27 Trans Support Group on Zoom | VIRTUAL |
| 12/01 PFLAG Fort Worth Monthly Meeting | Page 1 |
| 12/14 Food & Fun ConFAB (conversation) | Page 1 |
| 12/08 PFLAG Dallas Monthly Meeting | See below |
| 12/26 Supper Club for Samaritan House | Page 4 |
| 12/18 Trans Support Group on Zoom | VIRTUAL |
| 01/05 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](#).

Transgender Support Group Meets on the LAST SUNDAY of Every Month

Support All LGBTQ+ Families, Friends, Parents, Neighbors, Coworkers

PFLAG Fort Worth

meets 1st Thursday of every month 7:00pm at

Celebration Community Church
908 Pennsylvania Ave., FtWorth, TX

Want to attend the meeting on Zoom?
email info@pflagfortworth.org for invitation

Want more PFLAG time?
Food & Fun ConFAB
Join us for conversation
At 6:30pm every
2nd **WEDNESDAY**



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

LET'S TALK
Transgender Support Group
In Partnership with
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church - Hurst
VIRTUAL on Zoom
DECEMBER 18 NOT December 25
Share Our Stories - Share Our Strength

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



Take Trans Survey Now, Please

The final deadline for Trans to take this important survey has been extended until December 5. Please take the survey now! [Find out about survey here](#)

Christmas Social & Potluck Dinner Dec. 1

Please come to our PFLAG Fort Worth special Christmas event on Thursday, December 1 at 6:45 at Celebration Community Church, 908 Pennsylvania Ave., Fort Worth. If you would like to bring a dish, please do. If not, please come anyway and enjoy our community of friendly, accepting folks! We'll have a lot of delicious food and comfortable conversation. We hope to see you there!

Being an Ally for LGBTQ

Anyone, regardless of their sexual orientation and/or gender identity, can support lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people. Understanding of LGBT-related issues, including basic terms and concepts can help you support LGBT-identified people. Here are some ways to think about what "ally" means and helpful tips on how to be a good ally. [Read more here](#)

Nontraditional Family Types

Whatever your own family is like, these discussions can help your child better understand the world and their place in it. The messages to focus on are that families come in all shapes and sizes, that your child is loved, and that no one type of family is better than another. [Read more here](#)

Recent Decline in Resources for LGBTQ Youth

In the recently released National School Climate Survey, "Students report a decline in school resources...and the attacks on LGBTQ+ youth from anti-LGBTQ+ extremists continue to create a chilling effect that threatens the wellbeing of gay and transgender youth across the country. We need leaders in states across the country who will uphold basic civil and education rights and let educators teach and students learn." [Read more here](#)



Come to our PFLAG Fort Worth meeting and support group on Thursday, December 1 at 6:45pm at **Celebration Community Church at 908 Pennsylvania Ave.** We meet in the building behind the church with doors facing Fulton St. Parking is free and easy to find.

At PFLAG, we support and accept you and your family. **Family support and acceptance** are critical to the health and wellbeing of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people. Parents, grandparents, family members, etc. need support too. **All are welcome at PFLAG! Please join us!**

PFLAG Sponsors LGBTQ S.A.V.E.S. Dinner

About 50 teens and parents attended the **LGBTQ S.A.V.E.S. Friendsgiving** Dinner recently, and everyone had a great time. We thank the wonderful volunteers that came early and really helped us out...Sarah, Jennifer, Robert (with Celebration) Bertie and his mom, Vanessa, along with Ruby, Mark, Lisa D., and Lisa E. from PFLAG Fort Worth. We especially appreciate Ruby for her excellent planning, cooking, hosting, and so much more!

"LGBTQ S.A.V.E.S. mission is to provide safe and brave spaces for social and personal development of LGBTQ youth." [Read more here](#)

Michael Loomis's memorial will be held on December 10 at a Chisholm Trail Stonewall Democrats meeting at the Ol' South Pancake House in Burleson. The celebration of Michael's life is scheduled for 4:00 p.m., so friends and supporters will gather for food and fellowship around 3:00 p.m.



Equality Texas' Resources for LGBTQ+ community are evolving. Please check here if you need assistance.

[Please click here for Resources for Covid, Health](#)

**Westside Unitarian
Universalist Church**

Rev. Don Strickland

We are a Welcoming Congregation

901 Page Avenue
Fort Worth, TX
78110



817.924.MYUU (6988)

www.westsideuu.org

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



CELEBRATION COMMUNITY CHURCH

908 PENNSYLVANIA AVE . FT WORTH . TX

#TRADITIONWITHOUTJUDGMENT

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP
EVERY SUNDAY AT 10AM

www.celebration-community-church.com

Transgender Visibility

TRANS SUPPORT GROUP meets on ZOOM on DECEMBER 18 from 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.

Call Trans Lifeline Hotline at 877-565-8860

Trans Lifeline Hotline is a peer support service run by trans people located all over the US and Canada, for trans and questioning callers.

Trans - Victims of Violent Crime x 4

Transgender people are over four times more likely than cisgender people to experience violent victimization, including rape, sexual assault, and aggravated or simple assault, according to a study by the Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law. In addition, households with a trans person had higher rates of property victimization than cisgender households. [Read more here](#)

An Epidemic of Violence Against Trans

How many Trans women have been killed in the US so far this year? Sadly, 2022 has already seen more than 32 transgender people fatally shot or killed by other violent means. The majority of these people were Black and Latinx transgender women. [Read more here](#)

The dehumanization of Trans people begins with anti-trans stigma. Ending this epidemic requires addressing and eliminating stigma against transgender and non-binary people and discrimination across all facets of society — and embracing people of all genders for who they are. [Read more here](#)

HRC Report Released

Since Human Rights Campaign began tracking anti-trans violence 10 years ago, HRC has recorded at least 300 violent deaths of transgender and gender non-conforming people, including 32 in 2022 alone. The HRC Foundation just released, "An Epidemic of Violence Against Transgender and Gender Non-conforming | People in the U.S. in 2022." [Read more here](#)

Trans Legislator Elected in Montana

On election day, Zoey Zephyr became the first out trans person ever elected to the Montana legislature — and the trailblazing moment is already inspiring people. Zoey tweeted about a heartwarming interaction she had with the mom of a trans son recently. [Read more here](#)



Trevor Project Lifeline - 866-488-7386

"We the people" means ALL of us!



Speak Up for LGBTQ+

If you hear or see something that's damaging towards the LGBTQ community, gently point out the problem and use it as a teachable moment. Simply start to talk. "There is a point in advocacy where you need the people who hold the privilege to start the conversation, because otherwise they [marginalized communities] don't get heard," Burke says. As people who hold positions of privilege, it's up to us to advocate for those whose voices are shut down. [Read more here](#)



LGBTQ Equality by State

MAP, the Movement Advancement Project, tracks over 50 different LGBTQ-related laws and policies. Their maps show the overall policy tallies for each state, the District of Columbia, and the five populated U.S. territories. A state's policy tally scores the laws and policies within each state that affect LGBTQ people's lives, experiences, and equality. The major categories of laws covered by the policy tally include: Relationship & Parental Recognition, Nondiscrimination, Religious Exemptions, LGBTQ Youth, Health Care, Criminal Justice, and Identity Documents. [Read more here](#)

LGBTQ Entertainment in December

In December, take a look at powerful queer cinema, blockbuster hits, the revival of a beloved TV show and lots of holiday content. Here is a list of upcoming and recently released LGBTQ-inclusive shows and films to watch as the clock counts down to the end of 2021.

[Read more here](#)

LGBTQ Streaming Network to Launch

The LGBTQ streaming network DivaBoxOffice.tv will launch on December 1 on iTunes, Google Play, Roku and Amazon Firestick, among other major platforms.

[Read more here](#)



Important Dates in December

- 1 - World AIDS Day
- 3 - International Day of Persons with Disabilities
- 8 - Pansexual/Panromantic Pride Day
- 10 - Human Rights Day

Human Rights Day

Human Rights Day is observed by the international community every year on **10 December**. On this day in 1948, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The UDHR was the first legal document to set out the fundamental human rights to be universally protected. [Read more here](#)

Trevor Project Adds Crisis Service in Mexico

The Trevor Project recently added free, confidential, 24/7 digital crisis services for LGBTQ young people in Mexico. Services are now offered in Spanish across TrevorChat and TrevorText, including online chat, SMS text messaging, and WhatsApp. [Read more here](#)

For U.S. Crisis Services: If you or someone you know needs help or support, The Trevor Project's trained crisis counselors are available 24/7 at 1-866-488-7386, on chat at TheTrevorProject.org/Get-Help, or by texting START to 678678.

For Mexico Crisis Services: If someone you know needs help or support, contact Trevor Project's crisis counselors in Mexico on chat at TheTrevorProject.MX/Ayuda, on SMS by texting Comenzar to 67676, or on WhatsApp by texting 55 9225 3337.

Small Town LGBTQ

While large cities in blue states like New York and San Francisco are well known for their LGBTQ inclusivity, accepting environments can now be found across the country in some unexpected places. [Read more here](#)

Happy Holigay Movies

Here are 22 movie suggestions to make your holidays happy and gay. [Read more here](#)

United Airlines' 1st All LGBTQ+ Flight

Only 3 days after World AIDS Day in December, 2021, United Airlines flight was fully staffed by LGBTQ+-identifying employees, from pilots and gate attendants to ground operations crew at Newark International Airport. The event was sponsored by United's LGBTQ+ business resource group, Equal, to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the first recorded case of AIDS and raise awareness for World AIDS Day and those who still live with the disease. [Read more 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.

Contact us at info@pflagfortworth.org

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!

Share the LOVE Share the SMILES

Questions? Email info@pflagfortworth.org

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

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.

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 Ruby 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**



PFLAG Fort Worth at Fort Worth Pride 2022

(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 2021-2022 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. (now in person and on Zoom)
- 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 on Zoom in partnership with St. Stephens's Episcopal Church in Hurst TX.

GOALS for October 2022 – September 2023:

- Offer a scholarship to graduating seniors of LGBTQ S.A.V.E.S.
- 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. Please help PFLAG Fort Worth move equality forward during our coming year. Please support PFLAG Fort Worth with your generosity and commitment to our mission of support, education, and advocacy.

***Please Join us! Renew! Donate!
If you have already renewed, THANK YOU!!***

Membership Application



▽ Individual	\$ 25	Date	_____
▽ Family	\$ 45	Name	_____
▽ Sustaining Member	\$ 100	Address	_____
▽ 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!!