

## SPIRIT

August 2025 Volume XXXI Number 8



## **PFLAG Fort Worth**

## **Important Dates**

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To attend PFLAG Fort Worth events

<u>For Zoom, contact us at 817.382.7353</u> or at <u>info@pflagfortworth.org</u> for Dallas PFLAG-ww.pflagdallas.org



You are not alone!
At PFLAG Fort Worth,
we have the support and
resources you need.
We care and understand.
(See page 4 for info.)

## **Trinity Pride Fest**

Did you attend Trinity Pride Fest on South Main Street in Fort Worth on Saturday, June 28? Hundreds celebrated at the free Fest, and we can't wait 'till next year! Many local churches were participants in Trinity Pride is a way

"Participating in Trinity Pride is a way to demonstrate solidarity with the Fort Worth LGBTQ+ community," said Ryon Price, senior pastor at Broadway Baptist Church. Galileo Church, a Disciples of Christ congregation in southeast Fort Worth led by Rev. Dr. Katie Hays has supported Trinity Pride

since it began.
Other supporters
include Rev. Pass
of The Welcome
Table Christian
Church and
Celebration
Community
Church among
many others.
Read more



## **PFLAG Fort Worth**

You are not alone!
Sharing our stories.
Sharing our strength
No need to be a member.
No cost to attend.

Meeting and Support Group
1st Thursday Every Month
6:45pm Social
7:00 Meeting/Support Group
In person and on Zoom
Celebration Community Church
Fellowship Hall
908 Pennsylvania, Ft Worth

Trans Virtual Support Group Last Sunday Every Month 3:00-5:00 on Zoom

#### 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

#TRADITION WITH OUT JUDG MENT JOIN US FOR WORSHIP **EVERY SUNDAY AT 10AM** 

www.celebration-community-church.com

## **Sheri Allen - August Speaker** for PFLAG Fort Worth

Sheri Allen is chair of the LGBTO action team of Justice Network Tarrant County, a consortium of twenty faith congregations ngaged in social justice work. Come hear Sheri talk about her own LGBTO children and her work to help ALL LGBTQ people. **Read more** 



**PFLAG Fort Worth** Please join us at our meeting and support group on the First Thursday every month. Maybe you need us. We KNOW we NEED vou! We meet in the building behind **Celebration Community Church.** On Thursday, August 7, come at 6:45 for refreshments. At 7:00 we have a speaker and then we divide into small support groups. You're welcome to talk as much or as little as you want or not at all. You can just listen and discover how much PFLAG loves and supports you. You are not alone! You do NOT need to be a member. There is no cost to attend.



## 2nd Wednesday **PFLAG Fort Worth CONFAB**

Join us for fun and conversation every 2nd Wednesday at 6-6:30ish Ruby with the glorious red hair usually arrives first to save us a table at Shaws Patio Bar and Grill, at 1051 W. Magnolia, in Fort Worth, south of downtown. Parking is free. See you there!

#### **Trinity Pride March Participants**

**Beth-El Congregation Badge of Pride Broadway Baptist Church Celebration Community Church** Finn's Place **Galileo Church LGTQ SAVES** 

**Makom Shelanu Congregation North Texas LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce Ridglea Christian Church** St. Brigid Episcopal Church St. Christopher's Episcopal Church **Stonewall Democrats Westside Unitarian Universalist Church** and many more

Read list Read more

**Injustice** anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. -Martin Luther King, Jr.



The rights of every man are diminished when the rights of one man are threatened. -John F. Kennedy



To deny people their human rights is to challenge their very humanity. -Nelson Mandela



We should not be judged by the color of our skin, the religion we follow, or our sexual orientation. -Michelle Obama

#### **Immunization Awareness Month**

We recently saw an "Iron Lung" at a museum. Do you remember that "coffin-like" device? (Click here) It was a "medical miracle" for people who had polio. Polio was often a "death sentence" before the polio vaccine was invented in 1955. Now, diseases like polio and measles can be prevented by vaccinations. Celebrate National Immunization Awareness Month by checking your immunization status.

## Transgender Flag Day August 19



Learn more here about Trans Flag Day

## **Badge of Pride Exhibit**

The free not-to-be-missed Badge of Pride exhibit continues through September 28. Hours are Wed-Sat, 10AM-4PM and Sun, Noon-4PM. "Visitors will experience Queer history firsthand—through the power of personal items, ephemera, and voices that have too often been erased." Read more

#### **LGBTQ SAVES - LGBTQ Youth**

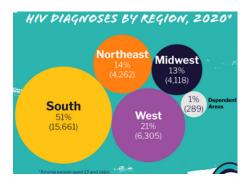
"LGBTQ SAVES provides a safe and brave space in Fort Worth by hosting in-person and virtual weekly meetings, Pride events, and community dinners for LGBTQ youth and their families. Join us in building a community where all youth are safe." Read more

## **Important Dates in August**

Immunization Awareness Month 08/10 Gay Uncles "Guncles" Day 08/19 Trans Flag Day

08/19 Trans Flag Day
08/20 Southern HIV/AIDS Awareness Day

## **Southern HIV/AIDS Awareness Day**



"SHAAD is a reminder of the need for increasing "awareness and advocating for new and necessary resources and solutions to turn the tide of HIV/AIDS in the South," says AidsVu.org.

Read more Southern HIV/AIDS Awareness Day "is a powerful reminder of the need for an unwavering commitment to southern communities" to eliminate HIV/AIDS in the southern U.S. Read more.

## **Gay Uncles Day**

Gay Uncles Day, celebrated on August 10, 2025, "brings warmth and joy to queer family bonds. It celebrates LGBTQ relatives—especially gay uncles—who bring extra care, laughter, and connection into children's lives." Read more



On page 5 of this newsletter, please find a poster of our 4 PFLAG Fort Worth regular monthly events. Please share with people who may be interested in PFLAG Fort Worth or who may need to know they're not alone. Thank you for caring and sharing!

## 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>

## Westside Unitarian Universalist Church

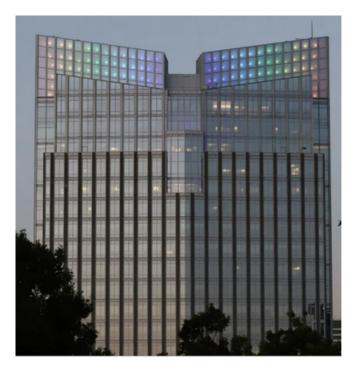
We Are a Welcoming Congregation

901 Page Fort Worth, TX 76110



817.924. MYUU (6988)

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



### **Fort Worth City Hall**

Fort Worth City Hall's rooftop was lit on June 28 with rainbow-colored lighting as a public display of solidarity with the LGBTQ community to celebrate Trinity Pride. Read more

#### **Dad Dances with Trans Son at Son's Wedding**



**Read more here** 

"I was a son wrapped in a moment with his father to the lullaby of my childhood. But I was also something more. I felt like a prince, and like the best parts of a princess too: adored, cherished, and at the center of a dream I once imagined," wrote Ryan Cassata.







## Celebrate Over 10 years of Marriage Equalitywith Celebrity Couples

Great progress has been made over the past ten years since marriage equality became legal. However, "For many LGBTQ+ people, especially those who grew up without legal recognition or representation, seeing public figures commit to each other in this way matters. These marriages show what's possible and help push back against the idea that queer relationships are outside the standard." Read more

#### Dallas Gay Dads Star in 'Back to the Frontier'

The new reality series, Back to the Frontier, features gay dads Jason Hanna and Joe Riggs along with their 10-year-old twin sons. Hanna recently posted on his Instagram, "Representation matters deeply – especially for those who are still finding the courage to live their truth. When families like ours are visible, it opens doors for others to feel safe, loved, and validated," He wrote tin response to criticism by Franklin Graham. Read here

The gay dads and sons are from Dallas. Riggs writes, "It's been amazing to hear the support. We have a lot of two-dad families and two-mom families or single-dad families or single-mom families that message us, saying, "Thank you for representing families like ours." That's been really heartwarming, and that was one of the main goals for participating. Read here



(Photo courtesy of Magnolia Network)

#### **ALA Lists "Most Challenged" Books**

The American Library Association recently released its list of the most "challenged books" of 2024. Most books have LGBTQ themes. Many of the challenges to books can be attributed to lists compiled by Moms for Liberty and other groups reported Deborah Caldwell-Stone, director of the ALA's Office for Intellectual Freedom. The most challenged books of 2024 include "All Boys Aren't Blue," by George M. Johnson and "Gender Queer," by Maia Kobabe. Read more











## **FORT WORTH**

# 1st Thursday PFLAG Fort Worth Meeting & Support

6:45pm Social+Snacks 7:00pm Meeting/ Support Groups

Celebration Community Church - Fellowship Hall 908 Pennsylvania Fort Worth

For Zoom info, call or email 817.382.7353 info@pflagfortworth.org

## 4th Monday PFLAG Fort Worth Sam House Supper Club

Join us to serve dinner to residents of Samaritan House, bring a dish, or just help serve from 5:30-6:30pm

> Samaritan House 929 Hemphill St. Fort Worth

For more information contact Ruby at 817.382.7353

## 2nd Wednesday PFLAG Fort Worth CONFAB

Join us at 6-6:30ish for an evening of fun and conversation at

Shaw's Patio Bar & Grill (at PFLAG table) 1051 W. Magnolia Fort Worth

For more info, call or email 817.382.7353 info@pflagfortworth.org

## Last Sunday PFLAG Fort Worth Trans Support Group

Virtual on Zoom 3:00pm



For Zoom info, call or email 817.382.7353 info@pflagfortworth.org

You are not alone! At PFLAG Fort Worth, we have the support and resources you need.

We are parents, family, and friends of LGBTQ+ people and LGBTQ+ people.

Join us to help create a caring and affirming world for LGBTQ+ people and all who love them.

## 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 <a href="mailto:paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/2047249">paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/2047249</a>

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:

- · 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
- $\cdot$  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:

- 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.