

PFLAG Madison

Voice-Mail: 608-848-2333

Email: pflagmadison@yahoo.com

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

Meeting Place:

Friends Meeting House, 1704 Roberts Court, Madison, WI

Meeting: 2:00 to 4:00 PM, 3rd Sunday of the month, Sept. to May

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

Parents, Families, Friends and Allies United with LGBTQ People to move equality forward

Support

Education

Advocacy

President: Lora Schmid-Dolan

President-Elect: Susie Murray

Past President: Jeanne Williams

Treasurer: Susie Murray

Board Members: Karen Baker, Joanne Lee, Sandy Feria, Anne Urbanski, and Joann Elder and Frank Roub (emeriti)



NEXT MEETING – December 18

Brian Wild will update PFLAG-Madison on the activities of Proud Theater, which has expanded beyond Madison to Sun Prairie, Milwaukee, Wausau, and beyond. The presentation will also include one or two brief performances by Proud Theater members.

People will bring treats to share.

Special Days in December - from pflag.org/blog/special-days-december

December 24: Christmas Eve/Hanukkah Begins (continues for eight days)

December 25: Christmas Day

It's a rare occurrence for these two holidays to fall on the same night, but that they do this year. For some LGBTQ people, the thought of attending church can be stressful. Thankfully, finding [open and affirming churches](#) has become easier, as has finding allies in a number of Judeo-Christian traditions. Within the Jewish community, there are many temples that are open and affirming, with Reform Jews even having offered [a resolution on the rights of transgender and gender-expansive people](#).

Here are some faith resources from PFLAG National to help:

- [PFLAG National Faith FAQ](#)
- [be not afraid...help is on the way: straight for equality in faith communities](#)
- [Jewish Faith Resources](#)
- [Christian Faith Resources](#)
- [Non-Denominational Resources](#)
- [Non Judeo-Christian Resources](#)

PFLAGPole Goes Digital - PFLAG Voice, November 30, 2016

As you likely recall, at the end of 2015, we moved to a tri-annual *PFLAGPole*, giving us an opportunity to share news from PFLAG National three times a year. Now, with 2017 almost upon us, it's time for another update: *PFLAGPole* is going digital. That's right: Beginning with the Winter 2017 issue, *PFLAGPole* will be delivered digitally, living on pflag.org, the online hub of all things PFLAG.

Congress Passes Annual Defense Bill Without Anti-LGBTQ Amendment

On December 8th HRC issued the following statement after the U.S House of Representatives and U.S. Senate passed the FY 2017 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). The final version of the legislation did not include a House-passed provision that would have dramatically expanded religious discrimination with taxpayer funds and undermined President Obama's executive order prohibiting LGBTQ discrimination in federal contracting. The provision -- proposed by Representative Steve Russell (R-OK) under the guise of so-called "religious liberty" -- had been previously included in the House version of the bill, but not in the Senate version. Conferees did not include it in the conference report.

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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/2016/Dec16NL.pdf> to easily follow the links that are mentioned in the news items.

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Be happy with what you have.
Be excited about what you want.

-Ripples