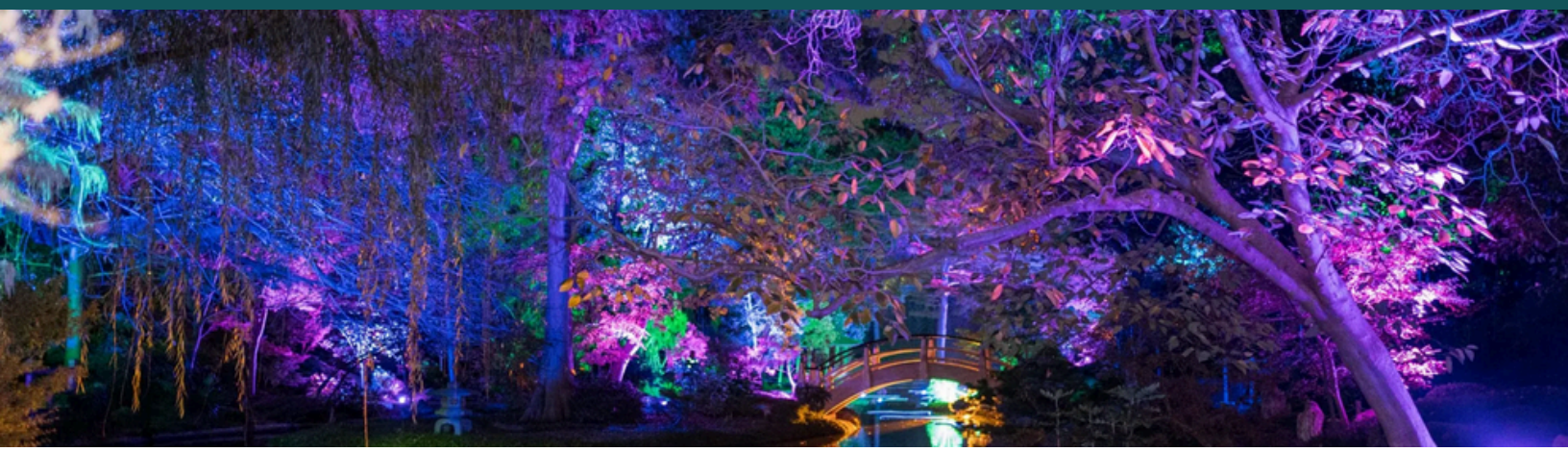
PFLAG FORT WORTH

SPIRIT

December 2026 Volume XXXII Number 12



Fort Worth Botanic Garden at Christmas

PFLAG Fort Worth

Important Dates

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01/07 PFLAG Meet/Support (Page 2)
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To attend PFLAG Fort Worth events
For Zoom, contact us at 817.382.7353
or at info@pflagfortworth.org
for PFLAG Dallas go to pflagdallas.org

Rainbow Wave 2026: LGBTQ+ Midterm Election Winners

Dawn Ennis of The Advocate writes, "It was not just a blue wave at the ballot box, but a rainbow wave that voters chose on Tuesday. Here's a look at all of the out queer winners decided in the 2026 midterm election." Read more here

Sarah McBride, trans US House Representative from Delaware said, "Anti-trans politics was a flop this election...The American people are tired of a politics of cruelty that does nothing to lower costs or address corruption." Read more here

You're invited to
PFLAG Fort Worth's
Holiday Social
& Potluck Dinner
Thurs. Dec 3 at 6:45pm
Celebration Community
Church Fellowship Hall
908 Pennsylvania



Read more here

PFLAG Fort Worth

Choose the people
who choose YOU!
No need to be a member.
No cost to attend.
You are not alone!

PFLAG Meeting/Support Group
1st Thursday of Every Month
On Thursday, Dec. 3
Holiday Social & Potluck Dinner
at 6:45pm
Celebration Community Church
Fellowship Hall
908 Pennsylvania, Ft Worth

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

PFLAG FORT WORTH

LET'S TALK
Transgender Support Group
In Partnership with
Epiphany Episcopal Church - Hurst
VIRTUAL on Zoom
LAST SUNDAY of Every Month 3-5pm
Talk as much or as little as you want
Interesting speakers/Group Support

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

LAST SUNDAY of MONTH
Trans Support Group Meeting

On Sunday, December 27, the LAST SUNDAY of the month, our Trans Support Group meets at 3:00 on Zoom. To attend, contact us at 817.382.7353 or at info@pflagfortworth.org

PFLAG Poster

Later in this newsletter, there is a poster of our 4 PFLAG Fort Worth monthly events. Please share this poster with others who are interested in PFLAG Fort Worth or who need to know we're here for them. Thank you for caring and supporting us by displaying PFLAG Fort Worth poster!

PFLAG Fort Worth
Wishes All Y'all
Happy Holigays!



Thursday, December 3,
at 6:45-7:00pm come for our
ANNUAL POTLUCK DINNER.
No need to be a member.
No cost to attend.
ALL ARE WELCOME!

Every 1st THURSDAY
PFLAG Fort Worth Meets!
Please join us at our meeting and support group on the 1st THURSDAY of every month. Maybe you need us. We KNOW we NEED you! We meet in the building behind Celebration Community Church on Pennsylvania. You're welcome to talk as much or as little as you want or not talk at all. You can listen and discover how much PFLAG loves, supports, and cares for you.
You are not alone!

2nd WEDNESDAY of MONTH
PFLAG Fort Worth CONFAB
at Shaw's on Magnolia

Join us for fun and conversation every 2nd Wednesday about 6:00pm. 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 and easy to find. See you on December 9.



4th MONDAY of MONTH
PFLAG Fort Worth
Sam House Supper Club

Join your PFLAG friends by bringing a dish and/or coming to help serve supper to residents of Samaritan House every 4th Monday of the month from 5:30 – 6:30 at 929 Hemphill St., Fort Worth 76104. In Dec., we'll serve supper Monday, December 28.



PFLAG Fort Worth Potluck in December



Join us at our December meeting for our annual Potluck dinner. We will provide main dishes. If you like, bring your favorite dish or just bring yourself and family/friends. Let's celebrate together!

LEADING WITH LOVE

Love isn't a state
of perfect caring.
It's an active noun like struggle.
To love someone is to strive
to accept that person
exactly the way he or she is,
right here and now."
~ Fred Rogers

LEADING WITH LOVE

If you could only sense
how important you are
to the lives of those you meet;
how important you can be
to the people
you may never even dream of."
~ Fred Rogers

LEADING WITH LOVE

To love someone
is to strive to accept
that person exactly
the way he or she is,
right here and now."
~ Fred Rogers

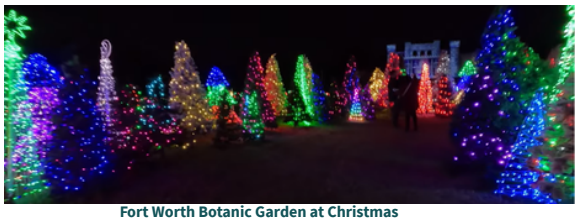
LEADING WITH LOVE

Going Home For The Holidays…Or Any Days

PFLAG National writes, “While for some LGBTQ+ people holidays mean celebration, joy, family, and togetherness, for others, it can mean a time of stress, difficulty, and even sadness or depression…especially if one feels that they aren’t able to come out or are not out to everyone in the family. No matter what, PFLAG National is here to help provide you support and information for the holidays, or any time of year that folks are headed home. Read more here

Unauthorized Mailer Circulating in Texas

Lambda Legal did not create, fund, or distribute the mailer circulating in Texas, and no organization called the “Texas Transgender Student Union” is affiliated with us. Our name and Help Desk were used without our knowledge or permission. Lambda Legal is not an organizer or sponsor of the tour referenced in the mailer.” Read more here



Fort Worth Botanic Garden at Christmas

Gender-Diverse Individuals and Holidays

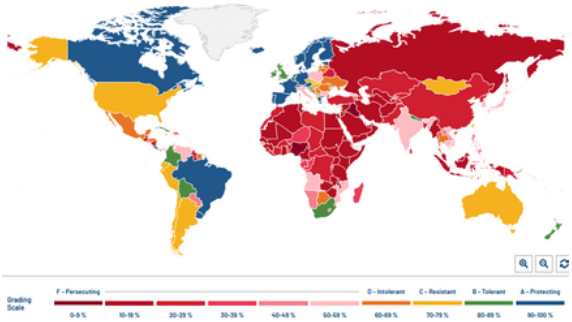
Daylight San Diego writes, “The holidays are rapidly approaching, and … for many it’s not the relaxing, comfy getaway the season is often associated with. For some gender-diverse people — including transgender, nonbinary, intersex, gender fluid and other gender queer individuals — the holidays can bring forward uncomfortable, dysphoric and even unsafe situations and feelings.” Read more here
Daylight San Diego is “focused on reaching audiences that don’t feel heard by most existing media.” Read more here



Illustration by Sam Barney-Gibbs/Daylight San Diego

F&M Global Barometers

Using universal human rights principles, the Franklin & Marshall Global Barometers ® (FMGB) quantify the state of LGBTQI+ human rights in 204 countries and territories. The FMGB are comprised of four separate, interrelated barometers. Read more here



My Son Is Not a Threat. He's a Child Doing His Best to Feel Normal and Included.

Sara Madera, mother of a trans son writes, “I understand the questions, concerns and fears that many people have – I had a lot of them myself. But what I’ve come to see is that my son, like other transgender kids, isn’t trying to cause trouble or make anyone uncomfortable. He just wants to use the bathroom, play sports, find his way and be treated like any other kid…The care he’s received hasn’t been extreme or rushed. It’s been thoughtful, deliberate and grounded in decades of research…What scares me is the growing push to take these decisions away from families – to make schools less safe and welcoming, to block treatment that’s helped him grow and heal and to treat parents like us as if we’re not capable of knowing what our own children need.” Read more here

Love Your Neighbor



Danya Ruttenberg writes that Mr. Rogers, “…life’s work was, I believe, built almost entirely (if not entirely) around…“Love your neighbor as yourself.: Mr. Rogers said, “To love someone is to strive to accept that person exactly the way [they are], right here and now.” and “Everyone longs to be loved. And the greatest thing we can do is to let people know that they are loved and capable of loving.” Read more here



“Gay Ally Tree”
on Facebook



“gay xmas tree”
Los Angeles Blade

PFLAG Fort Worth supports LGBTQ SAVES.

“SAVES empowers LGBTQ youth aged 12-24 in Fort Worth by fostering safe and brave spaces for social connection, personal growth and community support. Through in-person and virtual weekly meetings, Pride events and inclusive community dinners, we create a nurturing environment for youth and their families.” Learn more about SAVES here
If you know an LGBTQ youth, ages 12-24, who needs a supportive, safe, brave space to thrive OR want more information OR want to get involved, please email us at contactus@lgbtqsaves.org

16 Days of Activism: #NoExcuse for Online Abuse

Online and digital spaces should empower women and girls. Yet every day, for millions of women and girls the digital world has become a minefield of harassment, abuse, and control. From 25 November to 10 December join the UNiTE campaign and take action to stop digital abuse against women and girls. Read more here

AI-powered Online Abuse

UN Women.org asks, 'Is AI creating new forms of violence against women?' *YES!* AI is creating entirely new forms of abuse and dramatically amplifying existing ones...new AI-powered abuse against women include:..." Read more here



"When a domestic abuser uses online tools to track or stalk a victim, when abusive pornographic deepfakes cause a victim to lose her job or access to her children, when online abuse of a young woman results in offline slut-shaming and she drops out of school" – these are just some examples that show how easily and dangerously digital abuse spills into real life.

Laura Bates, Author & Activist, Founder of "Everyday Sexism Project" in 2012 Read more here

World AIDS Day and the Future of HIV Policy in the United States



"In late 2025, the US State Department advised staff and grantees not to use federal funds for publicly recognizing World AIDS Day." Read more here

Important Dates in December

11/25 - 12/10 - UNiTE Campaign to End Violence Against Women and Girls
12/01 - World AIDS Day
12/08 - Pansexual/Panromantic Pride Day
12/10 - Human Rights Day
12/14 - HIV Cure Research Day



Poster from AU Haemophilia Foundation

World AIDS Day

World AIDS Day is celebrated on Dec. 1. This year's theme is *access*. That means, "Access to services, rights, resources and political leadership. Without access, the world will not end AIDS." UNAIDS writes, "As we celebrate 30 years of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, we recognise the extraordinary progress made... Yet challenges remain. In 2025, 1.2 million people acquired HIV, 570,000 died of AIDS-related causes, 10.6 million people had unsuppressed viral loads and nearly 9 million people living with HIV still had no access to treatment. *The gap is no longer what medicine can do. It is who is able, allowed and supported to reach it. Science only saves lives when it reaches people.* Read more here
UNAIDS writes, "reductions to international funding and cuts to HIV prevention and community services are likely to lead to a resurgence of the epidemic. Read more here

Closed PREPFAR Service Sites - Less Pediatric Treatment

Changes to the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) have disrupted HIV services across dozens of countries and coincided with a sharp decline in PEPFAR-supported pediatric treatment, according to two studies presented at AIDS 2026, in Rio de Janeiro 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 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

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

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

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.

#PFLAGProud #PFLAGProud #PFLAGProud #PFLAGProud #PFLAGProud #PFLAGProud

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, renew your membership, attend events/ meetings, and/or donate 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.

Some ways we served our mission in 2025-2026:

-Providing a monthly speaker and support group, in person and virtually on Zoom
-Providing a monthly dinner for Fort Worth Samaritan House residents
-Making Christmas goodie bags for Samaritan House children, providing money for Halloween costumes, and tutoring residents
-Proudly staffing a table, volunteering, and/or attending LGBTQ+ Pride events all over the Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington-etc. area
-Sponsoring LGBTQ SAVES Youth Pride Picnic and "Friendsgiving" dinner
-Donating to Lambda Legal, Black Tie Dinner, scholarships to LGBTQ SAVES, Camp Haven and other LGBTQ+ organizations in the DFW area.
-Sharing our mission of advocacy, support, and education with businesses, universities, federal agencies, etc.
-Hosting monthly virtual Trans Support Group on Zoom with partner Epiphany Episcopal Church, Hurst, TX
-Sending an officer to the PFLAG National Conference

Goals for October 2026 - September 2027:

-Continue to offer scholarships to graduating seniors of LGBTQ+ SAVES, etc.
-Develop ways to become more visible to those who need us and don't know we are here
-Continue all of the ways we served the LGBTQ+ community in 2025-26
-Continue advocating for the LGBTQ+ community with businesses, educators, families, friends, etc.

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, talent, presence at events, etc. Commit to our mission of support, education, and advocacy. Attend our events 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.