The holiday season can be a time of high anxiety, especially when things are rocky with your family.

Please remember that PFLAG is here to give you support and share ideas on how to survive the holidays. Stop in to one of our support meetings. We would love to see you!

Are you celebrating Thanksgiving and have room for one more at your table? Consider inviting someone, who may not have anywhere else to go, over for Thanksgiving dinner.

And don't forget ... please "like" our Facebook page if you haven't yet!

Sincerely,

PFLAG Phoenix
602.843.1404
* Expect to be present for at least four of the six bi-monthly Board of Directors meetings.

It would be helpful for each nominee to submit a brief biography that will be distributed later with a ballot, to acquaint the full membership with information about who the nominees are. (The biography is optional)

All nominations, and biographies, must be received by Friday, November 19, 2015 for the Election Committee to assemble all of the biographies in a ballot email expected to be delivered to you by Sunday, November 28, 2015.

To nominate and/or send a biography please email to editor@pflagphoenix.org.

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**November support meetings:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>November 6</td>
<td>7:00pm - 8:30pm</td>
<td>Tempe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>November 10</td>
<td>6:30pm - 7:30pm</td>
<td>Native American</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>November 11</td>
<td>2:00pm - 3:30pm</td>
<td>Beatitudes Campus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>November 12</td>
<td>7:00pm - 8:30pm</td>
<td>North Scottsdale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>November 16</td>
<td>7:00pm - 9:00pm</td>
<td>Central Phoenix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>November 27</td>
<td>7:00pm - 8:30pm</td>
<td>Fountain Hills</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Other November events**

- **Thurs, 11/19, 6pm-9pm** - The Sparkle, Glitter, GLSEN Awards and Cocktail event celebrating 25 year anniversary. Click [here](#) to purchase tickets. This is a fantastic opportunity for your company to be able to market products to this audience, as well as show support for the LGBTQ community.

- **Wednesday, 11/20** - Transgender Day of Remembrance. Check the [Phoenix TDOR Facebook page](#) for details.

- **November/December** - With the holidays fast approaching, please consider donating to your favorite food pantry. May we suggest the [Joshua Tree Feeding Program](#), which provides balanced meals from their pantry as well as medical and...
Just a Reminder

Have you joined/renewed your PFLAG Phoenix membership for 2015 yet? If you are not a member, we would like to take this time to share how important memberships are to our chapter.

About 20% of our chapter's annual income comes from memberships. Without our members, we would not be able to provide all the valuable services that we currently do throughout the Phoenix metro area. Our chapter is unique in that we serve a very large area. In order to provide support to as many people as possible, we hold monthly meetings in FIVE different areas of the valley: Central Phoenix (McDowell Road & 2nd Street), Tempe (Elliott Road & McClintock Drive), North Scottsdale (N. Scottsdale Road & Pinnacle Peak Road), Fountain Hills (Fountain Hills Blvd & Glenbrook Blvd), and the Beatitudes Campus Retirement Community (on Glendale Ave, near 15th Ave). We also helped to establish PFLAG's first (and only) chapter dedicated to the support of the Native American community and their friends and allies.

PFLAG Phoenix is a grassroots 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that is entirely run by volunteers. We have no paid positions. We are frugal with our budget in order to provide as much support, education, and advocacy as possible from the donations we receive.

You do not need to be a member to take advantage of our services, but we encourage and appreciate it.

You can see all the other benefits of membership here. Please take a moment to read our 2015 Membership Letter. You can join/renew by mail, online, or in person at any of our support meetings.

Thank you!

Odds and Ends

- According to a recent study, same-sex parents invest more time in their children. Read more about it here.

- Leading theologians from the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) are making news this week for again speaking out against ex-gay therapy, also known as reparative therapy.
the annual Association of Certified Biblical Counselors (ACBC) conference about how to respond to LGBT people belies the supposed progress of rejecting these harmful, ineffective treatments. Read more here.

- Pope Francis, ending a contentious bishops' meeting on family issues, on Saturday excoriated immovable Church leaders who "bury their heads in the sand" and hide behind rigid doctrine while families suffer. Read more here.

- But in spite of Pope Francis' softer tone when discussing LGBTQ and other hot-button social issues, there are still others within the hierarchy that have not adopted this new approach. Archbishop John Myers of New Jersey just released a memo demanding that his priests deny communion to Catholics "who publicly reject church teaching or discipline, either by public statements or by joining or supporting organizations which do so." This includes anyone who supports marriage equality. Read more here.

- After a drawn-out showdown between Houston's popular lesbian mayor and a coalition of conservative pastors, voters in the nation's fourth-largest city will soon decide in a Nov. 3 referendum whether to establish nondiscrimination protections for gay and transgender people. Read more here.

- And last but not least, a reminder: PFLAG envisions a world where diversity is celebrated and all people are respected, valued, and affirmed regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression is.