

Tonight's Sponsors

Emerald City Social Club: This vibrant group is an active force in the local LGBT community. Whether you are a neophyte crossdresser slipping into your first dress or a confident pre- or post-op M-F or F-M transsexual, you will find friends and interests suited to your specific personality and needs. Well into its third decade, Emerald City is a thriving, highly visible, and well-respected organization that constantly endeavors to display a positive image of today's transgender person who is now finding acceptance as part of mainstream American life.



Bellevue First United Methodist Church celebrates diversity and welcomes each person who comes here to seek God and Christian love and justice. We invite all to full participation in the life of this church regardless of gender, race, national origin, physical or mental abilities, sexual orientation, age, marital status or economic condition. In our quest to bear the light of Christ, we will know no circles of exclusion, and therefore declare ourselves to be an open, reconciling and inclusive congregation.



Transgender Day of Remembrance

November 19, 2023

3:00 pm

In partnership with:



+

PFLAG

Hosted by:



BELLEVUE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

1934 108th Ave. NE, Bellevue, WA 98004-2828

425-454-2059 | www.fumcbellevue.org

Program

We remember and honor transgender people around the world whose lives have been lost to anti-transgender violence.

Welcome Rev. Richard Fuss
First United Methodist Church (FUMCB)

Introduction Jack Borland

Speaker Kim Dare

Candle Ceremony Darlene Pollard

Song Abby Eagleson &
Melissa O'Neal

Please join us for refreshments in the parlor behind the sanctuary both before and after tonight's program.

- To learn much more about how to be an ally to trans person, check out PFLAG's Straight for Equality site and their "guide to being a trans ally" publication: www.straightforequality.org/trans

An ALLY
is not an noun.
It isn't an identity, a label, or something to claim.
Being an ally is taking action,
making a stand
doing something to make a difference
by standing up
against oppression and marginalization.
You are an ally
when someone else recognizes you as an ally

The Names

- Help make your company or group truly trans-inclusive. If you are part of a company or group that says it's LGBT-inclusive, remember that transgender people face unique challenges, and that being LGBT-inclusive means truly understanding the needs of the trans community.
- At meetings and events, set an inclusive tone. At a meeting where not everyone is known, consider asking people to introduce themselves with their name and preferred pronouns. Also, in a group setting, identify people by articles of clothing instead of being using gendered language - for example, the "person in the blue shirt," instead of the "woman in the front."
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- Learn more about being an ally. To learn much more about how to be a supportive parent, family member, or friend to a loved one who is transgender -- and to download a free advance preview copy of PFLAG National's newest publication, "Our Trans Loved Ones: Questions and Answers for Parents, Families, and Friends of People Who Are Transgender and Gender Expansive" -- visit www.pflag.org/resource/our-trans-loved-ones/

After every name the **leader** with say:

"The people say..."

And everyone will respond;

"We will remember."

1. **London Price**, a 26-year-old Black transgender woman, was described by her aunt as being "always beautiful and pretty," saying, "She'll give you the shirt off her back, and I think that's kind of what put her in this situation to get her hurt. London was fatally shot in Miami-Dade County on October 23, 2023."

2. **Lisa Love**, a 35-year-old Black transgender woman, was described as a friend as "funny, smart, beautiful and a breath of fresh air to this world." Lisa's cousin remembered her "an all-around good person who did not deserve this. A loving, caring, free-spirited person. Always smiling and laughing. Lisa was fatally shot on Oct. 17, 2023, while walking home from a friend's house. An investigation of the shooting is ongoing."

3. **Dominic Dupree**, was a 25-year-old Black gender non-conforming person from Gary, Indiana, who operated companies including Private Protection Division LLC and Hondo IV Lawncare and Snow Removal LLC. Tragically, Dominic was fatally shot in Chicago on October 13, 2023. Homicide detectives are currently investigating."

4. **A'nee Johnson**, who was also known as A'nee Roberson, was a 30-year-old Black transgender woman from Washington D.C. A'nee was well loved by many friends. Tragically, on October 14, 2023, A'nee was killed during an assault when she was pushed into a roadway and hit by a car. The driver of the car, who was not involved in the assault, stayed at the scene. Homicide detectives are searching for the person who assaulted her and caused her death."

5. **Sherlyn Marjorie** was a 35-year-old Latina transgender woman and drag performer who one friend remembered as "the best impersonator in Tijuana, my second Edith Marquez." She was beloved by her local LGBTQ+ community in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where she was killed on September 17, 2023. A suspect, Sherlyn's former intimate partner, has been charged with her murder."

6. **Chyna Long**, was a 30-year-old Black transgender woman and dance choreographer who was shot and killed on October 8, 2023 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Her life was honored by friends, family and the local LGBTQ+ community in Milwaukee at the Zao MKE Church. Anotonio Currin was arrested and charged with first-degree reckless homicide and with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon in Chyna's murder case."

7. **Luis Ángel Díaz Castro**, a trans man from Puerto Rico, studied at The Universidad de Puerto Rico en Arecibo and worked at the Department of Education. He also loved Latin music. At just 22 years old, Luis Ángel was tragically murdered on August 12, 2023, in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The person accused of killing Luis Ángel is in police custody."

8. **YOKO** was a talented nonbinary artist and DJ. YOKO loved their family and their friends, who remember YOKO as "an exceptional, joyful, absurdly talented, and extremely loving and gentle human." YOKO was killed when they were struck and killed by a driver of an SUV on September 19, 2023. The driver fled the scene."

9. **Thomas 'Tom-Tom' Robertson**, a 28-year-old Black gender non-conforming person, was working as a cook at a local IHOP restaurant in East Chicago, Indiana, having relocated there from Chicago, Illinois, where he was born and raised. Thomas fre-

- Be careful about confidentiality, disclosure, and "outing." Do not casually share this information, or "gossip" about a person you know or think is transgender as it can have negative consequences in a world that is very intolerant of gender difference.
- Respect the terminology a transgender person uses to describe their identity.^{[1][2]}The transgender community uses many different terms to describe their experiences. Respect the term (transgender, transsexual, genderqueer, cross-dresser, etc.) a person uses to describe themselves.
- Be patient with a person who is questioning or exploring their gender identity. A person who is questioning or exploring their gender identity may take some time to find out what identity and/or gender expression is best for them. Do your best to be respectful and use the name and/or pronoun requested.
- Understand there is no "right" or "wrong" way to transition. A transgender identity is not dependent on medical procedures. Just accept that if someone tells you they are transgender - they are.
- Don't ask about a transgender person's genitals, surgical status, or sex life. It would be inappropriate to ask a non-transgender person about the appearance or status of their genitals, and it's equally inappropriate to ask a transgender person those questions.
- Challenge anti-transgender remarks/jokes in public spaces. It's important to challenge anti-transgender remarks or jokes whenever they're said and no matter who says them.
- Support gender neutral public restrooms. Make it clear that transgender and gender non-conforming people are welcome to use whichever restroom they feel comfortable using.

Tips for Allies of Transgender People

The following are tips that can be used as you move toward becoming a better ally to transgender people. This list is not exhaustive and cannot include all the "right" things to do or say. When you become an ally of transgender people, your actions will help change the culture, making society a better, safer place for transgender people - and for all people (trans or not) who do not conform to gender expectations.

- You can't tell if someone is transgender just by looking. Transgender people don't all look a certain way or come from the same background, and many may not appear "visibly trans." You should assume that there may be transgender people at any gathering.
- Don't make assumptions about a transgender person's sexual orientation. Gender identity is different than sexual orientation. Sexual orientation is about who we're attracted to. Gender identity is about our own personal sense of being male or female (or someone outside that binary.)
- Transgender people can be gay, lesbian, bisexual or straight. If you don't know what pronouns to use, listen first to the pronoun other people use when referring to that person. Someone who knows the person well will probably use the correct pronoun. If you must ask which pronoun the person prefers, start with your own. For example, "Hi, I'm Dani and I prefer the pronouns she and her. What about you?" If you accidentally use the wrong pronoun, apologize quickly and sincerely, then move on.
- Don't ask a transgender person what their "real name" is. Respect the name a transgender person is currently using.
- Understand the differences between "coming out" as lesbian, bisexual, or gay and "coming out" as transgender. "Coming out" to other people as lesbian, gay, or bisexual is typically seen as revealing a truth that allows others to know your authentic self. When a transgender person has transitioned and is living as their authentic gender - that is their truth and they are their true selves. Unfortunately, it often feels disempowering for a transgender person to disclose to others that he or she is transgender.

quently changed the color and style of his hair, posting photos online showcasing his creativity. On August 17, 2023, Thomas and a 25-year-old individual were victims of a fatal shooting in Calumet City, Indiana."

10. **DéVonnie J'Rae Johnson** - a 28-year-old Black transgender woman - was a vibrant artist who was born in Tulsa, Oklahoma. She had moved to Los Angeles in order to transition. Those who knew her called her "a well-loved and cherished friend and member of the community. DéVonnie was shot and killed on August 7, 2023."

11. **Camdyn Rider**, a 21-year-old white transgender man, was eight months pregnant at the time of his murder which occurred on July 21, 2023, outside his home in Winter Park, Florida. Camdyn had recently posted on Facebook about how excited he was to welcome a child into the world. According to news reports, Camdyn was killed by his partner, Riley Groover, during an argument. Groover then died by suicide. Sheriff's deputies investigating the murder revealed that Groover had a "history of violence," and that prior domestic violence incidents had not been reported."

12. **Jacob Williamson**, an 18-year-old transgender man, worked at a local Waffle House and was beloved by coworkers and even had moved in with one of them about a month prior to his death, according to his coworker's TikTok account. Jacob loved to sing and draw. Jacob was killed in Monroe, South Carolina, on June 30, 2023.

13. **Chanell Perez Ortiz**, a 29-year-old Puerto Rican transgender woman, was a cosmetologist. She was interested in fashion, makeup and hair styles. She shared quotes from French designer Coco Chanel. According to PGH Lesbian, Channel "shared a lot of playful, fun content, and clearly had strong friendships with people who are grieving her deeply." Channel was killed in Carolina, Puerto Rico, on June 25, 2023."

14. **Ashia Davis** was a 34-year-old Black transgender woman from Detroit who was full of joy, devoted to her faith, and a loving dog owner to a Yorkie named Clyde. On June 2, 2023, the second day of Pride Month, Ashia was found dead in a Highland Park hotel room.. Allona Anderson, Ashia's good friend who is also transgender, spoke to FOX2 News and said they had known each other since they were children. "And we loved each other. That was a good friend of mine."

15. **Banko Brown** was a 24-year-old Black trans man who is remembered as being "brilliant" and as someone who made "everybody laugh." Julia Arroyo, the co-executive director of the Young Women's Freedom Center where Brown was working as a community organizing intern, said Banko "made friends easily and connected deeply with others." On April 27, 2023, he was killed by an armed security guard in San Francisco."

16. **Koko Da Doll**, was a 35-year-old Black transgender woman, a successful rapper who was working on new music, and starred in the barrier-breaking, award-winning Sundance Film Festival documentary, "Kokomo City. Tragically, Koko was found shot to death near an Atlanta shopping plaza on April 18.

17. **Ashley Burton** was a 37-year-old Black transgender woman who was described as "a courageous fighter" by her cousin. Her brother Patrick praised her authenticity as a trans woman saying, "The way my sibling moved in life, it was...take it or leave it. 'This is how I am.' You can respect it or neglect it, but Ashley put it out there and let that person know. It's not going to be a secret. Ashley was killed in Atlanta Georgia on April 11, 2023."

18. **Ta'Siyah Woodland** was a Black "high-spirited" transgender woman who was "protective of those she loved." On a GoFundMe page, Ta'Siyah's aunt, Lizzy Woodland, said "she made everyone around her know that they were loved. Ta'Siyah was tragically killed in St. Mary's County, Maryland on March 24,2023"

19. **Tortuguita**, a 26-year-old Indigenous queer and non-binary environmental activist and community organizer, is remembered as a "radiant, joyful, beloved community member." Tortuguita was shot and killed by Georgia state troopers in Atlanta, Georgia on January 18, 2023 during an ongoing protest."

20. **Chashay Ashanti Henderson**, the 31-year-old Black transgender woman is described as "a bubbly spirit with a down to earth, tell it like it is personality," who was "as beautiful as can be, inside and out." Chashay was shot in Milwaukee on February 26, 2023."

21. **Maria Jose Rivera Rivera**, a 22-year-old Latina transgender woman, was described by her immigration lawyer as "lively, funny, and dynamic" and "a joy to work with." On January 21, 2023, Maria Jose was found fatally shot in Houston, one of two people found dead at an apartment complex in an apparent murder-suicide."

22. **Zachee Imanitwitaho** a Black transgender woman was described as someone who was "well-loved by family, friends, and coworkers, and that she lived her life bravely and authentically." She immigrated to the U.S. from Rwanda and was killed on February 3, 2023, in Louisville, Kentucky in the parking lot of her workplace."

23. **Unique Banks**, a 21-year-old Latina trans woman, was killed in a mass shooting along with her mother, Alexsandra Olmo, on January 23, 2023, in Chicago."

24. **KC Johnson** partner Bulla Brodzinski remembered her as being "kind and caring." The 27-year-old white transgender woman who was killed in Wilmington, North Carolina on January 14, 2023, after being declared missing on January 13.

25. **Jasmine "Star" Mack**, a 36-year-old Black transgender woman who was killed in Washington, D.C. on January 7, 2023."