

PFLAG Madison

Voice-Mail: 608-848-2333

Email: pflagmadison@gmail.com

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

Meeting Place:

Contact us for details on the location and parking:

pflagmadison@gmail.com

Meeting:

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

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



President: Jeanne Williams

Treasurer: Paul Wertsch

Secretary: Jackie Wealti

Board Members: Sandy Feria, Michael Rosenman, Sue Martinson

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 16, 2025 2:00PM

Our guest speakers will be a Dane County Judge and court reporter updating us on LGBTQ+ procedures and issues. The meeting is 2:00 - 3:00PM followed by an optional sharing and support time from 3:00 - 4:00PM.

Contact us for the details on the location and parking, pflagmadison@gmail.com.

Meeting Summary - January 19, 2025

A Teaching Faculty and Research Administrator in the Information School at the UW-Madison was our speaker. His teaching and research focus on diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility in academic libraries but he also spoke about public libraries especially as it relates to LGBTQIA+ folks. He spoke passionately about library services being inclusive for all people. He spoke about the importance for all people to feel they can go into a library and be treated with basic human respect recognizing the diversity that exists PFLAG in the world today. He spoke about the importance of reference desks being inclusive, being unbiased and non-judgmental when it comes to folks asking about possible sensitive issues. He stressed it is important to have a robust collection of LGBTQIA+ resources; not only about sexuality but also about topics related to health, health care, networks, relationships, dating, joyful living and self-discovery along with a fiction collection for all ages. Above all, he spoke about the importance of creating a welcoming space for everyone. This means creating a welcoming space for LGBTQIA+ youth who may be exploring their identity and seeking information in a supportive environment but also it is important to note that a library isn't only about creating a welcome space for youth. It can also be a place for older adults who are coming into their own identities because it wasn't something that was talked about 20, 30 or 40 years ago. LGBTQIA+ topics can be for all people of any age. Contact [PFLAG](#) for his email address.

Board of Directors Announcement & Looking for More!

I am pleased to announce Jackie Wealti has become our Chapter Secretary and Sue Martinson is our newest Board of Director.

Do you have an interest in becoming more involved in the future of our Chapter and have ideas to share? We are looking to expand our Board of Directors, please contact pflagmadison@gmail.com for more information.

Book & Movie Suggestions

If you have suggestions on references, reading material or movies, please let us know: pflagmadison@gmail.com.

In-Person Meetings Resume

We're excited about the topics for 2024-25 that have been scheduled so far and encourage your ideas. Meetings will be January 19, February 16, March 16, and May 18. Because of Easter, there will be no meeting April 20.

Speaker meetings are held from 2:00 - 3:00PM followed by an optional hour of sharing/support time.

Membership Renewal

Annual dues, \$30 per person or \$40 per couple are due October 1, 2024. See the membership form at

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

and submit payment online through our website "donate" button or send your payment directly to our Treasurer, Paul Wertsch, 4221 Venetian Ln, Madison, WI 53718.

When submitting payments using PayPal or credit cards, please provide the following information via email to Paul Wertsch, Treasurer, 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 if you have not received a confirmation of past transaction.

“History has shown us that
courage can be contagious, and
hope can take on a life of its own.”

— *Michelle Obama*