



# PFLAG

## Fort Collins / Northern Colorado

### Next Meeting

**Date:** January 11, 7 PM Program, 8PM Support  
**Program:** Truth in Progress—Civil Rights and Religion

Our program will feature The Reverend Gilbert H. Caldwell of Asbury Park, NJ. Gil is a straight, African-American retired minister and a member of the PFLAG national board of directors. He plans to focus his work with PFLAG on outreach to faith communities and to LGBT people and their families in the African-American community. Gil served as pastor of Park Hill United Methodist Church in Denver and has a wealth of experience—from civil rights efforts as an African-American to work as an LGBT ally within his faith community. As the newest member of the PFLAG national board of directors, he is looking forward to lending his insights and experience to PFLAG efforts for equality throughout the country.

"Truth in Progress" is the title of a multi-media educational project Gil is doing with lesbian author/activist Marilyn Bennett, which focuses on race, sexual orientation and religion. Now being launched, the three-year project will include a web presence, published book, and documentary film. Their friendship has spanned ten years and crossed differences of race, sexual orientation, generation, gender, and church involvement. Their blog address (until the web site is up) is <https://truthinprogress.wordpress.com/>.

Please join us at our January meeting and have a rewarding session as we learn from Rev Caldwell's insights and experiences.

### PFLAG News

#### Annual membership drive

Our annual membership drive is currently in progress. Many of you received a letter inviting you to become a PFLAG member or renew your PFLAG membership. If you have not yet sent in your membership form, please do so now. If you've misplaced your membership form, one is attached to the end of this newsletter.

#### Jan 9: Colorado Coalition of PFLAG Chapters meeting

The Colorado Coalition of PFLAG Chapters will hold its quarterly meeting on Jan 9 at First United Methodist Church, 1421 Spruce Street, Boulder. The morning session will focus on Coalition business with updates from the various Colorado PFLAG chapters. The afternoon session, beginning at 1:00PM, will be devoted to faith communities and GLBT issues and inclusion. The Rev. Gil Caldwell will address the Coalition, followed by a panel of local religious leaders, both gay and straight, who will answer questions about how the GLBT community and PFLAG can create discussion within

spiritual/religious communities. All interested PFLAG members and friends are encouraged to attend.

#### Jan 18: Martin Luther King Day celebrations

PFLAG staffs booths at both the Fort Collins and Loveland MLK Day celebrations. If you can help man either booth, please let Julie Wilson know (667-5236).

### News of Local/Regional Interest

**Jan 9: "The Warmth of Winter" Mosaic Youth Chorus**  
 Mosaic Youth Chorus is Denver's only safe-space arts program for GLBTQQA (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning and straight ally) youth. The concert will be held at Christ Church United Methodist, 690 Colorado Blvd, Denver, at 7:30PM. Suggested donation is \$10. For more information, call 303-325-3959 or email [info@rmarts.org](mailto:info@rmarts.org).

#### Jan 14-Feb 7: "Home by Dark" at Curious Theatre Co.

The Curious Theatre Co. has offered a 20 percent discount to Center (GLBT Community Center of Colorado) friends for tickets to the world premiere this month of "Home by Dark" by Denver playwright Terry Dodd.

Synopsis: On a snowy morning in 1986, a father makes a surprise visit to his son in Boulder to confront him about a secret and reveal one of his own. A compelling story of a young man and his father grappling to turn their fear of the truth into acceptance, *Home by Dark* is a heartwarming story about the risks of love, secrets, and compassion.

You may book your tickets at <http://www.curious theatre.org> and use the code CENTER. The code gives you 20% off A&B seating and is valid at any Thursday or Sunday performance, Jan 14 through Feb 7.) The theatre is located at 1080 Acoma St. in Denver.

#### Mar 6: Freedom to Marry Day

Save the date. Fort Collins' annual Freedom to Marry Day is coming soon.

#### New FortPride Web Site

FortPride recently revamped and improved its web site. Check it out at <http://fortpride.org>.

### News of National/Global Interest

#### Houston's Lesbian Mayor Takes Office

Out Houston Mayor Annise Parker was sworn into office on 04-Jan. As the first openly gay mayor of the fourth largest U.S. city, Parker pledged to be a leader who addresses the concerns of all the city's residents. She also spoke directly to "my community, to those who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered," calling her election "simply one step toward a tomorrow of greater justice." [[Houston Chronicle](#), Jan 4]

**LGBT Rights on the National Agenda**

LGBT activists are looking to Capitol Hill for action on a number of important proposals, including the Domestic Partnership Benefits & Obligations Act, which would cover federal employees, and a repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." On the electoral front, the Victory Fund said it is supporting more than 100 candidates, mostly on the state and local level. [[DC Agenda](#), Jan 4]

**New Year Brings Marriage Equality to New Hampshire**

New Hampshire became the fifth state to allow same sex couples to wed as of Jan 1, 2010. The marriage law grants no new rights to gays, who two years ago won the right to civil unions, but it eliminates the separate status so both heterosexual and homosexual couples will be considered married. New Hampshire joins Massachusetts, Vermont, Connecticut and Iowa in allowing gay marriage. [[Fosters.com](#), Dec 31]

**Advocacy**

**Contact Elected Officials about Uganda Aid**

As reported last month, Uganda is still considering extreme anti-gay legislation. [[NY Times Editorial](#), Jan 4] According to the NY Times, three evangelical Christmas visited Uganda in November and were instrumental in triggering the introduction of this legislation:

- Scott Lively is the president of Abiding Truth Ministries. [[Wikipedia](#)]
- Caleb Lee Brundidge is a staff member at the International Healing Foundation, a sexual reorientation organization. [[Box Turtle Bulletin](#), Dec 22]
- Don Schmierer is a board member of Exodus International [[Exodus International Blog](#), Dec 1]

According to the San Jose Mercury News, more than 35 African nations have already outlawed homosexuality, with more countries likely to follow. [[Mercury News](#), Jan 4]

This issue would be an excellent reason to contact your elected representatives. The U.S. government has pledged to give Uganda \$246 million. Please ask your elected representatives to make this aid contingent on the African nation renouncing this outrageous violation of human rights.

**Thank You PFLAG Sponsors**



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If you would like to become a PFLAG sponsor, please contact Diane Kaufman at [RCKaufman01@comcast.net](mailto:RCKaufman01@comcast.net) or 223-0041 for more information.

**Support PFLAG Fort Collins / Northern Colorado—Become a Member**

A membership in PFLAG extends a helping hand to families who have gay members, provides educational materials for families and the public, and offers a family voice that stands for equality and justice for all human beings. You can join at any time of the year. The current membership year extends from October 1 to September 30.

Name(s) of Member(s): _____	_____	Local, Student	\$15
_____	_____	Individual Membership*	\$30
Address: _____	_____	Family Membership *	\$45
City: _____	_____	Gold Membership*	\$75
State: _____ Zip Code: _____	_____	Platinum Membership *	\$100
Home Phone: _____	_____	Donation _____	
Other Phone: _____	_____	Email list only (no membership)	
Email: _____		*National Dues of \$15 is included with membership	

Make checks payable to **PFLAG Fort Collins** and mail to 305 West Magnolia, PMB 117, Fort Collins, CO 80521. Membership fees and contributions are tax deductible. All information will remain confidential. PFLAG is a 501(C)3 non-profit organization.

**MEETINGS:**

2<sup>nd</sup> Monday each month, 6:45 pm  
Plymouth Congregational Church  
916 W. Prospect Rd.  
Fort Collins, Colorado

**CONTACTS:**

Local chapter: 970.407.0300  
Julie 970.667.5236  
Bev 970.484.0031  
Diane 970.223.0041

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Web site: [www.pflagftc.org](http://www.pflagftc.org)  
Email: [info@pflagftc.org](mailto:info@pflagftc.org)  
Mail: 305 W Magnolia, PMB 117  
Fort Collins, CO 80521

In addition to parents, families, friends, and GLBT people, we welcome anyone involved in the coming-out process.  
We welcome anyone who supports the PFLAG mission of **SUPPORT, EDUCATION and ADVOCACY** for GLBT people.