



#### February 18th Sharing Meeting (Zoom) 1:00-2:30

For Zoom meetings, please call our Helpline at 716-883-0384 to leave contact information. You will be given the codes for the meeting. If you have attended virtually, you may use the same codes. In-person meetings take place in the library of the Kenilworth United Church of Christ, a welcoming and affirming faith community at 45 Dalton Street in Tonawanda 14150.

We meet because someone close to us has come out as LGBTQ+. We try to help one another with this information in a positive manner. Although we do not always agree, we try to be understanding. We offer help, but do not force ourselves on others. We strive to maintain anonymity while sharing on a level that is comfortable.

PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara P.O. Box 617Buffalo, NY 14207 <u>info@pflagbuffalo.org</u> 716-883-384

**PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara News** 



# **PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara**

## **February Sharing Meeting**

Sunday, February 18th 1:00-2:30 Via Zoom Call 716-883-0384 to request codes or use codes given previously.

If you are receiving this newsletter, maybe you have joined us at Sharing in the

past?

We are always interested in hearing from you even if it has been a while. And

for virtual meetings, there are no weather worries!!

Consider joining us in February or at another time. We are always here for you!



#### WHY CAN'T WE ALL JUST GET ALONG? Moving issues in a Positive Direction



In December of 2022, Marc Solomon, a key force in the marriage equality movement, wrote a piece for Time where he discussed using "persuasion, advocacy, and long-haul commitment to change hearts and minds"\_*Freedom to Marry* 

PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara parents and board members Dave and Sharon Barrett are proud parents-in-law of Marc who is married to their son Dan.

Please follow or cut and paste this link to read the article: <u>The Respect for</u> <u>Marriage Act Shows the Value of Persuasion | TIME</u>

#### A JOURNEY OF LEARNING AND LOVE Shared From PinkNews January 2024

#### Will Ferrell navigates his best friend coming out as trans in new doc 'Will & Harper'

Right off the back of starring in the box-office-breaking <u>Barbie</u> movie and executive producing hit TV series like *Succession* and *Dead To Me*, Ferrell is ready to showcase his latest project – and it's an especially personal one. *Will & Harper* will see the comedian and his best friend Harper embark on a road trip across America, during which they'll unpack their friendship, Harper's coming out, and her transition.

An official synopsis of the film reads: "When Will Ferrell finds out his close friend of 30 years is coming out as a trans woman, the two decide to embark on a cross-country road trip to process this new stage of their relationship in an intimate portrait of friendship, transition, and America."

Ferrell and Steele met on the set of *Saturday Night Live*. While Ferrell scored his big break after appearing in the sketch comedy show from 1995 to 2002, Steele worked as a writer on *SNL* from 1995 to 2008.

Harper came out as transgender in 2022. Although Ferrell says he had "zero knowledge" of the trans community before this happened, all he wanted to do was understand how he could help.

Reflecting on his best friend's coming out at the film's Sundance Film Festival premiere, Ferrell told <u>Variety</u>: "It was three summers ago in which Harper emailed a lot of her close friends with the headline: 'Here's a Weird One'' and went on to explain she was going to transition and we were all of course excited to hear the news and surprised to hear the news.



"All of us were extremely supportive and expressed love... but that sort of opened the questions like, how can we help you? What do you need us to do?"" Ferrell explained that, while he had met trans people before, he had never had one "personally in his life," so this was "all new territory for [him].

"That was the inspiration for *Will & Harper*, the *Anchorman* star explained. Ferrell's goal was to create a film that would communicate to cisgender people what it's like to transition, to come out, or to have a loved one do so." I think this film is so exciting for us to kind of put out there in the world," he said.

"It's a chance for all of us in the cis community to be able to ask questions and also just to listen and be there as a friend to discuss this journey."

Harper then chimed in that *Will & Harper* "tells the story of a cis friend of a trans person who has to transition himself.

"*Will & Harper* does not have a release date as of yet and is seeking distribution out of Sundance Film Festival.

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PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.