



PFLAG
GENEVA/TRI-CITIES



September 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!

September 2026 issue of Open Doors is here:

<https://tinyurl.com/pcni2609>

If you open this link on a mobile device and OneDrive asks for permission to access all your photos, select "Later" to escape that request, and then select "Open in Browser." Do not sign in.

In this issue:

- Renew your PFLAG membership
- Register for the PCNI Conference
- Chapter news
- Art by zeinmaker Reid Karsen
- Film, theater

To find all Open Doors issues, please visit

- pflagil.org/newsletter



Our biennial Power of



**PFLAG Conference will take place at
the NIU Naperville Conference
Center on October 10.**

Join us to learn, make friends, and celebrate our incredible PFLAG community!

Register Here: [TINYURL.COM/PFLAGIL26](https://tinyurl.com/PFLAGIL26)

Our biennial conference, Power of PFLAG, is a full-day event featuring educational presentations and workshops, community building, and fun. It is organized by the PFLAG Council of Northern Illinois, a coalition of 18 PFLAG chapters.



2026 Conference

Power of PFLAG

October 10, 2026
Naperville, IL

**Where: NIU Naperville Conference Center
1120 E. Diehl Road
Naperville, IL 60563**

When: Saturday, October 10, 2026, from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

The Power of PFLAG Conference brings together LGBTQ+ people, families, allies, educators, advocates, service providers, and community organizations from across Illinois and beyond.

Its workshops offer practical information, varied perspectives, and opportunities to learn together. Education, however, is only part of what makes the conference special.

It is also a place to build community. People often arrive knowing few others – or no one at all – and leave with new connections, resources, and sometimes friendships. For someone who has felt isolated, meeting people who understand can be as valuable as anything presented in a workshop.

On October 10, we will gather to learn, connect, support one another, and strengthen the community that helps us overcome many challenges – together.

A few of us from the board are already signed up! Let us know if you're attending and we'll meet up!

PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities Website



SCAN TO REGISTER



[Click here to Register](#)

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Saturday, October 10, 2026 | 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

NIU Naperville Conference Center

**Join PFLAG leaders, parents, allies, youth, and professionals
for a full day of learning, connection, and empowerment.**

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- ♥ Keynote by **Channyn Lynn Parker, CEO, Equality Illinois**
- ♥ Expanded exhibitor fair
- ♥ Closing session with **Mike Ziri, Planned Parenthood of Illinois**
- ♥ Networking and community connection
- ♥ Diverse workshops led by expert presenters
- ♥ Continental breakfast and lunch included
- ♥ New youth-led workshops for ages 13 and up
- ♥ Quiet spaces for rest and reflection

REGISTER NOW – \$20 PER PERSON

PCNI's cost is approximately \$80 per attendee, but registration is only \$20.
Please consider adding a donation when purchasing your ticket, if you can.

[TINYURL.COM/PFLAGIL26](https://tinyurl.com/PFLAGIL26)

SAFE. CELEBRATED. EMPOWERED. LOVED.



PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities Board Updates and our September Monthly Support Meeting



This year marked our first board election as a chapter!

With no contested positions in this year's election, we're excited to introduce our board for the upcoming term!

Please join us in welcoming **Brenda Molitor** as our new **Chapter Treasurer**!

Diane Kennedy will continue serving as **Secretary**, while **Samantha Newman** is switching gears to take on the role of **Fundraising Coordinator**.

I, **Elaine McClure**, will continue serving as **Chapter President**.

We're grateful for the time, energy, and commitment each of our board members brings to PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities.

Thank you for your continued service to our chapter and our community!

Thank you Jen!



We also want to recognize Jen Murphy, who is retiring from her role as Treasurer. Jen and I first connected in 2023, and she went on to become a founding board member and our chapter's first Treasurer. We are deeply grateful for the time, care, and commitment she has given to helping build PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities from the very beginning. Thank you, Jen!



September Monthly Support Meeting

9/14 Join us for our Monthly Support Meeting on Monday, September 14, from 6 - 8 pm.

- We'll share a Year in Review
- **We'll also make time to hear from you.** Attendees will be invited to share input about our chapter.
- This [Chapter Survey](#) is open to everyone.
- Our Membership Drive has begun! We'll share information about joining or renewing your [PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities membership](#) and show how your support directly helps strengthen our chapter and the work we do in our community.
- We'll also provide important voting resources; which you can also find in this newsletter.

Then we'll transition into our sharing and connection time—a space to ask questions, share struggles or joys, and connect with others who may have similar experiences.

Together, we listen, share our journeys, offer support and insight, and remind one another that we don't have to navigate these experiences alone.

“Hope persists where people refuse to stop caring.”

Mina Park

Membership Drive



It's Time for Our Membership Drive and Renewal Campaign!

Whether you're renewing your membership or considering joining for the first time, your support helps PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities provide support, education, and advocacy for LGBTQ+ people and those who love them.

Interested in Membership but Want to Learn More?

- PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities membership follows PFLAG's fiscal year, which runs from October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027.
- ***Thinking about joining? Anyone who signs up now or renews their membership in August or September will be counted for the October 2026 to September 30, 2027 membership year.***
- You may join at any time during the year; however, all memberships expire on September 30, regardless of the date you join. **For example, if you join January 1, 2027, your membership expires on September 30, 2027.**

Learn more about the benefits of membership here: [PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities Membership](#)

PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities is a volunteer-led, nonpartisan organization. Membership dues and donations support our programs, meetings, education, advocacy, and community outreach. We welcome everyone who shares our mission of creating a caring, just, and affirming world for LGBTQ+ people and those who love them.

Questions? Please don't hesitate to contact us. We'd be happy to help!



The Impact of Your Memberships and Donations

50 Ways Your Support Showed Up in Our Community

15 Support Meetings • 9 Guest Speakers
9 Pride Events • 3 Pride Parades
3 Art Festivals • 2 Volunteer Events
1 Ugly Sweater Dash
1 PFLAG National Convention — Chicago
1 Presentation for the League of Women Voters — Aurora
1 St. Charles Public Library Training
1 Resource Fair • 1 Volunteer Fair
1 Community Movie Event — Baker Memorial UMC
1 Author Event with Nico Lang — St. Charles Public Library
1 Transgender Day of Remembrance — Aurora LGBTQ+ Advisory Board

Pride Swag & Resources Distributed

1600 + Buttons since May
250+ Handheld Pride Fans
Hundreds of Pride Flags
Countless Pride Stickers
200+ Pride Bracelets
350+ Hawaiian Leis
Drawstring Pride Bags
1 American Teenager Books - by Nico Lang

PFLAG Resources Shared

PFLAG Publications
PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities Brochures
Business Cards

Going forward, we plan to track these materials—and other resources we distribute—to better understand the reach and impact of our community outreach.

Chapter Membership History

2023 - 2024 Memberships 12
2024 - 2025 Memberships 28
2025 - 2026 Memberships 34
2026 - 2027



Employment Opportunities



From time to time, we'll share employment opportunities that are brought to our attention by organizations committed to fostering inclusive and affirming workplaces. While workplace experiences vary, we hope this resource helps connect our community with opportunities where they can thrive.

While every workplace experience is unique, we hope this resource helps connect LGBTQ+ people and allies with opportunities where they can feel respected, valued, and supported.

This directory/resource is based on community-shared experiences and publicly available information. Inclusion does not constitute an endorsement or guarantee, and workplace experiences may vary.



PFLAG National

- [Senior Coordinator, Information Technology](#)

Looking for internships? [Visit pflag.org/internship-opportunities](https://pflag.org/internship-opportunities).

A Diverse Workplace

PFLAG is committed to fair employment practices and equal employment opportunity for all, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, marital or family status, veteran status, political affiliation, or any other status protected by applicable law.



Outpatient Family Medicine Transformed

- **Hiring a Front Desk Coordinator position**

8/3/26 - Posted

As a clinic that supports inclusive and affirming services, we are hoping to connect with individuals who are passionate about patient-centered care. We serve a diverse patient population with focus on whole-person care, including primary care, mental health and gender-affirming services.



Outpatient Family Medicine Transformed
303 East Army Trail Road
Suite 417
Bloomington, IL 60108
(224) 803-2618
www.opfmt.com

Contact:

Jason "Jaye" Remot (They/Them, He/Him)
Family Medicine ~ Gender Affirming Care
Patient Coordinator | LGBTQ+ Wellness Program Liaison
jremot@opfmt.com www.opfmt.com

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Click on the Icons to Connect



Public



Private



pflaggenevaticities@gmail.com



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



PFLAG Geneva/Tri-Cities Upcoming Events

9/12 - 9/13 [Algonquin Art on the Fox](#) 10 - 5 pm.

- Tabling Event - Outreach and Fundraising Event - [Sign up to Volunteer](#) at this event

9/14 September Monthly Meeting 6 - 8 pm

10/10 [Power of PFLAG PCNI Conference](#) 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

10/12 October Monthly Meeting 6 - 8 pm

Community Events and Opportunities

9/8 - Join **Belong Fox Valley** and community members for **Pridrant's Glow Up!**

- Pridrant needs a glow-up and you can help!
- Belong's fire hydrant painted in pride colors could use some freshening up. Meet outside Geneva City Hall between 4 - 6 pm to help give Pridrant the glow-up it deserves!

9/15 - **Know Your Rights: Voting in Illinois** - **ACLU Illinois** [Register Here](#) 

- A practical training on voting rights in Illinois, including what voters should know before heading to the polls, common issues that can arise while voting, and what to do if you or someone in your community experiences a problem.

9/27 & 10/18 Our friends at Baker Memorial, spearheaded by Mandy Hale, are writing **Get Out the Vote** postcards. From 10:30 am - noon in Baker Hall at Baker Memorial Church, 307 Cedar Ave. St. Charles.

9/29 [League of Women Voters Central Kane County - Inaugural Election Expo](#) *A Family Fun Event!*

- **Waubensee Community College** from 5:30 - 7:30pm **Academic & Professional Center (APC) Event Room**
 - Rt. 47 at Waubensee Drive in Sugar Grove, IL
 - This is a FUN and educational event for everyone! This event is entirely FREE! There will be candidates for meet & greets, educational tables with election related information, free Kimmer's Ice Cream, free coffee from Limestone and a dog adoption event with the Anderson Humane.

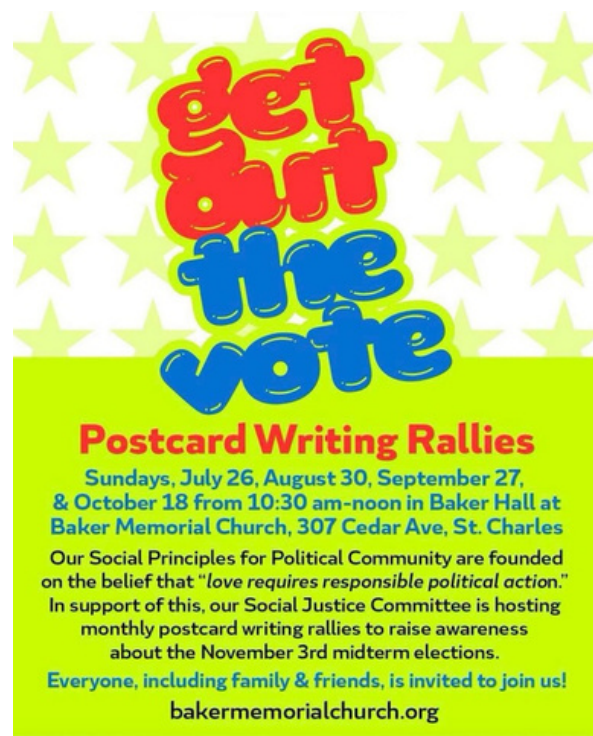


Discover some of our local LGBTQ+ organizations and their monthly activities.

For a more comprehensive list of local organizations, please visit the [Resources](#) section on our website.

Local LGBTQ+ Organizations

- [PFLAG DuPage](#)
 - [Sign up to join PFLAG DuPage's email list](#)
- [Belong Fox Valley's Monthly Events Here](#)
- [Aurora LGBTQ+ Advisory Board's Events on social media](#)
- [Elgin Pride Events](#)
- [Youth Outlook](#)
- [Naper Pride](#)
- [DeKalb Pride](#)
- [Joe Erbantraut "queering the burbs"](#)



get out the vote

Postcard Writing Rallies

Sundays, July 26, August 30, September 27, & October 18 from 10:30 am-noon in Baker Hall at Baker Memorial Church, 307 Cedar Ave, St. Charles

Our Social Principles for Political Community are founded on the belief that "love requires responsible political action." In support of this, our Social Justice Committee is hosting monthly postcard writing rallies to raise awareness about the November 3rd midterm elections.

Everyone, including family & friends, is invited to join us!

bakermemorialchurch.org

PFLAG Votes 2026: Turning Pride Into Power!

GET OUT THE VOTE

Resources to use and Share!

PFLAG National has launched its 2026 voting campaign, [PFLAG Votes: Turning Pride into Power](#). From now through Election Day on Nov. 3, the organization will mobilize the PFLAG Chapter Network of more than 360 chapters and more than 550,000 PFLAG advocates to engage LGBTQ+ people, parents, families, and non-family allies to educate, organize, and vote.

[PFLAG National Vote411 Resource Page](#)



A Word of Encouragement from PFLAG National

“Across the country, LGBTQ+ people and their loved ones are navigating challenging and often harmful policies. Decisions made by elected leaders shape our schools, our communities, our access to health care, and our rights and freedoms.

Our 2026 PFLAG Votes campaign—Turning Pride Into Power—reminds everyone that advocacy does not stop in Congress, at the statehouse, or at the school board. It continues in our neighborhoods, in our conversations, and at the ballot box. And that work is OURS to do.

Because when we vote, we protect our families. When we educate, we empower our communities. When we organize, we build power.”

“And when we show up together, we shape the future.”

Links from PFLAG Voter Information

- [Voting While Trans/Nonbinary](#)
- [Voting With a Disability](#)
- [Voting as a New Citizen](#)
- [Election Protection Hotline](#)

Illinois ACLU - Know Your Voting Rights

- [Know Your Rights](#)

MORE INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Illinois ACLU

- [Know your rights to vote with a disability](#)
- [Know your rights to vote if you are non-binary or transgender](#)
- [Know your rights to vote if you have a criminal record](#)
- [Know your rights to vote if you are houseless](#)
- [Know your rights to vote for non-English speakers](#)
- [Printable know your rights card](#)

PFLAG National - We Educate

- [Voting Education by State](#)
- vote411.org/pflag
- [Get Out the Vote in Illinois](#) *Important dates*

PFLAG National - We Organize *Take Action*

- Watch the [PFLAG Votes 2026: Turning Pride Into Power launch event, on demand](#)

Partner Opportunities

- Sign up with [Power the Polls to be a pollworker](#)

Toolkits

- Download the [Attend A Candidate Town Hall Toolkit](#)
- Download the [PFLAG Votes Together Toolkit](#)

“Someone struggled for your right to vote. Use it.” — Susan B. Anthony

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