



# PFLAG

GENEVA/TRI-CITIES



# FEBRUARY 2026 NEWSLETTER



## Welcome!

### Greetings PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities!

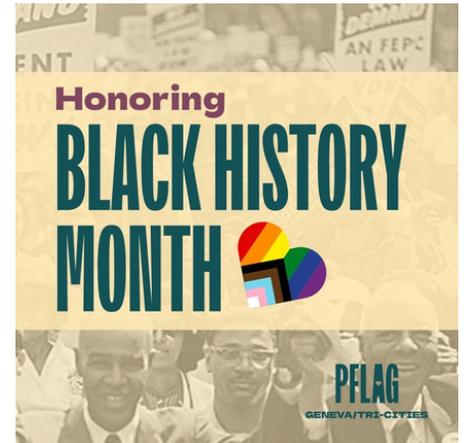
We extend a heartfelt welcome to our new friends —it's wonderful to have you with us!

We are also thankful for our continued friendships with all of our PFLAGers!

It's Black History Month.” In the words of Angela Davis, Black lesbian civil rights activist, philosopher, and writer: “Justice is indivisible. You can't decide who gets civil rights and who doesn't.”

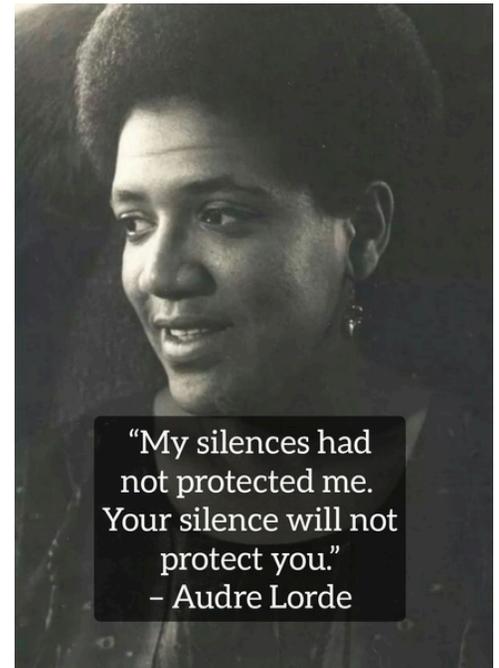
This Black History Month, as every month, we rise in solidarity with our Black LGBTQ+ loved ones, and commit ourselves to the fight for intersectional justice.”

Join us on social media this month, as we honor Black LGBTQ+ trailblazers.



### February Meeting

- **Monday 2/9 PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities Monthly Support Meeting**
  - **Topic: Navigating Important Conversations with Big Emotions**
  - **Time & Location:** 6-8p.m. Our Support Meeting in February will be held exclusively online (Zoom) on February 9th, with no in-person attendance option available.
  - If you are already registered to receive our monthly hybrid link, please note that you **\*\* MUST \*\*** sign up again for February’s meeting in order to receive the link.
  - [Zoom Registration](#) Link for February 9<sup>th</sup>



[PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities Website](#)



# Upcoming PFLAG Events & Community Organizations



## PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities Events

- **2/9 Monthly Support Meeting**
  - **Topic: Navigating Important Conversations with Big Emotions**
  - *The meeting this month is only available via ZOOM, NO In-Person option this month.*
  - Everyone must sign up here to attend: [Zoom Registration](#)
- **2/22 Movie Matinee - 1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture 1946 The Mistranslation that Shifted a Culture Co-Hosting with Baker Memorial United Methodist Church @ Baker.** Please see our flyer regarding this event on the following page.
- **3/9 Monthly Meeting: Guest Speaker JJ Celli, Author, Poetry, Memoir. JJ holds a BS, BA, and MA in Forensic Psychology and recently retired as a Patrol and Detective Sergeant after nearly 23 years in law enforcement.** As a published author, her work highlights the system's failure to recognize same-sex intimate partner violence. Her book, "In Love Letters and Pocket Knives," features autobiographical poems that explore trauma, intimacy, love, and resilience, providing an unfiltered look into her life. *She will have copies of her work available to purchase.*
- **3/14 Volunteer Event 10-1 @ Baker Memoria United Methodist Church, 307 Cedar Avenue, St. Charles, IL**
  - Join us for replenishing button inventory, assembling pride swag bags, brainstorming, and much more! Everyone is welcome, regardless of chapter membership or meeting attendance.
  - **For more information and to sign up, click here: Volunteer Event**



## Local LGBTQ+ Organizations

Discover some of our local LGBTQ+ organizations and their monthly activities below. For a more comprehensive list of local organizations, please visit the [Resources](#) section on our website.

- [Belong Fox Valley's Monthly Events Here](#)
- [IL West Suburbs LGBT Community](#)
- [Aurora LGBTQ+ Advisory Board's Events on social media](#)
- [Elgin Pride Events](#)
- [West Suburban Community Network](#) through [Youth Outlook](#)



**Most text that is underlined, is linked, allowing you to click and discover more information!**



**Our monthly meetings take place on the second Monday of each month from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.**

***If this is your first time joining us, please contact us by the Sunday before our meeting for our location or if you're interested in joining us via Zoom.***

[pflaggenevaticities@gmail.com](mailto:pflaggenevaticities@gmail.com)

# MOVIE MATINEE

PFLAG

GENEVA/TRI-CITIES



We are excited for our partnership with Baker Memorial United Methodist Church to present a screening of the documentary **1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture.**

<https://www.1946themovie.com/>

1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture is a feature documentary that follows the story of tireless researchers who trace the origins of the anti-gay movement among Christians to a grave mistranslation of the Bible in 1946.

**This is a complimentary event! We will provide lemonade, popcorn, and some sweets for your enjoyment during the movie.**

Please sign up here: <https://forms.gle/yCrWDGcJwUCcAet17> so we can prepare accordingly. *We will also send out a reminder email the day before the event.*

After the film, anyone interested is welcome to join a discussion with Pastor David Aslesen and board members from PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities.



**PFLAG Resources:**  
*Click on the links below*

- [Faith In Our Families](#)
- [Leading With Love... Actions for Allies](#)



## Movie Matinee

Everyone is invited to attend this **FREE** Movie Matinee!

**Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2:45 pm**



We are excited for the collaboration between PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities and Baker Memorial United Methodist Church to present the screening of the documentary **1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture.**

**1946: The Mistranslation That Shifted Culture** is a feature documentary that follows the story of tireless researchers who trace the origins of the anti-gay movement among Christians to a grave mistranslation of the Bible in 1946.

**Event Details** *This is a complimentary event! We will provide lemonade, popcorn, and some sweets for your enjoyment during the movie.*

- **Location:** Baker Memorial United Methodist Church  
307 Cedar Ave, St Charles, IL Please enter the church through the Cedar Ave entrance.
- **When:** Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Doors Open at 2:45 and the movie will start around 3 p.m.

*After the film, anyone interested is welcome to join a discussion with Pastor David Aslesen and board members from PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities.*

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# PFLAG COUNCIL OF NORTHERN IL

## PFLAG Council of Northern IL (PCNI)

The Council is a coalition of PFLAG chapters within the greater Chicago land area. PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities is one of the 19 PFLAG chapters who is a part of PCNI.

PCNI was formed in the late 1990's as a vehicle for unifying PFLAG's presence and voice in Northern Illinois. Many chapters working together can accomplish far more than chapters acting individually.

Open Doors is the monthly newsletter of PCNI. It brings you reports about local PFLAG chapter meetings and other events, news, and creative content by, for, and about LGBTQ+ people.

### • **February 2026 issue of Open Doors**

- In this issue:
- PCNI Scholarship 2026
- Chapter news
- How to be an advocate
- Art by Tali Lopez
- The Gender and Sexuality Center of UIC

### • **Subscribe to Open Doors**



Click/tap anywhere on the map or scan the QR code on the right to open it online and find meeting dates, times, and locations. Meetings may be held in-person, on Zoom, or in a hybrid format. Contact the chapter for details before your very first meeting and watch for chapter announcements if you are a member.

## PFLAG Chapters in Illinois

**PFLAG**  
COUNCIL OF  
NORTHERN ILLINOIS  
opendoors@pflagillinois.org

SUBSCRIBE



**Open Doors**

February 2026

# PFLAG National News



## ACTION ALERT

Last month, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) **proposed new rules** that would restrict transgender youth's access to medically necessary care. 

One proposal would put Medicare and Medicaid funding at risk for hospitals that provide gender-affirming care to trans and nonbinary youth under 18. Another would block Medicaid and CHIP from covering this care for young people under 18 and 19. These proposals are not yet in effect, but they would cause serious harm if finalized. 

We can push back by submitting public comments to CMS.

***Visit [PFLAG National's guide submitting public comments](#) to learn how to take action—comments must be submitted by Tuesday, February 17, 2026.***

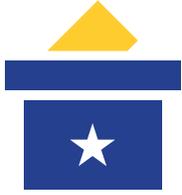
**Have you signed up to receive ACTION ALERTS from PFLAG National? More work is being done in rapid-response mode, and we hope to have all PFLAG members and supporters engaged.**



### **Ways You Can Take Action**

- **Tell your lawmakers** to stand up for LGBTQ+ families
- **Commit** to advocate for LGBTQ+ Rights
- **Join the Fight**

# PFLAG CONNECTS COMMUNITY



# AND VOTING INFORMATION

Our PFLAG Connects: Black/African American Community provides a safe, moderated space for those at the intersection of Black and LGBTQ+ identity. Although our life experiences are unique, it's important that we come together as a community to connect, learn from, and uplift one another.

**PFLAG Connects: Black/African American Community** virtually meets on the second Tuesday of the month at 9pm ET, with the next meeting taking place this week, February 10. Learn more at [pflag.org/connects/communities/black](https://pflag.org/connects/communities/black)

**“Someone struggled for your right to vote. Use it.”**

**– Susan B. Anthony, women’s rights activist**



**Next Election - Primary  
Tuesday, March 17, 2026**



## [Vote.org](https://www.vote.org)

- [League of Women Voters Illinois](#)
  - [Voting Basics](#)
  - [What’s on Your Ballot](#)
  - [Vote 411 - Illinois](#)
- [Illinois State Board of Elections](#)
  - [Information for Voters](#)
  - [Find Your Jurisdiction](#)
    - This will lead you to your candidate list

### **PFLAG Connects: Black/African American Community**



SECOND TUESDAY OF THE MONTH ♥ 9PM ET / 6PM PT  
[PFLAG.ORG/CONNECTS/COMMUNITIES/BLACK](https://pflag.org/connects/communities/black)

**Support**



# Advocacy & Resources

## Advocate

Figure Out What Works For You  
Where Do We Start?

Calls to Action -

- **Show Up - Get Involved**
  - School Board Meetings
  - Library Board Meetings
- **Mobilize - There's Power in Numbers**
- **Organize & Strategize**
- **Brainstorm**
- **Make Your Voice Heard**
  - Lobbying
  - 5 Calls - Make your voice heard
- **Share Your Story**
  - Sharing personal experiences can shift perspectives and touch hearts.
- **Join Rallies**
- **Protest** Safely
- **Reach out to your State & Federal Representatives**
  - Email
  - Call
  - Go in Person
- **Action Steps**

## Advocacy Resources

- **PFLAG National Advocacy Tools: Join the fight!**
- **Advocacy Video Training Series: Advocacy in 10 minutes or less!**
- **Advocacy at All Levels: Making Your PFLAG Voice Heard**



## Resources

Get Connected  
Discover New Resources

- **PFLAG National Newsletter**
- **PFLAG Connects Communities**
- **A4TE** - Trans Resource
- **ACLU**
  - Take Action
- **Chase Strangio**
  - Co-Director of the ACLU's LGBT & HIV Project
- **Equality IL**
- **Erin In The Morning**
  - Erin Reed, Trans Reporter - Excellent Resource
- **GLESEN**
- **HRC**
- **Illinois State Board of Elections**
- **Find My Elected Officials**
- **Illinois Department of Human Rights**
- **Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul**
  - *Civil Rights Immigration Rights*
- **LambdaLegal**
- **Queering the Burbs**
- **Sage Advocacy Services for LGBTQ+ Elders**
- **TJLP** - Name & Gender change resource
- **Trangender Law Center**
- **The Trevor Project**
- **Trans Youth for Equality Foundation (TYEF)**
- **Heather Cox Richardson**
  - *Professor of American history-she explains daily how the political landscape affects lives*



## FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

CLICK ON THE ICONS TO CONNECT



PublicPage

@PFLAGgenevaticities



Private Group

pflaggenevaticities@gmail.com



@pflaggenevaticit.bsky.social



@PFLAGgenevaticities

Please note we have a public Facebook page and a private group.

To join the private group, click the blue Facebook icon & answer the membership questions.