

PFLAG Madison

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**Website: <http://www.pflag-madison.org>**

**Meeting Place:**

Friends Meeting House, 1704 Roberts Court, Madison, WI

**Meeting:**

2:00 to 4:00 PM, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month, Sept. to May

**National PFLAG Website: <http://www.pflag.org>**



**President: Jeanne Williams**

**Treasurer: Paul Wertsch**

**Board Members: Sandy Feria, Michael Rosenman, and Jackie Wealti**

**Founded in 1973, PFLAG is the first and largest organization dedicated to supporting, educating, and advocating for LGBTQ+ people and their families.**

### **Next Meeting - Sunday, February 18, 2024**

Vica-Etta Henrietta Steel is a woman, queer, lesbian, transgender, and unexpectedly a faith leader! She is the Vicar at St. John's Lutheran where she preaches and does work toward justice. In the season, you can find her most Saturdays at her Queer Farmers' Market Chaplaincy on the Capitol Square where she speaks joyful love to the world. She also speaks inclusive love for all across the spectrum of faith on TikTok (@vicavsteel) and she writes a column on Queer Faith for Our Lives Magazine. Vica-Etta and her wife Stella (38 years!) live in Madison with their kitty, Pinkie Fandango, their leopard gecko, Snowflake, and far too many plants!

1704 Roberts Ct, Madison

2:00-3:00PM Speaker Meeting

3:00-4:00PM Sharing/Support Time

Free overflow parking is available next to the Madison Public Library, 1705 Monroe St.

Everyone is welcome!

### **Meeting Notes - January 21, 2024**

Author Callen Harty entertained and educated us as he spoke about his journey as a queer man who grew up in a strict Irish Catholic home in Shullsburg, Wisconsin. His journey was a perilous one but he is definitely a true survivor. Callen has survived scarlet fever and mumps simultaneously as a child, 7-1/2 years of sexual abuse, alcohol and drug abuse, 2 suicide attempts, multiple car wrecks, heart issues and colon cancer. We were deeply touched as he read several excerpts from a few of his published books. He also read several poems which were equally as touching. His story is deeply personal and touched each and every one of us. He is an amazing advocate and activist for the LGBTQ+ community. A list of his published books and poems can be found at his website [www.facebook.com/AuthorCallenHarty](http://www.facebook.com/AuthorCallenHarty).

### **Thank you**

Once again, Drag Queen Cynthia Mooseknuckle gifted PFLAG Madison after raising funds at a meat raffle held at Young Blood Beer Company in January. Jenifer Street Market donated the meat for this event. We appreciate everyone who contributed!

## Membership Renewal

Annual dues, \$30 per person or \$40 per couple are due October 1, 2023. See the membership form and submit payment online through our website "donate" button or send your payment directly to our Treasurer, Paul Wertsch. You can find the Membership form at:

<http://www.pflag-madison.org/MembershipCurrent.pdf>

When submitting payments using PayPal or credit cards, please provide the following information via email to Paul Wertsch, Treasurer, [pwertsch@gmail.com](mailto:pwertsch@gmail.com):

- Your complete name, mailing address for a tax receipt, and email address to receive the monthly newsletter.
- The amount of money you submitted either as membership (\$30 individual/\$40 family) or as a donation.

Email [pwertsch@gmail.com](mailto:pwertsch@gmail.com) if you have not received a confirmation of past transaction.

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PLEASE NOTE: If you are viewing the printed version of this newsletter, check the on-line version at <http://www.pflag-madison.org/newsletters/2024/Feb24.pdf> to easily follow the links that are mentioned in the news items.

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"Love is like the wind;

you can't see it, but you can feel it."

Nicholas Sparks, *A Walk to Remember*