

PFLAG SPIRIT

October 2023

Volume XXIX, Number 9

Newsletter of PFLAG Fort Worth Chapter, P.O. Box 8279, Fort Worth, TX 76124. Published monthly, June & July issues combined.

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 Meets on the 1st THURSDAY Every Month

PFLAG Fort Worth Important Dates

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10/12 PFLAG Dallas Monthly Meeting	See below
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10/29 Trans Support Group on Zoom	VIRTUAL
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To attend VIRTUAL PFLAG Fort Worth events, please EMAIL info@pflagfortworth.org for Zoom link
For information about PFLAG Dallas events, please see their FaceBook page. website—pflagdallas.org or tFacebook page.

Transgender Support Group Meets on the LAST SUNDAY of Every Month

Show Your Support for All LGBTQ+ Families, Friends, Parents, Children, Neighbors, Coworkers by joining us at

PFLAG Fort Worth

First Thursday of every month
at 6:45 in person

**Fellowship Hall
Celebration Community Church
908 Pennsylvania Ave.
Fort Worth, TX 76104**

We have no Zoom option for the Oct. meeting.

Food & Fun ConFAB Join Ruby and others for talking and fun (the 2nd WEDNESDAY of every month)

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

6:30pm on Wednesday, October 11



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

HRC Declares "National State of Emergency"

Due to the spike in anti-LGBTQ+ legislation in state houses this year, Human Rights Campaign has declared a "National State of Emergency" for LGBTQ+ in the U.S. Whether you are going out of state for work or leisure, worried about safety in your current state, or headed to college in a new state, HRC helps you understand laws and protections for LGBTQ+ people. [Read more here](#)

Gay Dads Triumph Over Hate - Help Solve Crime

Gary Garcia spoke at PFLAG Fort Worth's August Meeting. He and his husband opened a restaurant in a small Texas town, but they soon faced several challenges and even a threat to have their small son removed from their care. See what has happened since Gary spoke to us in August. [Read more here](#)



October 19 - Spirit Day - Wear Purple

#SpiritDay is the world's most visible anti-bullying movement inspiring LGBTQ youth to live their lives in truth and authenticity. On Oct. 19, wear purple to support LGBTQ youth. Take the Spirit Day Pledge now to take a stand against bullying and join GLAAD in accelerating acceptance. [Read more here](#)



LGBTQ SAVES
"mission is to create safe and brave spaces for LGBTQ+ youth in Tarrant County." To find out more, email

bertinand.gardner@lgbtqsaves.org [Read more here](#)

PFLAG Fort Worth meeting/support group meets every 1st Thursday, at 6:45pm. We meet in the building behind Celebration Community Church, 908 Pennsylvania Ave., Fort Worth. Parking is free and easy to find. Y'all come!!

On Thursday, October 5, our speaker is Todd Moody who will share his experience with conversion therapy as a young person .

Family support and acceptance are critical to the health and wellbeing of LGBTQ+. Parents and family members, etc. need support too.

Come to PFLAG to show your support.

HRC in Texas - Sign Parents' Pledge

Schools should be places where all of our students, no matter ZIP code, gender, or background, are free to be who they are and where we can help them reach their full potential. But this school year, some extreme politicians continue to politicize public education and create increasingly hostile and dangerous environments. HRC Texas joined with the Greater Than Hate Coalition on Parents' Week of Action to stop these attacks on our freedoms. Let's do this all year long. [Read more here and sign the pledge](#)



Myths About LGBTQ+ Families

Misconceptions and misinformation about LGBTQ families can perpetuate stereotypes and lead to actions and policies that harm our children. Let's debunk 10 long-running myths and offer some useful facts for countering them. [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



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 the last Sunday of the month at 3:00.

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.

Murders of Trans and Gender Non-Conforming

At least 15 transgender and gender non-conforming people's lives have been taken through violent means, including through gun and interpersonal violence so far in 2023. [Read more here](#)

Trans Education Network of Texas

"Here at TENT, we are ashamed that the state of Texas fails to give equality to our transgender siblings. We are tired of seeing anti-trans and anti-LGBTQ rhetoric spring up legislative session after session and want to see our state legislature stop wasting our time and money on discrimination. [Read more here](#)



Reality Flag for LGBTQ+ Americans

Basic freedoms for LGBTQ+ Americans are missing in 28 U.S. states. How to fix this? [Read more here](#)

What the Plus? - Understand/Support LGBTQ+

Want to learn more about those identities that go beyond the LGBT basics - including nonbinary, asexual, pansexual, aromantic, intersex, and polyamorous? If you have questions about the "+" in "LGBTQ+" you can find [more information here](#)



Candace Chellew-Hodge and *Bullet-Proof Faith*

Candace, a former journalist, is leader of Jubilee Circle in South Carolina. She also founded an online magazine Whosoever.org for LGBT Christians. She tells about her life as a gay Christian in this important book.

[Read more here](#)

[Read Whosoever.org here](#)



Housing for LGBTQ+ Youth

LGBTQ+ youth face more than double the risk of being homeless compared to their nonqueer peers. They often face rejection and discrimination from family members and others. Organizations help these young adults and children, providing support and resources so they can have somewhere safe and stable to live. [Read more here](#)

NTTN - North Texas TRANSportation Network

They provide travel grants to North Texas families who seek out-of-state health care for trans and gender-diverse minors. NTTN believes "Health care is a human right, and withholding necessary care for trans kids is state-sponsored cruelty. As neighbors to one another, we seek ways to help each other's families flourish." Volunteer, share the website, send money, etc. [Read more here](#)

Why Do Gender Pronouns Matter?

What are your pronouns? Fifty percent of us are uncomfortable asking this question. But by using gender-neutral pronouns and language, we can create inclusion and help deconstruct the gender binary. Based on talks with gender diverse people, a psychology professor calls for allyship. [See video here](#)



Strong Family Alliance - Videos

The Strong Family Alliance is a non-profit organization focused on supporting parents of children in the LGBTQ+ community. SFA gives parents accurate information, insights, ways to keep their child safe and healthy, and encouragement to lead with love and solve problems over time. [Read more here](#) [See videos here](#)

Finn's Place – Trans and Gender-Diverse Space in Ft Worth, TX, is on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).

BlackLine - Call 1.800.604-5841 for support
BlackLine is a Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) LGBTQ+ support line, by BIPOC folks,

Trevor Project Lifeline - 866-488-7386

Or Text "START" to 678-678

You'll talk to a Trevor counselor who understands LGBTQ issues and won't judge you. Your talk will be anonymous. You can share more or less as you like. Counselors are available 24/7 to talk/text/listen

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.





Important Dates in October

October - LGBTQ+ History Month
 October - Islamic Heritage Month
 October - National Bullying Prevention Month
 Oct. 1-7 - National Banned Book Week
 Oct. 08 - International Lesbian Day
 Oct. 15 - National Hispanic/Latinx Heritage Month ends
 Oct. 09 - Indigenous People's Day
 Oct. 11 - National Coming Out Day
 Oct. 12 - National Parents Coming Out Day
 Oct. 19 - Spirit Day-Anti-bullying of LGBTQ+ Wear purple
 Oct. 21 - International Pronouns Day
 Oct. 23 - 30 - Asexual Awareness Week
 Oct. 26 - Intersex Awareness Day



National Parents Coming Out Day

This is a day when parents and allies can come out in support of LGBTQ children. But remember, this is not your story — it's your child's story. *It is imperative you do not 'out' your child beyond their wishes.* [Read more here](#)
 Depending on your child's need for openness or privacy, here are ideas for telling others. [Read more here](#)

Be an LGBTQ Ally

Whether you have an LGBTQ loved-one or not, you can be an ally. Here are tips for being an independent LGBTQ ally. [Read more here](#)

International Pronouns Day

International Pronouns Day seeks to make respecting, sharing, and educating about personal pronouns more common. Referring to people by the pronouns they prefer for themselves is basic to human dignity. Being referred to by the wrong pronouns particularly affects transgender and gender nonconforming people. [Read more here](#)

Ace Week

Asexual Awareness Week (also called Ace Week) is an annual event to celebrate and recognize the diversity of asexuality. It is a time to educate the public, to celebrate and recognize asexual people, and to build awareness and solidarity. [Read more here](#)

Intersex Awareness Day

On October 26, intersex awareness day is observed internationally to highlight human rights issues faced by intersex people. From Oct. 26 to Nov. 8, intersex groups bring attention to the challenges intersex individuals face, culminating in Intersex Day of Remembrance on Nov. 8. [Read more here](#) [and read more here](#)

Wear Purple on Oct. 19 [Read more here](#)

Equality Texas' Resources for LGBTQ+ community are evolving. Please check here if you need help. [Please click here for Resources for Covid, Health Care, Crisis Hotlines, Food, Housing, Family, Youth](#)



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!



Join us to serve dinner at Samaritan House Supper Club

Looking for a Way to Help?

WHO: PFLAG Fort Worth's Samaritan House Supper Club

WHAT: Serve Dinner to Sam House residents
 You can also make a dish to contribute even if you can't come to help 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

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 Food and Fun ConFAB
Shaws Patio Bar & Grill
1051 W Magnolia, Fort Worth**



Every 2nd Wednesday at 6:30pm



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



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 in the 2022-2023 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.

- 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 2023 - September 2024:

- 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. Please help PFLAG Fort Worth move equality forward during our coming year. Please support PFLAG Fort Worth with generosity, commitment to mission of support, education, advocacy, and attendance at meetings!

***Join! Renew! Attend Meetings! 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!!